

To the fearful, change is threatening because they worry that things may get worse. To the hopeful, change is encouraging because they believe things will get better.

Millions in Taiwan HEAR THE MESSAGE

By Abe and Mercy, Taiwan



1. For the past eight years Mr. Alexander and his family have been visiting many institutions in southern Taiwan, planting the seeds of joy through their lively songs and dances.
2. Practice session at home: Oldest daughter, Stella, teaches Edmond (middle), and (L-R:) Elsa, Elena and Eldora.

We were contacted by a reporter from the *Liberty Times*, one of the three largest newspapers in Taiwan. He had heard about our performing ministry, and was curious to know why we—as a mixed couple—had chosen to live in Taiwan, when many Taiwanese dream of living in the West. After getting the okay from the Lord, we invited the reporter to our house.

Coming into our house he was overwhelmed by the sight of nine smiling children greeting him, ha! He obviously wasn't used to that. During our conversation he confessed to us that though he graduated from a very prestigious university, his social skills were actually very poor, and he didn't know how to make conversation very well or how to adapt to different situations. Thank God for Family training!

He was very interested to hear how we raise and train our children and inspire them to think of others and go out of their way to show love to their fellowman.

Towards the end of the interview he got saved and even started to ask us for counsel on how to improve his relationship with his parents and friends.

Over the next week we stayed in touch by e-mail as he sent us two drafts of the article, and we were able to correct a number of mistakes and encourage him to put in more of a witness. That in itself was a real miracle, as usually reporters don't do that here. Ten days later the article was published in a special weekend section of the newspaper, with two color photos, reaching about 1.5 million readers in Taiwan.

Besides that, the article is also available on the newspaper's Web site at <http://www.libertytimes.com.tw/2003/r-s/r-taiwanstrange824-3.htm>. The Web edition of this newspaper is very popular with Chinese in many countries, and one sweet couple in America sent us a donation right away after reading about us online.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

Ad: NuBeat 2003 International Christmas radio special!

Radio stations all over the world are looking for something new to play this Christmas! Why not give them the *NuBeat* one-hour Christmas extravaganza! It includes skits, interviews, Christmas anecdotes and stories, plugs for *Activated*, plus, of course, the best Christmas music in the world! Hear *NuBeat* producers and singers introduce tracks from the *Rhythm of Christmas* CD!

Help our wonderful Christmas music and message be heard on hundreds of radio stations all around the world this year! Suitable also for secular stations and non-

Christian countries. Great gifts for friends and contacts too!

Only \$3.00 a copy (postage included)!

E-mail your order to eztel@loxinfo.co.th with a CC to mail@radioactivated.com. As soon as you order the show and notify us that you will be sending the money via your TRF to "C'mas show—TH07," we'll send you the CD immediately so that you will receive it in plenty of time for Christmas. The show is also posted on the MO site, if you wish to download it first and check it out.

Any stations that broadcast the Christmas special

can afterwards have the option of continuing to broadcast an international version of the *NuBeat* show.

The show is in English, but many non-English speaking countries now have English FM stations or have some English programs. Besides major stations, some coun-

ties also have oodles of small community stations in hospitals, prisons, universities and so on. Check out what radio stations people listen to in your area and ask the Lord if *you* should try booking the *NuBeat* international Christmas special this Christmas!

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A Family of Utmost Sincerity

THE LIBERTY TIMES

(Translated from Chinese by Elisabeth [15].)

He is an Austrian from Vienna. She is a fisherman's daughter from southern Taiwan. They married abroad and then returned to Taiwan, where they preach the Gospel and spread love to all with their nine children.

Eight years ago, this couple of contrasting nationalities brought their children (seven girls and two boys) to Taiwan, in order to spread joy and happiness in orphanages, old folks homes, prisons, and youth delinquent centers. In a desire to reach the elderly they even learned to sing traditional Taiwanese folk songs, which move many older folks to tears.

Coming from Vienna, Austria, Mr. Alexander was recently granted permanent residency in Taiwan. His father was a journalist, and when he was only eight years old, their whole family moved to China. Ever since then, he has held a deep

interest in Chinese culture. Majoring in archeology at the University of Vienna, he has traveled extensively in Europe, Asia and Africa. While working for the London Museum, England, Mr. Alexander became a Christian. From then on, aside from teaching German and English, he has been devoted to preaching the Gospel to the Chinese. His future wife Mrs. Lee, also developed a keen desire to do evangelistic work in China after graduating from business school.

At that time, more than 20 years ago, relations between Taiwan and China were still very tense. Mrs. Lee traveled first to Japan, and several years later on to Beijing, where she met Mr. Alexander, and "The Family," a fellowship of Christian missionaries. The two were married not long after. After the birth of their oldest daughter Stella (20), the couple moved to Tokyo, Japan, where five more children were born—Elisabeth (15), Evelyn (13), Erika (12), Emanuel (10) and Elena (9). After returning to Taiwan

they had three more children, Edmond (7), and twins Elsa and Eldora (6).

Recently Mr. Alexander and his family put on a program at the Ming Yang Correctional High School. Their oldest daughter was the emcee, and the students were so surprised to hear a Western-looking girl speak in such articulate Chinese that they broke into a round of applause. Next Elisabeth told the story of Henry Faucett and his optimism and determination through tragedy, encouraging the students to choose the path of hope. Next the brothers and sisters performed an Austrian folk song, bringing to mind the beautiful scenes from the movie *Sound of Music*.

At the end of the show, Elisabeth led the students in a prayer, which said that anyone can be God's child, and that each person has the chance to turn things over and begin a new life. Many students were in tears.

The whole program was almost an hour long and featured many motivational stories, lively songs and

dances. Mr. Chen, the assistant director of the school said that each child of this family seemed like an angel who warmed the hearts of all those it came in contact with. He added that the children's sincerity showed a bright side of society. The students especially enjoyed the performance of the six-year-old twins. The well-knit and fast-moving program left each student with a deep sense of gratitude.

Mr. Alexander, coming from an intellectual European family, and Mrs. Lee, a fisherman's daughter, have bridged their cultural and social differences to form a strong bond of love and guidance for their children's future. "No one," they said, "lights a lamp and hides it under a table or conceals it in the shadows; rather, he will surely lift it high, so all those near will behold its brilliance."

Mr. Alexander and Mrs. Lee are members of "The Family," an international fellowship of Christian missionaries. Those interested may contact them at www.sunshin.org.

"LETTERS TO THE EDITOR"

Re: "Pray" section in the Grapevine

Tender Joy, Pakistan: Thank you so much for printing the "Testimonies of Answered Prayers." With us now having intercessory prayer time regularly, and on a more private, personal, day-to-day basis, the brethren who are on the prayer list become so much closer to me as I pray for them often. Sometimes I wonder how they are doing, how it's going for them, etc. It's like they become part of my closer circle of people I am concerned about!

Then when seeing testimonies of healing, or whatever the prayer request is about, I get so happy and thankful, like "Wow, they are healed! Prayer works!" I see, though, that even if we don't see or hear about immediate results to our prayers, we have to continue to pray! God's delays are not denials. He has His perfect timing for everything.

Re: "Home retreat special," GV #151

Catherine, Brazil: I almost cried after reading this beautiful testimony of having a Home retreat, just for the voting members of the Home. I noticed that it came from a Home in Brazil. We have had a lot of problems with disunity here in Brazil, which come a lot from a lack of communication. We have thousands of Active members, and that's wonderful, but what happened to our unity and love for each other? No time! This doesn't work at all. We have suffered from leaving this part of our lives unattended.

It's true that in many Homes, at least here in Brazil, we have Active members who would be more than happy to cook and care

for the kids for a day, so that we can have extended time together. It's a wonderful opportunity for them to do missionary work, too.

I know that the Lord is aware of our problems and that He has the solutions, even though we might have to live a little under the "law" for now, in order to have them happen, but I wanted to congratulate the Home that did this Home retreat, for their good sample. I hope they were able to have a couple more already.

Re: "Keys memorization from Mama," GV #153

Estrella, Spain: Thanks, Mama, for your comments in a recent *Grapevine* on how to memorize keys promises. Your counsel has helped me tremendously!

ONLINE PUBS NOTIFICATION

BY THE WS PUBS TEAM

Over the last while we've been putting a notice in the *Grapevine* when we've posted an online pub, coloring page, or *FCP* on the MO site. However, we won't be announcing those in the *Grapevine* any more, as you will now find notification for any new online-only pubs that have been posted on the MO site, on the mailing slips you receive with your pubs.

We love you and pray that these additional online-only pubs are a blessing to you!

"If I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto Me!"

By Paolo Alleluia, Croatia

We were invited to participate in a TV program in Italy in May, and we met a very sweet, young, unconventional priest who wanted to come and visit us with some of his young people. We were expecting them in the middle of the summer, but it didn't work out until the following month. He wrote us an e-mail telling us that he was planning to come for a week, with around 15 of his young people.

The number of the people attending was growing, and in the end we ended up having 24 young people in our house! The Lord came through miraculously—as usual—and we enjoyed a fantastic week full of activities, CTP projects, and a fun time learning about the Lord.

Towards the end of the camp we had an evening where everybody shared their hearts and their impressions of the week that had passed. It was beautiful! The Lord touched our hearts and melted us together as one, as we all felt the power of His magical love!

Nobody wanted to leave! They all had a very good time, some of them promised to find ways to support us in the near future and to come and visit us again. The group was comprised of very different types of people. Some of them were real labor leaders, others were in need of rediscovering their faith. One of them was even an atheist who during the visit learned the song "Jesus Is a Rocker," and would sing it.

Before leaving, everyone left a generous donation! Thank the Lord for different and original ways of providing our needs through witnessing and follow up!

A big thanks to the wonderful ones who helped on staff: Jennie for delighting us with delicious meals, Angela for taking care of the millions of practical details, Andrea Activated and Simone for always being there for the sheep, and Alexis for being such a sweet and happy girl. We are thankful also for the prayers of the rest of our team who had to go on the road to make space for these guys.

We keep a book in our Home where visitors write their impressions of their stay. Reading what they wrote was very encouraging

and moving. Here are some of their reactions:

P. (26): These days for me will never be forgotten, they are part of my life, just like you guys are part of my life. ... There's no doubt you are crazy for God!

F. (25): If I can only take away with me a small bit of your will power it will be a big victory for me. There are too many useless things in my life that take away so much—too much—time. I hope to be able to substitute them with others of greater value. A part of my heart will remain here with you! Thank you so much for everything!

