

Guard well your spare moments. They are like uncut diamonds. Discard them and their value will never be known. Improve them and they will become bright gems in a useful life.

More GN News

By Mama

Dear Family,

Peter and I love you all so much. We're praying that this year ahead will be a fruitful and promising one, with exciting challenges, victories, and fulfillment in our dear Husband's service. Every year with Jesus is better than the one before. Praise the Lord!

In *Grapevine* #166, there was a short announcement about two GNs in the works—one dealing with our detractors' attack on the GN and art in the pubs, and another one on the spiritual battles that the Enemy is aggressively fighting the Family young people with. We posted the one GN—"Which Comes First: The Revelation or the Artwork?" (Post-it GN #12, ML #3474)—on the MO site, and we pray that the insight and answers the Lord gave in that GN was faith-building and a help to you.

The second GN on the attacks the Devil has launched against our young people is still in the works, and we're hoping to get it to you soon, albeit it's taking a little longer to work on than anticipated. The Lord has so much excellent insight and counsel to give, and you can be certain Satan is not happy about it. So please do continue to pray for the work on this GN.

Thank you so much. I love you!

Much love and prayers,
Mama

Contatto—Italian Activated

BY THE ITALIAN PC

Dear Family, we'd like to let everyone know that *Contatto—Italian Activated* mag—is finally here! It's a dream come true to have this mag in the local language for this field, where there are many who are sheepy and hungry for the Word. All credit goes to the Lord for helping us to get rolling with it, as well as to the Homes who through their tool orders made it possible to gather the necessary funds for the printing. Thanks also to all the people who worked on the mags.

Already in the first five months we've either distributed or had subscriptions for 500 *Contatto* mags. The Lord has been blessing the Family here, as they have been faithful to start getting it out.

If anyone is interested in subscribing Italians in your countries to *Contatto*, or want more info, please contact the Italian PC at contatto@italianpc.it.

We love you,
The ITPC team

2004 Happy Family Birthday

By Mama

Dear Family,

Aside from sending lots of love and prayers your way as we begin our new year together, this brief note is to let you know in advance that there will be a short GN coming your way soon, which I'd like to ask you to set aside and read unitedly as a Home sometime during the Family Birthday. So stay tuned!

When we prayed about this year's Family Birthday celebration, our Husband said that He wanted me to encourage you, dear Family, to take at least one day off—although two would be ideal, if feasible—as a special Family Birthday present.

Similar to last year, the purpose of this time would be to rest, relax, reflect, celebrate, and spend time with Jesus in prayer and refilling—enjoying a good balance of both physical and spiritual recreation and relaxation.

These days off could be either February 17th and 18th, or February 18th and 19th—according to the Lord's plan for you, and what dates would suit your situation and Home best. As you take the time to hear from the Lord in advance, dear Family, He will bless this special time and ensure that you and your Home get the most out of it!

Happy Family Birthday!
Much love,
Mama

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QNAs

BY THE WS ADMINISTRATION TEAM

Q: We recently received the latest Charter Amendments, which are a blessing, making many things more clear and enabling us to exercise more freedoms, while more clearly defining certain obligations. I had a question, though, when I read about the goal of publishing a new edition of the Charter including the amendments.

It would be very practical to have those bound together in one book, but honestly, since it is not easy to raise funds with world conditions worsening more and more every year, especially for us big families that don't have support from rich countries, I wonder if those funds could be better used printing *Heaven Library* books for the kids, or other needed items.

I think we can all be diligent enough to keep our Charter amendments booklets and *Family Board Handbook* booklet together with our nice bound Charter book already in existence without having to spend thousands of dollars on a

new Charter edition, which although a very good idea, might not be essential, especially in the light of the fact that the Family keeps changing or adapting new rules for different reasons, which could mean that in a couple of years there might be more amendments coming.

A: Thank you for your comments regarding the reprinting of the Charter. There are many changes to the Charter in light of the many amendments, the introduction of the boards, as well as coming Family changes that all need to be incorporated since the last reprinting of the Charter in 1998. We feel it would be difficult to know exactly what our responsibilities and rights are in light of so many changes spread out in different pubs, rather than having all of them in one place.

However, we are mindful of the finances, and the fact that yet more changes may come in the years to come. The plan the Lord has given us is to reprint *The Love Charter* and *Family Board Handbook* with holes in the pages

so that these books can be kept in a ring binder. Then, whenever there are changes in the future, we will simply send out the pages or sections that have been changed, so that each Home can remove the old pages from the book and replace them with new ones.

We have in the past printed the Charter one per disciple, but this time we are planning to print one Charter per Home, which will mean a much smaller amount, and much less expensive to print.

On another note, through the book printing fundraising day, we were able to raise a significant amount of funds for the printing of new books, specifically children's books. We are currently doing one print run that includes children's Word books—such as *MLK* books, *HTK* books, a *Blade* book, a *LinkUP* book, the first *Xn* book, and a compiled *Heaven's Library* book of stories for "all"—as well as a number of new *Heaven's Library* novels, which will be sent at the earliest possible date to all Homes that participated in the fundraiser.



Backtracking ... In My Arms

(Dad:) Hello, David and Dove! I love you too. You are both very dear to my heart, and I would like to be able to hug you and comfort you and help you during this time. It's a big transition to think of your dear daughter being here in Heaven with us instead of there on Earth with you. I know it's not an easy time, and it will take a while to get used to the change.

But because you are very dear to us, Jesus sent me on this special mission to help you make this transition, to be with you for a little bit during this time of change, and to help you look at things from the standpoint of how we see them from up here in Heaven. It will make the pain less; it will make her passing over easier.

Part of the difficulty was the great shock at her passing—it was just so unexpected, wasn't it? It was not as though you were prepared. One minute she was there with you, getting medical care, and you weren't particularly worried about her dying, more just concerned that she would get well and praying for her to improve. Then the next minute she was gone.

"Gone!" What a word that is! Because that's how it feels to you, but that's not how it really is. Your dear daughter is alive and well, and happy with us up here in Heaven! I wish you could see her here, as it would be such a comfort to you. Why don't you ask the Lord to give you a vision of her up here? She's laughing and running around and having a great time exploring and getting to know things.

Oh, it's so easy to look at it in the physical. It's easy to think and believe that what you can touch and feel and handle and smell and taste are the *only* real things. But that's not true! What about love? What about your hopes and dreams? What about faith? These things are just as real as the physical things you can hold in your hands—and sometimes they are more real!

When Jesus talked about if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you can move a mountain! Well, He did move mountains—mountains of people were changed

and helped and healed, because of that spiritual power of faith and love that He had. His spiritual power was strong and real and the effects were seen in the physical.

You can't see these realities of the spirit world, but you can see their effect. You can't see your dear daughter any longer, but you can know and feel and understand her spirit. She can speak to you! ... You can hear her voice, and feel her presence, and it will be such a comfort to you. (End of message from Dad.)

brief ad: CVC diplomas

BY THE WS FED DEPARTMENT

Dear Family, we wanted to alert you to new changes coming on the CVC diplomas. Check out the CVC site or MO site for the latest updates! We pray these are a blessing!

kidbits

Marianne Therese, born to **Michelle and Jason** on July 7.—Taiwan

Michael David, 3rd child, born to **Sarah and Sam** on November 12.—Hungary

Jade Allison, 2nd child, born to **Haven and Gabe** on December 2.—Mexico

[Editor's note:

There was an error in the "In My Arms" section in GV #163, as dear Joanna passed into our loving Savior's arms on Friday, September 12, 2003, not on the 13th, as was printed in that Grapevine. Following is the prophecy that Joanna's parents, dear David and Dove, wanted to share with you all from Dad. We love you, and apologize for the error.]

CVC TRAINING CAMP— AIDS EDUCATION

BY MEG WHITE (OF CHRIS), SOUTH AFRICA



All the Family young people attendees at the end of the course proudly displaying both certificates—(back, L-R:) John, Shane, Shannon, Christo, Meg, and Dora; (front, L-R:) Noah, Angie, and Gina

We invited eight additional young people (plus two young from our Home) to be involved in a local secular course that would enable them to receive an AIDS Education Certificate, one from the Township AIDS Program, and with additional Word studies the other one from the CVC. This course included an intense five-day course covering all the basics of AIDS education, and a “Christian Response to AIDS,” which included Christian counseling and hands-on experience in bringing AIDS education to rural/township schools.

This course was submitted to CVC for approval, and participants received certificates. We had a total of 10 Family young people for 10 days on the course.

During our time together we had lots of radical on-fire inspirations and Word classes. God bless Rachel for all her hard work to help put the Word studies together. Everyone was very busy for eight hours a day studying at the AIDS course. We had to do a lot of flipcharts and discussions on the course.

At first we were a little concerned to be with so many non-Family attendees on the course. But in the end we found it an honor to be on this course with the 30 other participants, each with a story to tell of why they were there, ranging from a child or relative dying from AIDS, living with someone with AIDS, or being a care giver to those with AIDS. We each learned so much from them and it brought it all much closer to home, and broke our hearts for the lost. We became very close to the rest of the participants.

