

ness toward you & the Family! Can you imagine how he'd feel if he found out you'd left for South America without him? You would have it on your conscience that you left your son to die there, when all it seems from your letter is that he's behaving pretty much like a normal teenager!

JESUS HIMSELF SAID, "HIM THAT COMETH TO ME I WILL IN NO WISE CAST OUT!" (Jn. 6:37) How can we do less? I hope he knows Psalm 27 where it says in verse 10, "When my father & my mother forsake me then the Lord will take me up." Because he's going to need an awful lot of grace if you stick to your plan of leaving him in the System! My husband & I found it very hard to believe that a mother, especially a mother in the Family, could send her 13-year-old son away, possibly for good!

THE LORD HAS SO MUCH MERCY ON US. I'm sure you, like everyone of us, can look back on periods of your service for the Lord in which you were out of it & listening to the Enemy. But we adults hide it so well. Kids can't & they get picked on for everything. I know, because I tend to do the same, but then I get a check from the Lord to let it pass sometimes, so they don't get discouraged.

YOUR POOR SON PROBABLY DOESN'T KNOW WHERE HE'S AT SPIRITUALLY except for Salvation. Dear Sister, love him for who he is, not for what he is doing or not doing—just for himself, & you'll see the fruits by & by, especially if you & your husband go on giving him a continuous good sample thru his trials & tribulations of growing up. Don't forget God's promises to us as parents: "Train up a child in the way he should go, & when he is old he will not depart from it" (Pr. 22:6). I think that promise was put there to encourage us when our chil-



Real Mom Rebecca Bolivar surrounded by her "brood"—living proof that "love never fails"! Photo by Giddeol.

dren do temporarily fall by the wayside.

PLEASE CHANGE YOUR MINDS & ASK HIM BACK! The visit to his System relative may, or may not, do him good. But don't let it be permanent or even let him know that you even considered sending him away forever. I really do understand how terrible & awkward & draining an out-of-it teenager can be, & sometimes one feels like chucking him out, but personally would never actually contemplate doing it, & that is the reason why I'm writing you, to share my opinion for what it is worth.

IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, WE WOULDN'T DREAM OF THROWING OUT A PHYSICALLY WEAK OR SICK CHILD. The same should apply to a child who is spiritually weak or sick. God's Word really encourages us to have faith for these little ones in Phil. 1:6: "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you (your son) will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." Claim it! Our children are such precious gifts of God! Please write

& let us know what happens. We are praying for him & you. I do hope this letter will help you to reconsider your opinions & decisions about him. Much love, —Rebecca. P.S. Read "Baby the Babes" (It's heavy!)

P.S. TO ALL PARENTS: A perfect example of the difficulty parents can have with unpredictable teenagers happened just yesterday! Shuly wrote her really anointed letter with real love & wisdom, yet in the evening we had to take her aside & rebuke her for being out of it in front of visitors! Teenagers find it so hard to push down the flesh, & they yield to their carnal reactions before taking time to pray. Some find it easier than others, it's a question of time! As a little P.S. to my class on teenagers I have a little rule of thumb that I tell to the brothers about early teenage girls: "Treat them as young ladies, remembering that they are little girls!" What I have & feel for children now is: Big or small, out-of-it or with-it, cute or holy terrors, beautiful or ugly, smiley or whiney—all are His precious gifts & to be cherished as such! Love, Rebecca. (Amen!)

DEAR DAD! --MY LIFE STORY!

CHAPTERS 1 & 2
"I WAS YOUR FIRST DROPOUT!"
"MY FIRST SYSTEM JOB!"
BY FAITH DAVID



"DEAR DAD!"--"MY LIFE STORY!"--By Faith David

Dearest Dad & Maria:

1. GOD BLESS YOU & ALL YOUR LABOURS FOR US, HIS CHILDREN! I really have learned to appreciate all your efforts to get everything down on paper since being absent from you for such a long time physically. It's been almost one & a half years now since I lived so preciously close to you in your little home, & that after being separated from you virtually since I went to Los Angeles to pioneer with Josh in 1970.

2. --AND BEING THE ONE MEMBER OF THE FAMILY that has spent the least time in your physical presence during the past four years or longer, I can only remember a few priceless opportunities to sit at your feet & be personally taught!

3. LIKE MANY OF THE KIDS THEMSELVES, I LEARNED ONLY BY WHAT YOU BEGAN TO PRE-SERVE SO NECESSARILY ON PAPER after you "split" & had only this to follow in the years of pioneering that followed! And because of the Lord & your Letters, we had the faith to do some daring things, like pioneering country after country in Europe, following Letters like "World Conquest Through Love" & "Wonderful Wave of Worldwide Witnessing", etc. (See Nos. 151 & 154.)

4. WE FELT THE "SKY WAS THE LIMIT" & that as long as we had the faith & your Letters to guide us we could go anywhere & do anything for you & Jesus! There was no limit!