F. (19): What impressed me the most about my visit here is the peculiarity of your lifestyle and beliefs—something that blew my mind. You are the first group I have met who lives the Gospel in such a radical way! You also have a way of expressing your faith very differently from mine, but what you do is beautiful, we could only taste a bit of it. Your enthusiasm is genuine.

S. (26): Words fail me to express what I feel! I'm so moved thinking of this big family I met, of all the people I gave and received from. Thank You, Jesus, or like Paolo says, "Hallelujah!" One of the best weeks of my life! It was like popping popcorn—an explosion of life!

C. (23): To say thank you is not enough to express the emotions you helped me to live during these days. I found a *real* Family, and I can't stop thinking about your radical style of life. Could it be that I'm also called to something so great? I love you so much!

M. (22): Thank you so much for these wonderful days! Your lives are a living testimony that when God is with us everything is simple, possible and unique.

I want to thank you so much, because I'm going home renewed, wanting to love others so much—full time—anybody who passes by. I'm so happy!



Making the children at a camp happy

NEW TCDS

TCDS #29 *I'm Still Here*

singer/music/lyrics/producer

1) *I Don't Care*

Godfrey/Godfrey/Godfrey/Godfrey

2) *Full Possession*

Haven/Haven/Haven/Andrew

3) *A Lot of Lovin'*

Vas/Vas, Godfrey/Vas/Godfrey

4) *Your Time to Fight*

Godfrey/Godfrey/Godfrey/Godfrey

5) *Nothing Can Compare*

Haven/Haven/Haven/Andrew

6) *Flo*

Tigo/Emmanuel/Emmanuel/
Emmanuel

7) *No Mercy*

Godfrey/Godfrey/Godfrey/Godfrey

8) *It's Time*

Julie Greeneye/Julie Greeneye/
Andrew/Julie Greeneye/Vas,
Andrew

9) *Speak for Yourself*

Godfrey/Godfrey/Godfrey/Godfrey

10) *Free*

Haven/Haven, Andrew/Haven/
Andrew

11) *Break the Spell*

Jonathan/Gloria, Nathanael/
Gloria/Nathanael

12) *Halloween Wheel*

Emmanuel/Emmanuel/ML #363,
Emmanuel/Emmanuel

13) *Silence of the Sleepy*

Vas/Vas/ML #3361, Vas/Vas,
Godfrey

14) *Only Way to Fly*

Emmanuel, ROSE/Emmanuel/
Emmanuel/Emmanuel

15) *Talkin'*

Haven/Haven, Andrew/Haven,
Andrew/Andrew

16) *Who Said?*

Godfrey/Godfrey/Mark
Livingstone, Godfrey/Godfrey

17) *I'm Still Here*

Haven/Haven/Haven/Andrew

TCDS #30 *Souled Out*

singer/music/lyrics/producer

1) *Grow Stronger*

Haven/Haven/Haven/Andrew

2) *To My Angel*

Julie Greeneye, Joni/Julie
Greeneye, Godfrey/Julie
Greeneye/Godfrey

3) *I Hear Your Heart*

Gloria/Gloria/Gloria/Nathanael

4) *Love Is*

Rachelle Spring/Rueben, Andrew/
Rueben, Andrew/Andrew

5) *When I Think of You*

Joni/Andrew/Kerenina, Andrew/
Andrew

6) *Mystery of the Skies*

Esther WW/Esther WW,
Nathanael/Esther WW/Nathanael

7) *Song of Ellya*

Gloria/Gloria/Gloria, GN 962/
Nathanael

8) *Aisle of Dreams*

Julie Greeneye/Julie Greeneye/
Julie Greeneye/Andrew

9) *Never Let You Down*

Haven/Joanna, Andrew/Joanna/
Andrew

10) *Beautiful*

Nathanael/Stephen Buckle,
Nathanael/Stephen Buckle,
Nathanael/Nathanael

11) *You Know My Heart So Well*

Katrina L./Michael Piano/Michael
Piano/Francesco

12) *You Know What to Do*

Esther WW/Esther WW,
Nathanael/Esther WW,
Nathanael/Nathanael

13) *Always Strong*

Haven/Joanna/Joanna, Andrew/
Andrew

14) *A Long Way*

Rachelle Spring/Telly, Nathanael/
Telly, Nathanael/Nathanael

15) *Goodbye*

Esther WW/Esther WW/Esther
WW/Andrew

board news

German Family Fellowship 2003

BY JOHN (OF SARA), GERMANY

This was the first meeting of its kind in 15 years. Over 100 old and new faces, friends, Active members, FM, CM Family all melted together in a most loving, inspiring, uplifting, activated get-together. Christiana (of Micha) had taken up the challenge to find an affordable place in the heart of Germany to host this extraordinary event.

The two main meals a day were taken care of by the hotel, so no dishes and cleanup duties to worry about. For three days everyone was free to fully concentrate on fellowshiping with one another and participate in the meetings. Meetings were led by Andreas and Kitty from the CGO/VS boards to impress upon everyone the Activated vision, being that we have two printed German *Activated* issues for distribution available. Paul (Valor) and Tim from the PR board helped us get acquainted with the different materials they have put together to help us to be more open and upfront with the Family name and tools in Germany. Sara and Samuele held a meeting on behalf of the CP/FED boards to emphasize the need to feed and nurture our children spiritually to counterbalance the compulsory

school many of them have to attend here. Jace (JT board) and his helpers organized the activities for the get-outs. Simon, David M., Job, Jonathan, and Stephan S., led the different inspirational meetings, and Jazmin emceed the amazing show of talents on the second night. There were outstanding presentations that touched the hearts and called for everyone's applause and admiration.

The end of the fellowship marked the beginning of renewed cooperation between the teams in the Germanic area, the initiation of putting the Activated vision to use with the translated mags, and the realization that we—though spread far and wide—are quite a taskforce here that with the power of the keys in our hands, the Enemy has to reckon with.

Baia Mare Camp, Romania

BY JENNY, ROMANIA

It all started with the idea of inviting a few kids from the area for a mini-camp with our kids and their friends. Then we received an all Homes message from the local CP board about a camp they were planning to have for the six- to eight-year-olds that had to be cancelled because they weren't able to find the



At the ethnographical museum, Romania

right location. Our Home then volunteered to host this camp, which the Lord confirmed both to us and to the CP board. So we set about the busy work of organization with the help of the CP board. Thank you so much, dear Katie and Dulce, for coming to help and for being such a big help with the Word classes, cooking, suggestions, ideas, the supervision of the kids, bringing shiner prizes, and much more! We couldn't have done it without you!

We had 17 children attending. We had pre-planned the schedule, but one factor that largely contributed to the success of the camp was that we frequently came back to the Lord for His instructions and were very open to any possible changes, which were at times necessary. We had excursions, mountain hikes, a tennis class, learned about the art of working with little beads and wire to make little shapes, went for a Romanian dinner in a restaurant, had a clown and magic show with Pablo and Sam, went to an ethnographic and village museum where the kids had a chance to bake bread, went to the zoo and rode on a small train, had an art class, and on the last day went swimming in a beautiful pool which our friend let us use for the occasion.

Following the Lord's instructions we put a large emphasis on teaching the kids feeding Word classes on subjects such as: What is the Family all about, witnessing, the new weapons, and the

Word. The last day each child heard from Jesus about one of their spirit helpers. We dressed up for our spirit helper night, where all the kids were able to share their prophecies with everyone.

One clue our dear Jesus told us that really helped everything go smoothly was that we organized adult devotions for all the adults daily, with only two people being in charge of getting the kids up and giving them breakfast. Having enough staff members for cleaning and cooking was also a real asset as the organizers and the people on the kids didn't have to get involved with many physical jobs and the parents were able to be in on the activities as well. This and all the prayer that went into it helped to have better supervision of the children, and we didn't have any major accidents or anyone coming down with sicknesses.

We were able to practice two songs with the children together, which they sang to different people we came across as a witness. We put an emphasis on giving tracts and praying with people, having a memory project on witnessing, and encouraging the kids to learn the salvation prayer in the local language. We could see how the positive peer pressure helped some of the children overcome their shyness and the parents agreed that it's important to try to keep the ground gained in this area (witnessing) even after returning to their Homes.



Opening keynote meeting, Germany

Family Care Free Medical Project in Rivers State, Nigeria

BY RIMA, JOSH, SHARIF, JOANNE,
AND ELENE, NIGERIA

The era of action hit Nigeria full blast as we fought together for the bodies and souls of thousands! The battlefield was a small village in the southeast of Nigeria; a village that has been torn apart by inter-tribal warfare as well as much violence and kidnappings directed towards the multinational oil companies that operate in the area. Members of the local communities cause many violent problems as they fight greedily for their “right” to the oil wealth, while the innocents suffer the instability and aggression that surrounds them.

During our weeklong Free Medical Program, which was the first of its kind, organized solely by Family Care Nigeria (the three Family Homes here in Nigeria), we came face to face with the danger and blatant demon possession that has a stranglehold on some of the local population. Yet the Lord did amazing miracles of protection, as we not only faced theft and disruption, but also a several-hundred strong mob with machetes and axes that had worked themselves up into such a demonic frenzy that they not only banged up the vehicles transporting our team, but attacked a police car that was sent to protect us.

We have seen firsthand how powerful the keys are, as well as how hard the Enemy attacks, as even though we were there with over fifty people volunteering their medical skills for the week, some of the local youths—driven by greed—were still determined to cause us problems. But the Lord’s power is always greater and as we were there under His direction, He not only protected our team, but made the program victorious not only in medical cases, but in souls won and lives changed!

The volunteer team of more than 50 people, all top surgeons, ophthalmologists, dentists and general practitioners from several cities throughout Nigeria, stayed with us for the week of free

medical care, not only working tirelessly in their various divisions (everyone working from 10- to 14-hour days!), but also helping us with the spiritual work of praying for and ministering to many, as well as showing the *Jesus* film to thousands of eager viewers in the evening.

Each day outside the hospital a crowd surged, trying to push through the gates, desperate to receive the consultation cards that would guarantee them a visit to the medical department that could best cater to their needs. Inside the hospital the consultant doctors worked tirelessly, checking and diagnosing the hundreds that passed through each day. Across the hospital courtyard, crowds waited outside the surgery and eye departments, some waiting for relatives that were undergoing life-changing surgery, and others insistent that their own case would be the next one to enter the surgeon’s door.