The Lord led us to receive personal prophecies for each person, and we printed them out and presented them on the last day. Everyone one was so touched. Many of the people we received prophecies for said that the prophecies told about their very lives—

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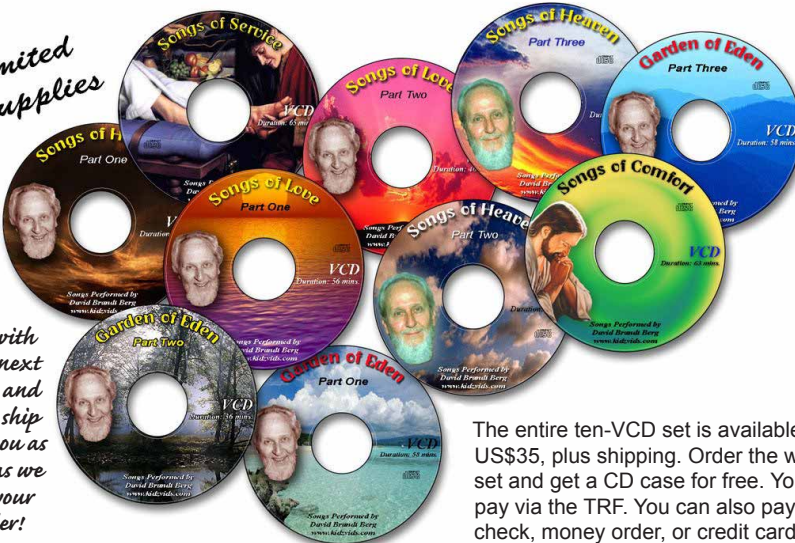
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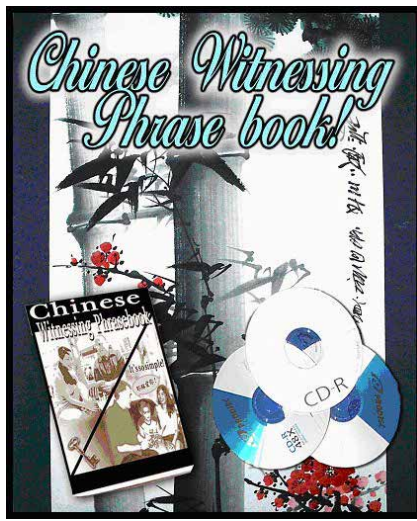


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and though we hardly knew them, the Lord did. We weren't sure how Christian we should come across at the beginning, as we had to be sensitive to the fact that this was not a Christian course. However, after a day of sharing our testimonies about our work they were begging us to begin each class with a Family inspiration and prayer!

During the course there was lots of practical work and assignments. At the end of the course we prepared dramas called, “The Good Sowetan” and “Attack of the Vile Virus” to perform at a rural school complete with songs—“Be Wise, Condomise” and “Jesus Really Loves You, Even Though You Have AIDS.” We prayed with 1,900 children at the two programs.



By Esther, for the Taiwan CGO board

Do you have a burden to reach the Chinese community in your city and/or go tooling in Chinatown, but can't speak any Mandarin besides maybe *Ni hao* and *Xie xie*? Would you like to be able to learn the basics of Mandarin so you can lead a Chinese sheep to the Lord? Or perhaps you speak some Mandarin already, but would like to improve it so you can actually witness about the Endtime, provision, get someone subscribed to *Activated*, introduce the Family, etc. If your answer to any or all of the above questions is yes ... then we have something that could help make your dreams come true!

Announcing a new production by the Taiwan CGO board:

* A handy pocket-size 118-page phrasebook in English/Mandarin (with Pin Yin, Bo Po Mo Fo, and traditional Chinese characters included).

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Please e-mail your orders to pac.twn.cgo@mail.famboard.com, to Esther. Thank you! We pray this is a blessing to you.

BOARD NEWS



Tamara, Dove (RCP), Hannah, Dove (from Central CP Board)

Making a lasting impression

BY SHAYNA (SGA, OF DANIEL), INDIA

Day one

The delegates were excited and expectant. We pulled out of the driveway and headed for the area CP retreat location in an old red jalopy, bouncing over a winding, lonely trail. As we reached the retreat location, a gate opened before us to a most beautiful sight. It was magnificent. As we city-folk piled out of the jeep we took a deep breath of mountain air, and ran to the deck which gave us a panoramic view of the entire area. A hill on our left boasted of ruins from some bygone fort, straight ahead were rolling hills, to the right was a shimmering lake, still further right a miniature lake nestled between several hills, and directly below us gardens dotted with country cottages.

Our first meeting was a keynote. We read prophecies our dear Lover and Husband had given for this occasion—a cry to battle, and a plea to take up the challenge that lies before us. We heard and answered the call.

After several hours of get-out, rest time, and questionnaire filling, our evening ended with an exotic Indian buffet and the night activity. The stars were bright, our bonfire blazing, as we sang songs of praise. Our voices echoed over the hills with the sounds of our love and thankfulness to Jesus.

Day two

Our first class was called "Being a Professional Parent/Teacher." That afternoon and the next we had a display for FED and CP materials. A variety of VCDs, posters, math aids, games, and locally made materials were shown and made available for ordering. Next was a class on video by Mark (CO, of Carina), called "Living the Life," complete with a hilarious skit. That night we broke into pairs to receive treasured messages for each of our children.

Day three

"Putting 'Skin' on Being a Professional Parent/Teacher" was the name of the next class. Seven practical steps were given to make professionalism a reality in our parenting.

Later we divided into groups to pray for each of the special requests we had

prepared earlier both for ourselves and our children. This was followed by a sweet communion and touching closing ceremony where each delegate received a beautiful certificate and other mementoes of our seminar here. That night we gathered for a closing activity together.

Upon returning, I found the kids' room a little messier than I'd left it, and the dirty laundry pile a little higher, but for the first time it didn't get me down. My vision, upon my return, was much clearer, and my burdens a lot lighter; in fact, they were practically gone. Thank You, Jesus for that time of spiritual refreshment. I gave my burdens to Jesus and He gave me wonderful solutions and the faith that I needed to overcome any obstacle and rise above any impossibility. It was great. I loved it. It was exactly what was needed for me—a break from the fray, a renewing of the mind, and a re-envisioning of spirit.

"Our Destiny"

—JETT get-together

BY JOY (JETT) AND MELISSA (JETT), THAILAND

The JT board here in Thailand organized a fun-filled inspiring gathering for us JETTs in the area. It had been quite a while since a lot of us had seen each other, and for some it was a first time to meet with some of our peers from different Homes. So you can imagine the excitement and anticipation that we all felt when we received our invitations bearing the good news of the upcoming event!

The day started with a power-packed lively and fun, rock'm sock'm inspiration led by Jon B. (SGA). Then we had a very challenging and envisioning class called "Our Destiny," given by Aaron and Spring. The class got us really thinking about our lives and calling, and how important those little decisions are that we end up making every day.

After lunch we all packed into the vans and headed to the park for a fun time of bike riding and a very lively game of soccer, enjoyed by all. After we were all thoroughly wiped out we headed back home, where a delicious dinner awaited us, provisioned by the SC Home. God bless them!

The evening activity was an exciting game night led by Ariane and Spring. We played a variety of Word-based games, and had a very challenging Bible quiz that had us searching the Scriptures!

To sum it up we had a blast! Thank you JT board members, and everyone who had a part in organizing it, and the SC Home (and Mary) for hosting it.



Our human pyramid—(bottom row, L-R:) Pornapa, Erica, Jeremy, Olivia, and Phoebe; (middle row, L-R:) Angelina, Melissa, Leilani, and Joy; (top) Gabe

PIONEERING A WAR-TORN LAND, PART 2

(Continued from
GV #160)

—Activating lives in Sierra Leone



Our first Activated meeting at home, with Mel and Richard giving Endtime class

BY MATT (22) AND
MELISSA (24),
SIERRA LEONE

AFTER AN EXTENSIVE TIME OF HOUSE HUNTING, WE FINALLY FOUND OUR BEAUTIFUL MANSION AND MOVED IN. WE HAD TO OVERCOME MANY OBSTACLES. THE WATER WASN'T CONNECTED (WHICH MEANT HAULING BUCKETS OF WATER INTO THE HOUSE TWICE A DAY), AND WE WERE LIVING WITH HARDLY ANY ELECTRICITY. AT THE TIME WE WERE PIONEERING WITH ONLY THREE YOUNG PEOPLE AND TWO SMALL KIDS, AND IT WAS THE HOTTEST TIME OF YEAR.

WITH THE DIFFICULTIES CAME THE EXCITING TIMES AS WELL! AS WE STEPPED OUT EVERY DAY, WE KNEW THAT ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN. AND WHAT A TREMENDOUS TIME WE HAD! THE LORD LED US TO VERY POTENTIAL PEOPLE, AND ESTABLISHED MOST OF OUR CONTACTS AND ACTIVATED MEMBERS DURING THE FIRST COUPLE MONTHS. THE LETTER "BEAUTY FOR ASHES" (ML #114, VOL. 1) OFTEN CAME TO MIND DURING THOSE TIMES.—IN ORDER FOR THE LORD TO GIVE US HIS BLESSINGS, HE HAD TO SQUEEZE, BREAK AND PURGE US TO BRING FORTH THE SWEETNESS AND THE VICTORIES. IT WAS CERTAINLY WORTH IT ALL!

OUR ACTIVATED MINISTRY

IN ORDER TO PROMOTE ACTIVATED, THE IDEA OF AN ACTIVATED BOOTH CAME TO MIND. SO WE HIT THE OLDEST COLLEGE IN ALL OF WEST AFRICA—FORAHBAY

COLLEGE—SETTING UP OUR ACTIVATED BOOTH. TO ATTRACT ATTENTION WE WORE SHIRTS WITH THE ACTIVATED LOGO ON THEM. WE WITNESSED TO MANY FOLKS, GAVE OUT PLENTY OF POSTERS, GOT ONE SUBSCRIBER ON THE SPOT, RECEIVED DONATIONS FOR THE LIT, AND WERE INSPIRED BY THE RESPONSE WE RECEIVED.

AS WE GOT TO KNOW MORE YOUNG PEOPLE WE BEGAN BIWEEKLY ACTIVATED SEMINARS, EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY. IN THE BEGINNING WE ONLY HAD ONE OR TWO PEOPLE WHO WOULD ACTUALLY COME REGULARLY FOR THE MEETINGS, BUT WITH TIME, THEY STARTED TO BRING THEIR FRIENDS ALONG. WE HAD A LOT TO LEARN AS MOST PEOPLE ARE QUITE STUCK IN THE CHURCHY RUT THAT FILLS THIS LAND. YET OUR MESSAGE WAS RADICAL, AND QUICKLY SORTED OUT THE ON-FIRE, ACTIVATED ONES, FROM THE LAZY AND SELF-SATISFIED ONES.

