



The Grapevine

features

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The Christian may be a very ordinary person, but he acquires a new value and dignity and greatness because he belongs to God.—William Barkley



Dawn, ASCRO: In light of the list given in the recent GN on Y2K and survival prep (GN #829), we are encouraging the Homes to also look into their childcare situation and list the items that could be needed in case of emergency. Being that our field needs to import the CLE from the U.S.A., we've sent out a message to serve as a CLE survey to find out which Homes have a master set of the CLE Light units and Answer Keys. About 90% of the Homes in ASCRO use the CLE. Some are enrolled in the full program and some are not. We're encouraging the Homes to obtain the materials they need so that in the event that they are unable to order more books, they can continue schooling their children.

Sensitive country: Taiwan

PACRO: The PACRO shepherds want to announce that due to some recent changes in the work in Taiwan, and the fact that the Lord has highlighted Taiwan as a "highland" field and a "gateway" to China, in counsel with the Homes, Taiwan has now been classified as a sensitive country. We pray that this time of change, reorganization and strengthening of the work will help us in reaching the precious Chinese, and having a higher standard in order to protect the security of our Family on the mainland.

Clearance requests for Taiwan can be sent to the PACRO office or the following e-mail address: teddy@wonderserve.com. We love you very much!

Australian Media Spreads the Word —“Raids to Take Sect Children Ruled Illegal”

Paul and Joy, Australia: Almost seven years after the raids on the Homes in Sydney and Melbourne, the NSW Supreme Court has ruled that the entry into our Homes and removal of the children in NSW was unlawful. Sixty-two children are suing the NSW state government for compensation over damage they sustained because of the action taken by police and Community Services (DOCS).

In a strongly worded judgment in the liability part of the civil suit, the judge legitimized the children's case for compensation when he ruled that the execution of search warrants was illegal. He ruled, *“In entering the relevant premises, searching for and removing the (children) the (police and DOCS officers) were not acting according to any authority conferred by the warrants... but wrongfully and contrary to law.”*

The judge also quashed the government's defense that the officers had the right to enter the Homes without warrants. He awarded costs to the children's legal team, which is the first payment they have received in six years of litigation.

All sections of the media touted this as a victory for the children and it received nationwide coverage. It was the first time the TV stations were able to show the children's faces and the coverage was very positive, including sympathetic interviews with some of the children.

The next phase of the hearing will deal with other points of liability and then the case for damages will be heard. The judge has set aside time for this around the middle of the year. He indicated to the government that if the other points of liability are proved, aggravated damages may be awarded.

We want to thank you, our precious Family, for your support in prayer, which has helped win this victory. Please continue to uphold our legal team in your prayers as they continue the fight! ●

Prayer Request

Jasper (of Love) and Clara (of Paul), who were visiting Bolivia from the U.S. to further their missionary outreach to Cuba, were involved in a serious car accident on the 18th of April. The taxi that was transporting them was hit head-on by another car, resulting in the death of dear Clara, as well as the taxi driver. Jasper sustained serious multiple head and facial injuries, and is in a coma.

Friends in the States sent an air ambulance to fly Jasper back to the States for treatment. His vital signs have stabilized somewhat, though he is still in very serious condition and remains unconscious. Please pray desperately for a miraculous healing. Please also pray for the Lord's comfort for Paul and his children, and faith and encouragement for Love and family.

Here are excerpts of prophecies received for Jasper and Clara's loved ones:

(Dad speaking:) No matter what surprises or un-wished-for turn of events, difficulties, or casualties, your Lord Jesus is right there with you, comforting, helping, looking past the now and into the eternal.

(Clara speaking, to Paul:) I see things differently up Here. I want to put my arms around you and tell you that I really care about you and our children, and will be doing what I can to be a blessing to not only you, but to many more who are also in need of our Heavenly help. I sure wasn't expecting this—to be taken up so fast and quick—but I know the Lord never does take one thing away from His children without helping them through it and bringing them out better on the other end.

... I appreciate the times that we did have together, and I look forward to seeing you again in the future. You're special to Jesus and to me and to our

kids. Please keep fighting on for me, and for Jesus, and for the kids' sake.