In the ophthalmologic theater, patients were undergoing cataract removals and IOL procedures, truly life-changing operations as each person entered blind, and after a short recovery period, regained their sight. The pharmacy department had a permanent queue as each patient waited for their free medicine. Around the corner the counseling department allowed for a quiet atmosphere to pray for those who had problems that couldn’t be helped medically. As we called on the keys of healing for these people, we know that great miracles of healing and change took place in their lives! The dental unit was very busy, completing dental operations (cancer/growth removals), dentures and other procedures.

In the wards those recovering from operations as well as those under observation received not only physical care but prayers for healing and the gift of salvation. The spiritual work within the hos-



Crowds waiting for treatment

pital was happening alongside the physical, as tracts were given out, along with prayers for healing and salvation!

A big part of these programs—and something we emphasize to the whole team of volunteers working with us—is that the healing of the body combined with the healing of the spirit is what we are after, as the physical alone will not achieve long-lasting

results. The entire program was a miraculous event, not only in the size and immensity of the task and funding, but in the unity of the team. Family members, top medical professionals, and other volunteers worked side by side, united in the goal of bringing physical health, spiritual healing, and most effectively, the Lord’s love and salvation to all of those in need.

Miracles wrought through prayer

BY SUNNY (OF SIMON), INDIA

At the beginning of July, we were asked by our local PPC if we would like to help them clear out their stock of several hundred *Start Early* poster sets in Tamil. We were thrilled and excited to be asked to help with this, and right away agreed, but nevertheless the hundreds of poster sets that needed to go out, the large number of big boxes that needed to be moved, as well as the considerable amount of finances that needed to be raised *did* look quite daunting at first, and we were burdened about *how* it was going to happen.

One evening we had gone to meet a Catholic priest, and were asked to wait, as he was busy in a meeting. While we were waiting we saw a lovely little lighted chapel in the same compound, and noticed that people were going inside to pray. We went inside too, and were touched to see all the local Catholic people kneeling in prayer, and some of them prostrate on their faces. The Lord spoke to our hearts in this little chapel and said that this was what He wanted us to do with this poster project—just to give it to Him in prayer.

The next morning we woke up early and began reading through the “Action through Prayer” series again. We had desperate prayer, and committed the whole project to Him in prayer. After that, we went out with peace in our hearts, knowing that it was in *His* hands now, and not in ours—and miracles began to happen that very same day!

During the course of the month, we have been able to sell 500 of these sets, with orders for several hundred more. We’ve met a very potential new contact for getting out our tools in large numbers. We’ve also approached several of our Christian friends for sponsorship, and all have come through. Most of all, we’ve learned wonderful lessons about prayer, praise, and leaning on the keys!

“The Night Cometh When No Man Can Work”

By Stephen, Lisa, Maria, Joan,
West Africa

The following story contains the events leading up to our emergency evacuation from Liberia. We love you and are so very thankful for your support in prayers as well as your financial support during this very difficult and trying time for Liberia and us.

Black Wednesday

Our story begins on Wednesday, June 4, 2003—black Wednesday. LURD and MODEL Rebels had gained control of 13 of the 15 counties surrounding Monserrado County, where the capital Monrovia sits pressed hard against the Atlantic Ocean. Being sandwiched between coastal swamps with only two roads leading into town, we, and the now very fearful masses, had no way of escape.

To make matters worse the past three weeks had witnessed an overwhelming influx of refugees fleeing from hungry, drug-crazed rebel forces. The capital's public services had been pretty much out of order for the past twelve years, and now a humanitarian crisis was threatening the end of sanity for the grossly over-taxed community. A spirit of fear, panic, and hopelessness pressed down depressingly on the hearts of all as the sound of gunfire could be heard outside the city each night. June 4th turned out to be the day that sent the first domino falling, which eventually led to our evacuation from Liberia.

Pearl divers

One year before our team arrived in Liberia, one of us received what we term “The Pearl Diver Prophecy.” The prophecy explained that Liberia was like the floor of a dangerous ocean. There were deadly currents and sharks and all kinds of dangers at the bottom, but that is also where the most beautiful pearls can be found. The Lord told us that we would



Liberian team

be as pearl divers seeking goodly pearls, but just as pearl divers need to come up for air, so we would not stay on the ocean floor, but would gather the pearls, and then rise again to the surface.

Angels watch over us

“Charles Taylor [Liberian president] has been indicted by the War Crimes Tribunal in Sierra Leone,” BBC announced over the radio. The word was out and rumors began to spread. “He has been arrested in Ghana! Our president and armed forces chief has been arrested!”

To a man, the whole city panicked! Everyone shut down their stalls and shops and started running. Lisa and Sarah, who were in the middle of the central market at the time, watched in alarmed amazement, as the city exploded into chaos. Everyone streamed out of the market, all going in one direction—away from the center of town.

Lisa prayed desperately, “Lord what should I do?”

“Go the opposite way—into town,” the Lord said.

Lisa started walking when someone across the street yelled to her, “You’re going the wrong way!” Then all of a sudden she heard someone walking beside her saying, “It’s alright. Everything’s go-

ing to be fine. It’s alright.”

As she turned she saw a Liberian man walking alongside her. He was completely calm and he was going in the same direction as Lisa was walking. As she reached the main street he turned and left her, almost like his job was done. Was he an angel? Could he have been? We believe he was!

The Lord led Lisa and Sarah to a friend’s house, and from there Mahmoud, our long-time Muslim friend who had received Jesus about three years before, sent his car to take her home.

Arrested

Whilst President Taylor was away in Ghana at the peace talks, it is alleged that the vice president attempted to take control of the country. As Mahmoud’s car approached the president’s house that day Lisa could see that there was indeed something very wrong. The street leading to his house was blocked by a forty-foot ship container, all cars entering the area were turning around and coming back the way they’d come, and there were a lot of militia on the street in front of the president’s house with AK-47s at the ready. Thank God there was a by-pass around the president’s house, which Lisa and Sarah

were able to take to return home.

That was Black Wednesday, June 4th. That night Charles Taylor flew straight back to Liberia; the next morning things were pretty calm and normal. The next day President Taylor had the Vice President arrested, accusing him of attempting to overthrow the government.

War in the capital

When Friday, June 6th rolled around there was heavy fighting at Saint Paul’s Bridge just outside of town, and so the city was closed for business. The booking of our airline tickets would have to be delayed until after the weekend. All we could do was stay home packing our stuff, hoping and praying that things would calm down long enough for us to get our tickets and get out. But by lunch time news came that the rebels had made it into town!

We were stopping every hour, calling on the keys and praying that things would calm down. In the evening we heard that a ceasefire had been declared by the people at the peace talks in Ghana. We were so thankful for that ceasefire! We all sighed with relief and began praising the Lord for His mercy.

But the battle was far from over. Saturday morning dawned with renewed fighting, and news that it was going bad for the government.

Monrovia is a very small city of about 500,000 people, and the city is shaped more or less like an “L.” The downtown area is the point where the two lines meet, and the two other roads go out from there. All the suburbs fan out either side of those two roads. We live on the far end of one of those lines, and the rebels were pushing their way into the city from the other end.

Mahmoud and all the people in his area evacuated into the downtown area, because the rebels were trying to push their way along that road as the government attacked them from key points. Mahmoud told us over the phone that he could hear the fighting all the way from the downtown area. But believe it or not, we couldn't hear a thing. Thank the Lord! It was perfectly quiet in our area. The Lord had us in the perfect place.

That night we celebrated Britney's birthday, our youngest daughter's. We had a cake and Lisa had gotten her a few little presents, and for a few hours that night we forgot the war. By the next day, we heard that the government forces had driven the rebels back.

Emergency exit

On Sunday morning, June 8th, you could hear people going to church as an uneasy peace settled over the city. We lived right next door to a house full of government militia, and that morning they came roaring down our road waving their AK-47s in the air, giving the victory salute. This was a sign that the government had the upper hand. But around 1 PM that day the American Embassy called us and said that they were evacuating American citizens, and that, if we wanted to leave, we should come to the Embassy by 3 PM.

Liberia was an especially difficult mission field. We had lost David, our 13-year-old son, to typhoid. We had

battled with many bouts of malaria, and fear of rebels, but there were also many victories. We had a flourishing radio and television ministry, Activated was rocking and we had a sweet group of Activated live-out members. Our hearts were in Liberia and we didn't want to leave before the bell rang and we absolutely had too. Now we were facing the biggest decision since our arrival in Liberia.

Mama's Home and our COs had received and sent us prophecies indicating that at a given point the Lord would call us out. We reached out desperately to the Lord in prophecy, and wound up laying a fleece that if any of our friends called to tell us about this evacuation plan, that meant we were supposed to leave.

Two hours later Lisa called Mahmoud to ask him if he thought the businesses would open the following day. Mahmoud said, “You need to get out!—I'm leaving! We are all going. If you can get out today, do it!” So that was it!

Stephen went out to rent a van for us to get to the embassy, and the rest of us repacked our bags because we were told that we would only be allowed five kilos of clothes each. We had to leave everything—including all our schoolbooks, mailings and the kids Bible storybooks.

Stephen went out to the highway to look for transport, only to find many militia vehicles heading out of town. It seemed like the rebels were coming from our end of town! We had dug holes in our back yard to bury rice and diesel in 20-liter plastic containers in order that our five national disciples would have food and something to sell or trade for food if the rebels entered the city. As we left our house, we gave the disciples the key and told them to use anything they needed, giving them full control over all we owned.

Everyone was crying and praying for each other; it was a very sad time. We'd grown to love Liberia and her

people. We passed through the city on our way to the embassy, and occasionally we ran into friends on the street. All we could do was give them a hug, say goodbye or simply wave as we passed them.

The city streets were absolutely packed with displaced people sitting along the shop fronts, wandering around the streets. Nothing was open, and nothing was available to eat. People were frightened, hungry, and becoming desperate.

Only Americans allowed

We arrived at the embassy just before dark and were told that they can take the Americans, but not the Australians. Our team consisted of ten Australians and four Americans. We were told to try the EU compound, as they were the ones spearheading the evacuation. So we talked to the head of the EU mission, who talked to the Americans, then called Washington to get permission to evacuate Australians. We soon heard that they would take us all. The keys did it again!

