

The Grapevine



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POWDER
 Bad things happen, but they don't
 have to make you sour.

Advance Mailings Coming Soon!

From
WS

Dear Family,

In the next several weeks you'll be receiving some advance mailings of GNs for the months of December, January and February, as we mentioned in LNF 278, "Feast 2000 and Y2K." Please pray for the NPCs and translators as they finish these off, as it's a lot of work to get these GNs prepared in addition to their normal monthly pubs work.

The envelopes of these mailings will be labeled or marked somehow as to what month they're for, and we hope you'll save them for the time indicated and not get into them beforehand. We know some of you may find it hard to resist, but you'll find it much more fun and enjoyable to wait and read these GNs at the proper time. Besides, if you read them ahead of time, you won't have any new GNs to read during those months!

Thanks for waiting to read these, and thanks for your prayers and giving that helped make it possible for us to get these inspiring new Letters to you early. We love you!

New Jersey Police missing person inquiry: Paul Nacarlo

From
Marc
and
Claire
NA
Media
Desk

David Bromley was contacted by an officer of the New Jersey Police Department in connection with a missing persons' complaint that had been filed by relatives looking for a certain Paul Nacarlo. The policeman said that they had gotten David's number from the FamilyWeb site. According to the officer, the ex-girlfriend of Paul said that he had joined the Family around 1980 and the last communication anyone received from him was 1984-5. The officer told David that what he needs is a confirmation as to whether Paul is still a member of the Family, and if so, for him to send a letter stating that he is where he is of his own free will, etc. In other words he's not really missing but has made the decision not to communicate with his family. David explained the large turnover in membership and that it's quite possible that Paul is no longer with the group. He also mentioned that if he is, it may be difficult to find him as we are an international organization and move quite frequently, etc.

If Paul is not a member then the answer is simple. If it is confirmed that Paul is a Family member and has cut off ties with his family because they are hostile, etc. it seems he'd want to reply to the officers request at least indirectly say by sending a letter to us here and us forwarding it on, etc., so as to alleviate the concerns of his family and close the file. Our concern at this time is to be able to give either a nay or yea so as to bring closure to the inquiry. If anyone has any information as to Paul Nacarlo's whereabouts, or are certain that he is presently not in the Family, please let us know. Thanks for your help with this!



BY WS

General Progress

Thank the Lord, He is continuing to bless the *Activated* program in many ways. Though it's just the beginning, and things are starting slowly as expected, the subscriptions keep coming in as the *Activated* desks work hard to send out the mailings!

This month *Contato* (the Brazil *Activated* Desk) reported that so far 73 subscriptions have been sold, and there have been 305 requests for the first three magazines (addresses of folks who have gotten saved), while the amount of subscriptions for *Activated* India is now 45 (we haven't yet received their statistics for requests for the first three magazines).

In Europe and Africa the amount of people who have subscribed or requested magazines has more than doubled this month. Twenty new subscribers will be receiving the *Activated* mailing this month, bringing the total subscribers [in Europe and Africa] to 36. They also received 36 new requests for the first three magazines. Following is what they had to report.

From Peter, Rose and Tito, Europe/Africa Desk: This has been our first full month of work with lots of subscriptions and orders for books coming in. Yesterday we prepared and posted our first monthly mailing of magazines and everything went smoothly, TTL! We are super inspired to see this ministry grow and see the very enthusiastic response from both the brethren and the sheep! The subscriptions have been steadily coming in by mail and by e-mail. We've been receiving mail from Romania, Croatia, Holland, Spain, Switzerland, Kenya, South Africa, Malawi, Nigeria, Botswana, and many more! (We have quite a stamp collection now!) The shiner Homes are in South Africa and Kenya, GBT.

We just sent out our first monthly *Activated* mailing to the 82 addresses that the Homes have sent in, and are very encouraged by the fact that 34 (41%) of them were paid subscriptions!

We also sent a mailing to over 100 people on the BI GP mailing list and the answers have been coming back from that as well. Some people ordered books and others asked for subscriptions. It is thrilling to be able to feed the sheep like this and we

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are all very happy to be a part of it.

Today we received a call from a bookshop in Holland asking for a larger quantity of books to sell, and several brethren have made similar enquiries. The *Feed My Lambs* series is especially popular, as there doesn't seem to be anything near as good made by the System. Here is an inspiring *Activated* mail response we received:

"It was very pleasant to receive your kind letter and very exciting to learn of the setting up of *Activated*. You had written that it was coming but I had no idea it would be so comprehensive. I really enjoyed the magazine and of course want to subscribe and felt so warmed by the love of God coming into my being through yet another way. I thank God for the Family and pray for all those good people who give with their loving example in so many different ways. I was particularly inspired by the article "Mountain Men." I thank Him that He has given me the blessing of my association, albeit distant, with you all. With love and prayers, John (Bl)"

There was plenty of progress in the U.S. as well. Here is what Trust (of the U.S. *Activated* Desk) had to say.

"Our September *Activated* mailing was sent to 279 addresses and we'll be doing our first "bulk mail" *Activated* mailing tomorrow—to 272 addresses.

"We've had Homes ordering magazines by the hundreds and someone made the comment that they are "hot"! We also had the daughter of one of our *Wine Press* folks call to ask if she could be a distributor, as she wants to get folks to subscribe to the magazine as part of her witnessing. This girl has been out of the Family for almost her entire life, but she's very excited about using the *Activated* magazine to minister to people she meets and works with, etc."

Setting up

Getting the *Activated* ministry rolling in each area involves much more than meets the eye—especially in regard to establishing efficient office Homes to

process the subscriptions, send the mailings and the myriad other details. Each *Activated* desk has had to, and in some cases still needs to, spend a good deal of time repairing and furnishing their new Homes (or getting set up in existing Homes), setting up computers and networks, fine-tuning or even installing a phone system, bringing in and training new personnel, general office organization, etc. etc. It's a big job and there are many details to attend to, particularly on the legal front of running a business. Thank the Lord, through much prayer, including yours dear Family, and effort a great deal of progress has been made during the last months. Please continue to pray for the *Activated* Desks who are still in the process of setting up, which includes all of them to some degree or another.

The *Activated* Magazine

As you know, the key publication in the *Activated* mailing list is the *Activated* magazine, which contains feeding Word excerpts and testimonies on a variety of subjects. The first 12 have been drafted and most are either printed or press-ready. However, the *Activated* program is ongoing and so many more magazines will be needed once people begin renewing their subscriptions.

Some of the topics that will, God willing, be covered include: resting in the Lord vs. stress, loneliness, praise, bitterness, hearing from the Lord in prophecy, music, the spirit world and much more. There's a lot to do, so your continual prayers would be appreciated for the publication of these magazines and for all of those who have a part in their creation. This includes Family members both in WS and on the field, such as writers, editors, artists, printers, layout artists, etc.

Netsite

BY SILAS, ASCRO

Countdown site: The "Countdown to Armageddon" site is apparently getting accessed mostly outside of Asia—specifically the US, Europe and so on. We had a total of 32,289 distinct visits this month, with 8,782 MB downloaded. The number of people commenting on the site and asking questions about the Endtime has also increased tremendously, with our receiving over 120 e-mail responses this month alone.

Jeremy Spencer site: This Web site took off this month as we added a number of MP3 files. This generated a four -or five-fold increase in the number of people visiting our site (19,198 distinct visits), and an astonishing 60 Gigabytes in downloaded files—mainly MP3. It seems as though there is a real "buzz" that Jeremy Spencer is back. Ha! And considering the

popularity of this style of music, it pertains to be on the increase for some time to come. We're excited as it provides very good groundwork for the upcoming Jeremy Spencer concerts in India, Lord willing, in the year 2000. The quality of the music available via MP3 format on Jeremy's site seems to be getting around by word of mouth. TYJ!

Thai site: This is also continuing to increase. We're trying to do our best to update this fairly frequently as we're receiving a lot of Thai visitors from abroad as well as locally. This month we had 19,588 distinct visits and there was a total of 6,857 MB downloaded.

In the works: There will be a completely new Arabic site. We're also hoping to construct an Indian Hindi/English/Tamil site, PTL! Such a wonderful way to witness!