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

ONE OF OUR MOST OUTSTANDING MEMBERS WAS MARY. MATT HAD FIRST MET HER WHILE WAITING FOR AN APPOINTMENT. WHEN MARY ASKED HIM WHICH CHURCH HE WAS FROM, MATT INSTEAD TOLD HER, "WE'RE HERE TO ACTIVATE SIERRA LEONE!" SHE LIKED THAT AND TOOK OUR ADDRESS. FIGURING THAT MARY WAS PRETTY CHURCHY, MATT LEFT HER A MAGAZINE AND DROVE HER BACK HOME. TO OUR SURPRISE, THOUGH, SHE CAME TO



Witnessing at the college in Freetown (L-R): Richard (18), Jess (22), Maria (20), Michael (Activated member), Matt (22) with Anthony (1), and Melissa (24) with Melanie (2)

OUR ACTIVATED SEMINAR, AND NEVER MISSED A MEETING. SHE WAS ON FIRE AND STARTED TO ACCEPT OUR BELIEFS AND MORE RADICAL DOCTRINES.

AS IT TURNED OUT, MARY WAS QUITE DISILLUSIONED WITH THE CHURCHES. SHE HAD ORIGINALLY COME FROM A MUSLIM FAMILY, AND AFTER HER CONVERSION SHE WAS DISOWNED BY HER FAMILY, AND HAD TO BEGIN FENDING FOR HERSELF. NOT KNOWING MUCH ABOUT HOW TO LIVE BY FAITH SHE STUDIED THE BIBLE AND SIMPLY LEARNED THROUGH FIRSTHAND EXPERIENCES. GETTING TO KNOW MARY WAS SO INSPIRING FOR ALL OF US. SHE LOVED LISTENING AND LEARNING ABOUT ALL OUR FAMILY WAYS, TITHED OF HER OWN ACCORD, AND STARTED PUSHING THE ACTIVATED MAGS, AND BRINGING IN MORE POTENTIAL DISCIPLES. IN EXCHANGE, WE LEARNED HOW TO GET CLOSER TO AND UNDERSTAND THE AFRICANS IN A PERSONAL WAY.

BEFORE WE LEFT SIERRA LEONE MARY RAISED HER OWN FARE TO GO TO GHANA FOR A BIBLE STUDY COURSE. THE LORD SHOWED US TO INVITE HER TO STAY WITH US FOR A COUPLE OF WEEKS BEFORE HER DEPARTURE, IN ORDER TO TRAIN HER MORE IN THE WAYS OF THE FAMILY, AS THE LORD TOLD US: "SAY YE NOT THERE ARE YET FOUR MONTHS, FOR THE TIME IS EVEN NOW AT HAND. AS YOU DO YOUR PART TO TAKE CARE OF MARY, SHE CAN BLOSSOM TO HER FULL POTENTIAL. IT WILL TAKE SACRIFICE—A

GREATER GIVING AND OPENING UP OF YOUR LIVES AND HOME. BUT I WOULD SAY, TAKE HER IN AS ONE OF YOUR OWN. SHE'S DYING FOR TRAINING AND FEEDING. BUT ONLY YOU HAVE THE WORDS OF DAVID, ONLY YOU HAVE THE MEAT OF THE WORD—THE HOT, RADICAL, REVOLUTIONARY STUFF. BELIEVE ME, IT WILL PAY OFF IN THE END. WHAT ARE YOU HERE FOR? ISN'T IT TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS? WELL, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?"

IT WAS A GOOD EXPERIENCE FOR US AND KEPT US ON OUR TOES, AS WE HAD TO BE THERE FOR HER AND FEED HER AS MUCH AS WE COULD.

LOOKING FOR A TEAM

ALONG WITH MARY THERE ARE MANY OTHERS WHO ARE WILLING TO BE TRAINED TOWARDS DISCIPLESHIP. MANY ARE LONGING TO BE FED, THERE ARE MANY FRIENDS AND SHEEP WHO WANT US BACK. THE ONLY THING THAT IS STOPPING US IS THE NEED FOR A WHOLEHEARTED AND DEDICATED TEAM WHO WANT TO GIVE UP THEIR ALL TO REACH THIS LAND FOR THE LORD. WE ARE WAITING. WRITE US AT MATTHIAS ROSER@GMX.NET IF THE LORD IS CALLING YOU.

P.S.: WE WANT TO THANK YOU FOR PRAYING FOR MATT WHEN HE WAS SUFFERING FROM CEREBRAL MALARIA A FEW MONTHS AGO. IT'S THROUGH YOUR PRAYERS THAT MATT IS ALIVE TODAY. WHAT A TERRIFIC FAMILY WE HAVE! WE LOVE YOU.

Obedience Comes Before the Blessings

—Reactions to “Are You Robbing God?” (ML #3461), and “Show Me the Money, Parts 1–5” (MLs #3462a–d, GNs 1046–1050)

Leading the way through prayer

Maria, Colombia: Reading the “Show Me the Money” series as a Home has propelled us forward, and caused us to make quite a lot of changes in our personal lives and in our Home life. We’re still working on the different assignments given in those GNs, but so far we can all testify that those assignments have created a stirring in the spirit in our lives.

Through studying this series, we’ve come to realize that there were many very good and healthy habits upheld in the Letters, that we’ve have neglected living faithfully. For example, being good stewards, being saving, etc. We realized that Apotheon has at times had a pretty good time with us. But not anymore—we’re now on the attack!

One of the first things we did was to make a very thorough Home prayer list (besides the international and local prayer lists), in which we included every aspect of the Home—witnessing, follow up, our kids’ and young people’s training and schooling, our relationship with the Lord and others, ministries, our friends’ needs, kings, supporters, *Conéctate*, CTPs, finances, health, etc. The list was over three pages long, but we made it with the goal of being precise and specific in our prayers. This prayer list was then given to each Home member.

The day after handing this Home prayer list out we started to use it during our united prayer time, during our personal prayer vigil and intercessory prayer times. That day was the beginning of a series of beautiful changes and miracles in our Home, our personal lives, our friends’ lives, and also in the increase in our finances.

That same day a lady who was considering buy-

ing some kids CDs called us and confirmed that she was going to buy 400 CDs. Another woman, who had only met us for one hour a while back, phoned us and told us that she wanted to donate 1,000,000 pesos (over US\$350, which is quite a bit here). She asked us to please pass by to pick up the money. A good friend who had been a bit distant for some time (who we had included on our Home’s prayer list), called us and said that he wanted to come back to the fold. Another friend (an artist—also included on our prayer list) who had been going through some serious financial difficulties called us to share the news that she had just sold two paintings!

During the following days many more miracles of supply followed as our faith started to increase through not only reading the Word, but also in *obeying* it! Another example was that during that time my eldest daughter was visiting our Home, but had to travel back to her Home. Her Home is about 10 hours by bus from our city. In most countries this wouldn’t be a big thing, but here in Colombia it is, because of the guerrilla and kidnapping factors. She’d have to travel alone, and she is a foreigner. She was hoping that a friend from our Home would travel to her city during that time, but it didn’t work out. So she was praying and considering taking a plane a particular day, all the while praying and hoping that the Lord would do something, because the flights were expensive.

That same morning a newly met friend called us and asked us to visit him. This man is a pilot, and owns a company of small airplanes that are used for executive flights and for cargo. We had met this man three or four times only. We went to visit him. Among the many things

shared with him that morning, the subject of our daughter having to travel to Cali that same day was brought up. He asked us if she could wait till the following day to make her trip. We asked him why. He told us that that day it was a bit late for him to arrange things, but that he could take her to Cali the next day, that it would only be a 50-minute flight! Here he was—a super busy person—telling us that he could just take our daughter (and my husband as a partner) in one of his planes, piloted by him.

The next day off they went, in an executive plane, treated like executives. Well, after all we are His ambassadors, His professional executives in His business of giving His Word to others. My husband had the chance to personally witness to this dear man during the return trip and talked with him about profound and deep matters.

Another interesting thing that happened while putting this series into action was the invitation we received by an executive club here to be given a donation they had for us. Annually, this executive club organizes an antique cars collection parade. The funds collected via this event are designated to different groups and associations that perform significant social work for our city. Somehow, amongst the many established groups that have been operating here, we were selected to receive a donation of about US\$1,000.

We attended a short ceremony where the checks were delivered to the seven different selected groups. Each one had to give a brief speech on what they do. The media was present too. When our turn came, we were able to give a witness to everyone present and our picture was the one chosen for the article that covered the event. As we were getting ready to leave, the organizers of the event

came to us to say goodbye and told us, “We’ll see you next year,” meaning that they’re planning on continuing to give an annual donation to our missionary work.

Putting God on the spot

John (of Hart), Taiwan: While reading “Are You Robbing God?” I was personally convicted, and I could also recollect many a time that I reaped the Lord’s blessings for tithing, as well as the times I suffered from the lack of tithing.

A few years ago, at the HCS, I was ministering to a middle-aged American, who was living in the town near the school. At that time his life had hit the skids. He went from being a movie critic for a Hollywood magazine, who rubbed shoulders with the rich and famous, to barely eking out a living as an English teacher in a small Japanese country town.

He was drawn to the Family through the media persecution we were having in Japan at that time. Over a period of weeks and months he got saved and started visiting for Bible classes. I was giving him Bible classes with sometimes a teen or two. It was more like a Bible debate, because he questioned everything, but he did have a desire to know the truth. I felt sorry for his poor state, so I would often offer him some of our excess provisioned food, etc. This went on for some time.