(Jesus speaking, to Love:) I want to reassure you that with every part of My heart I want to do what's best for you and for your dear husband. I will not leave you to be alone and stranded on your own without arms of comfort always with you—My comfort that will sustain you.

Satan is mad at the attempts of My bride to follow Me even more near and closely, and has thought to disrupt My work through this accident. But in My foresight, and through My love and well-able power, I will cause this to be a springboard in not only your lives, and those who know you, but likewise in the lives of many others who hear or are affected in some way by this difficult and painful experience. It will propel you to greater usefulness and bring you joy in the end. *(End of message from Jesus.)* ●

headlines

Netsite

Post-Its

Wanting clearance to Africa?

EURCRO Office: It's so inspiring to see many heeding the Lord's call for you to head to Africa. GBY!

Of late there have been a few instances where a clearance request went astray, or our answer back to the one requesting clearance did not reach them. In general we try to answer a clearance request within the first week that we receive it, either by sending a clearance grant, or if we need a little more time, we'll send a clearance receipt.

If you don't hear back within **two weeks** of sending your request, please send us a CQ, as it's possible that your clearance request didn't reach us, or our response didn't reach you.

In a couple situations, folks have proceeded with plans for their move before hearing back from us, just assuming that we had received their clearance request and were aware of their plans. It's important to be sure that you have heard back from us on your clearance, so if you don't receive a response within 14 days of sending your request, please then send a CQ.

We will do our best to respond as promptly as possible to any requests we receive, and we want to help you all we can as you launch out by faith to Africa. We love you and look forward to hearing from you!

New e-mail address for clearances or information for China

Heidi, China desk: The following address is now only for mail to be forwarded to the China Homes: tyofam@crisscross.com. The following e-mail address is one that you can write to if you have any questions, clearance requests, evaluations, want ads, etc., for going to China: teddy@wonderserve.com.

We pray that this change will be a blessing for you in being able to communicate with us more quickly and directly. If you have something that you would like to send us, please initially send your key and put a little note with your names. We will then send you back the China Desk key in which you can close your message.

Credits gone awry

HomeARC team: The HomeARC group H_Music contains the lyrics and basic text information from the *Ultimate Family Songbook* program. However, some data was inadvertently shuffled when transferring the info from the Songbook to the HomeARC—most notably the authorship credits—so please use the *UFS* to determine a song's authors/composers. Sorry for the inconvenience. The errors will be corrected on the next release of the HomeARC.

Heaven's Library receipts

Heaven's Library team: We'll be discontinuing the *thanking/receipts* list in the *Grapevine* for your spirit story contributions. Instead, when you send in a story, you'll receive a personal note of receipt from the *Heaven's Library* team. So please be sure to include your name and e-mail address or Home number, so we can reply to you personally. And if you've sent in a story and don't hear back from us within a month, please re-send your story, as files do get lost sometimes! Thanks!

ASCRO, March, 1999

This month we got 33,796 visits on the Armageddon site (nearly a million hits) and 5,870 megabytes downloaded. That comes to about 1,090 visits daily. "Countdown to Armageddon" has been featured as a "cool" or "hot" site on different directories or "web highlights" and as a result we're getting tons of e-mail and the Lord's getting the message out.

The *Heart to Heart*/Jeremy Spencer site got 4,318 visits, with 4,215 megabytes downloaded (which includes almost 3,500 videos, mp3's and audio clips).

The Thai site also got 7,413 visits last month.

January, 1999

Croatia: RITV, a local TV station in Rijeka (audience: 300,000) filmed our show and skits for a children's game show. It was broadcast at prime time on January 19, and was a hit!

—STEVEN, ANGELA, MAGGIE, CHRIS AND ANGIE

Hungary: Zenith TV continues to broadcast clips of the *TAs* and *KVs* twice a week, reaching an audience of over one million in Budapest and other parts of Hungary. Zenith TV broadcast parts of our Open House at Christmas, plus an interview with Hungarian Faithy and John about Christmas. They also broadcast the Christmas *TA* and the *TIV* in full.