Legal and Media

France—There has been an ongoing campaign led by Elisabeth Guigou, the Minister of Justice, regarding cults and education. It's been a witch hunt in schools, with school teachers fired for being *Jehovah's Witnesses* or something else, even in regular public schools! All the area education overseers have received instructions to check on the home-schoolers. Ours told us that in our area, about one third of people will be denied the right to home school this year. Thank God, we did get our authorisation!—*Samuel and Heidi*

[Note from EURCRO Media

Desk: Some of the French sociologists whom we met at the Belgium ISSR conference also warned that any Family members who are home schooling in France can expect problems in September when the new term begins. Please keep this in your prayers.]

Denmark—*Fyens Stiftstidende*, a daily newspaper, included a mention of us as a supplement to an article about home schooling being a constitutional right in Denmark. The paper has a circulation of 200,000 readers. It was published on June 5, 1999 and was very favorable.—*Peter and Praise*

In My arms

Michael (of Anke, written 21/9): Our eldest son, Sam (21, former member), went to be with the Lord on September 18 in a tragic accident while climbing at Lake Tahoe. We are flying to the States to organize the funeral and would appreciate your prayers for all of us during this difficult time.

Though hearts may break and tears may flow on Earth below, in Heaven there is rejoicing, for this, My dear son, is in My arms again. I am now able to hold him close, to reassure him of My love, to wipe away his tears, to cleanse him and to show him My great love. Oh, how great that love is! Just a little while longer, and there will come a reuniting. So look to My face. Hold tight to My hand, and let Me carry you through this Jordan, through this loss to you. But remember all the while that the one you see no more, I love and care for personally.

Jesus speaking

Crusading

INDIA

James and Joanie: Last month we opened a new Home in Trivandrum, a city in the state of Kerala, South India. It became a communist state by election a number of years ago. It has the highest rate of literacy (100%) in the whole country. It is common for even an auto rickshaw driver to hold a college degree, but English-speaking is still minimal, as they all study in the local language. It dawned on us that there were no Family publications in the local language, "Malayalam" (notice that it is spelt the same backwards!), which is thought to be the most difficult of all Indian languages to learn!

The Lord, however, led us to a very sweet Christian man who has been a big blessing, helping us with our e-mail and computer problems and is also going to give us a fridge for the time that we will be here. When he heard of our desire to translate the "To You – With Love" tract, he mentioned that his dad who has done various translations for the church, would be happy to do it for us for free. The translation was ready within two days, has been proofread by some other local friends (who said it was a very professional job), and is now ready for printing. PTL!

When praying about coming to this city, we saw it as only a stepping stone to going back to Sri Lanka. We now see the Lord's wisdom in bringing us here, as John 4:35 says, "Say not ye, 'There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest?' Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest." We are still on our way to Sri Lanka, but while we are here we want to do the best we can. We also still need people to work with, and would be happy to hear from you if you're interested. Or if you want to send us a gift ... please write to us at: mannanal@techpark.net.

TAKEN ...

Daniel and Lizzy got married in Venezuela on July 16. Congratulations!

The Incredible Invisible Alarm Clock

I am flying on Cloud Nine! I have just got to share the joy: I've found yet another exciting new use for specific prayer power! As always, let me start with a little background.

Our own dearest Pixie—a.k.a. Lauren, but you'd never know it if you live around here ... every now and then some Home member earnestly pulls me aside and says, "I feel terrible asking you this, but ... what is her name again?" And no small wonder, since we rarely call her that. I have found it necessary to repeat her name to her in very cheerful, exciting tones at least once a day so that hopefully by the time we decide that she's old enough to adopt her true birthname, she will be at least vaguely familiar with the fact that it belongs to her.

As I began to say, our own dearest Pixie had only recently settled into a nice hefty afternoon nap schedule, only to throw it disdainfully aside once again. Now at about six months old, she dutifully goes to sleep after lunch, but you can just about set your clock for 30 minutes later when she'll wake up, still enormously tired, but having little or no interest in going back to sleep, much less staying asleep to begin with. Such are the mixed joys of parenting!

This would not be a huge problem on its own, except for the fact that if our night's sleep with Pixie was rough, I am generally in the mood for a nap. If I settle down immediately as Pixie goes to sleep, I can count on at least a decent shut-eye time, but if I get distracted along the way ... *presto finito!*

One particular day Pixie took a while longer to get down for nap than normal, but by 2:20 she was finally down. I wearily assessed my naptime position, and looked at my watch. Then I remembered a trick that I've found to work pretty well in the past: Put her on the prayer timer! So I prayed, "Lord, I really feel like I need a good nap today. Could You please help Pixie to sleep really well for a

good forty minutes—say till 3 o'clock?" And I lay down to sleep.

The next thing I knew, Pixie was announcing the end of her—and my—nap. I looked at my watch: Three o'clock *on the dot!* Now this incident might not be so outstanding if it was not for the fact that I've tried and proven it more than once. Yet this time it really caught my attention.

Hmmm, this is certainly something worth tapping into, I thought to myself. And with that, the tentative idea grew: If Pixie was doing so good at waking me up from my naps, perhaps she could be spiritually trained to stay asleep, and leave the task of waking me up to my angelic helpers? (I mean, if they're waking her up, why not wake up me instead, right?)

So the next day, I give it a try. Laying down at 2 o'clock, I prayed that I would sleep till 2:30, but that Pixie would not wake up till later. I awoke at 2:35 (okay, I slipped up a little there). Pixie slept till 3:30 without waking—for the first time in a long time.

I was riding high, filled with the exultant thrill of the moment. Today I lay down at 1:45, and asked the Lord if I could please wake up at 2:30. Pixie—now we're trying for specifics—I asked to please sleep till 4:00. I awoke from a sound sleep at *exactly* 2:30 (though I didn't actually get out of bed till 2:45, heh). It's now past 3 and Pix is still asleep. (LNF: Well, she woke up at 3:45, which I'd say is not bad at all—a two-hour nap!

What can I say? Call it a coincidence if you like, but three times in a row is good enough for me, and this has happened in other past times too, only I wasn't bright enough to catch on at the time and make a full-fledged talent out of it. So for the time being Pixie and I are sleeping better than we have in months—and I have discovered yet another use for specific prayer power: My own personal alarm clock.●

By Jaz, WS

kidbits

- Fiona Sherril, 5th child, born to Maria and Simon on June 24.—Thailand
Kevin Heart, 2nd child, born to Rebecca and James on July 4.—USA
Joy Vanessa, 12th child, born to Ruth and John on July 19.—Japan
Derrion Craige, 2nd child, born to Charity and Jace on August 3.—Japan
Leina Firstlove, 9th child, born to Rejoice and Nathan on August 3.—Japan
Koji Teramoto, 3rd child, born to Mari and Jay on August 4.—Japan
Natali Faithful, 1st child, born to Lisa Faithful and Luke on August 9.—Russia
Adrian Lupu, born to Charity and Pete on August 10.—Romania
Celine Lianna, born to Gentleness and Esteveao on August 11.—Romania
Kiona Kelly, 7th child, born to Tirzah and Eli on August 11.—Japan
Jun, 2nd child, born to Maria and Stephen on August 11.—Japan
Jennifer Love, 1st child, born to Ruth on August 12.—Mexico
Kayden James, 2nd child, born to Theresa and David on August 14.—Thailand
Alexis Jade, 1st child, born to Jeanie on August 16.—Canada
Richard Andrew, born to Abi and John Tall on August 17.—Hungary
Robert Christopher, born to Sara and Levi on August 17.—Romania
Tobias Julien, born to Christiana and Micha on August 17.—Germany
Catherine Joy, born to Trust and Josue on August 18.—Spain
Mabelle Aurore, 4th child, born to Heidi and Luke on August 19.—China
Selena Shiner, 1st child, born to Maria and Luca on August 21.—Italy
Esperanza, born to Rejoice and Timothy on August 25.—USA
Lien Jade, 4th child, born to Eva and Nat on September 2.—China
Eric Reece, 1st child, born to Ariane and Sam on September 6.—Thailand
Richard Philip, 1st child, born to Shayna Rose and Daniel ET on September 14.—India

PHOTOS
COURTESY OF
THE IZMIR
HOME

Turkey

... since the quake



Rose, Tabitha, and Tim, Turkey: Just before the major earthquake that hit Istanbul, Turkey had deported 25 missionaries! Upon hearing that news we immediately empty-winded our Home and made sure that things were secure in case there was to be an investigation. Only two days later, the earthquake hit! The quake hit Istanbul at approximately 3:10 A.M. It lasted for 45 seconds, and our house shook frantically; it sounded as if a freight train was coming through the house! We were able to get everyone out of the house before the quake stopped, and everyone was safe.