I would occasionally counsel with one of the shepherdesses about him. On one occasion she mentioned to me that she was recently reading on tithing, and she felt this was our friend’s problem.—He was having financial difficulty because he wasn’t tithing. We agreed that he was getting a lot from us through weekly and sometimes more than weekly personal Bible studies, and it was definitely worth something. My shep-

herdess then went on to say that she felt the next step was for me to challenge him with a tithing class. Wow! I really struggled with that. In the natural it looked like this guy was our CTP project.

Well, I went ahead completely by faith and gave him the tithing class. He didn't react whatsoever to the class, and I thought it went over like a lead balloon. *Oh well, at least I obeyed the Lord in giving him the class*, I thought. A week or so later I got a phone call from our friend saying that he had some exciting news to tell me, and asked if he could come over right away. When he arrived it was dinnertime at the HCS, so I invited him to join us for dinner. He said that first he needed to tell the whole Family about this, and asked if he could testify to the whole Home about this exciting news. He hadn't even told me the details, saying it was a surprise.

I sometimes gave announcements at mealtime, and he knew this, so I guess he thought I could just go ahead and give him the mike. I quickly counseled with someone, we prayed and held our breath at what this very colorful and sometimes outspoken gentleman would have to say to the 250 or so Family members during their dinner. Thankfully, what he had to say was a tremendous testimony that thrilled everyone present.

This friend told how after the class on tithing he went home took out what money he had, and calculated what was his income for that month. It turned out that the tithe came to what was his total cash on hand. Without saying anything to anyone, he came to the school that night and handed the money in an envelope saying that this was for the Lord. He returned home without a penny.

The next morning miracles started happening. He got some new students who paid their tuition in advance, a student's mother gave him her old car, because she saw his car was worse off than her car that she was about to

have junked, people started bringing him gifts etc. In a matter of days the money he had tithed was more than returned, and with potential for future income growing by the day. He declared loudly that he tithed to put God to the test, and from that time on he would never doubt Jesus again. I can testify that our Word classes went much better after that as well. Seeing the Lord punch through for him in this way is what won him.

An endless spiral upward

A Home in Romania: A few years ago there was a plea from WS for finances, and at the time rather than giving a one-time donation we decided as a Home to increase our tithe and actually started to tithe 12% every month, even though we live on a very poor mission field. We also raised our missionary gift to 9%, so with the FAF and common pot our monthly tithe and offerings became 25% of our income.

God is certainly not limited, and during those four years we have never lacked; in fact, it's quite the opposite. We have a spacious house right in the center of town, two cars, a flock of hundreds of Active members, and the Lord has mightily blessed us with brand-new furniture, a living room set, electrical appliances, a TV and VCR, freezers, a washing machine, meat, eggs, food, milk, and so on. It seems the more we give, the more He gives us. We are also able to share with many Homes, and anyone who passes by.

We believe that a big part of this increase is from giving. As Dad taught us, the more you give the more you get, and this continues as an endless spiral going upward. Increasing our tithe and gifts

in this way was a decision and commitment our Home made. We had to overcome the "cannot be done" spirit, and then go to work and witness every day and feed the sheep and as we did, our mighty, wonderful, unfailing Husband took care of us and gave us so much. Tithing and giving really work no matter where you are.

Worth more than anything!

Female, Europe: Giving tithes is a basic belief, explained even in the *Daily Food, Treasures, and Word Basics*. It's scary to think that without tithes there would be no Family structure, which would amount to no more New Wine. I am amazed at Mama and Peter's patience in answering such obvious fundamental questions such as tithing. Honestly, there is so much answered in already existing Letters on this subject. If people don't trust Family management, then what in the world are they doing here? How can you be a member of an organization whose leaders you don't trust?

As I see it, the Word we are getting is worth so much more than anything I could ever give in my tithe! I can't think of anything more precious I could buy with this money! Even if at times we have to cut our budget, we still have the Word coming our way that will help us to have enough next month through obedience to the Lord and as a result receiving His blessings. How can we afford to not give to those who minister to us the Word?

Time-control checklist

A Home in Colombia: After reading this series one thing we did was create a time-control checklist for each Home

member—young and old (our youngest member being ten years old). It was designed to help us check-in what we do every 15 minutes. We kept this checklist for over a week, and then each person evaluated how individually he or she was redeeming the time, and how much time we were investing in the real pillars of our missionary life—Word time, loving Jesus, prayer times, witnessing, etc. During this push, our OC and JETT were the most faithful ones to fill up the charts. Including our kids in this push helped them to make a personal conscious effort to administrate their time better. Though each Home member is a hardworking person, and normally invests their time wisely, while studying the already-filled-up charts we saw where we could do better, and where we had weak spots during the day where we could invest our time more wisely.

There is still much more to obey, to change and to transform in our lives and Home after reading these GNs. While we have a long ways to go in some areas, we're in it with all of our hearts, because we feel such a good feeling when we just put our will and hearts into obeying Jesus and the Word. It feels so good! Also, things get so exciting and fun once you start to obey the New Wine that we wouldn't want to miss out!

[Editor's note: Thank you to all of you who sent in these wonderful testimonies, reactions, and response to this GN series. If you have any other testimonies to share or tips and ideas the Lord gave, which you've implemented as a Home, and that you've seen the fruit of, please send them in. You can send any such article to gv@wsfamily.com. Thank you so much. We love you!]

“ We realized that Apotheon has at times had a pretty good time with us. But not anymore—we're now on the attack! ”

A Fashion Show for His Glory!

BY MARIA, COLOMBIA

The niece of a friend suggested that we organize a fashion show in order to raise funds. She had heard a lot about our work through her uncle and wanted to help us out somehow. Because she is involved in the world of fashion, she thought that a way to help our missionary work was to organize a fashion show, the proceeds of which would be used for our mission. Through this event, our dear friends also wanted us to meet influential and wealthy people that we could reach and witness to, as well as win their favor and support.

We had to really pray about this idea, because we honestly had never thought about participating in such an event. For us, it was definitely a far-out idea—a “worldly” way of raising funds and meeting new people. Nevertheless, when we got together and took the time to bring it to the Lord in prayer, amazingly, and to our surprise, the Lord not only gave us the go-ahead to proceed with this project, but He seemed quite excited and happy about us taking the challenge of this new witnessing adventure. We were a bit like Gideon, questioning, “Are you sure, Lord?” So we asked Him for confirmation on it several times, and He kept telling us that we should go ahead and try out new things to give out His Word and spread His message. He also chided us a bit for looking and judging things in the eyes of the flesh.

With the Lord’s go-ahead and with the power of the keys in our hands, we launched into what was going to be one of the most exciting and fruitful witnessing adventures we’ve experienced in many years. This experience has enriched the faith of everyone involved in more ways than one. I believe that most of us broke through walls of fears, reservations, and of preconceived ideas we had on the rich and wealthy.—Walls that were preventing us from meeting, talking, relating, and witnessing to them. While organizing and preparing for this event we met and talked to many rich and upper-class people who many of us would have never thought would be interested in deeper spiritual



matters such as Jesus, Heaven, salvation, etc. But they were! We realized that they were afraid of not being loved or liked just like many other people are. We all saw how much they needed us, and actually how much they wanted to learn more.

Many times we felt like quitting the project, because it was tough going at times. Influential and rich people often like to lead, to impose their ideas, plans, etc. So as a Home we took time to read Letters pertinent letters including “Kings” (ML #212, Vol.2), and “Reach the Rich” (ML #3400, GN 992), which were indeed a light on our path and kept us going. During those moments of doubt and questioning we kept asking Jesus about this project, but He encouraged us that even if it was for one or two people’s sake, it would be worth it all! He also told us not to worry about the investment of time or money, because He was going to more than repay us for that time invested in His work. Overcoming those hurdles was an important start, because from then on we knew the sky was the limit!

Because this program was going to be geared to the rich and high class of our city, we needed to present it well and attractively. The fashion show in itself was only going to last 30 minutes, so we had to figure out what would take up the rest of the time. We started to work on a video, songs, reading something from the Word, etc. With the help of newfound friends, we also started to put together a letter explaining who we were, our work and goals, and then the proposal for participation in the fashion show. These letters were then sent to the main top model

agencies of our city, top designer houses, large companies, etc. The companies were invited to participate by having a commercial spot (putting a banner) in the meeting room in exchange for a suggested donation for our work. More than 12 well-known companies accepted our proposal, and some of their owners, presidents, and employees came to the program.

A dear friend introduced us to a woman who leads one of the most prestigious lingerie designer houses in the country. She gave us a few afternoons of her time to explain to us how things work when organizing high profile events. She herself travels around the world organizing events. We learned a lot from this woman, not so much about the world of fashion, but on the quality of excellence these top executives have to achieve in order to make it in the System. Everything is so

demanding in quality, dedication, devotion, and commitment. How much more should we, the Children of David, be giving and living these qualities for the best cause and mission in the world! Though this woman travels around the world and meets lots of people she was very lonely and in need of friendship. We were able to witness to her and pray with her. Her company also ended up being one of the participants in the fashion show.

Through the power of the keys we were able to provision very costly services that are used during fashion shows, such as the service of the catwalk, lights, sound system, etc. The top model agency in the city called us and agreed to help us out with 30 models. The lady in charge of this agency was very sweet, and liked our work a lot. The agency personally called their models and explained what the purpose of the show was for. Those 30 models—some of them well known in the country—agreed to participate for free. We had prayed for the right people to participate in the program, and for the Lord to put in their hearts the desire to help, and He did because most of the models were very sweet to us.

Four important and exclusive designer houses agreed to participate in the program. A large meeting room was already rented in a prestigious social club. With the help of friends the program was advertised through the media—radio, newspaper, etc.