The U.S. embassy in Liberia is like a fort. I don't think we've ever seen so much razor wire on top of any wall like the Americans had on their compound wall. There were also extra Marines there on the ground, as well as double the number of security guards. For the next two hours we went through bag searches and form filling until finally, after a cup of granola each, we crashed on the visa section waiting room floor and available chairs, listening to the

babble of the latest Armed Forces game show on an all-night cable channel.



U.S. Marine on guard duty U.S. embassy, Monrovia

A miracle of encouragement

That same night an American guy named Kurt came up to Stephen and started talking to him. He said he worked for the U.S. government and helped out in problem situations—for example, evacuating people from dangerous spots. Stephen was telling him about our work and then out of the blue the guy said, “Do you take donations?” and then pulled out US\$200, and gave it to Stephen! We thanked him, and he said, “Good things happen to good people.”

Farewell, Liberia

We were told that we were to be taken out by navy helicopter to a French amphibious supply ship that had been waiting all night just off the coast of Liberia. The latest news was that the government troops were now using a place in town as a launching pad and were firing RPGs at the rebels. It was quite a scary thought. We could hear the firing sounds from the embassy—it sounds a bit like thunder. Our feelings were mixed between being thankful we were safe



Stephen and Sarah with Liberian Active members

and feeling so desperately sad for our Liberian friends and disciples on the outside with no means of escape.

Joan asked our new friend Kurt if the Lebanese were going on the same ship—she was wondering if we were going to see Mahmoud and our other friends again. Kurt said, “Yes. But don’t worry, there’s a very large Christian population in the Lebanese community, I think they’re mostly Christians.” Ha! I think he thought she was worried about “Muslim terrorists.” If he only knew how many Muslim friends we have!

Finally it came our turn to get on the helicopter. The blades were spinning and it was so loud and windy that Brittney was just petrified! When the chopper first came in we were standing just off the tarmac, and the wind it whipped up would literally push you over if you didn’t brace yourself. Kurt and a few of his buddies helped us and the kids onto the chopper and the doors slammed shut. Away we went, gazing out the chopper window as our Home of four and a half years, our friends, loved ones, battles and trials disappeared as we were flown out to sea.



Evacuation by French chopper

In conclusion

The French ship and our journey to the Ivory Coast is another story in itself. But it was something someone said on that ship that really drove home what had happened in those last two days, and what Monrovia was to experience in the days ahead.

“Anyone and everyone who was of service to Liberia is on this ship.” In other words, no one was left. All the UN workers were there,

the last of the NGO personnel, like MSF (a medical NGO), CAM (a Christian food aid organization), and not to mention all the other smaller NGOs and businesses that were run by the Lebanese, Europeans, and even the upper class Liberians. The UN High Commissioner for refugees to Liberia was aboard that ship.

Sadd, the baker who gave us bread faithfully for four years said that his bakery was completely destroyed. The furniture business that Mahmoud and his cousins have was totally looted. In the news on the ship that night it said that all the UN warehouses had been looted by rebels and government forces alike, and in that part of town there were 150 bodies lying on the ground killed by the rebels or the looters.

Epilogue

After we left Liberia, fighting raged for more than two months in and around Monrovia. Cholera reached epidemic levels, many people starved and, of course, many were killed by mortar and small arms fire. The stories of human suffering and loss in Liberia were so horrible that at times it was difficult for our minds to even accept, let alone understand, why man makes the choices that he does.

As for President Taylor, he fled Liberia and is now in Nigeria—he is still under indictment for war crimes. In October this year there were elections for a Liberian president, who will run a two-year interim power-sharing government.

As for us, we never suffered like the poor Liberians did, and that is because we live an incredibly miraculous life under the shadow of our sweet Lover’s protection and care. Our house was never touched by looters, our dear disciples and Active members survived, and we are still in contact with them via e-mail. We have been in Kumasi, Ghana since leaving Ivory Coast after our evacuation from Liberia. We do not regret one day spent serving the Lord in Liberia. ■

Philippines Activated seminar

BY BYRON AND GABE, PHILIPPINES

We had an Activated seminar that turned into an exciting celebration of what the Lord has done thus far in the first five months of Activated Philippines! The atmosphere was electric as we gathered to recount how we started with less subscriptions in a year’s time than the number gained in the first month the PI Activated Desk was set up, to our present total of over 500 subscriptions garnered in just five months! The Activated seminar, held in Manila, was attended by most of the Homes in the country. Adam (CO) was able to present some inspiring and challenging ideas, as well as new pubs and a challenging video from India on activating.

After a powerful, foot-stomping, heart-thumping inspiration led by Leah and Simon to get us moving, Adam, Byron and Gabe read the keynote prophecies that the CGO board had received for the meeting. These prophecies were challenging and feeding with lots of good counsel, direction and promises of what the Lord wants to do with Activated in the Philippines.

Last month in a city council meeting, the Manila Homes agreed on the importance of unitedly working out any issues that come up in our Homes or between Homes. The Homes also committed to more inter-Home fellowship, provisioning together, coordinating teen witnessing, and working unitedly on area Bible studies and COLs. The Lord spoke to us in the seminar that as we strove for unity in feeding the sheep, He would do the things we couldn’t do, and that as we call on the keys, work together, pray together, and pull together, we can be all the Lord wants us to be and reap the mighty harvest that is just waiting for us to be ready to receive it!

After reading the keynote prophecies, we read the recent *Grapevine* article (GV

#158) about the setting up of the Activated Desk here! Given the size of the country and the relatively few Homes in the PI, it’s quite phenomenal to see what has been accomplished in just a few months.—Three of the Homes are among the top 10 Homes in the world for new subscriptions! It was also great to read the responses to the *Activated* magazines in the *Grapevine* coming from the PI.

It was very envisioning to see how much the field here has done in the past few years to get out the message. In 2001, the Homes in the country distributed over 3,500 CDs and 1,400 VCDs, and the next year the stats nearly doubled to approximately 6,300 CDs and 1,920 VCDs distributed. With the beginning of 2003 as of June, 1,611 CDs and 880 VCDs have been distributed, which is quite good considering our big months are September through December. Through all of this we are realizing that the sky is the limit and we are only limited by our faith, certainly not by the Lord’s ability!

With these tools getting out more and more, we hear reactions all the time from people who say, “You’re the people with the tapes, aren’t you? I grew up on those tapes!” or “Oh, you’re the poster people? Give me more!” It’s great to hear how many people love us, love our tools and how many of them were “raised” on the Words of David!

The meeting proceeded as we watched the super feeding Activated seminar video from India. The tips, testimonies and skits really hit the nail on the head, and we saw many things they are doing there that could be customized a bit to help us accomplish more here. We localized the skits, and our little skit crew did a great job at visualizing for everyone some of the obstacles we face here, along with the solutions the Lord is show-

ing us through the power of the keys as we face the daily challenges of activating and winning both live-in and live-out disciples!

Another point stressed by our shepherds and brought out in testimonies and prophecies from those who attended was on the topic of humility. The Lord has been speaking to all of us about the vital importance of donning the garment of humility and seeking to give God the glory every step of the way, not taking any credit to ourselves and each person esteeming others better than themselves.

The video spoke of the fruits of MWM in India and

how *Activated* is so geared for India. Someone shared how just as the PI was following close on the heels of India with fruit from MWM, now *Activated* is also starting to bloom here and is so geared for the Philippines as well.

Adam shared the progress from reports by Nikki (SGA) who is working with Simon Peter in Africa to make a localized Filipino *NuBeat*. It should be terrific with localized songs and Nikki, a Filipina, as the co-hostess of the show! So DV, in a few months when we have the shows, we can start booking them on radio stations here, several of whom were happy to play the Christmas

show from Africa, and are looking forward to airing the ones that are being prepared especially for here. We know *NuBeat* will fill a real void here for heavenly music with a message, and as it advertises *Activated*, it will also help us get more subscriptions, win more souls and *Activated* disciples and members here, and get out more of our wonderful tools.



Nathan (R), the judge, listening to the prosecutor, Chris's attack against the *Activated* mag

Giving God what is rightfully His!

BY JANET, SOUTH AFRICA

After reading the notice regarding tithing in *Grapevine* #155 it brought to mind a very important lesson that we learned some years ago—23 years ago, to be exact—and a well-learned lesson at that. Tithing actually goes way back, even to the time of Abraham, where he tithed to Melchizedek. I think some folks seem to miss the point of tithing or rather the importance of tithing, the blessings involved, and what it means to the Lord.

Some 23 years ago, my mate at the time and I with our two young sons, in obedience to the Lord and the Letter “Americans Abroad” (ML #905, Vol. 8), left the cold north for the sunny and more fruitful southern hemisphere. Dad had mentioned several countries in that Letter, and after praying and seeking the Lord about our future and where we should be headed, He led us to a country that we would never have gone to, not even having a burden for that part of the world. To add to it, that particular country was labeled as “sensitive,” in that the Family had been persecuted there years earlier. Dad said to rather “drop-in” and witness clandestinely! Well, that was a bit different for us as we were more accustomed to the usual style of open witnessing and witnessing.

In obedience to His leading, He supplied our fares and landing funds, and we set off for this field. Once there, we trod

rather carefully, and my mate found a “drop-in” job, following the counsel of the Word at that time. Being a musician, he signed up with an entertainment agency, and was soon in high demand being that he was an American. In one month we had the funds to purchase a fairly good vehicle. However, we soon felt the heavy toll of working in the System, and once again following the Lord's leading, packed up and moved to another part of the country to join another couple—new arrivals as well.

My mate resigned from his “drop-in” job, and we prepared to move to our new destination. It was all very exciting for us. It was the end of the month, TRF time, and after doing our report and sending off our monthly pledges, we realized that we would not have that much in the way of funds left over for our trip, and so we decided to hold back just US\$30 from our tithe.—A major mistake and one we regretted, and one that we never repeated!

On the way to our destination, we had car problems, were stuck on the side of the road, way out in the boonies. The Lord is always so good to us, and never lets us down all the way. A family of sweet Christians stopped and helped my mate to the nearest gas station where he was able to get a tow truck. To keep a long story shorter, we were able to provision a portion of that

expense as well as the work and spare parts needed for our vehicle, but it still took quite a chunk from our funds. We were in shock to say the least, as we were left with not too much in our pockets.

Perhaps the penny had not quite dropped yet, as individually we were both convicted about holding just a wee bit of our full tithe from the Lord. But we never said anything to each other!