For the next four days we slept outside in tents and on blankets, and only came into the house for quick trips to get needed items. We saw how important it is to have your flee bags packed, as when we got out of the house initially, all we had on was our PJs and underwear and that was it—no shoes, glasses, identification—NOTHING! We saw how unprepared we were for any such type of emergency. The following morning, one at a time we went into the house and packed our flee bags. We were also able to visit the sites of the nearby quake and help with donating fruit and vegetables.

We have been working alongside the military here, as well as with the Belgian Red Cross. Many of our friends and sponsors here have come to help us in this time of need, though many have already helped greatly by donating items or buying supplies for these dear families who have lost everything. Still the Turkish people are so generous and help above and beyond what is expected of them.

Andrew, Charity, Zack, and Paloma, Turkey: The major earthquake here shook us all up as to the shortness of time! It happened only three days after the complete and spectacular sun eclipse! As the Home was somewhat in disarray due to the Enemy's attacks on our unity, this helped us to get our priorities straight again. We've sent a team to one of the worst-hit areas to help set up a daycare center together with the Istanbul Homes. We pray it can be a united area effort and a long-term commitment!

Dolly, Angelina, Lily, and Jim, Turkey: The earthquake that happened on August 17th in a number of cities a few hours away from Istanbul left thousands and thousands of people homeless and created devastation everywhere. We basically have had a whole CTP arrive at our doorstep, and there's more to do than we can possibly handle. We've made a

couple of initial visits to scout out the situation, and at this point it seems the Lord is opening the door to start a school in one of the "tent camps." We have quite a few people who have pledged their 100% support to the Family for our efforts, as they know that what they give will go straight towards helping the Turkish people.

Turkey is a difficult field witnessing-wise as we're not able to openly witness and it's not legal to sell the tools, so we don't have much in the way of stats every month. This month, however, we met quite an important woman at a fundraising dinner. She put us in touch with the head of a kindergarten and set up an appointment for us. When we went we were a bit taken aback as they were asking us how many days a week we wanted to work and what our hours would be, etc.! We explained that we're volunteer workers and the types of activities we're involved in, and that we're not here in Turkey as full-time English teachers. We then pulled out our videos and gave a sales pitch on the benefits of our educational materials. We were hoping they would take a set of videos being that they are quite a wealthy school and definitely had the means to do so. The principle seemed interested but asked us to come back and give a little presentation to the teachers using the video curriculum.

The day came to return to the school and we were surprised to find that we were the only event on their meeting agenda that day! What was meant to be a short video presentation ended up with us talking about our philosophy on raising children, answering their many questions about discipline and control with children, dealing with problem kids, etc. They were amazed that Lily had 10 children and were eager to hear all her "secrets," ha! TTL for the wealth of Word we have on the subject of child rearing. The teachers were so sweet and had a real vacuum for any input we could give them.

In the end they decided to take all 8 videos and gave a generous donation! Being that we only get out a couple of videos a month, this was a super thrill for us, and we are looking forward to getting our foot in the door to other kindergartens and schools using the recommendation letter this particular school gave us.

Sam, for the Izmir Home: We wanted to return to the site of the earthquake, and had prepared accordingly. The Lord had raised up people to support the trip financially, as well as a tune-up for the van. But when the time came for us to take to the road, I was feeling quite tired, and definitely unable to drive 500 kms that day, and 500 kms back two or three days

later. We also had a small mishap just then with our shutters having to be fixed before leaving. TTL, they got fixed, but we felt that the Lord was stopping us, wanting us to count the cost and see what would be the most beneficial.

Just the night before, some visitors had told us that some refugees from the devastated cities were set up in government holiday camps not too far from Izmir, and these people were planning to go there themselves to bring some supplies. So when we prayed about our trip, the Lord showed us to direct our efforts that way.

As we went and inquired about the exact location at the local Town Hall, the clerks were very helpful, and even asked if we could transport some goods that they had gathered from their homes, since we had a big van. The Lord seemed to indicate that He really wanted us to go that way! At the camp area, some soldiers helped us to unload, and we were introduced to the District Governor and his wife, who are personally involved with gathering the supplies and the running of the camps, to the smallest detail. They were very warm and welcomed us with open arms. We found out that at that very moment, they were going to distribute clothing that had been gathered from the nearby towns. It was God's perfect set-up, as they needed volunteers. So here we were, all five of us, passing out clothing and shoes to 750 refugees, according to their individual needs.

The District Governor and his wife invited us to have dinner with them. They were keen on the idea of having programs for the children—and all, for that matter. They insisted that we come to their house, too, once the initial set-up of the camps was over.

Three days later, we returned and performed in the two main camps, with all the children and many of the adults attending. Our program was comprised of a puppet show, clown shows, some games and some live music, which some of the young people and children danced to. There was a lot of audience participation and positive feedback afterwards.

We stayed for three days at the camps, and the people didn't want to let us go, as we grew very close to them. The management was very thankful for the moral support and the inspiration. The Lord also engineered for us to meet many top officials. There is a big vacuum for spiritual things; having lost everything, people are more desperate to find the meaning of life, true values, to learn about the afterlife, etc.

We are now expected back at the camps, and are looking forward to having a regular minis-

try there. The Lord indicated in prophecy that this was His door and His wave, and He confirmed it by having the doors of our other CTPs temporarily closed. TYSM for all your prayers, as when we were there, we really felt the Lord's strength and anointing sustaining us.

John T., Istanbul Home: Many people were talking about the "*Kiyamet*," as two weeks after the big one, two more quakes hit, knocking down seven more buildings, injuring 100 and causing one death. While having tea with a Kurdish family, we were talking about how both the Bible and the Koran say that Jesus will return at the Judgment Day to destroy the Antichrist. We told them how in the Gospel it gave many signs of this: war, famine, pestilences, earthquakes, people's hearts becoming cold, and how all the signs have happened except for one. They almost jumped off their seats in anticipation asking which sign is left!

So I explained about the "mark of the Beast," the economic system of the Antichrist, and how this was written 2,000 years ago when the technology wasn't available for such a thing, but now it is. It sparked a genuine interest in their hearts to know more of what the "Prophet Jesus" said about the Endtime, and hopefully through this they will learn more about Jesus, Who not only is going to come back one day, but can heal their broken hearts now if they will give their hearts to Him.

This family had an incredible escape during the quake, which saved their lives! The father broke the first floor window and jumped out it, and his brother (who is crippled) started throwing their five kids out one by one, and then jumped out himself, just in time to witness the building flatten before their eyes! You can imagine the amount of trauma these kids have suffered.

On another day, one of the university students came into our van while I was having my devotions. He looked at my book and quipped, "Oh, *From Jesus with Love?*!" So I explained to him about how we need to take time getting filled up so that we can pour out to others. He thought that was a great idea, and really liked the section I read to him!

We were one of the first foreign volunteer groups to be on the quake site, and have stayed the longest (we are still there, over one month later). The people really love and trust us, and it's been thrilling to see more and more folks turning to us to help in distribution of goods, etc.

We also got to be very close to some of the other foreign teams that were helping in the beginning, including one group from Mexico who were very precious, self-supported search and rescue volunteers. The children in the camp loved them so much that they cried when they left and begged them not to go back to Mexico. The Red Cross team was from Europe, and although in the beginning they were not as relaxed as the Mexicans, by the end they were calling all of us (us, them, and the Mexicans) a "family," and wanting to do everything together.

To give credit where credit is due, it's really been a united effort involving pretty much *every person* in both Istanbul Homes. Some folks had to stay back to hold the home front and do double duty so that other folks could pour out non-stop up at the camp. Thanks also to the Homes in Greece who sent Simon and team up to help for two weeks, WLY!

Hilltop Home, Istanbul: Both Homes in Istanbul have been very busy with the earthquake relief work in the city of Golchuk, one of the worst hit areas, where the entire population of over 100,000 people are living in tents.