Our Home’s young people worked on the design of the tickets, where we included a quote from the Word. They did a fantastic job and the ticket came

out super colorful and nice, without losing its classiness. And with all those details already worked out, off we went to one of the most fun parts: the selling of the tickets and the challenge of going to new people, companies, etc.

The meeting room could hold about 600 people, so that was our goal, selling 600 tickets. This monumental job of selling the tickets (in a month or so) was shared among the many sweet old-timer friends and Active members. Posters advertising the event were put in strategic spots where some of our friends worked and could sell the tickets. In the Home, we called every single person that we could think of to invite them to the program, encouraging them to bring their friends and families along.

The Lord did so many wonderful miracles while re-contacting some people that for one reason or another we'd lost contact with. For example, we called a man that we had met awhile back for about 30 minutes. We knew that he was very sweet and a potential king, but he is an extremely busy person, so after trying to phone him few times to no avail we stopped trying. Lord help us! This time around, though, we did find him in his office, and explained to him on the phone about the fashion show project, and how he could participate by buying a good amount of tickets to share with his friends, employees, etc. He told us that he wanted to come and visit us so that we could explain to him more about it. The next day he came over with a friend

of his, and after a good time of witnessing and sharing things with him, he gave us US\$1,000 to help us out with the event. He also came over to the event, and has continued to help us in our different ministries here.

The day of the event was approaching and pretty much everything was ready. The Home's young people had also prepared two powerful songs to sing to the audience, "Cry of a Continent" and "Peace in the Midst of a Storm," both in Spanish. A group of kids from our CTP project—*Casita de Corazones*—would accompany the girls with candles while singing "Peace," and then again in the song "Cry of a Continent" carrying the country's flag and holding hands, which was something that really touched all present on the night of the event.

The tools were already ordered and ready—a good number of *Conéctate* magazines, books, CDs, videos, tracts, and posters, would be displayed on a nice table. A ten-minute video had been already made showing the different aspects of our work here. A large bulletin board was already provisioned where we made a collage of photos of our work here, mixed with verses. The simple but very nice decorations were already provisioned, and last, but in no way least ... we had very inspiring prophecies backing us up. We felt ready for the action—a very new "action" for us.

The day came, and as the Lord promised, everything was worth it all! A few

hours before the program was scheduled to start most of our Active members were there in the meeting room, ready for duty. We decorated the room very simply but very nicely. We put a large digitally made banner at the entrance of the meeting room with a witnessing phrase taken from the "Mottos for Success" calendar. The tables with the tools were set very attractively as well as the photo display right at the entrance of the room. Before time, the meeting room was packed full.

People liked the video a lot, and many people cried during the songs. The models put on a nice program, not as worldly as we thought; they decided to use very light makeup and softer music than what they usually use. The audience was very receptive, and we were able to pray with everyone to receive Jesus. After the program we got in touch with many new people. Through our presentation, we were able to get to know people, and gain their interest and respect. We had a very nice time witnessing and now we have a long list of people to follow up on. Also we got a good financial benefit from it all. Plus we learned that we "could do it" when reaching and relating with the rich.

We may not do something like this again, but because this was the direction the Lord was leading us in, it was the Lord's timing and plan for the moment. As we obeyed and proceeded in faith, He blessed our effort in many different and wonderful ways.

(The Activated Snowball!)

BY JOYFUL, INDIA

Our little Activated church is growing! One member brought his friend, and now the husbands are bringing their wives, who are even hungrier than their husbands. They also bring their children.

One of our members had a dream in which the Lord told him to read Revelation 15 and 16. He did, but then he phoned up sounding worried, asking me to read it as well. I reassured him that those judgments were not for him or those who are saved. I told him that I would study it, and that our next class would be on Revelation. This led to more, as you can imagine, and for three weeks we covered Revelation 1–6, as well as an overview of Revelation.

These classes led to introducing Grandpa and the way the Lord looks at churches. Some of them, being Catholics, were in awe that there had been a prophet, and asked for all the other Bible references about him. Later I heard that two of the couples had gotten

together to thank the Lord for how they had gotten to know Him and each other and the Family. One of them was crying tears of happiness! So beautiful!

That same week one of them called us together to pray for S., an Active member, who had been facing quite a few problems in his work for a few months and started to get worried and discouraged about it. He is a manager for an insurance company, and had been transferred to this company some time back. But since he is not Bengali, people have not been nice to him, and have been giving him a hard time at work. He felt that they were probably going to fire him soon since he did not meet their expectations.

We read some articles on fighting and not giving up and C., another Active member who has been through a lot himself in his work, shared his experiences and challenged him to keep fighting. We claimed the keys, and we all had desperate prayer to change this

situation around. It was only a few days after that S.'s boss called him in, asking him what the problem was. S. was able to share his heart, and this meeting became crucial in helping the other office people have a change of heart.

S.'s wife was so thankful and happy, and the Lord gave them a wonderful experience in the night where they stayed up to talk about Him, and she received a beautiful vision. For S.'s birthday she made his birthday a prayer meeting instead of calling the usual friends and having a party.

C. and C. (two other Active members) are also busy witnessing to their Hindu relatives, and one by one they all are receiving the Lord. One of these relatives had severe breathing problems, but after wholeheartedly receiving Jesus, the breathing problems vanished immediately! She is so turned on by the *Daily Might* that she is now translating it into Bengali. "People are going to need this book in the Endtime," she said.

READ READ READ YOU ARE WHAT YOU

From the time I was a little girl I loved to read. I read anything I could get my hands on. Fortunately, most of it was good Family reading material and things that fed my spirit. Then when I started getting a little older I was given some good Christian novels to read—again things that taught me, and that I was fed from.

But at the same time I started developing an appetite for novels and other such material. It wasn't that it crowded the Word out of my life. I read plenty of Word, and loved the New Wine, but I can read fairly fast and found that I had time for the other things as well.

Then I started going to a local library and checking out System books to read. Most of them weren't all that bad. They were historical or had some other sort of literary value, so I felt that they were enhancing my education. The more I read the more my hunger for reading grew, and since there never seemed to be enough *Heaven's Library*

stories to satisfy me, I felt justified in supplementing my diet with other books.

The problem came when I could no longer discern the good from the bad. If it was an interesting book, I read it. It didn't matter what the subject matter was. I could not pass up a bookstore without going inside, picking something up, and reading it for as long as I could.

Then I moved to a mission field and found myself too busy to read much anymore. But that didn't mean that the hunger for it was no longer there. It was and I still liked to satisfy that whenever I could. Unfortunately, with a full work schedule the thing that took a loss was my Word time. When I got ahold of a novel I read it from cover to cover as fast as I could, and for those few days I'd read little or no Word at all.

Living in a small Home it's hard to hide or cover up your problems, so people knew that I had a weakness for this, and the subject came up on several occasions. I was so addicted to reading, however, that I would vehemently deny that there was any problem with it and pull out all my list of justifications for it. "A man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still," and I certainly was convinced that my reading was no problem whatsoever.

Then the "Conviction vs. Compromise" series came out, and the Lord spoke to me, saying that I needed to give up novel reading. He asked me to make a hard-and-fast rule that I would read no more novels unless I received His express permission on a certain occasion. Although it was a very big trial for me, I tried to obey and stick to that, and even did pretty well for a while, though the desire for it was still as strong as ever.

Once, while praying about it, the Lord showed me that through reading more Word I would be given a hunger for the Word that would become as strong as my desire for System books, and even *replace* that desire. I thought that would be wonderful, as by this time I did really want to give it up. But I didn't see how it could possibly happen. I had always been that way, and thought I could never change.

Well, the miracle did happen. It didn't happen overnight. But slowly, by having a greater intake of Word, I did start to want it more, to the point where I would want to have Word time just as much as I used to want to finish a book that I'd started.

When the "Issues" GN (ML #3442, GN 1026) on novel reading came out I cringed, as I thought that it would ban all novels, and I didn't like the stipulation of having to go through a book-rating committee. I guess I still had some vestiges of my old habits in me.

But recently I had an experience that is a testimony to the victory the Lord has given me. Someone had given us a bag of novels, and I briefly looked through them before putting them away in the cupboard. But the books still called to me, so I took one out and read it without checking with anyone, even the Lord. It was not all that inspiring, though fortunately it was short. By the end of it I could feel that my spirit had been dragged down, and I had done wrong.

A few days later I picked another one and started reading it, again without praying, but this time when I felt it clouding my spiritual vision, I had the will power (with the Lord's miraculous help) to put it away and quit

reading it. Now the bag still sits there, all those books inside, but I don't want to read them anymore.

Why, when we're supposed to be focusing on full possession by the Lord and His Spirit, should I waste my time being dragged through the Devil's garbage, and then have to spend a few days being cleansed from the material when I could be rising above and making progress?

Like Timothy said in the "Issues": "If you could see how words appear in the spirit, and the spiritual forces behind them, you'd be shocked! When you read anything other than the Lord's Word, in the spirit you are in a blanket of darkness. The words you read seep off the page, and it's like a vapor that twists and turns and rises going up into your eyes, and disappearing in your spirit" (ML #3444:74, GN 1029).

When you look at it that way, it helps you to realize that the temporary satisfaction you get causes you a lot more damage than good. I can testify to that darkness as I have felt it. I've had to desperately pray for the Lord to cleanse my mind from some of the things I've read. Some of it may not cause that much harm, but it's hard to know in advance, and I don't want to take that risk.

For me to be able to say all this now is a testimony to how much the Lord can change you when your will is on His side, as just a year ago I was not this way at all. So if you struggle with giving up reading novels or anything else that has a hold on you, please know that the Lord can and will do it if you just ask Him too. And even if it seems like the furthest thought from your mind at the moment, you will be happier for the change.

BY ALENA (SGA),
LOCATION UNKNOWN

happenings

Because God can!