About a week after arriving at our new destination, and thank the Lord that our sweet Family there graciously took us in, and fed us, we suffered yet another setback. One night my mate's jeans were stolen through our bedroom window, and the rest of our funds ... were in one of the pockets! Oh my, this was really getting a bit much, and something that really shook us up!

In all our time of being in the Family we had never balked at giving our tithes, even in the pre-RNR days when our tithes were usually 35%, and 50% during the Christmas season. The Lord certainly was not pleased with us, and we finally stopped and checked our hearts. Our thinking of holding back just a small amount from the Lord, because we felt we “needed” it so much, was not such a small thing for the Lord, as He expected more of us. He expected *total* obedience to tithing, and with that came many of His blessings that we

had lost! Lord help us. There were a couple more unfortunate incidences that happened, and we really felt that the Lord was chiding us. It was an expensive lesson to learn, and one that we never forgot!

It seemed that we had lost that simple faith in trusting Him explicitly. You may think, what's the big deal about US\$30? But that is not the way the Lord sees it, and in our withholding from Him, we were losing many blessings that come with simple obedience in giving to God what is His due!

Perhaps our short time of “dropping-in” had affected us to where we sort of lost that simple faith that He still provides all of our needs no matter what. In our previous field we faithfully sent in our monthly *full* tithe, as well as pledges to Family teams in third-world countries, and thought nothing of it when we mailed these off each month and were left with practically nothing! But the Lord never failed to supply for us, and we never went without!

Dear Dad always taught us that if we withhold from the Lord, He will take what is rightfully His. We may often feel and think, and even decide that we just cannot afford to give it all to Him, but it is better to give it all, to give to Him what is His, and He will take care of you in many, many ways in which those few dollars you hold back just can't do! Rather learn from someone else's painful mistake!

Out of the mouths of babes...

By Daniel Gypsy, Argentina

Johnny (17) and myself were walking down the street on our way to an appointment with Alejandro (a.k.a. Ale—a guy we met on a faith trip). As we went on our way, we noticed the great amount of receptive-looking kids passing by. We prayed that the spirit of key power would fill us to accomplish our mission of helping Ale, our friend, get closer to the Lord. We didn't even know what we were going to do with him, so it had to be the Lord's show. Two blocks away from Ale's place a girl shouts out, "Hey guys, get that ol' guitar out and sing us a little song." We kind of looked at each other, "Hmmm, ... alright, fine, but just a couple, we don't have much time." There we were, singing away, fumbling through the chords, and after three songs and a couple questions answered and a little witness, they were getting saved!

We went on our way, full of joy and praising the Lord for souls that were now free. Some time later, we are with Ale and his sweet girlfriend (we've

only met her once before) in their little garage-like studio; it's a real cozy little place. Right away guitars were drawn, bongos were put in place, and we sang for an hour or so with a little talking in the middle.

After the music died down, we pulled out *DB 4* and read "Temple Prophecy." It gave a lot to talk about, especially since it talks about Buddha being one of the many prophets that got lifted up in themselves and lost the anointing. They totally accepted the concept, even though these beliefs are taboo in modern-day philosophy. They would say stuff like "Hey man, we're all a mess," and I was thinking what better time to read "Let's Talk About Jesus"? *Let's see if their bottles can take this one.*

"Oh my, did he actually just say that? Wow!" was Ale's first comment. "What kind of guru would say something like, 'I don't give a damn about my stinking self?'"

After more songs we got in a circle, held hands and prayed for the wine of the Holy Spirit to get us drunk on Him,

and give us the fire to fight for the truth. After that, they all stayed there with their eyes closed. I started hearing that little voice in my head (Oh no, what to do? Ha!), and after some lack of faith He finally got the message out of me. It was a heavy message calling for salvation and total freedom from the cares of this life. Soon after I started feeling some spiritual commotion coming from Ale, so I started praying for him (not out loud). Soon he started giving a prophecy. He was having a hard time getting it out, but nonetheless it was a strong message.

In this one part he said, "Those that believe will not have rest ... (I was like, what?) because I have come to bring a sword and not peace. I have to make war with evil, and you must fight for Me" (something to that effect).

The Lord was generally asking them to let Him in, in a strong way. We had never told Ale about prophecy before.—We had only read one ML with him in the past! But it is the day of the weak and the little people. Let's use those new weapons! The time is now.

The witness in a smile

By Mary (SGA, of Mike), Pakistan

When I read prophecies that are printed in the GNs [or other pubs], messages that others get for me, or the precious words that my Husband sends my way, they encourage and feed me and keep me going through difficult times. But I have to honestly say that nothing in the last few years moved me quite as much as the prophecy from that little Palestinian girl.—The witness she received and the love she felt through that one smile, the lasting impression that smile had, and the way it represented Jesus to her. (See "Mama's Birthday 2002, Part 3," ML #3446:60–79, GN 1032.)

The time I spent in the Middle East area, making visits to the hospitals (as a clown) to cheer up the kids, the clown shows at camps and schools, teaching English to teenagers at a refugee camp, the Heart to Heart shows we did with all that Arabic dancing, were years of my life that I'll never forget and wouldn't trade for anything. Though I knew the Word we left people with would have a lasting effect and I knew the Family songs we sang were powerful, sometimes I wondered about the clowning.

When walking through the halls of a hospital as clowns and holding little

babies and kids that could die the next day, you can be tempted to feel that you are making light of the situation, or doing something for these kids and mothers that will be here today and gone tomorrow. So many times I was tempted to feel like what we were doing was really nothing compared to what these people needed.

But after reading that prophecy, when I think about all the kids I smiled at (whether they have gone on to Heaven or are still here on Earth), and the impact that one smile had on them, it just makes me cry. I actually made a real, tangible, lasting difference in that child's life and he or she never forgot it! After I read that prophecy I was so overwhelmed by how the Lord has used the Family in sensitive areas of the world to win millions of souls!—Souls that are not on stats sheets, but count just as much.

While riding high on this encouragement from the Lord I also got hit with a real strong conviction. Are there times when I'm out and I don't smile at someone because I'm too busy in my own little world, thinking about a thousand other things? Am I really letting Jesus shine through me 24/7, or do I just "turn it on" when it's appropriate? What if I fail a soul and fail the Lord because when that person looked at me and Jesus was waiting to get through, I was on a bummer that day and couldn't be bothered about being cheerful?

To me, being a guest in a country means that our sample should be just about the most important thing on our list. Like that story of the African chief who wanted to see if his tribe should accept Christianity, but after living with the missionaries and seeing the behavior of their children decided against it. I think so often we forget that we are *always* on stage. Like the comment someone made recently in the *Grapevine* (GV #152) when they encountered that tired clown, who didn't give a tract or even offer a smile.

God help us to always remember to let the Lord's love shine through us more and the importance of how far our smile can go.

kidbits

Baby girl, born to **Promise and Eric** on July 14.—Mexico

Vincent Bryan, 4th boy, born to **Meeky and Jason (SGAs)** on July 20.—Thailand

Ryan, 13th child, born to **Ang ãque and Isaac** on August 24.—Reunion Island

Alex Jeffrey, 1st child, born to **Teri and Sam** on October 13.—WS

backtracking...

In *Grapevine* #162, in the "Tidbit" section, it listed "**Pedro** (20, Brazilian) joined in Portugal." It should have instead read, "**Pedro** (24, Portuguese) joined in Portugal."

mama's mailbox

Dearest Mama and Peter,

I love you both and your videos have proved this to me even more. It's not that I have any important reason for writing, but after watching these videos [to the Family in Brazil], I wanted to tell you how thankful I am for both of you! Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for all the work, time, sweat, prayer, sacrifices, and whatever else you have gone through to bring these videos to us. It was so encouraging for me to watch them.

I mean, here we are a bunch of fools who have been disobeying for so long, even though you've done the best you could and provided us with so much wonderful instruction and guidance through the abundance of Word you poured out to us, and yet we were still making little progress. If I were you I'd probably have gotten fed up with us! And yet you get up there and explain things in such a firm, convicting, but still extremely sweet and loving way, not condescending in the least bit. I was very motivated to change just from knowing that I had disappointed you.

Some people might say that I can't be held responsible, since I'm only 15. But I know, as Dad said, that spirituality is not measured in years, but in your connection with the Lord, and I know that I've read about these things before and I knew right from wrong, so I hold myself accountable. I'm very sorry for the part that I've had in weakening the Family, as that is the last thing I want to do.

I am fully persuaded in my mind that the Family is the best place in the world, and the Lord has given me the highest privilege I could have ever asked for in allowing me to be born in the Family. I know that the Family is the only place in the world where I will ever be happy and fulfilled. To me the thought of leaving the Family and all the countless blessings that I have here is just like having my heart yanked out; it's just unimaginable to me. I know that I've made many mistakes, and I have a long ways to go until I become what I need to be in order to partake of the great honor that it is to march alongside you. But by God's grace I'm willing to do all in my power to make it.

It's so wonderful for me to see all the changes that have taken place. I've lived here in São Paulo

for the last 12 years, and I guess you could say that I sort of grew up into compromise. I can *almost* remember things being totally revolutionary, but then I was very young at the time.

I don't know how to explain it, but it's like you said, Peter, everyone started "grading on the curve," and the standard just started sinking, so whenever you would get convicted about something all you had to do was look around at others and say, "Oh well, they're not doing that either, and compared to them I'm doing pretty good." After a while you start thinking that maybe that's just the way that the Word is meant to be implemented. Deep inside I'm sure everyone knew that it was wrong, but nobody said so for fear of what others might think.

I myself am very self-conscious, and it's almost like I got to the point where I let those around me dictate my actions instead of the Lord. But now it's like I've been washed clean of my old ways of thinking, and I've received a new infusion of faith. I don't care what others think anymore so long as I'm doing what God asks of me. All of a sudden things that seemed crazy before are now the most logical thing to me, and all that matters is obeying the Word.

Before it was like, "Well, God, if You prove to me that You will keep Your promise, then I'll obey." But now I want to take the Word and do it—as simple as that!

As Dad said, "Obedience comes before the blessing." Before it seemed like to live the Word you'd have to be pretty crazy and everyone sort of had to have a little something they felt they could fall back on, but now none of that matters to me anymore. No one has that self-righteous, holier-than-thou attitude anymore, because everyone realizes that they are just as guilty as everyone else.

The encouragement GNs* were absolutely awesome! I loved them, and I think that they were a lifesaver to many. I also loved Dad's challenge, and I'm determined to do it no matter what! I'm so proud to say that I'm a part of the Family.