Besides helping at the camps physically, translating, and being an encouragement to children and parents alike, we have also helped by collecting and distributing food, clothing, blankets, sheets, plastic goods, school books, and school bags, and much more. Our "moral encouragement" program of music, skits and puppet shows has been well received and we have been officially invited to more than 12 other tent camps to do our show. Albanian Gabe's puppet show (in Turkish) is a big hit with the kids, along with our musical action songs, plus some favorite local Turkish songs, sung by Dolly, and accompanied by Simon who came from Greece.

Many hearts have been touched by our sample of living there in the tent camp with them these past five weeks, and we are sure that there will be many more opportunities to be His love to the lost and lonely, and now homeless people of this part of Turkey. Our edited version of *Glimpses of Heaven* in Turkish, plus our other lit, has been warmly received and appreciated. Two good newspaper articles come out, and we have appeared on several news and TV shows as well (that we know about).

A big thank YOU to all of you who prayed for us and for those who sent financial assistance. We sure do appreciate such a wonderful Family!

help

WANTED

We have a **brand-new Home in Peru**. We haven't yet started on our project to set up a Kindergarten but our faith is already being tested, as one of our members (German Nina) has leukemia and is very sick. We've had to take her to the hospital, which represents a lot of attention from our three other adults in the Home, as well as lots of expenses. We'd like to ask for prayers and donations to help us through this rough time. Please send them to Peru ABM, Attn: Salomon

My name is **Liza (20)**. I have a big burden to go back to EE or Asia. I really, really need your help; if you can help with a donation no matter how small, it will be greatly appreciated and a real blessing. Wanna help? Thanks so much! ILY! Send donations to BR 057. E-mail: liza_arg@hotmail.com.

We are **Ben and Angela, EE nationals** with a little Pearl (of great price) moving from UKRAINE to AFRICA, the field we've dreamed of for three years! Now is the time! We are in transition as we've put GOD on the spot to be on our new field in time for the 2000 witnessing push! We've booked our tickets, we have a Home, we've put all we raised so far into tools and are on the road giving them out, but we also need YOUR help, our precious FAMILY! If the Lord touches your heart and helps you reach down to your pocket, you can reach us at SEEC ABM! All prayers are welcome as well!

happenings

[Investing in the kids]

Martin and Hope, Lahore, Pakistan: At the beginning of the year we felt burdened about getting our children on-fire for the Lord and out witnessing more. When we prayed how to do it, He told us to make this a year of exciting road trips for our OCs and JETTs. They have a good CTP program which we have been working on over the last few years, all in the local language, and this last year we added a puppet and clown show to it. So we had a well-rounded one-hour show to put on for the institutions and schools we hoped to visit. The Lord told us if we stepped out by faith He would supply the needed funds and make a way for us. And He has fulfilled His promises wonderfully!

So far this year we have covered about 3,500km. in our old van, loaded up with ten people and looking like a traveling circus with all our equipment! We have visited many different cities of the Punjab and Northwest Frontier province of Pakistan, and witnessed and performed for thousands of handicapped and disadvantaged children. The children have had the wonderful experience of being on the road, pouring out and sharing His love with others and seeing the Lord work miracles to keep us going.

We just returned from a trip to the northern areas of Pakistan, where, as well as their CTP programs the kids were able to take a break and have a well earned fun time, camping and hiking in this beautiful mountainous area. When we arrived back in Lahore we had quite a difficult month financially and were wondering how we were going to pull through the coming month. Then the Lord opened the door for the children to perform regularly at KFC restaurant for a "kids' night," when the parents can have their children entertained. This opening wouldn't have been possible if we hadn't invested in the children's training and had a good show ready to offer. We will be starting the programs soon for which they will be paying us about \$1,000 per month. This is an answer to prayer and encouragement that when we put the training of our children first it always pays off and He always blesses it and supplies our every need.

[Under the dumpster]

Nathan, James, and Esther, USA: A former member who was praying to regain contact with the Family found our 1-800 number on a discarded tract. The miracle was that the tract was caught under a dumpster at the end of an abandoned airstrip on a closed part of a military base! The double victory was that one of the main reasons he left the Family in the first place was due to discouragement, thinking all the discarded tracts, etc., were just a waste of lit and time. Now that the Lord used a "discarded tract" to answer his

prayer he'll never again doubt that God's Word does not return void.

[15,000 kids on our videos]

Joel and Sara, Honduras: We met the director of a program called "Amigos de los niños" (Children International), who got a whole collection of *Treasure Attic* and *Kiddie Viddie* videos. She was fascinated with our material and she incorporated it into her program for a total of 15,000 children that her association has in their care. She also got the *Countdown to Armageddon* video for the young people.

[Major provisioning]

From Peter, Sela and Linda, Sweden: This month the Lord helped us to send the biggest provisioning of new clothing and shoes ever in one go to the Family in Moscow. Jessica and team provisioned the sponsoring of a 40-foot truck. They also sent over David from their Home who helped to pack it. Gideon and Lamb also gave 10 pallets of clothing from Norway towards this shipment. TTL!

[\$2,000 and we're off!]

Paul, Melody and Maria, USA: The Lord has really been leading us lately and we wonder how we ever got along without prophecy.

We recently got an invitation to be part of a CM Home in Canada with the possibility to prepare for the field. To top it off, we might be able to also receive Home Support through the government family allowance. When we prayed and asked the Lord about it we got, "Go for it!" All that was needed was to get our vehicle and mobile equipment road-worthy, as it was a 3,000-mile trip to our destination of Toronto, Canada. We also needed to finish paying off all our bills and tie up loose ends. Easier said than done. We needed a couple of thousand dollars to get going. So we went to the Bank of Heaven and knocked, on our hands and knees.

The Lord answered not too long after that as we got the first thousand from Maria's ex-mate in Hawaii. The second was a bigger miracle...a cart boy in a parking lot where Maria had been regularly postering handed her a check for \$1,000! TYJ! We are presently working on our vehicles and RV and we'll be leaving within the week!

[Wife of Rio's governor]

Paulo and Nina, Brazil: Right when the Lord showed us to start performing with our children, we got a call from a promoter in Rio who wanted to hire us to sing at the opening of a new condo in Itaipava. She said that she wanted us and the kids to "bless" the opening.

Once there, we sang for the wife of the

Governor of Rio (Rosinha Matheus). She was really interested in our work (she's an evangelical Christian). We gave her a copy of our CD, and Lua (12) sang for her at her table the song "Gesto de Amor." Afterwards, the promoter asked us to go around the tables (busking style) to sing for the people, give our message, and pass out tracts and CDs. There was a huge table with nothing but foreign media people. We were able to give a good witness to all there.

[Anniversary of Hiroshima bombing]

Steven (of Tabitha), Japan: Tabitha and I recently returned from an inspiring trip to Hiroshima where we stayed at Alf and Clair's Home. We were there from August 4-9 during the anniversary of A-bomb blast of August 6, 1945.

Tabitha saw the blast as a child, so it was a good chance to get out her testimony as well as the 666 warning. We distributed 8,500 tracts over the five-day period, and talked to many people. Twenty-one souls prayed with us, but our main aim was to get out the warning message of a greater threat to the world than a nuclear bomb—i.e. 666. We wore A4 plaques with our slogan: "All we are saying is, 'Give love a chance.'"

[Miracle grant]

Karachi Home, Pakistan: Last year we pioneered a new fundraiser by applying for a grant that was being offered by an international bank in our city. We had to fill out a detailed presentation of our work, our goals and projects, the lives we have an impact on, etc., as well as list various financial details. The counsel and involvement of Family Care Foundation was a great help in taking care of these various details. Some months later our grant request was confirmed and we received a gift of \$5,000 from this bank, which was a big help in setting up our Deaf Training Center, as well as with other projects we have ongoing here.

We found out that once on their donor list, it is simple to apply again as these grants are offered on a yearly basis. We prayed about it, and the Lord encouraged us to apply again this year, as well as to expand our vision and faith. After counseling with the local bank manager, we found out that \$5,000 was simply the average gift, but that it was open regarding how much to request as long as it was within reason and could be justified. So we prayed further, and prepared our request again this year, particularly highlighting our Deaf Reach project, as well as our educational seminar project, which we've dubbed "Eduserve." We felt led to ask for \$20,000 this time, figuring that if we shoot for the stars something was bound to happen.