Joanna, Japan: We'd experienced a few tough months, and were quite discouraged with some of the problems we were facing. Everything seemed bleak and overwhelming. We were getting desperate about our finances. Our team is very small, which makes it difficult to do much, so the Lord had showed us that we needed to focus on making a good presentation of our tools for better outreach. He told us to focus on reaching certain people, to get our pledge system going, and to get ready for Christmas. So to stop and do that, without bringing in our necessary income on a daily basis, was quite a test. We knew there was nothing we could do in the arm of the flesh.

We have been ministering weekly to Andy, who is an *Activated* subscriber. He loves the Family and the Letters. He helped us each time we'd seen him with donations. He's an English teacher, but doesn't work full time. However, the Lord showed me to tell him of our need. We didn't have our rent yet, and twice Andy called to ask us if we had made the rent. I prayed specifically that the Lord would use Andy to help us in some way.

He called a third time, and asked how we were doing with the rent. I told him that in my prayer time that morning the Lord had told me to trust Him and not worry about a thing, but to put it all in His hands. When Andy heard that we still didn't have our rent, he said, "I would like to give you your rent money for this month!" It was the last day of the month! You can imagine how encouraged we all were.

That same day, Andy had said to me, "Well it's about time for me to be reactivated." He asked for an *Activated* subscription to be sent to his Japanese wife, who he is splitting up with. I had just read the latest "Activate the World" GN, and thought how this one

testimony was proof of the fulfillment to come (and that is already happening) of how Activated will support us!

On meeting Andy to pick up the donation, he asked us to teach him to witness. When we'd first met Andy, he was on drugs, very heady and proud, but now his personality is changing and he is becoming a lot simpler, and the Lord is breaking him. He constantly credits the Family for the good changes in his life, the positive influence we've been to him, and says we are the ones that God is using to help him in his life.

"Motto for Success" success story!

Charity Bush, Pakistan: We received an address from Aurora of a lady to follow up on who'd written in locally to request some "Mottos." She's an American yoga teacher who's been here for a short time with her Danish husband—a diplomat. She'd fallen in love with the "Mottos" that she'd found on the counter at her bank from a man who is always smiling and looks so happy, and every time she does her banking she first reads it. She told us it's always so applicable to her for that day!

She's a New Age person, with a crew cut, which is very unusual for a lady in our country, but she's flipped by our work and started to pop with ideas on how to help us! She took four calendars on the spot, and e-mailed us a few days later and ordered ten more to send back to her friends in the States.

Since that was the third time we've gotten requests through this particular bank, we thought we should visit our "secret supporter" for the "Mottos," and meet him or her! He turned out to be a sweet bank officer who'd received three calendars as a gift for his bank from an oil exploration

company who purchased 50 "Mottos for Success" two years back from us. He enjoyed and appreciated the quotes, so he promotes it by placing it on his counter where the public can come in, and read it as they do their banking. He also said that after his morning prayers at the office the first thing he does is read the quote. Many have commented on the inspiration the quote gives them.

Reflections reach the top!

Charity, Madagascar: One of our faithful friends and Activated members here is a very influential lady in the city. Every month or so, I bring her and all our friends and contacts a new *Reflections*. I know she appreciates them very much. She sometimes even memorizes part of the text, or adds her own thoughts and comments in her handwriting!

One day she told me that she was asked to join a very exclusive prayer club, which is mostly composed of top ladies, like ministers' wives, who pray for the country and its problems. The First Lady is also a member of this club. Our

friend told me that she now photocopies the *Reflections* and distributes them to all the ladies of her club, and they discuss together how they can apply it in their lives and for the good of the country.

Renewed connection

Jonathan and Priscilla, Switzerland: We sent the "Mottos for Success" to all our supporters and some of Jonathan's school colleagues who he met some time ago. We wrapped the "Mottos" in nice gift paper, and wrote a little note to each person, some of whom we've known and written to for more than 20 years. These supporters have always sent us donations, and every time we've visited them they were sweet and helped a little. But this year something very interesting happened: For nearly every calendar we sent we received either a thank-you letter or phone call thanking us and showing appreciation for the gift. Nearly every day for two months, there was always a letter in the mailbox from someone we'd sent a "Mottos" to. It was a real boost to renewing our relationship with the sheep!

(just for fun)

The Children of Israel

SENT IN BY MARY, LOCATION UNKNOWN

"Mr. Goldblatt," said little Joey, "there's something I can't figure out."

"What's that, Joey?" asked Goldblatt.

"Well, according to the Bible, the Children of Israel crossed the Red Sea, right?"

"Right."

"And the Children of Israel beat up the Philistines, right?"

"Er, right."

"And the Children of Israel built the Temple, right?"

"Again you're right."

"And the Children of Israel fought the Egyptians, and the Children of Israel fought the Romans, and the Children of Israel were always doing something important, right?"

"All that is right, too," agreed Goldblatt. "So what's your question?"

"What were all the grown-ups doing?"

Pray!



Healing key: As you bring your requests for healing and physical renewal to Me through calling on the keys, I will do the miracles you ask for.

Testimonies of Answered Prayer

Mana (20), Brazil: Dear Family, we wanted to thank everyone from the bottom of our heart for all your prayers for Mana. Her healing was a wonderful testimony to all of our friends and the doctors who attended to her. As you know, Mana suffered a serious accident when a bus hit her while she standing by the road. It caused cranial trauma, a small dent in her skull, air in her brain, a frontal fracture, various bones in her face were broken, hemorrhaging in her ear, loss of hearing, fractured jaw which hindered her from opening her mouth, and a broken knuckle bone. She was unconscious for the first five days that she stayed in the hospital.

During that whole time the thing that kept her were the prayers and support of you, our beloved Family and friends. The Lord gave several prophecies that she would be healed, but that it would be a slow process. Every day there were challenges, but we stood on the promises the Lord had given, and used the power of the keys. The Lord didn't fail us in one of His promises!

All the recent exams, X-rays, CAT scans, etc., only confirmed the Lord's wonderful healing. Recently, Mana went to do the last exams to see the condition of her brain. We went to the neurosurgeon, who looked at the CAT scan, and then kept looking at Mana and me (her mother). He looked kind of surprised and asked me if Mana could talk. Mana answered him, "Of course," and started answering some of his questions. The neurosurgeon was very surprised at how she was doing, and told me that she should actually be dead or a vegetable, from the damage that had been done to her.

We witnessed to him a lot, and said that we believe in miracles and that prayer works. This doctor

was so amazed. He prayed with us to receive Jesus and was very touched. Afterwards, he ordered an electroencephalogram to be made on her brain. When those two exams were ready, Mana went for another visit with him. Everything came out perfect, she didn't have any trace of brain problems, she could live a normal life, take walks, go out, do exercise, etc. The doctor was pleased and impressed by the powerful miracle of God's healing.

Again, thank you for your faithful prayers! We really love you!

Peter and Lily, India: We wanted to thank everyone for their prayers for our baby, who was born prematurely. Baby Aman is now home with us, and is doing well. Aman was a real miracle and a testimony to many people, especially the doctors and hospital personnel who took care of him. Due to his quick recovery, he only had to stay in the incubator for four days, and we were able to take him home eleven days after his birth.

Aman is growing and developing well. Thank you so much for all your prayers. Thank you also to all of you who sent prophecies or tips on things you had experienced or heard about premature babies. This makes us appreciate the Family even more. We love you! Our baby is a prayer baby, and a beautiful miracle in answer to prayer. Please do continue to keep his eyes in your prayers (see prayer request). Thank you.

Lily, PACRO: Thanks to everyone's prayers I'm healed now from many months of insomnia. It's such sweet relief! Also the debilitating tiredness and weakness I had for many years is better, and I feel stronger. Praise God, and power to the keys!

Faith (of Amos), Australia: My periods have become more regular and less heavy since asking for prayer. Also some of my lost weight from the two consecutive miscarriages and other difficulties I experienced last year is slowly returning.

Diego (8, of Sharon): We would like to thank you all for fighting with us in prayer for Diego's healing from scarlet fever. He is now healed, no

one else got sick, and the quarantine period is now over, so the Lord has answered every one of our prayers! Thank the Lord for the power of keys, and His miraculous protection. It is so good to know we have such a wonderful Family, always ready to support us in prayer!

Asia

Aman (newborn, of Peter and Lily): The Lord has done so many miracles for Aman, however, due to his premature birth, Aman's eyes are not yet focusing properly. Because he was put under oxygen after his birth, the side effect of that could be that the body would create extra blood vessels to carry oxygen, but which could have a bad effect on his retinas. He'll be staying under supervision for the next few months, to evaluate his progress. Please also pray that he'll get used to breastfeeding, and will develop the skill easily and proficiently.

Ariane (of Sam): Complete healing of chronic hives.

Rose (of John Dutch): Early stages of cervical cancer. Carcinoma (malignant tumor that starts in the surface layer of an organ) spreading to pelvic organs, for wisdom in decision-making, and for a reliable facility for biopsy. For her liver to start functioning well, as blood tests showed that Rose's immune system, and white blood cells are inactive and insufficient. Different health problems seem to be caused due to a hormonal imbalance, caused by her liver that's not functioning well, and is not able to clear out a lot of debris, toxins, hormones, etc. Against colitis, strong migraines, and kidney stone calcification, which makes sleep difficult.

Europe and Africa

Clare (of Stephen): PG; urinary tract infection, and anemia.

Dave (of Heidi): For a complete key-powered healing of a thyroid growth, that it won't enlarge, but go into remission and vanish.

Gabriela: PG; for strength and against heart pains and blackouts.

Jerry (of Joy): Continued progress in overcoming dysphasia. Jerry's left hand was also weakened after the operations, and he has a hard time using it. The Lord opened the door for him to see a physiotherapist for Jerry's hand,

please pray that that will be a help. Please also pray against any infection developing and subsequent swelling in his head. For encouragement, restoration of health, and miracles.

Marianne (of Mark): Tachycardia, hypertension, insomnia, and menopause symptoms.