[*Editor's note: *The encouragement GNs were sent especially to the Brazil Family after their national fast day was held.*]

With love, prayers, and admiration,
A 15-year-old teen girl, Brazil

activated responses

I have begun receiving your magazines. They have been an immense blessing to me and the church members. I just wanted to let you know that I really appreciate it and pray that God may continue blessing your ministry.

—Pastor Dennis, Kenya

I am very happy to receive your contact through the *Activated* magazine. I went through the magazine and I was very much touched with the way you are feeding the people of God.—Lifting them in soul, in spirit, strengthening families and providing fun learning for children.

My friends, can I know more about you? I am an evangelist doing the work of God in caring for orphans, families and children who are not loved by their parents. Please help me to know more about you.

—Samuel and Annah, Kenya

I have been receiving the *Activated* magazine for eight months now. I read it and I get blessed. One morning I had been reading an article about King Nebuchadnezzar's dream and its interpretation by Daniel. This touched me, as I saw how true it was. That same day I was asked at a Christian school meeting to share the Word of God. The Lord showed me a topic about the youth, as I am working with teenagers. I shared about Daniel as a teenager who changed the king's life by giving the correct interpretation of the dream that no one could give. That showed how much our youth could do to change the world. Everyone was blessed.

I praise God for the mag. Every time I read it I get courage to walk another mile with the Lord. When I finish reading a copy, I give it to the next person. People are getting blessed. This is amazing! May God richly bless you.

—Bongi (schoolteacher), Zambia

I was encouraged a lot by your book *Obstacles Are for Overcoming*. I could feel the Holy Spirit of God move mightily within me while I was reading it. Now I would like to know how I can obtain *Hearing from Heaven*. God bless you.

—Sabeena, India

The book entitled *Obstacles Are for Overcoming* has made an impact in my life. It really enriched my life! Thank you for the good work you do. I would like to have some more of these books, namely, *Prayer Power*, *Understanding God's Word*, *God's Gifts*, and *Love's Many Faces*.

—Brother Tellis, India

I received my second issue of *Activated* today. I found all the articles very helpful and thought-provoking. Peter's character was fantastic! It makes me want to read and read. My heart is full of joy. The Bible quotations made me want to open my Bible and read. I would be interested in more inspiring, strengthening Bible-based publications. Please send me information on how I can obtain these.

—M. P., India

forum

What's my purpose for being here?

A young person somewhere: A lot of my friends have left the Family recently. It's never easy when a friend, someone who you are close to, a member of your family or your Home leaves. Recently, when a couple of members of my Home decided to leave the CM Family, it really made me wonder why were they leaving, and even more so, why was I staying? It's never easy when people leave the Family, especially if you are right there and you listen to all their reasons for leaving. It can be quite draining. I'm sure we've all been through it at one time or another!

But going through that shook me up. I had already decided that the Family was the place for me! I can't just say that I'm staying in the Family; I had to live it with all that was within me. I had to value my place in the Family, and my service for the Lord so much that it wouldn't matter if my friends leave, or if I'm not having all the fun I *could be* having, that I don't have a boyfriend or am not living in a perfect situation.

I had to forsake all these things that I thought were so important to me, things that I thought would make me happy and only be there for Jesus. He is enough. He alone can make me truly happy. I know why I am in the Family—I am here because I love the Lord and the sheep. I want to do my best for the Lord. Sure, the Family isn't perfect, but neither am I. Only the Lord is perfect, and He's our guide, so it should be enough!

The fact that other people may leave is not going to change my mind. I'm not going to base my decisions on the decisions of others, in the end I'm going to be accountable before the Lord—not them. I believe in the Family, and I believe that the Lord knows what He is doing, and if He is leading the Family a certain way, then He knows what He is doing and all we have to do is trust Him.

The road will be hard, and sometimes I will feel like giving up. But I know it will be worth it all. I don't regret the decision I have made. I don't resent those who have left the Family. They made their choice, and I've made mine. As far as I am concerned, we can live our lives in peace going our separate ways. Just because we have

different views doesn't mean we have to be enemies.

I am proud to be a part of the Family. And I know everything I go through will be worth it all in the end.

Africa bad or good for you?

Kaylee, Cameroon: I've heard some people talk negatively about Africa, and it's hurt me. It's people who have been to Africa, but may have only lived in one country and in one situation, but who seem to be the self-called "experts" on the *whole* Africa. (I found every single country that I lived in very different.)

They tell you about all the sicknesses, inconveniences, and how "weird" some people there are. Then there are those who give you the impression that you are throwing away your life for "dumbos"—people with no IQ—while *they* are reaching the intellectuals and real labor leaders.

You can say a lot of bad about Africa, and it may be true, but then there is the other side too. They say that when people come to Africa they either hate it or love it. I met one Austrian lady who told me that you could catch the "African bug," meaning you can't help but keep coming back there. I guess I'm one of those people; I fell in love with Africa. It hurts me when people tear it down for whatever reason. If they themselves don't have the burden to live there, they don't

have to put the people that live and work there down. It's hard enough having to fight the Enemy and the hardships of Africa on its own without having to fight our own brothers and sisters.

I think the saddest thing about negative comments like this is that there are some young people who are visionless in the unfruitful fields they are in, but they rule out Africa from the list of their possibilities because of these kinds of "vibes" going around. Those comments are against the Word as well, because there is always a call for mission fields, and the laborers are few in comparison with the need.

I consider Africa one of the most fruitful fields that I've ever been in. There is so much potential! And as for reaching the labor leaders, well, never before have I met, witnessed to government ministers and ambassadors, an army general, and top company directors like I have in Africa. These people admire us for sacrificing and coming to their country, and they love us in return for our love, and any little endeavor of learning their local languages, and trying to help them. I have never in my life gotten six months visa for free "just" for being a missionary. I have never before won over influential people in the country of my origin like now *because* of my work in Africa.

WHAT'S THE PRAYER OUTCOME?

BY CLAIRE M., MADAGASCAR

Lately we've been receiving lots of prayer requests by e-mail from all over the world. I think it's wonderful that we can all share in the heavy burden of intercession for our brothers and sisters around the world. It really helps bring out the "we're all one big family" spirit.

Personally, I do my best to pray desperately for each new request that comes in. The dear ones remain on my personal prayer list until we hear definite word of their healing. Unfortunately, that's where there's a bit of a problem. Most of the time we receive the prayer request for something specific, say ... someone's going to have an operation, or needs to take some heavy treatment, or something like that. So we pray and pray and pray, and months later we still have absolutely no idea about the outcome.

So could those who send out specific prayer requests also remember to send updates? If the operation or treatment or whatever turned out well, we want to hear about it! That way we can know if our prayers have been answered, and then praise the Lord for it. If it didn't, we'd be more than eager to intercede for complete healing until we hear from you again with the good news!

Pray!



Healing key: There is no limit to the miracles that the keys will do for you as you wield them for those in need. Your loved ones will see miracles when you call on the keys in fervent, intercessory prayers on their behalf.

Testimonies of Answered Prayer

Charity, Greece: I have asked for prayer for a serious problem that I have had with periodontitis for several years. I was told I would need to have three very serious operations to open my gums and place a type of “fake bone” in order to hold my teeth in my mouth. I wasn’t looking forward to that, and my biggest trial was trying to imagine how to keep the house and the kids cared for while healing up! Well, thankfully my gums and teeth are almost completely healed and even other teeth the dentist planned to remove are fine! I’m so thankful for the Lord’s mercy and healing power, as well as everyone’s prayers!

Andrew, Germany: I’ve been on the prayer list several times for my digestion problems that were affecting me greatly at the time, and for my sleeping problems, which were an even greater mountain as they had gone on for 20 years, and for my more recent heart trouble.

I want to testify here that all the times I was on the prayer list the Lord has answered, not always instantly, and sometimes in different ways, but in all these cases there was a definite notable improvement of some kind. Whenever I’ve obeyed the Lord and humbled myself to ask for prayer, it has given me more faith to believe that the Lord has to do the miracle.

I’m happy that I have been given a new lease on life, so to speak, and I can make every day count in serving the Lord in whatever situation I find myself in. So whatever your health problems are, rest assured that the Lord has the special key for you, which fits your particular case.

Asia

Liberty Swiss (of Ivan): Rectal cancer, which has spread to the glands. She will not undergo surgery,

but is trusting the Lord for healing. Please pray for a complete healing, against pain and bleeding, for the right diet and bowel movements, and to learn the lessons the Lord has for her during this trying time.

Newborn baby (of Peter and Lily): The baby was born premature, at 29 and a half weeks, weighing only 1.5 kg. The pregnancy was placenta previa; however, Lily is out of danger and has had no abnormal bleeding. The baby miraculously made it to the incubator and oxygen tent in time, in spite of roads being flooded and ambulance engine failure. The doctor asked us to pray for the baby’s strength and the development of his lungs, which are usually developed by 32 weeks. If the baby does not have enough strength he will have to go on the ventilator. Please pray that all the baby’s organs such as the heart, liver, stomach, etc., will develop properly. For the Lord’s supply as the doctor explained that this specialized premature baby care unit is on the costly side. (The baby will probably be in the incubator for approximately one month.)

Europe and Africa

Matt (of Mel): After quite a serious battle (with cerebral malaria, pneumonia, and hepatitis), Matt has been healed, not completely yet, but he has been let out of the hospital where he was in ICU for quite a long time. When taking him there the doctors were quite skeptical and were even a bit afraid of admitting him into the hospital, for fear that he wouldn’t make it. Thank the Lord Matt did recover, and we were able to take him home. Please continue to pray for Matt’s full recovery from cerebral malaria. We are so thankful that he has made such good progress thanks to the keys and so many people praying for him.

Paul Servant: Chronic back pain for the last three years, which has at times affected him from walking or standing for any length of time. In trying to locate the problem, the doctors have found that he has several fractures in the lower vertebrae that appear to be the result of an accident he had as a teen. With the aging process, these fractures have been filling with calcium, and are now pressing against the spinal chord, which is what is causing the extreme pain. None of the doctors will operate, as it is too risky, so they have put Paul on a physical therapy program that they hope will help break up the calcium deposits. Please pray for the complete healing of his

back, as well as his need to change to a diet to lower his calcium intake. The spine is non-regenerative bone, but the Lord can heal these fractures.

Robin (6, of Joy and Tim): Bronchitis, which she contracted after a bout of malaria and has had for nearly four months. She has a deep, wheezy cough. Because of this, she also has a loss of appetite, and some nights has difficulty sleeping.