Well, the application process took 6 months, but we just heard the good news

that our request for the *full amount* was granted and that the check is on the way! We were overjoyed to see the Lord's wonderful supply, and great answers to our prayers.

[Unique approach to visas]

Peter, Indonesia: I was having trouble getting my visa accepted. Each year the same man seems to delight in giving me problems. This time he was telling me that I have too many children and that not all my papers were right.

I explained that I love living in his country and besides, if he were to send me back to my home country, he would have to send me a container full of *sambal* (a local chili). Whereupon he laughed and laughed and said, "Don't worry, your papers will all work out. Go home, go to sleep and have more children!"

[Traveling summer]

David Searcher, Space Camp Home, Japan: Before summer arrived our Home had already put aside enough funds for both families (four adults and 12 kids) to spend for a fun summer vacation, hitting the road with our kids. Part of the time our Home spent

together in a mountain resort area where we were able to witness to lots of vacationers while at the same time we enjoyed swimming in a beautiful mountain lake. The Lord gave us a special shiner prize by letting us enjoy a 30-minute boat ride in another lake for free.

Then both families went on the road visiting other Homes, fellowshipping with many Family members. All together we visited six different Homes. This was one of our goals for this summer vacation, to fellowship and interact with as many Family members as we could. Our kids really enjoyed the fellowship and were able to make many new friends with whom they can keep in touch now and even visit again in the near future.

While enjoying the fellowship we were able to go out witnessing with all our kids together, including the babies and toddlers. The kids enjoyed getting out the Word and as a result we got out 6,024 Endtime posters and 500 tracts. Forty souls were saved!

[Chantaburi flood victims]

Rayong Home, Thailand: Last month a province just two hours south of our Home was hit with severe flooding. Entire sections of the mountains just slid down—dragging

trees, boulders, dirt and undergrowth—leaving a flowing stream and literally wiping out about 200 meters of forest and underbrush! Five people died, and hundreds of people lost their homes and their belongings.

When we asked the Lord about what to do, He told us to write the Homes in the area as well as notify our close friends, and go as soon as possible to distribute water, food and supplies. Several of our friends responded by giving money and goods, and two Homes notified us that they had goods to distribute.

We had an anti-narcotics show near the provincial border, so after the show several of our friends piled into their cars and with a police escort and flashing lights, we were off to the center of the devastated area. Our friends knew right where to go and soon we were out in the middle of the jungle. Several hundred villagers had been notified and were gathered together as we distributed about 1,500 bottles of drinking water, several boxes of clothes, medication and dried noodles, as well as a pickup truck full of fresh fruit and vegetables, and donuts for the kids. We also distributed "Peace" posters and comforted several people with the Lord's message of love!

Thanks to all our precious Family for their prayers and for those who helped with goods! WLY Arcadian and Pattaya Homes! ●

Year End Recap:

BY JASON, MEXICO

Over the last year the Lord has done many exciting things down here, south of the border! This past Christmas the DC Band was able to team up with a number of Family young people already living in Mexico to put on a series of Free Concerts for thousands of Mexico's precious people during the '98 Christmas season. Among the places they performed was Mexico's Congress building in Mexico City.

They also performed for the nationally famous Free Christmas Meal, which has been hosted by the Family media Home in Mexico City for the past five years. This event was covered by all the major newspapers in Mexico, and was also featured on national television. This year's meal was the biggest ever, and fed approximately 7,000 people.

This past year the Mexican and Central American field has been expanding with more Homes opening in new cities, including a new Home having opened in Honduras—the first Home in that country for some time. There is still Nicaragua and El Salvador which are "CM Homeless," but both are very potential places for some sold-out missionaries who feel the Lord calling them to these particular mission fields.

This past year our dear Family in Guatemala (as well as a visiting road team from Louisiana) was very active in Hurricane Relief Witnessing—beginning the day after Hurricane Mitch struck Central America, GBT! They did countless CTP

What's Been Happening in Mexico and Central America!

shows for approximately 30 shelters all over Guatemala and Honduras, including some that were way off the "beaten path" and could only be reached by foot; some of the villages did not even have roads leading to them! Their faithful witnessing efforts after Mitch, one of Central America's biggest natural disasters in history, led to thousands of souls being won! PTL!

We also held our first workshop meetings here in Mexico, which was a bit of a different twist from the Family Camps we had held the year before. Representatives from most of the Homes in Mexico and one from Guatemala attended. These workshop meetings were geared to our Homes' general preparedness for Y2K, and covered both the spiritual aspects of our getting prepared, as well as many practical topics, such as getting our Homes set up computer-wise for the turn of the Millennium, exchanging ideas about how to stock up on survival food and water, etc.

We also hosted a YA/teen camp in Morelia, Mexico, which was attended by more than 100 Family young people. Attendees came from as far south as Costa Rica, and as far north as the Mexico/California border. The theme of this camp was being a sold out, 110% Family missionary for Jesus!

Mexico is a soul-winning paradise as is evident from the worldwide soul stats in the *Grapevine*, so if you're looking for a place where souls practically fall into your lap: *Bienvenidos!*

tip of the Jay

BY ANDRES, CROATIA

HomeARC

Have you ever had your HomeARC bar disappear completely from your screen and you were unable to recover it even by restarting your computer? Here's something I discovered to bring it back.

1. Close your HomeARC, either by right clicking on the HomeARC icon on the Win98 start bar, or clicking ctrl-alt-del, selecting HomeARC, and clicking on end task. In Win 3.1x, restarting Windows should work to close the ARC if it is open. If you don't close the ARC first the changes will be overridden when you close the ARC later.
2. Edit the HomeARC.ini file in Notepad and look for the section [HomeARC Bar]. Then go to the line where it says WindowPosition followed by two numbers, and delete it.
3. Now when you restart your computer, the ARC bar should appear on the top of your screen towards the right.

YOUNG PEOPLE

KING PETER

CASUAL QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSIONS, COMPILED FROM PETER'S VISIT TO SOUTH AMERICA

How does the CRO and VS visitation schedule work? The CROs and VSs mainly live in the big cities where there is more action. That attracts everyone to want to go there rather than to the distant fields and cities, and it's now been a year since we've had any CRO or VS visitation.

This is a problem for the dear VSs and CROs. I understand your side, and it's true, we don't have enough CROs or VSs to make the rounds as often as we or they would like. There are improvements that could be made and we're working on them. We are asking the CROs and VSs to add more members to their teamworks. But let me explain their side to you so that you can understand the whole picture: Let's estimate that there are about 2,000 Family members in your area. There are maybe 225 Homes. There are five CROs in your area. This means that, if divided equally each CRO would need to visit 45 Homes. If they spent just three days in each Home and averaged just one day traveling between Homes and never took a day off, it would take them six months just to visit every Home once. Of course some of your CROs have families and little children, so they can't spend six months at a time on the road.

In actuality, the CROs' job is not to travel or be on the road most of the time. The CROs exist to make sure that the structure part of the Family

operates.—That is the office, the NPC, the LIM, the studios and service ministries. If those things don't function well, you don't have what you need. If your NPC doesn't work well, you don't get your lit. If the office doesn't work well, you don't get your GNs. If the LIM doesn't function well, you don't get outreach tools or GNs in your local language. The CROs' main responsibility is to make sure those ministries are operating smoothly. Beyond that, we do hope they can travel and visit Homes as much as they're able to, and I happen to know that they do as much as time and strength permit. God bless them!

Now the job of the VS is to travel. But as I said above, visitation is time-consuming and it costs money.

If you had more money, you could do more within your local Home, right? People say, "If we had more money we could follow up more, do more CTP, personal witness, soul-winning; instead, we have to spend time raising funds by various means." It's the same thing for the VSs. If WS had more money, we could more fully support the VSs, then they could travel more. Most VSs have a husband or wife, children and family who either have to be in a Home while they travel, or they have to take them with them. That is expensive. That limits them.

We're very sorry about that, because we know that there is a great need and we would like to see the VSs get around and see you more often. But in order for us to do everything that has to be done, we have to

apportion the finances. We could stop some of our publications in order to apportion more finances to the VS program, but we'd have to stop quite a few, and the Lord has said we need to keep the Word as top priority.