5. THEREFORE I DID NOT HAVE THE PERSONAL EXPERIENCES WITH YOU THAT MANY OTHER MEMBERS OF OUR FAMILY DID, & did not hear many of the valuable lessons which you taught, some of which I think are still not on paper but I have heard about through members of the Family. They seemed so surprised when I asked them about these things, thinking that I was there with them when the lesson was taught or the experience happened! So I know the Lord used me, even though I made some mistakes, but sometimes I wonder if I missed something somewhere!

Chapter 1: "I Was Your First Dropout!"

6. IT SEEMS I WAS ALWAYS YOUR ABSENT PIONEER OFF ON A MISSION, when maybe if I had stayed home with you a bit more, I would have possibly learned many valuable lessons & been more in tune. Although many times it seemed like we were togeth-

er in Spirit & often in tune, even though we couldn't be together physically under your personal tutoring.

7. BUT MAYBE I HAD MY SHARE OF YOU & YOUR PERSONAL TUTORING WHEN I WAS A LITTLE GIRL TRAVELLING WITH YOU, & maybe more than my share since we got to spend so much time together pioneering! While the other members of the Family were busy with other things, I always wanted to go & travel with you. I guess I was your first "dropout"! Ha!

8. AT THE TENDER AGE OF NINE I REALLY MADE THE DECISION WITH MY WHOLE HEART TO LEAVE SCHOOL & FRIENDS & GO WITH YOU TO BE A MISSIONARY, taking my school books with me so I could learn on the road! I remember I really liked school at the time, because I was just beginning to have some friends outside of our own immediate family & associates.--Which is all I had known very intimately before, because we never stayed in one place long enough & I was too young to appreciate any social life outside of the family.



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9. I WAS JUST BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND HOW SYSTEMITE KIDS LIVED & trying to make friends with them & even become one of them!--which I never really could, as I soon began to discover, because for some reason I was too different from them!--And I really tried!

10. WELL, HOW DID I GET INTO ALL THAT! I

STARTED WRITING YOU A LETTER & NOW I'M INTO MY LIFE HISTORY! Well, maybe that's exactly what I need to do as it has never been written & maybe it'll help! I'll never forget our first "pioneering" missionary trip to a foreign country, Mexico,



which was really my first challenge after "forsaking all" to really witness to people of another language & culture!

11. EVEN THOUGH I WAS ONLY NINE, IT LEFT AN INDELIBLE MARK ON MY YOUNG LIFE that I believe had a lot to do with my really giving up the System & all its pleasures, as I saw these sweet, poor people who really responded to the Love of God through us when you & I witnessed to them. --Even the shoeshine boys, who usually liked me because of my blonde hair! Remember! Ha! Sometimes you could only find me on the beach in Veracruz by looking for a little blonde head in the midst of them, which was me witnessing to them. I just fell in love with them, didn't I?

12. YOU COULD HARDLY PULL ME AWAY AS I JUST DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE THEM!--And I guess I'm still the same way, huh?! I would even cry over the fact they were so poor & needed someone to love them like us, & I didn't ever want to leave Mexico. We even pioneered their language as we studied it on the train, which was the cheapest transportation! We could travel for 200 miles on two dollars, & really nicely, too! I think we spent two or three weeks there & travelled from one end to the other, all the way down to Merida! That bus ride from Veracruz to Merida was an experience, with the heat & the chickens!--I think it was 2nd or 3rd class, & I'm sure it was the cheapest!

13. BUT IT WAS ALL SO EXCITING TO ME,

NO HARDSHIP MATTERED! AND THAT'S WHEN I THINK YOU REALLY MADE A MISSIONARY OUT OF ME so that I never wanted to do anything else! You ruined me for the System & a normal life! I had a missionary's heart from then on & only wanted to travel with you & pioneer & never go back to school!

Chapter 2: "My First System Job!"

14. BUT I GUESS I HAD TO LEARN TO HATE THE SYSTEM A LITTLE MORE, as I did have to go back to the Christian School I had dropped out of & even work for my brother as a papergirl, delivering papers! Aaron gave me the southern end of the paper route (on Miami Beach) which had all the apartment buildings because it was the hardest & I had to run up all those stairs--sometimes four or five flights--to deliver the papers to my fifty customers, who by the way were almost all Jewish!--And you know how they are about children, so they just loved me!

15. HE WOULD ALSO SEND ME AROUND TO SOLICIT NEW CUSTOMERS because it was so unusual to see a little nine-year-old girl as a papergirl! (I was the first papergirl in the Miami/Miami Beach area!) --And some people would sign up for the paper just because I promised them I would deliver it!--And I did! As the paper route grew & Aaron won all the prizes, I had my same two dollars & fifty cents & had more work to do.

16. I HAD A LITTLE RED WAGON WHICH I CARRIED MY PAPERS IN! After picking them up with Aaron at the paperboys' place, & then riding with them on Aaron's scooter to the south end of Miami Beach where my