Rose (of Michael): Cysts in thyroid glands.

Jerry (of Joy): Since Jerry’s operation, he has experienced some swelling in his head, which the neurosurgeon confirmed is due to hydrocephalus (accumulation of blood and excess fluid from the operation). The lumbar puncture he had to help relieve the swelling, didn’t work and seemed to have worsened Jerry’s condition, and brought on more swelling and headaches. The neurosurgeon wants to do another operation to insert a shunt into Jerry’s head which will then be inserted into his abdomen, so that the excess fluid can drain in there.

Please pray for Jerry, against the headaches and fevers he’s been having daily, especially at night, due to the pressure in his head caused by the hydrocephalus. Also for Jerry’s strength, as he is very weak right now, that the Lord will strengthen his body before the operation, so he can withstand the strain of undergoing another operation so close to the first one. Also, please keep the two neurosurgeons in your prayers, that the Lord will anoint them to perform this second operation without complications, especially that they’ll be able to fit the tube into the abdominal cavity, as this is the tricky part.

Jerry has also been battling with dysphasia (difficulty in speaking) since his first operation to remove the tumor. So please pray that that will clear up and he’ll be able to communicate properly without difficulty.

North America

Angelina (grandchild of Samaria and Matt): Had a liver transplant and needs tubal feeding.

Leah (of Joab): Five blocked arteries, and has already been through one unsuccessful operation. Will undergo surgery again. Please pray for complete healing for her.

Samaria (of Matt): Underwent an operation to remove her uterus; for full recovery without any adverse side effects.

entertainment

Movies Rated for Junior Teens and Up

FREAKY FRIDAY (2003)

Jamie Lee Curtis, Lindsay Lohan

An overworked mother and her daughter, who have continual disagreements, each get a peek at how the other person feels, thinks, and lives when their personalities are switched, and they are forced to adapt to the other's life for one day.

(Jesus:) This is a good example of the generations understanding each other, learning new things about the other, relating to each other, and overcoming labels and preconceived ideas. There's a good overall message about accepting and moving on, expanding your circle, and loving even when it's hard to love. Each character in this story had to overcome various mindsets to have a better understanding of the other person.

This movie brings out what it's like to walk in someone else's shoes and to find the place in your heart to bring out the love that is so often covered under the rubble of day-to-day living and personal differences.

This simple lesson of understanding others is something, that when and if learned, can change this world. The simplicity of the story and plot is helped along by the lighthearted actions of the characters, but don't lose the deeper meaning in the lightness of the subject matter and the humorous presentation.

Our teens could relate to the young teen girl, but they need to remember that they are not teens in the System, but rather a called-out and chosen generation, so how much more should they learn to understand and get along with others. For younger audiences, the little brother is definitely a bad sample. The sad thing is they make him out to be cute and smart, when he is really quite a rascal and terror to his older sister. But for the most part he is typical of little mischievous boys and plays a more minor role in the film.

Movies Rated for JETTs and Up

LUTHER (2003)

Joseph Fiennes, Peter Ustinov, Alfred Molina

Luther follows the turbulent struggle between the Catholic Church and the country of Germany in the 1500s, revolving around religious liberator Martin Luther.

(Dad:) This movie does a good job of catching the spirit of Martin Luther

and the fight he had with the corrupt Catholic Church of his time. It's a great fighter movie, and it's about fighting for one of the greatest things you can fight for—God's Word! It's a real exposé of the Catholic Church.

It's not a "churchy" view of Martin Luther, but rather a pretty true picture of the radical revolutionary that he was (and still is!). Praise the Lord! This will be an inspiration and uplift to the Family. It portrays the spiritual and physical torment that Luther went through as he defied the huge power of the church system and its false teachings of his day. I would have to call it an epic picture, one of the best portrayals of Luther yet.

The movie promotes godliness and puts down worldliness. They might not have gotten every detail of history exact, but they come very close to accurately showing the spirit of the time. Luther is portrayed as a witty and brilliant speaker, teacher and scholar who wants to serve God with all his heart.

There are so many parallels between his movement and ours. It contains all the basics of faith—not in theological terms, but in actions and deeds: lit and pubs, the power of the Word, conversion/salvation, conviction vs. compromise, dedication, loving Jesus passionately, discipleship and forsaking all, kings, persecution, politics, and zealotry. The film lifts up Jesus and inspires us to have the fire and single-mindedness of Luther.

Luther didn't come across self-righteous, but human—a sinning saint. Martin Luther was exceptional, in that he had embraced Catholicism, he was full of the leaven of churchianity, yet he let the Word open his eyes and purge out the poisonous leaven, and he became a new man. He broke with that which had been part of him. So commendable!

See it! It'll inspire you. This is one you can also show your sheep and friends. This movie is a must-see for those who love the Word, love the truth, and are willing to fight for it. Because of men like Luther we have the freedom to live the Word to the full. The Lord is proud of Luther, and proud of the Family who are not ashamed to speak the truth in spite of persecution. I would encourage the Family to watch it and be reminded of the dedication of God's great men. It's a good teaching aid for teachers in the classroom, for Bible classes for your Activated sheep, etc.

God bless you as you go forth as a movement—not just following a man, a

prophet, a visionary, but being professional Christians, being prophets and visionaries, empowered by the Word and the keys of the Kingdom!

NICHOLAS NICKLEBY (2003)

Charlie Hunnam, Christopher Plummer, Nathan Lane

A young, compassionate man struggles to save his family and friends from the abusive exploitation of his cold-hearted uncle. Based on a novel by Charles Dickens.

(Jesus:) This movie has a good message that living good, godly, loving, helpful lives pays, and selfishness and cruelty doesn't. It's an inspiring story of love and friendship overcoming the cruel obstacles that get placed in its way. It also brings out the dignity of not compromising for gain and how I bless that.

SECONDHAND LIONS (2003)

Haley Joel Osment, Michael Caine, Robert Duvall

In 1960s Texas, a timid teenager is forced by his mother to spend the summer with his rich and eccentric great-uncles on their farm. Over time, he learns about their mysterious and dangerous pasts.

(Jesus:) Because the core of this movie is the help that each character was in the life or lives of another, its overall lesson is good. It shows that you can make a difference, and that by believing in the good in another and going about things in an unselfish and caring way, you will get results—good results. There is no generation gap here, but rather a uniting of generations, both generations gaining from and helping each other.

The movie's twists and turns, and some scenes of violence, make it unsuitable for some younger viewers. Kids might not understand the "big bad world" yet, and how people are willing to do anything for money. Also, the portrayal of the mother as a bad character is a subtle influence of the Enemy to get kids distrusting their own parents. It would be good for those who see this to count their blessings for the unselfish and loving environments they were raised in, as well as parents who were there for them and cared for them.

There is much experience and input that the older generation of this day and age has, which the current generations are passing up. Lessons of love, of enduring through hardship, of chivalry and

civility are being replaced by barbarism, anarchy, selfishness, and lust instead of love. It's sad, but the world has to become much worse so that man can realize he can't make it on his own. Many of the older generation had Me in their hearts, or at least had somewhat of an idea of godly principles. This made them much more resistant to evil influences. But man is being torn apart now by his greed and his efforts to do without God.

One last point about the movie is that it is somewhat of a "fairy tale," and some things are a little too good to be true. This would be especially important to explain to a less mature audience, because while My goodness is ever present in your lives, it doesn't always manifest itself in material blessings or riches of mammon. I do bless giving, and sometimes, in return, I will give riches of happiness, unity, humility, or My unseen protection. But to make this movie relate to the world today, they had to add in different factors of physical gain and desires met. Yet if explained, this won't be a negative issue.

Other Movies

[Editor's note: Before watching a movie rated in the "other movies" category, Homes and individuals should ask the Lord whether it is appropriate. If considering showing an "other movie" to teens or JETTs, parents or shepherds should both preview and pray about it.]

PHONE BOOTH (2002)

Colin Farrell, Kiefer Sutherland

A slick New York publicist who uses the same phone booth to call his girlfriend every day answers a ringing phone and is told that if he hangs up, he'll be killed.

(Jesus:) The Enemy's power is in fear, and the Enemy uses movies like this to make some people very fearful. A movie like this is very much a case of "different strokes for different folks." It's not an evil movie in itself, and it didn't promote or glorify evil as in saying that it was good. In fact, it showed up the evil guy pretty clearly for what he was—a psychotic, someone who was going around "punishing" people for things he felt they did wrong, when that was not his job. That's My job, and vengeance is Mine. It did really dwell on the evil, though, and something like that can put bad thoughts and pictures and fear in people's minds.

It also showed that while what the young guy went through was a bit ridiculous, extreme, and unnecessary, it did make him a better person. It did make him re-evaluate what mattered in life. It showed up his vain, selfish, and proud lifestyle, and it did make him want to be a better person, and to not be so stuck on his self-importance and his vain show. He was living a very shallow and selfish life, and the experience deepened him. In a way, that could be seen as proving the point that lurks in this movie that's wrong, that it's worth it to "do evil that good may come."

A lot of it is about perspective: How you feel about certain things, how prayerful you are, how much you're looking beneath the surface when you watch a movie, will affect what you get out of a movie. Then again, the "message," as it were about not living for selfish pursuits, is not something really helpful or necessary to the Family.

The sniper doesn't do really gross or perverted violent acts, as psychos in some movies do, but his attitude, his warped mind, and his pleasure in

tormenting others, is still somewhat disturbing, at least for the more sensitive. And, because of his presence, and the underlying wrong messages, this movie doesn't have enough redeeming value to make it "watchable."

LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN, THE (2003)

Sean Connery, Naseeruddin Shah

(Jesus:) The main problem with this movie is that the good guys weren't really all that good, and in performing their mission they did a lot of bad along the way. It's not a "good vs. evil" story, but a "bad vs. worse" story. The heroes of the story are all characters that were bad in nineteenth-century literature. This is sowing the seed of doubt that demons maybe aren't all that bad, and giving the impression that there may be times when they could actually be good, which inoculates the masses against believing the truths of the spirit world. Demons are real, and no matter how nicely they may be packaged, they are to be fought and rebuked on all accounts, and at no time are they the good guys.

