

for already two years prior to this.

71. THEREFORE, I HAD WHAT I THOUGHT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA--BUT FOUND OUT LATER IT WAS A GRAVE MISTAKE IN THE MAKING!--that as long as Richard was teaching David the guitar, that perhaps David could join in on guitar lessons too & they could both at the same time be learning guitar & organ! David's fifth birthday was approaching in March '81, & I suggested to Maria in a note that perhaps we could purchase for David a small guitar for her birthday present & have her included on David's guitar time with Richard. The small guitar I had in mind was even on sale in town & we were quite anxious to push through this idea without having even prayed it through at all, when Maria in the Lord's wisdom replied.

72. "DON'T YOU THINK DAVID NEEDS SOMETHING SPECIAL? The two girls have their dancing lessons & recitals & David has his guitar time. David beginning to play the guitar too may even kill his desire to learn! Just pray about it & let me know what you think!" She also had me read a section from a book that she'd been reading called Raising Siblings, to read through the markings she had made in it, especially the tips on making each child feel special as much as possible--on paying attention to each one's interests, individual needs & gifts, & allowing each child some area where he or she can really enjoy & excel in along with the parents' special encouragement & concern.

73. OH, I WAS CERTAINLY OUT OF TUNE NOW--"OFF KEY" FOR SURE! How hasty I was in not praying about an idea & asking the Lord what was really best for the children, especially what was really best for David's sake! I was thinking rather on how to incorporate all three kids in on the same activity at once, such as having Spanish classes together with staff cook Margie, dancing & movement exercises together with Dora & I, & now guitar together with Richard! David had been included on lots of our "dancing" classes with the girls since we had specifically chosen marching & witnessing skill-songs at that time rather than teaching the actual techniques of dancing. I was so sorry to have missed, or just barely missed, God's mark in this area! Once again, Thank God for Maria! She said also:

74. "THIS IS THE ONE AREA THAT DAVID REALLY EXCELS IN & IT SHOULD BE LIKE HIS 'OWN' AREA. David could be learning sewing on the organ or something else mean-



Learning to make a "joyful noise" unto the Lord! TJJ

while. Of course it's OK to double-up on some projects with all three children, but this is the one area that he's the best at & where everyone looks up to him. If his little sister Davida begins playing the guitar too, then he'll think, "Now even she can do it!" She can do sewing or crocheting or organ or something meanwhile, but David needs that one special area of attention." How very true! And Maria does not need any System book to give her this wisdom, it's definitely from Above & so terribly convicting that in her multitudinous tasks in taking care of Dad, the Words, the mail & God's World-wide Family, she'll even have the time to stop & pray over a situation that I myself should have for David's sake & training in the Lord!

75. DAVID HAS FAR SINCE EXCELLED ON THE GUITAR & SINGING so that as of this date, July '81, after our latest Kiddie Viddy Show, or Home Video dance & song recital that we make for Dad & Maria, Dito's parents



David plays boldly for Dad & Maria! May '81.

are so happy, really thrilled with the good fruits of his labours as we shared with you in the first paragraph of this story! And this isn't the first time! Dad & Maria have genuinely commended him many times over since we've improved our "problem areas" due to Daddy's lessons on singing. They always take the time to come in & purposefully appreciate & encourage David: **76. "HONEY, IT'S SO, SO WONDERFUL HOW WILL YOU CAN SING NOW!** The Lord has really helped you since Daddy's class on music & singing on key in the right pitch & all. You do so well, you can really sing now! What a victory! PTL!" And when Mommy and Daddy heard David sing & play during guitar class one day out in the sunny backyard, they came out to comment. "We're so proud of you! Not even Aaron started that young!" Dad said, "Hey look, 'D' chord for David & 'G' for Grandpa! You can almost spell our names as you play the guitar. Ha!"

77. IN DAVID'S LATEST GUITAR RECITAL ON VIDEO HE PLAYED, "Gospel Gypsy Pirates" & "As For Man, His Days Are But As Grass" & "This Little Light of Mine." Even though the "As For Man"-song is quite difficult to sing for most anyone, David still strived to hit those high notes & was able to sing it fairly well considering its difficulty, PTL! Because he may choose some of these rather difficult songs at times, such as "Gypsy Caravan" which Dad considers a very difficult song to both sing & play, we've tried to suggest he choose an easier song to sing, one that's more within his vocal range, as well as perhaps a song the girls can dance a little routine to for our video shows!

78. WE'LL TRY TO MAKE ANOTHER COMPLETE LIFE-STORY CHAPTER ON DANCING & Lessons



David's first dance recital--4 yrs. old.

we've learned as well as vision for teaching our little girls (& boy!) to dance for Jesus!--Ha! We sound like quite the star performers now that we've gotten the victory due to Dad's talk! Well, we're still learning but we've sure had fun & enjoy sharing everything with you, even the "raw truth"! If we could only share with you Tech's new starrng role--with a feather plume in one hand & lightly veiled in a silky scarf, dancing to "Sex in Heaven!" PTL!

79. IT WAS DAD'S IDEA AWHILE BACK THAT WE TRY & DEVELOP THE GIRLS' GIFTS & INTERESTS WITH FREE DANCING MOVEMENTS & BASIC RHYTHM & STEPS, especially Little Tech, whom Dad had a great desire to see taught some basics in dancing. The girls were also very very eager to be the "pretty dancing girls" to go along with David's guitar playing & songs, so off we went into regular dancing lessons for about 30 minutes a day before lunchtime. The more detailed specifics, tips & helps we've learned in teaching dancing we plan to share with you in another Chapter, D.V.,