Meekness (of Luis): For complete healing from an infection of the lower back bones due to lack of minerals in her blood. The infection is now spreading to her left hip. It's quite painful, and prevents her from doing many things. Please pray that the Lord will use the natural treatment she's undergoing to strengthen the lower area of her back, and that the infection will not spread. For healing of the cartilage tissue between the bones that is infected, and for relief from pain.

Robby (3, of Sam and Sarah): He has a haematoma (raised blood cells) on his right shoulder, which the doctor says should go away naturally, but if it doesn't or it gets bigger or changes color, it would need to be removed. Please pray that the Lord takes it away naturally, and that the only change in it will be that of it disappearing.

Rosemary (of Frankie): Underwent an operation to remove ovarian cancer. Please pray that the Lord will strengthen her both physically and spiritually; for their faith, trust, and guidance in any decisions to be made; as well as for miraculous supply of finances or provisioned medical assistance.

North America

Melody: I'm battling extreme pain from a hiatus (upper stomach) hernia that plays chopsticks on my solar plexus, and mimics a heart attack. I seem to get this, and/or ulcers, whenever I'm stressed or worried. Please pray for me, against this pain, and for me to be able to relax and trust, and to stay that way, as my body now seems to demand it of me.

Rafael: Gum disease to reverse and heal itself; presently experiencing pain.

Pacific

Cheer (of Silas): To get pregnant and for the Lord to give them a beautiful, healthy child. Silas had a vasectomy reversal and is over 50, and although Cheer is only 32, her only son is already 15. We know that nothing is too hard for the Lord and that all things are possible with the power of the keys.

Katrina (4, of Joseph and Sarah): Autism. For Katrina to make progress especially in her communication with others, and for those caring for her to know what direction they should take so that Katrina will be able to make progress; for wisdom and leading.

South America

Angel (6, of Lirio): Down syndrome. He has fought battles with colds, fevers, and being generally rundown. Please pray for Angel's general health and that his nasal congestion will completely clear up. For the dental surgery he's undergoing to work well, for leading and guidance for the doctors.

Reyna: I've undergone a number of tests, which show that my womb is too big and thick, and the doctors want me to have it removed. I'd like to ask for complete healing so that my womb will not have to be removed.

Terry (of Paul T.), WS:

Terry's kidneys aren't functioning. The doctors have said that if her condition continues to deteriorate at the present rate, in a few short months she will need to be put on dialysis treatment. Terry has given many years of dedicated service to our Family's children and their education. She's also an invaluable and very loved member of WS. Please fight with us in prayer for the Lord to stop the kidney's deterioration, and to do the miracle of restoring her health.

"Things that appear do not have to be with the keys. The keys of the Kingdom have the power to heal, to restore, to make whole, to renew, to reverse any condition."

The Miracle Wallet

By Michael Newman, Chile

We were on our way from Concon to Chillan to sell our car, and had to pass through Santiago to unload some luggage. While at a Home in Santiago, I emptied the contents of one bag (including a wallet with our car documents in it) onto a bed, and then later put these items into another bag to load into the car. However, as we were in a hurry (never a good idea!), I left the wallet with the car documents on the bed. I didn't realize that I had done this until the following morning, in Chillan, when I went to get the document wallet out of my bag to take the documents to the man who was going to buy our car, and it wasn't in my bag.

We prayed for the Lord to do a miracle and help us find the wallet. We phoned the Home in Santiago to ask them to look for the wallet on the bed in the attic, where I had been transferring the items from bag to bag. It wasn't there. We didn't have the time to drive the 400 km back to Santiago to look for the wallet, and then back again, as we only had a few days left before leaving the country, and had other business to take care of elsewhere.

We were desperate, as we couldn't sell the car without the documents. At this point Ana Maria's daughter Cielo suggested that her mother look in her handbag to see if the wallet was in there. We "knew" there was no point in doing this, as I always keep the documents in my bag, as I am the driver. However, when Ana Maria opened her bag, the wallet was in there!

What made this impossible was the fact that the night before, Ana Maria had taken her bag into the house in Santiago and left it downstairs in the living room. It had slipped down behind a sofa cushion and nobody knew it was there. Ana Maria had left Santiago without it (because we were in a hurry!) and realized it was missing after we had been driving for about half an hour. We had returned to collect it and found it still jammed down the side of the sofa. Nobody had touched it since it had entered the house, and nobody in the house had seen or touched the document wallet between the time I put it on the bed and the time we collected the handbag. So how could the document wallet have made its own way to the handbag from the attic three floors up?

The only explanation is that the Lord must have transported the wallet from Santiago, where it had perhaps fallen, unnoticed, behind the bed in the attic the previous evening, to Ana Maria's handbag in Chillan, at the precise time we prayed for a miracle!

entertainment

Movies Rated for Senior Teens and Up

MASTER AND COMMANDER: THE FAR SIDE OF THE WORLD (2003)

Russell Crowe, Paul Bettany

A British Navy captain and crew sail out to see the richness and strangeness of life on the far side of the world, against the backdrop of the Napoleonic Wars. (Based on the novels by Patrick O'Brian.)

(*Jesus:*) This movie is an interesting change from some of the modern action movies. It has plenty of drama, plenty of action, but it's much more godly overall because of the time period it depicts, where people still had a fear of Me, and still acknowledged Me. When watching this movie you're going to have to watch out for the violence factor. You should go into it with the same mindset as you would a war movie, because there is a lot of fighting and gore in parts, and it might be difficult for sensitive viewers to watch.

Overall this movie is uplifting and watchable. Something important to realize, discuss, and explain to teens, is the one part about suicide. It is looked on as a sad event, but it's almost passively accepted as a solution in the situation. There is a subtle message that suicide is okay, when to Me it is not, and is not an easy solution that should be opted for instead of facing life's difficulties and gaining the victories needed.

However, the overall tone of this movie is godly and uplifting. It shows fighting spirits, determination, and has good lessons on listening to the counsel of others. The captain is a godly man and a good leader.

Though this character was a fictional one, his story has much in common with those who have been called out to serve Me. They were resolute, focused on the purpose I had put before them. They weren't content with letting circumstances dictate their destiny.

It will be much the same for you, My loves, as you head into the impossible. It's moving to see an example of courage, but even as dramatized as this movie's events are, it cannot parallel the determination and fire I see wielded within you, My Endtime warriors, as you commit to Me again and again each day.

I have described you, My Family, as an ocean vessel, and I am the ultimate

Master and Commander. You needn't worry about Me or My motives as you come to know Me more, and trust that My love for you is sincere and never ending.

MAYBE BABY (2000)

Hugh Laurie, Joely Richardson

A happily married and successful career couple are missing the thing they want most—a baby. Encouraged to “look within” by his hippie friend, Sam is inspired to write a comedy based on their lives.

(*Jesus:*) It's refreshing that this movie brings out the desire to have babies. There are good lessons in here, too, about not getting so wrapped up in what you want that you forget the most important thing, which is love. As far as the differences between men and women, this movie is more of a lesson on what not to do than what to do, as neither of the main characters were that sensitive to the other's needs, and what they were going through and experiencing. Things worked out all right, though, and it's sweet and uplifting for the most part.

Movies Rated for Junior Teens and Up

LOVE ACTUALLY (2003)

Hugh Grant, Liam Neeson, Emma Thompson

A comedy that tells of ten separate but intertwining stories of love, leading up to a big climax on Christmas Eve.

(*Dad:*) What better theme could you make a movie about than love? *Love Actually* is an attempt by the producers to tell the world, “Hey, it's not all about suspicion, terrorism, and a dog-eat-dog world.” This movie is cute, with an interesting cross-section of people and their lives. It's good for a few laughs, though as in all cases where a System movie attempts to tackle a topic so big and heavenly as love, you don't want to expect too much.

“Real love, true love, God's love, is all the religion you need!” God is love, and through love God touches many lives. But in this movie God has no place, and there is a message of “man can save himself.” But you, the Lord's children, can bring even more meaning to this movie for yourselves, by remembering that you can drop a little love into the hearts of all those you

pass by, with a look, a word, a tract, a witness, a deed of kindness.

This movie will pull at your heartstrings, which is what the intention is. It's got an uplifting message, that Christmastime is a time to show love to those you care about. Of course, people should be doing that all year long, and not just at Christmas. But I guess the System has gotten to the point that if they can stop and remember to show love at Christmas, then this is an accomplishment.

Though the story takes place during the Christmas season, it's pathetic that they hardly mention the fact that Christmas is about the birth of Jesus. Boy, oh boy, a nativity play with lobsters and octopus, and Barney as Baby Jesus in the manger! I hope it was tongue in cheek and a dig at how so politically correct things have gotten that if you want to have a nativity play, it can't in any way, shape, or form depict the actual event!

There are a number of situations depicted in the film that many people can relate to. There is really something for everyone. As is common today, there is some swearing in the movie, but not too much. There is a hint at some male bisexuality, but it isn't bad compared to what is really out there. Overall the film is well done, humorous, positive, and heartwarming.

It has good lessons on love and showing love, telling someone you love them, and the different kinds of love there are—the love of friends, the love of a step-parent, love between married people, love between single people, love between children, love between brothers and sisters, and even love between two people who don't speak the same language. Love crosses economic and language boundaries.

Movies Rated for JETTS and Up

RADIO (2003)

Cuba Gooding Jr., Ed Harris

A football coach in a small town befriends a mentally challenged high school student, who is transformed into an inspiration to his community.

(*Jesus:*) This is a wholesome movie inspired by a true story. To change the world, to have an effect on your part of the world, you have to be willing to break out of the mold, to do the unconventional, the untraditional, and even

the unthinkable. This is what the coach in this story did. He did something that was not popular, but was motivated because of his compassion and his love. As I was moved with compassion upon the multitudes, so was this man moved with compassion upon this weak one. Let this movie inspire you and motivate you to show and manifest love in the areas where I compel you—to the ones who need it. You have no idea how far your love and faith will go if you allow Me to use you to love the unlovely in spite of what others may think.