The VS job is a hard job. They don't have to travel, and because they don't get around to your Home very often, when they do, people have a lot to talk about. It takes a number of days to hear everyone out. Secondly, they have to leave their family behind. During their visitation, they still have to help to support their family. Plus, it's hard to find people who are willing and qualified to do the job. I wish we had 30 or 40 VSs for South America, whereas we only have seven or eight. We need 30 or 40, but to find people who are willing to do the job is almost impossible. Please pray for these laborers, for the harvest is plenteous but the laborers few. And for the funds to finance their travels. Thank you!

All that to say that I'm sorry that we don't have more visitation. The CROs living in the center of the hubbub does make people look at the Service Homes and think, "That's where it's at—the CROs are there." But the reason the CROs are there is because that is where many of these structure ministries are, usually because it's most efficient and economical to have those types of ministries in large cities rather than in a small mission outpost, and taking care of those ministries is the CROs primary responsibility.

Why don't we publish figures about Family finances?

Good question. We could, but the reason we don't is this: Dad always said that the pocketbook nerve is man's most sensitive nerve. Dad also taught us that no matter what you say when it comes to finances, you're in trouble as some people will go through battles that you have too *much* money and that you're not using it right, etc. Other people go through battles about how there isn't *enough* money and they get worried about it.

We did publish something about finances some time back, when we said that each FTT cost 5,000 Swiss Francs (\$3,000) to get out to the Family. We received a number of letters on the subject, some saying, "Why are you spending 5,000 SF on FTTs, when you could be giving it to my Home and we could be doing so

much more!" Others wrote and said, "If it only costs 5,000 SE, why aren't you sending out more?" So basically, no matter what we say, people will not see eye to eye on finances.

We've continued to follow the policy put in place by Dad of not giving all the details of WS finances. It's important to remember that you give your tithe to the *Lord*. That's something that people forget about tithing. A lot of people feel their tithe is like taxes. "Where is our tax money going?" they want to know. But your tithe is not taxes. The 10% that you give to the Lord is your tithe, and the way it works is that when you give your tithe to the Lord, you *trust* the Lord for the outcome of that tithe. We are responsible for handling the Lord's finances prayerfully and in accordance with His will, and we do our best to do just that.

From your tithes, given to the Lord, WS is able to operate what amounts to a multi-national company! We give missionary gifts out all over the world. We publish many magazines monthly—and we do that in numerous languages. We produce audio and video tapes for distribution, and we're beginning a whole new program for follow-up—*Activated!*

It takes *a lot* of money to do that, and your tithe to the Lord makes that possible. We have done the best we can and have tried to handle and invest your tithes wisely into the Lord's work, as He's led us.

Our "company" has been in business internationally for many years. Whenever there is a stock market crash or whenever there are financial problems, WS does not go in the red. It stays in the black. We've never been in debt. None of the financial crises have hurt us. We also have a FAF which allows every one of you, in the case of an emergency, to receive up to \$8,000 in emergency funds, besides the \$2,000 you have in your Home today. This is all made possible because you've given your tithes faithfully; you've trusted us and we've done our very best to handle the Lord's funds prayerfully.

WS is like your Home, but bigger. There are times when we don't have the money to do the things that we need to do, and we can't just take a Home loan out to tide us over. We set aside money in our "envelopes" for upcoming expenses. We have an "envelope" for the new *Activated!* follow-up ministry, for the *Heaven's*

Library books that we're sending out to you, etc. All of these things costs money, and we have to set money aside for these things, just like you do for your Home's expenses. Now with the *Activated!* ministry we need big money and we're just moving forward by faith! We don't have the money to complete it, but we're trusting the Lord to supply—just like you have to trust the Lord if you want to do a project.

Wouldn't it be easier for the people who are raising funds to just pay 10% instead of 14%?

Yes, it probably would be. Let me explain the way it works. The 10% you give is your tithe. It's required by the Lord and that's the Lord's money. I know some people feel, "What is WS doing with our tithes?" Like I just explained, we're using your tithe to further the work and to provide you with the tools you need to do the job. But please keep in mind that the reason you're giving 10% is not a WS thing; if WS didn't exist or we went out of business or closed down the Family, you should still tithe to the Lord. It's a principle of the Word. And when you tithe, the Lord blesses you.

Then there's the 1% which goes to the FAF. We could knock that 1% out if we closed down the Family Aid Fund program, and in some ways that would be much easier for us too, because WS gives 10% of its income to the FAF. If we didn't have to do that, WS would have substantially more money each month, which believe me, we could really use! It's a sacrifice for WS to give that 10%, just as it's a sacrifice for the Homes to give another 1%.

On the other hand, it's very worth it. When we started the FAF, there were about 235 Homes, and there are now about 835. That means that 600 new Homes opened who got a HER, which is 2,000 dollars, as well as a pioneer gift, which is 1,000 dollars. That's a lot of money, and the FAF made it possible! The FAF also makes it possible for you to get a Home Loan when you need it. We have passed out more Home Loans than we have Homes which means that some have availed themselves of this source of funds more than once. But that's okay because they pay it back. More than 800 Home Loans have been made over the past three or four years. So yes, we could cut the

1%, but all those benefits would have to go as well.

Then you've got the additional 3%. Whether you continue to give that or not is an area decision, made by the voting Homes in your CRO area. You're free to vote it out as an area, but remember what benefits you'll lose in doing so. There are a great many of them, including your VS visitation. I believe most areas put out a pie graph from time to time, telling you how the 3% has been spent.

So the short answer to your question is that yes, for an individual who's trying to raise funds, it'd be nice if they didn't have to pay 14%. But if they didn't, you wouldn't benefit from all the pubs WS puts out, as well as the FAF, HER, pioneer gifts, Home loans, and the other local benefits that your giving brings. Another point to keep in mind is that if you had a System job, you'd pay more than 14% in taxes, and personally I don't think you get nearly as much for your giving as you do in the Family!

I'm wondering why we don't have so many young people in leadership positions. I know that most young people don't want to be shepherds, but others of us want to help or want the responsibility, but we're not going to go to the CROs and ask to be a VS. How can we help to shepherd the younger ones? Everyone wants to help but nobody wants the responsibility.

WS and the CROs agree that we need more VSs; we need more young people in VS capacities. In case you haven't noticed, some of us are getting older, and as you get older it gets more difficult to travel. Not only that, but we need your help to strengthen the Family, and particularly the young people and upcoming young people. But it takes *time* for people to grow into shepherding positions of top leadership. We've instructed the CROs to look out for potential young leaders, and bring them in.

On the other hand, as you acknowledged, getting people to be shepherds these days is really hard. Whether young or old, not many people want to be a VS. Why? Because it's probably the hardest job in the Family. A VS's job is to visit the

Homes, and when the VS comes around, one of two things happen: 1) People aren't so happy to see them because they know their Home has problems and the VS is going to correct them or discipline them. 2) Or people feel like, "Now I can finally pour out all my problems on the VS!"

The VSs get phone calls late at night about somebody's marriage, their children, their tool situation—all sorts of things that need to be taken care of! Poor guys, I feel sorry for them.

We've given the young people in our Home immense responsibility. We can trust them with it because they pray and hear from the Lord; they've learned to take their problems and their questions to the Lord, and to get His answers. We need you to do the same. We need VSs who will do that.

If you have a burden to help shepherd, then write the CROs about it. At the same time, remember that you'll never make a very good VS or even a good Home teamworker unless you can shepherd each other and your younger brothers and

sisters now *without* a title, unless you can uphold the sample and follow the Word and the New Wine—those are the kind of leaders that we need.

People think that to be a leader or a VS in the Family you've got to speak well or be really strong. That's not true! We only want people in leadership positions who depend on the Lord, who pray, who follow the New Wine, who are weak in themselves, and who hear from the Lord about every situation.

You don't have to be anything glorious. You don't have to be beautiful or handsome. You don't have to be a singer, a dancer, a pubs person or a computer expert. All you need is a good connection with the Lord, to be prayerful, love the Lord, and want to obey what He says. That's the kind of people we're looking for. I'm sure many of you are like that, and that makes you eligible.