HELP WANTED

Greetings from the **Islamabad Home, Pakistan!** The Lord has indeed done great things for us whereof we are glad. After a two-year struggle we finally got our three-year multiple-entry visas. Wow! We also are now a registered foundation, and we are looking forward to exciting times ahead. The next hurdle is to get the actual visas, which we are starting to work on next week. For our Home we have 17 passports, and to get everyone's visas we need US\$3,610.

We know that after having done such miracles the Lord will continue to do miracles, and thus also supply the funds. Recently, a family left our Home for China, and in light of that things have been tight personnel-wise and financially, so we thought to perhaps ask if you, dear Family, would consider to help towards our visa bill. We are thankful for any gifts, big or small. Please send any gifts designated to "Islamabad, PK06 for visa bill!"

God bless you, and much love always,
Your Islamabad brethren

Hi, dear Family!

We love you and pray for you! Our three-year-old boy has flat feet and needs correctional orthopedic shoes as soon as possible. We live in a very expensive city, and to make those shoes here costs a lot. Also we are a part of a Service Center, and most of our time goes to serving the field and producing new tools for distribution. We would be very grateful for your help with obtaining those shoes for him and for your prayers. We need approximately US\$100. You can send your gifts to RU001 designated to "Philip and Praise—for shoes."

Thank you so much!
Philip and Praise, Russia

Shine On—September 2003

TEAMWORK	Per Adult	Total
SOUL SHINERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2003		
Jose/Maria Fiel, Mexico	2,599	12,995
Pablo T., Ecuador	1,550	3,100
Peter/Susan, Fiji Is.	264	527
Gideon/Magdalene/Rachel, So. Africa	225	1,127
Belen/Ezequiel/Rejoice, Brazil	215	1,507
Claire/Daniel/Steven, India	215	1,075
Abner/Martin/Mercy, Mozambique	203	1,421
Daniel/Lily/Melanie/Pawel, Brazil	167	1,000
Aurora/Joao/Rute, Brazil	153	920
Elene/Joanne/Joshua/Rima/Sharif, Nigeria	139	695

TEAMWORK	Per Adult	Total
TAPES/CDs SHINERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2003		
Aneta/Ben/Christy, Botswana	251	2,008
Sweetie Of Dad, Mexico	164	327
Angela/Angie/Brian, Brazil	161	1,130
Jonathan/Marc/Theophany, ME	143	1,000
MX915V, Mexico	105	210
Maria/Mark/Suzanne, Ghana	105	420
Andrew/Miracle/Rose, Yugoslavia	105	419
Emanuelle/Francisco/Joana, Brazil	85	255
David/Gabriel/Natalia/Susana, Mexico	81	812
Angeles/Joao, Portugal	81	322

TEAMWORK	Per Adult	Total
ACTIVATED DISTRIBUTION SHINERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2003		
Aneta/Ben/Christy, Botswana	500	4,000
Anaik/Joy/Sharon/Tiago, Brazil	444	4,000
Rose/Shine/Timothy, USA	425	5,095
Bonita/Mark/Renee, India	423	4,225
Angelo/David/Dawn/Peter, USA	316	1,898
Celeste/Chris, Mexico	267	1,069
Lisa/Luke/Ruth/Stephen, United Kingdom	250	1,000
Joy/Pricila/Tiago, Brazil	200	1,000
Grayce/John/Mike/Nina, USA	143	999
Douglas Faithful, So. Africa	140	280

TEAMWORK	Per Adult	Total
ACTIVATED SUBSCRIPTION SHINERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2003		
Angela/Angie/Brian, Brazil		105
Armi/Beth/Carina/Crys/Joni/Joy/Kar/Mamta/Sam, India		70
Francesco/Gentleness/Tiago, Brazil		68
Claire/Gabriel/Gloria/Samuel, Brazil		52
Christina/Iris/Joseph/Michael, Brazil		47
Chris/Daniel/Shayna, India		40
Eman/Juju/Katrina/Tigo, Brazil		38
Iris/Jeremias/Luz/Paulo, Brazil		38
David/Susanna/Virginia, Brazil		36
Andrew/Angel/Deepal/Hosanna/MaryAnn/Rajan/Steven, India		33

QUARTERLY SUBSCRIPTION STATS BY DESK	July	August	September
Brazil	191	309	856
Chile	14	14	11
Colombia	21	21	N/A
EE and Russia	149	266	133
Europe/Africa	193	122	173
India	484	284	405
Japan	29	50	49
Mexico	23	28	84
N. America	2	3	33
Philippines	98	112	95
Taiwan	81	75	N/A
Total	1,285	1,284	1,839

TEAMWORK	Per Adult	Total
BOOKS SHINERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2003		
Charity/Daniel/Isabel/Ivan, Brazil	298	1,788
Faithy/Lalo/Robyn/Ruth, Mexico	168	673
Esther/Ezequiel/Tamar, Brazil	122	730
David/Dream/Faye/Lovely/Nehemias, Italy	102	407
Isacco, Italy	101	403
Maria/Philipp/Svieta, Russia	96	673
Emanuel Libertad, Venezuela	87	348
Rory Huber, USA	77	384
Andrew/Chloe/Esther/Nathanael, So. Africa	71	708
Faithy/Mark/Premika, India	70	630

TEAMWORK	Per Adult	Total
VIDEO SHINERS FOR SEPTEMBER 2003		
CO209, Colombia	855	1,710
CO001, Colombia	170	850
Gab/Rejoice/Virginia, USA	72	434
Consuelo/Ivan/Jeho/Leila/Tamar, Brazil	62	809
Pablo, Brazil	40	80
Angela/Angie/Brian, Brazil	33	230
Maria/Philipp/Svieta, Russia	32	225
Emanuel Libertad, Venezuela	27	109
Hannah/Philip, Canada	27	54
Elisabeth/Emmanuel/Felicia/Simeon, Indonesia	25	99

TEAMWORK	Per Adult	Total
More Activated responses		
My brother gave me a couple copies of your <i>Activated</i> magazine to read. In light of the recent earthquake in Gujarat, I found your article "The Future Foretold" very enlightening. I was then reading the other articles and prayers and became very interested in it.		
I am 74 years old and a Christian, devoted to God and Jesus Christ. I love the Word of God and read my Bible regularly. Please let me know how I can subscribe to this magazine.		
—MODAYIL, INDIA		

Personals

I would like to get in contact with **Joseph Willing**; we were together in the Milano Home. This is Jewel (you know me as Jasmine). Hope to hear from you soon! Write me at jewelflame@softhome.net.

María de Sevilla creo vivíamos juntas con John y Clara en Galicia, la Corona. Soy Amor de Perú. Por favor escríbeme, me gustaría tener noticias tuyas. Mi e-mail: RAYOSdeSOL@terra.com.pe.

Samuel y María, ¿se acuerdan de mí? Soy Amor (Peruana), vivimos juntos en Portugal; yo estaba embarazada. Por favor escríbanme. Mi e-mail: RAYOSdeSOL@terra.com.

Busco a **Laura** (vivo en Florianopolis en el 2002) y su hermano **Ruben de Venezuela** si los conocen por favor den una pista. Los busca Chris (Chileno) me contactan a chris_soprano69@yahoo.com.

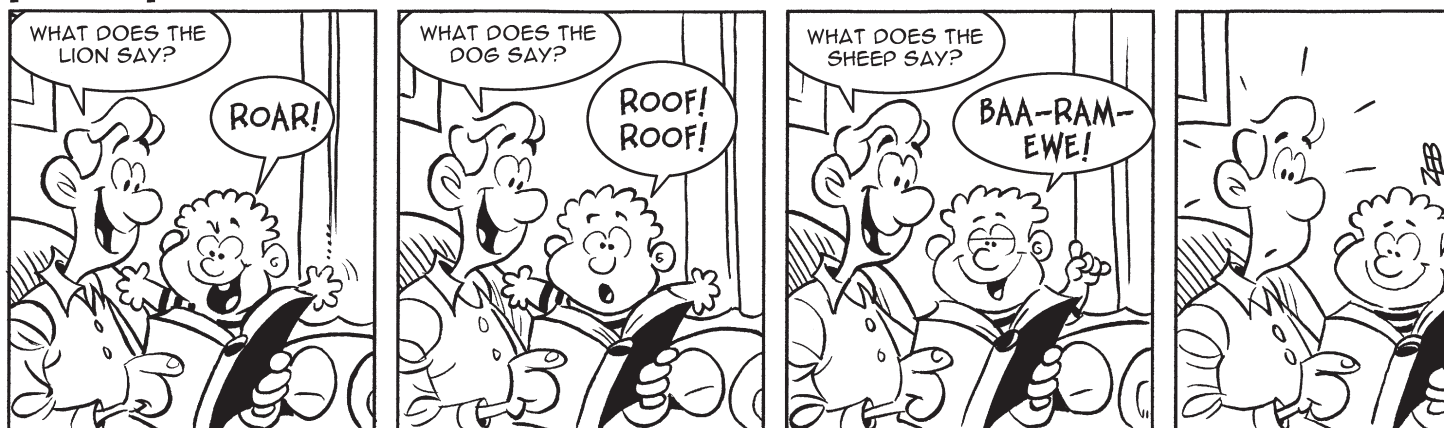
former friends —seeking contact

I visited your Web site just to see what the latest was with your group. I was friends with some of your members years ago while I was stationed in Germany in the Army. On the homepage of your site if you click on the "Who we are" tab there is a lady with glasses holding a small boy. The lady looks just like my friend from years ago! Her name was **Elizabeth, her Family name was Twilight**. Her husband's name was Bob. They had a small daughter; I think her name was Chastity. They were Americans living in Frankfurt in 1977 and 1978.

I would love to find Elizabeth, if possible. She can write me at: aa2cb@comcast.net. Thank you. Kevin

Hi, my name in the Family was Merrily Fealty. I was in the Lyon raid. I am interested in talking with people I may have known in Europe. I especially would like to talk to **Joseph**. He was a shepherd in Lyon. I am not anti-Family; I am not pro-Family. I would just like to talk to people I knew. You can reach me at merrily@msn.com. Thank you.

PECULIAR PEOPLE



The news and views from Family members published in the *Grapevine* do not necessarily reflect WS policy. Suggested reading age for this publication is 14 years and up. Selected portions may be read by or with those younger at parents' or shepherds' discretion. All Family members in China use pen names for their contributions to the *Grapevine*. *The Grapevine Family*, c/o TRIAG, Aussergrütstrasse 2, CH - 6319 Allenwinden, Switzerland. E-mail: gv@wsfamily.com Copyright © 2003 by The Family