—JOHN, RUBY, FAITHY AND DOUGLAS

Russia: *Moskovsky Karerist*, a monthly magazine, printed an article about our local work in Moscow.—*John, Jessica and Eliza*

Norilsk TV channel 7 (audience: 60,000) broadcast an interview with Adam and Russian Philip and showed the *Countdown to Armageddon* video. This reached the entire city of Norilsk. The same TV channel also filmed our puppet show at the local orphanage, plus a short interview with Adam, which was broadcast during their evening news.—*Adam, Laura, Christia and Lydia*

Avtoradio (audience: 50,000) broadcast a positive interview during prime time about our center for street children in Perm.

—JERED, PAULINE AND GENTY

Legal and Media

Ukraine: The local Mironavka Area News recap of the year showed parts of the show and interview we did in Pustovity last summer when we distributed clothes to needy people in the area. This reached a total of 50,000 people.

—JOB, RUTH, JAMES AND JOAN

Crimean TV aired parts of our Christmas program in Russian, reaching a total of 150,000 viewers. On January 7th Crimean TV broadcast a clip on our dinner for the poor in Simferopol on their news program and interviewed Mary and Ben. A few days after Christmas our Christmas show was televised on Crimean TV as we did a program for orphanages.

—JONATHAN, MARY, BENJAMIN AND ANGELA

Docutschajevsk, a local TV station with a viewing audience of 50,000, broadcasted an interview they did with us after our Christmas show.

—ABNER, ELISA AND MARY

Portugal: *Jornal de Notícias*, a daily paper with a circulation of 150,000 in the city of Porto, published an article we had written about Christmas.

—BARZ, SARA AND NINA

Norway: *Hamar Dagblad*, a local daily newspaper in the city of Hamar (circulation: 102,000) printed a small article on their back page about our family and missionary work.

—GIDEON AND LAMB

Members only Family Web site

—www.familymembers.com

June UserID: june

June password: pine+apple

THE KOSOVO CRISIS

Oasis Home, Central Bosnia

The situation in Kosovo is rapidly degenerating, and even as we type this, military offensives are driving tens of thousands more refugees into the hills or out of Kosovo altogether and NATO is in the middle of a campaign of air strikes against Yugoslavia! Our Home is not in any immediate danger. However, there is a real threat that if the action in Kosovo escalates dramatically, it could cause serious resentment against foreigners in Bosnia! Already the American embassy here has cautioned its citizens not to travel in Republica Srpska (Bosnian Serb territory).

A team visiting from Spain had a very fruitful stay, and the van full of very costly aid, including needed insulin that they brought was very welcomed by the local community. Helping in such a way has really been a boost to our standing in the area. We were also able to deliver aid packages to the Kosovo camp. Blankets were given to returnees who have been trying to rebuild their houses and lives in the surrounding hills.

One elementary school in another town had been waiting for months for the opportunity to have us come and do our show for them. They did not have an auditorium, and so finally asked the community center if we could perform there. These kids were about the best crowd we have seen! The place was packed, and the participation during the singing, games, and magic was so heart-felt. They all enthusiastically sang "Into My Heart" with us, and on their way out each received and treasured their copy of the "Prince and the Magical Power" tract.

LNF: Since the bombing of Yugoslavia started, the war planes that fly from Italy are constantly passing over our heads, which helps us remember to pray and hear from the Lord, and of course reminds us that the End is here and our days of open witnessing could very well be drawing to a close. Please keep the situation in Kosovo in your prayers, that a peace treaty can be reached.

Enoch, for Sarajevo Home

We have had more contact with the UN international police and it is quite inspiring to see how they come to us for help, particularly with the Mine Awareness programs they are organizing. We did a project in cooperation with them recently where we donated lots of humanitarian aid to poor mountain villages and they were super thankful for that!

We are now starting programs in the schools where some SFOR (NATO force in Bosnia) experts give a demonstration on the dangers of Mines and we do our show, including a skit on Mine Awareness, as it is a very serious problem in this area. These UN police officers have seen how our programs in schools and other institutions have been well received and are eager to work with us as they themselves have difficulties connecting with the local population. TTL for His anointing and the wonderful training we have in the Family!