The Family needs help, folks. The Family needs shepherding. Your CROs and VSs can't shepherd everyone—the job is too big. You know what the problems are. You know about your friend or the other young person in your Home who is getting

way off track; you know the situation better than any of the VSs or CROs. The question is, what are you doing about it? That's where true shepherding has to start. We can have 20 VSs in every country, but it's not going to solve the problem unless *you* take the stand and have the conviction to uphold the standard when your peers are doing things that are out of it. You have to have the guts to say something to them and uphold the standard in spite of what they do, and also to report it if they persist in their bad attitudes and problems. That's not easy to do. But if you can do those things, then you are a candidate for leadership.

Some young people don't want to be in leadership because they think it stigmatizes them. But you young people had better get over that idea pretty soon, because we need you. Young blood allows us to accomplish more. Your input can help revitalize the Family, and enable us to get more done. The Family needs that, but in order to do that, you have to be on board and pull in the direction the Lord has shown in the New Wine. ●

Dear Mama,

Something happened to me two summers ago which reminds me of the sort of love He is trying to lead us towards. I was out swimming with some teens and kids, when suddenly a few huge waves came in and some of the kids lost their footing and got really desperate. We didn't realize that there was a sand bar right behind them, between them and the deeper ocean, and the area we'd been swimming in wasn't really deep at all. Nevertheless, when the waves suddenly came in, we had to grab the kids as they started to go under. It was a desperate moment—one I'll never, ever forget.

The YA I was with was not far from his brother, so he grabbed him, although he almost got pulled under himself doing so. Then another older sister was in arm's reach of one of the girls. I was just a bit from both my son and the son of the other couple in our Home, but with the waves coming strongly like that, I could only grab them safely one at a time. I knew that if I grabbed one and took him in quickly towards the shore and came back for the other, there was a risk. But I felt a strong conviction that Jesus would bless me grabbing their son rather than my own flesh son, as I knew He blesses One Wife so much. So I did just that, and got him and pulled him into knee-deep water and ran back to get my son who was not doing that great, but was fine as soon as I got to him. It was a moment that made an indelible impact on me as I can't help but feel that had I put my own flesh son first, there's a chance the other boy may not have lived.

I just mention that to totally "amen" everything Jesus said throughout the recent Letters. We have so much to learn, but I really want to learn it by God's grace.

—FGA WOMAN, JAPAN ●

Mama jewels on ...

—spelling names correctly and encouragement

Spelling names: (*When asking a staff member to hear from the Lord:*) I need to know how to spell "Kat"—the name of the woman we witnessed to. You know how it is when somebody misspells your name, you feel like, "Well, they don't really know me." It's very important to a person that their name is spelled correctly. I'm so sorry we neglected to get that from her. I'm sure Dad or somebody can find out how she spells it. I suppose it's with a "K" but we've got to be sure. She likes cats so much that she might spell it as "Cat" just to be different.

Prayer of encouragement: (*Mama praying for a staff member:*) Please strengthen and help her. Keep her close to You and help her not to depend on her feelings, because sometimes they're up and sometimes they're down. Help her to know that by faith she is in Your will and she's doing the right thing. She's doing the right job. All she has to do is keep on believing and trusting in spite of how she may be feeling.

That's what You told Peter today, too, to not worry about his feelings of discouragement, but that You are holding him tight. These feelings are deceiving and they weren't any indication of his closeness or lack of closeness to You, but they're just something that he had to ride out the storm on. You promised that You'd bring him out of this slump or this cloud in Your time.

So Lord, if this dear one is feeling bad in any way, help her to trust You and hold on and not let that bother her relationship with You. Help her not to feel condemned or distant from You because of it. Bless her and strengthen her and keep her going for You. Keep her channel strong with You. ●





Movies Rated for Senior Teens and Up

OF LOVE AND SHADOWS (1994)

Antonio Banderas, Jennifer Connelly

Fact-based drama written by Allende's niece. A young upper-class fashion journalist who is engaged to an up-and-coming army officer meets a photographer/psychologist. Together they seek to expose the human rights abuses of the military dictatorship who governed Chile after the 1973 coup. (See "World Currents!—No.91," ML #3220, for the Lord's perspective on Pinochet.)

PLAYING BY HEART (1998)

Gillian Anderson, Sean Connery, Angelina Jolie

Drama/character study following a week in the life of eleven different people, and their respective romantic involvements.

Movies Rated for Junior Teens and Up

CLEOPATRA (1999)

Leonor Varela, Timothy Dalton, Billy Zane

Three-hour mini-series chronicling the life of the celebrated ruler of Egypt, and her involvement with Julius Caesar and Mark Anthony.

RUNAWAY BRIDE (1999)

Julia Roberts, Richard Gere, Joan Cusack

Romantic comedy about a newspaper reporter who travels to a small town to write a story about a woman with a habit of dumping grooms-to-be at the altar.



Of Love and Shadows

(*Dad speaking:*) This is a good movie; I liked it. It has good lessons on love, sacrifice, and many more. They had to sacrifice their own cozy little lives in order to stand up for what they felt in their hearts to be right, and look at how many people were helped through their sacrifices. And that's what the Lord is asking of each one of us daily. Are you fulfilling His commission to give your all for others? Even though this movie won't be to everyone's liking and there are some parts that show the atrocities of war and civil unrest, still, there are good lessons. (*End of message from Jesus.*)

Playing by Heart

(*Dad speaking:*) There are a lot of good lessons in this movie. It really breaks your heart for the loneliness and longings of the people of the world, and it opens your eyes to the way they have to struggle through things without the Lord and without the support that we in the Family have. Yet each of the characters in this film learned something, and if you're watching and praying, you can learn from the mistakes that they make, and maybe you can even take something away from this movie that will help you.

It's quite a funny, sweet movie. It's touching and it's upbeat, and it's got some depth and heart to it. Somebody was thinking—even praying—when they put the screenplay together. So go into it prayerfully and you can come away with some real jewels of lessons of love. Long live communication!—Long live love! (*End of message from Dad.*)

Cleopatra

(*Dad speaking:*) These historical movies are not always an altogether pleasant ride, because a lot of what we can learn from history is to see the futility of man's struggle to make it without God. But it's educational and it's interesting, and there are many things that you can learn from seeing their faults and sins and the way they did things and struggled for vain glory and power and the conquest of the flesh.

I wouldn't say that this is among the most historically accurate movies; there's a lot of

Hollywood fluff in there, but overall it's a fairly good portrayal of a pretty sad time in the world's history, and I think there's a lot that can be learned in viewing it.

So go into it prayerfully and cautiously. See it for what it is, and ask the Lord to help you see these things through His eyes, the way He looks at the world and its rulers. Thank God that one day soon He will come and right all wrongs, and set up His wonderful, righteous Kingdom, with love and fairness and plenty for all! (*End of message from Dad.*)

Runaway Bride

(*Jesus speaking:*) This movie is primarily entertainment. It is a sweet, touching and relaxing movie about the ups and downs of romantic love amongst those who do not know Me. Yet even in this it is possible to draw from it some lessons which you could apply to your own lives—the importance of honesty, communication, learning to be yourself and not to just be led around by what seems to be the good thing to do.

That's why in these Last Days I have called upon each of My children to seek Me earnestly in all decisions, especially ones so important as marriage and spending the rest of your life with someone. That's the way that you can get that peace and assurance that what you are doing is really right and really the best thing that you could be doing. These people did not know Me, and so they had to flounder around on their own. (*End of message from Jesus.*)

Letters to the editor

Re: Boons of the MO site

We are using the MO Web site more and more. It has become a great blessing to the Home. Often our mailings take awhile to get to us, so our young people and kids are able to keep up with the latest via the Web site. The adults benefit too with the *Grapevines*, *ENDs* and *FSMs* which are now all available on the MO site.

Another plus to receiving the pubs this way is that we can use the Word in lots of new ways. With the pubs on the computer we often print out favorite pages and sections. The teens have enjoyed having the color pages of favorite pics and posters and quotes printed out and they look great on the wall (so much better than some System pics that they replaced!) Favorites have been *Blade* covers, *LinkUP* pages and *Zine* covers. We can print out and photocopy the kids' favorite pages of pubs and they are ready made coloring pages, as in PDF files you can make things fit to page which is great for coloring! It's all very exciting and we

love it! We also check the movie ratings, computer tips and extras, the scrawlathon and "now it can be downloaded" and the screensavers!