For various reasons many people do shy away from watching a film about the handicapped, yet this is a film that is about so much more. This story gives a glimpse into the blessings that can come from a handicap. Some of those man calls handicapped are often angels unawares, angels of mercy sent into the world to bring love, to teach man about learning, growing, maturing, mercy, grace, unity, and truth.

This is more than a movie about the handicapped, and it's more than a movie about love. It's a movie about doing the right thing, about choices, about reaching out and putting love into action.

In this movie, you see how easy it is to blow off someone who is different, or who can't keep up with the crowd. Movies like this are meant to be emotional, they're meant to move you to change and to be different, to see things from a new perspective. This movie accomplishes this.

Radio could even be viewed by younger children; but if so, it should be explained ahead of time what this boy's handicap is and what he is like, so that they do not fear. Also, the part where he is tied up and so afraid should be explained.

This is a movie about priorities. Coach Jones made up his mind about what he had to do, and he went for it—all the way. Even when no one else understood what it was he was trying to accomplish and why, he didn't compromise. He didn't flinch. He was determined to do what he felt was right, regardless of the consequences. He was unshakable, and not about to be swayed by public opinion or peer pressure.

As you're watching the story unfold, you might even wonder yourself whether he really did have his priorities

straight, whether or not he was investing his time and energies wisely, or whether he was just letting himself get sidetracked from his main job and responsibilities. I'll leave it up to you to pray about what you would do, and how you would go about things if you were in the same situation.

One thing's for sure—Coach Jones had gumption and determination. He was a fighter. He loved football, and he loved winning. But through his actions and sample, he was able to teach his team and the whole community something much more valuable than high school football. He taught them the value of the human spirit, the immense fulfillment in reaching and helping even one lost and needy soul.

Non-Recommended Movies

O (Mekhi Phifer, Josh Hartnett; 2001)

(Dad:) While this movie is based on a Shakespearean classic, its setting in modern time puts a bit of a different spirit on it than the play had. It comes across more as a psycho-killer type of movie. The general message is still the same as the original play by Shakespeare—jealousy kills, lying destroys, and destructive envy ruins lives—but it has a much heavier spirit to it than the play does, and even the movies made of the play that kept within that historical era. This movie is one of those unhappily ending movies that show life as it is for some people when jealousy, anger, and deceit overtake their lives and consume their very being. It definitely shows the fruits of jealousy and deceit, but these are all very negative and something everyone already knows, so it's not really worth being dragged through a movie for these type of lessons.

FRAILTY (Bill Paxton, Matthew McConaughey; 2001)

(Jesus:) This movie is dark and sinister, gruesome, and ungodly. It paints those who hear things from God in a very perverse and wrong way. It drags young children into it, which makes it even darker, and is a slam against Christianity and those who believe in Me. It is definitely not worth the Family's time, and should be shunned.

HELP WANTED

Dear Family,

God bless you! My name is **Flor (20)**, and I've been in the Philippines along with my two-year-old daughter, Lani, for the past eight years. It has been a long-time desire to return to South America, where I lived prior to the Philippines, and the opportunity has arisen for me to go. However, the lack of finances is a daunting, but not impossible, factor in the equation.

I am doing my best to fundraise through outreach, but so far it has not been as sufficient as one might hope it would be and having a kid poses a slight bit more of a challenge. Not only am I raising funds to leave, but also for the necessary paperwork needed for Lani and I upon arrival (I am half Peruvian), landing funds, traveling expenses, etc.

The required funds needed amounts to US\$2,000, so I am making my request known to you, dear Family, to ask if you could help in any way possible. If the Lord lays it on your heart to help, please send all gifts or donations through the Philippine ABM. For those who wish to contact me, you can write me at fleur_de_lis83@hotmail.com.

We really love you, and continue to pray for you!
Flor

Dear Family,

God bless you all in your efforts to win the world for our victorious Lover. We are **Josh and Joy and our two girls**. We have been in Africa for the past eight years, helping to pioneer the Ivory Coast and Guinea. Jesus is now calling us to go to Congo (DRC). Our first step is to join a team (Matthew and Maria) in Kenya. Would you like to have a part in pioneering the second biggest country of Africa, yet un-reached? It's going to be challenging, exciting, different and ... much more difficult without your help!

We know you already have a lot on your plate, but could it be that you could spare something to help us plant Jesus' love banner on a new country? If the Lord puts it on your heart to help us in any way, you can contact us at PTLGUI@yahoo.fr, and/or send your gifts to G11549 (Josh and Joy, Congo) via your TRF. Thank you so much!

activated news

You never know

BY MICHAELA AND KRISTINA, SOUTH AFRICA

While out witnessing we went into a store owned by a Jewish man. He was very polite, but after seeing that there was no way that he would want a tool, I zipped my bag up. We then just talked, listened and witnessed.

Then he said, "I am a very devout Jew, but is there a God?" So I told him about *Hearing from Heaven*, and asked him if he wanted the *Hearing from Heaven* book. He happily took the book, and said he'd start reading it that night. He asked us to come again to tell him more about these kinds of things.

It never returns void

BY ESTHER, PHILIPPINES

We got a subscription from one man I gave an *Activated* mag to two years ago. I saw him again a couple times, but he wasn't super interested, and then finally this year he decided he really wanted to subscribe and tried to call our old phone number and couldn't get ahold of us. I never thought to follow up on him, as he had told me he hadn't read the mag yet.

When going on outreach I got off at the wrong stop, as I was planning on going farther. Since I was right there I went into his shop and his face lit up and he said, "You're back!" He picked up the mag and said he loved it and wanted to subscribe. He said, "I want to serve the Lord, but I'm stuck in my office and my whole family is counting on me."

I told him how I started serving the Lord as a catacomber. "How can I start?" he asked.

"Love letters from Jesus?"

SENT IN BY THE U.S. ACTIVATED DESK

[Listening in on a phone call received on the *Activated* line:]

"Activated Ministries, can I help you?"

"Hello, a couple years ago I bought a beautiful tape, *Fear Not*, from a gentleman in a parking lot. I listened to it almost every day, and it has helped me through so many difficulties. I've never felt so close to God and the Bible before. It's almost like when I listen to the songs God's Word comes alive for me. I would be completely lost without it.

"My mother is going to be moving soon, and she's begging me to let her take the tape with her, as it's her favorite as well. Is there any way I can buy another copy?"

"Sure, no problem! Since you liked that tape so much, I think you'd be interested in a beautiful new book we have called *From Jesus with Love*. They are the Lord's Words of love and encouragement to us, and I think you would find them really inspiring."

"Wow, like love letters from Jesus to us? I'll take it!"

Witnessing via *Conéctate*

BY CLARA, SACRO

Sometimes we make faith trips to nearby towns, and for the past eight years we have been visiting a home for girls who suffered abuse. The Lord has provided us with different contacts for our needs in that area, and for three years the owners of a very nice restaurant have helped us every time we travel to visit this Home for girls.

This last time, three of the young people in our Home (Grace, Danny, and Ana) went with us to organize a program of activities there. When we arrived at the restaurant, Cecilia, the owner, and her husband were eating lunch. We had called them ahead of time and they had reserved a table for us, so we were seated there greeting them from afar. The husband, who hadn't met us yet, kept looking at us and smiling so we felt led to go up to their table. Our interactions with the owner had always been formal, but this time she was much warmer than usual. We asked if she had explained to her husband about our work, and began talking about the *Conéctate* mags with the intention of giving some mags to them and to some of the nice waiters there. She commented to us that she had been receiving the magazine every month and liked them a lot. We had forgotten that she had signed a *Conéctate* subscription. She went on to say that she kept the mags at her bedside table at night and really liked them and had also given one to her mother-in-law who was suffering from cancer.

After we finished eating, she said that they wanted to invite us for coffee at their house so that we could talk a little more. It was the first time that they had ever invited us to be closer like that. Cecilia received

Jesus and afterwards explained to her husband the prayer of salvation and he also asked Jesus to come into his heart. We then said a prayer asking the Lord to bless their house and family. They both had tears in their eyes and couldn't stop thanking us for having taken this time with them.

Although we had only visited them once in a while and from a distance, the Word in the *Activated* mags was helping them to grow and to know the Lord and feel closer to us. They later invited the young people to their own small private beach by their house, to look for shells and take photos. We said goodbye, and they told us to come back whenever we wanted, that "their house was our house."

"Activated... renewing and rewarding!"

BY JOAN, JOHN, AND RICHARD, USA

While out witnessing with our two teen boys, we met a young man who was eager to get a subscription for *Activated*, and said how much he needed something like this. We went to get a receipt for him and after returning (about five minutes later) he'd already filled in the form and was reading it. He then got saved!

He wanted to do something for us, so offered a large-screen TV if we ever need one to borrow for a seminar or video demonstration, etc. Our boys were encouraged, as they hadn't seen someone so receptive in a long time. They commented about how eager this young man was to want to do something for us even though we never indicated we needed anything. The young folks are used to going STS with our tools, but going out with *Activated* is renewing and rewarding!

PERSONALS

This is Alisa (of Martin and Mercy), looking for **Sophie** (of John and Sara), last heard of in the Philippines. I knew you at the Brasilia School as a YC. If you see this, please write me, my e-mail address is mozamfam@tropical.co.mz. Thank you.

Our computer crashed, and we lost lots of our e-mail addresses and keys, so please resend your address and key if you were in contact with us to abelmarieclaire@hotmail.com.

Also **any folks that know us, from past 31 years**, we'd love to hear from you. Thanks! Love, Abel (formerly Jonathan or Ziph) and Marie Claire (formerly Mirth Melody) and Feliz.

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 © 2004 by The Family