—HOME IN GUATEMALA

Re: Pleasantly surprised

After reading the missionary letters where Mama talks about giving the YAs in the West a chance to come to the field, the Lord led us to accept into our Home a family from Europe and a teen from the USA. We were preparing ourselves for anything as we'd read so much about different problems the Family in Western countries were facing. We were pleasantly surprised after they all had arrived to find very warm, sweet, encouraging and affectionate, precious brethren, so willing to do anything that needs to be done to be a missionary on the field. They've shown such willingness and desire to become one and even though it may take time to learn to blend into this particular field more, we have the faith that God will help us all to adjust.

—HOME IN ASIA

NOW THAT'S FUNNY

TECHNOBIBLIA

⌚ A woman called the Canon help desk with a problem with her printer. The tech asked her if she was "running it under Windows." The woman responded, "No, my desk is next to the door. But that's a good point. The man sitting in the cubicle next to me is under a window, and his is working fine."

⌚ Overheard in a computer shop:
Customer: "I'd like a mouse mat, please."
Salesperson: "Certainly sir, we've got a large variety."
Customer: "But will they be compatible with my computer?"

⌚ Customer in computer shop: "Can you copy the Internet onto this disk for me?"

⌚ Tech Support: "All right...now double-click on the File Manager icon."

Customer: "That's why I hate this Windows—because of the icons—I'm a Protestant, and I don't believe in icons."

Tech Support: "Well, that's just an industry term sir. I don't believe it was meant to..."

Customer: "I don't care about any 'Industry Terms'. I don't believe in icons."

Tech Support: "Well...why don't you click on the 'little picture' of a filing cabinet...is 'little picture' OK?"

Customer: [click]

⌚ I got a call from a woman who said that her laser printer was having problems: the bottom half of her printed sheets were coming out blurry. It seemed strange that the printer was smearing only the bottom half. I walked her through the basics, then went over and printed out a test sheet. It printed fine.

I asked her to print a sheet, so she sent a job to the printer. As the paper started coming out, she yanked it out and showed it to me.

⌚ I had been doing Tech Support for Hewlett-Packard's DeskJet division for about a month when I had a customer call with a problem I just couldn't solve. She could not print yellow. All the other colors would print fine, which truly baffled me because the only true colors are cyan, magenta, and yellow. For instance, green is a combination of cyan and yellow, but green printed fine. Every color of the rainbow printed fine except for yellow.

I had the customer change ink cartridges. I had the customer delete and reinstall the drivers. Nothing worked. I asked my coworkers for help; they offered no new ideas. After over two hours of troubleshooting, I was about to tell the customer to send the printer in to us for repair when she asked quietly, "Should I try printing on a piece of white paper instead of this yellow paper?"

⌚ A man attempting to set up his new printer called the printer's tech support number, complaining about the error message: "Can't find the printer." On the phone, the man said he even held the printer up in front of the screen, but the computer still couldn't find it.

⌚ And another user was all confused about why the cursor always moved in the opposite direction from the movement of the mouse. She also complained that the buttons were difficult to depress. She was very embarrassed when we asked her to rotate the mouse so the tail pointed away from her.

⌚ A friend was on duty in the main lab on a quiet afternoon. He noticed a young woman sitting in front of one of the workstations with her arms crossed across her chest, staring at the screen. After about 15 minutes he noticed that she was still in the same position, only now she was impatiently tapping her foot.

He asked if she needed help and she replied, "It's about time! I pressed the F1 button over twenty minutes ago!"

Personals

Can someone help us find SGAs **Mexican Crystal (Serenity) and Paul?** Thanks! E-mail: timy@banat.ro. Or mail: CP 1018 OP 12 Timisoara 1900 Romania. **Celeste** (last heard from in Brazil) we miss you! Please write Gideon and Shellena (Meekness).

Fleur (of Joh and Mikela) would like to hear from **Clair** (of Joy) last heard of in Thailand. Please write me at e-mail: mondomig@email.com.

Leilani Knight (Mexican) would like to get in contact with **David W.** (22 or 23, of James and Faith). My e-mail address is: amoroso@olimpico.com.br. Add: Cx Postal 40044 Rio De Janeiro, RJ 20272-970 (Attn. Leilani K.).

Costanza Joy (formerly Italian Peace) is looking to get in touch with **Romanian Levi and Sara**. I lived with you in Costanta in 1995-96. E-mail: jero@simicro.mg. Add: Costanza. B.P. 1762 – Antananarivo, Madagascar.

Paul J. Simon is looking for **Andy and Becky Brown's family**, or any contacts with them! They left Vladivostok (Russia) for Tacoma (US) in January 1999 with all their family. Please e-mail me: pashaup@yahoo.com.

Merryheart (ex-wife of Abel), **David Ho and Crystal** (we lived in Sao Paulo together), **Mercy** who lived in Niteroi (Brazil) before going to Romania, please contact Faithy (Canadian) in Brazil. I would love to hear from you again! E-mail: nithome@uol.com.br.

Looking for **Isaac and Faith Proctor, David and Mary Page, German Simon and Renee** and any persons who would like to reestablish contact with Sarah Kiwi's family who lived with us in England. Please contact Chloe at e-mail: ozabm@ozemail.com.au or Maggie at nzfam@ihug.co.nz.

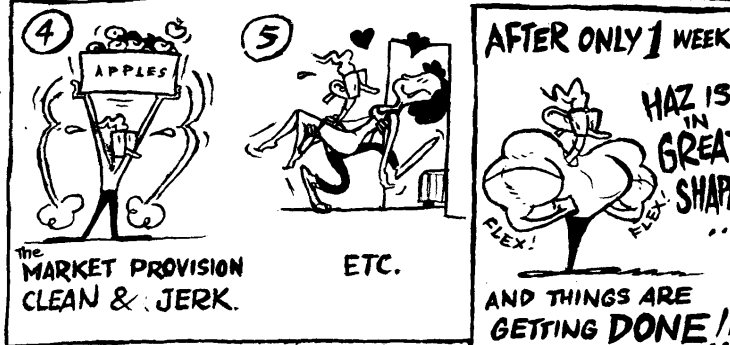
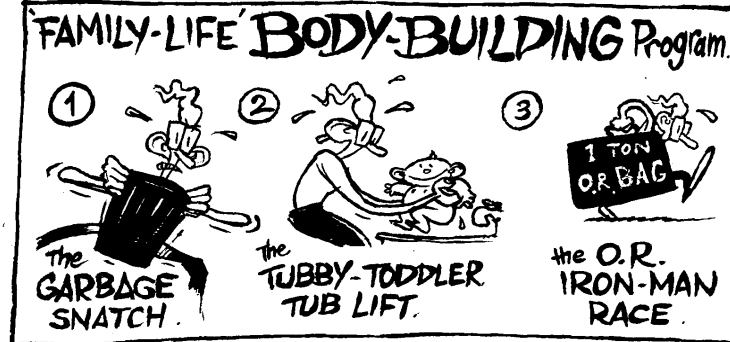
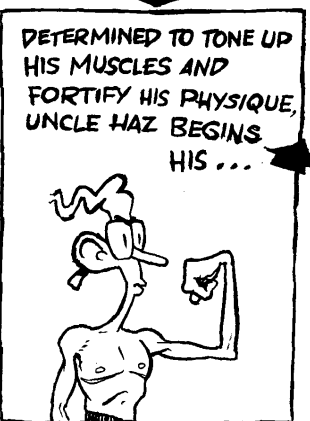
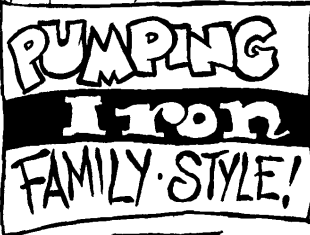
Jessica (Nescau), we lost contact! Please write! Abigail C.P. 101 POA/RS, CEP—90001-970.

Seeking Contact

FROM FORMER MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Alberto (32), from Peru, is looking for his **soul mate**. He has known the Family for a long time, and is presently living and working in Italy. If you're out there and you are looking for a friend, write today! E-mail: AICAZAC@TIN.IT.

The NewdayZ



David Komic - Idea by Tim.

The news and views from Family members published in the *Grapevine* are not intended to reflect WS policy. Suggested reading age for this publication is 14 years and up. Parents or shepherds may read with or allow portions to be read by younger ages, at their discretion.
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