Our team has been making regular visits to the thousands of Kosovo refugees in different camps. More refugees have arrived recently, making the conditions even more difficult for them. In spite of the tragedy and terrible things these people have gone through, we found so many of them very receptive and appreciative of our time with them.

Some of our closest sheep have had to return to Kosovo and we are quite concerned for their safety, but we know that the Lord will keep them if we remember to pray for them. Since these young men got really turned on by the message and Family spirit, our witness is going right into Kosovo, where people desperately need a ray of hope.

We just found out that one young man who recently got saved and was getting on fire for the Lord got in trouble with some extremists at the camp he was staying at. He got attacked, slightly wounded and had to flee for his life. Please pray that we will be able to stay in touch with him and keep feeding and encouraging him in his new faith. ●



We are a small family of Russian nationals—Paul, Luba and our five-month-old baby. The Lord showed us that by the end of the summer we should move to Turkey with a long-term vision. While working here in Russia for 7.5 years we have personally witnessed to about 20,000 people. If you would like to help us do the Lord's work in Turkey, we would very much appreciate any financial help! Altogether we need around \$2,000. If somebody has a laptop computer with a CD-ROM that you are not using anymore we would very much appreciate it. We would also appreciate any contact with FM and CM Homes in Turkey. You can contact us through the Russian ABM. Please send donations to Paul and Luba (RU 081).

We're Paul, Ruthie and family writing from Russia. We've been here for the last two years with our 9 children and sometimes with some of our teens. We have 13 children in all, TTL. Now we feel the Lord is calling us to China. It's a pretty big move for such a big group, so we want to ask your help to get there and also while there. DV, we're going to open a Home, and the kids will also do a lot of singing. WLY and appreciate so much that we can count on our Family. Please contact us through the Russian ABM. Thanks very much!

I'm Daisy (20, Lithuanian national), on my way to Africa. Being in Lithuania, it isn't very easy to raise funds. If you can help with donations, I'll be so very thankful! Send your gifts through Polish ABM, Home #LU001. Add: PO Box 2712, Vilnius 2009, Lithuania.

BIG FAMILIES ON THE MOVE

LITTLE BLACK ZACK AND FAMILY, ON THEIR WAY TO AFRICA



brotherhood

BANGALORE

Cephas, ASCRO: We have continued to have one-day junior teen and JETT camps here in Bangalore as well as around the country, and this continues to be fruitful. Of late we've been able to include the reading of the Loving Jesus series for junior teens at these camps, to bring this more alive to them in how they can say love words to the Lord and be a bit more intimate in their prayers and in their love for the Lord.

ITALY

Mary Mom, EURCRO: On March 3-6 we held two seminars, which ran side by side. (The Lord provided a very inexpensive mountain resort and we all paid for our stay individually. Everyone attending contributed food as well.) One seminar was a JETT and junior teen mini Bible camp and the other a seminar on shepherding JETTs and junior teens. This was ideal because the adults attending my classes were the parents or guardians of the young people attending.

Gabe Iowa taught the Bible classes to the young people, but all the young people's shepherding was done by their parents, which was great. And while the parents were with me, we were able to study up on shepherding this age group and pow-wow together the needs of these ones.

The reason we had a JETT/junior

In *Free Zine #31*: When Rima joined the Family, she laid her many dreams on the altar, telling the Lord she would just do what He wanted her to do. Looking back, she tells how the Lord let her fulfill every single one in the Family.

teen gathering along with the parenting seminar and required that at least one parent or guardian attend from each Home that was sending JETTs or junior teens is that: (1) it isn't always possible for parents to get away from their Homes without bringing some of their kids with them, so just having a parenting seminar for this age group, and inviting only the parents, is a little tough on the Homes; (2) I wanted to get away from the types of camps we've held in the past where tons of kids come and our staff is not as complete as I would like in order to handle the shepherding.

Having the parents allowed me to have the parenting seminar, and having the kids gave us an opportunity to minister to them, give them some time for fellowship and give the parents attending some special time to tune into this age group without other Home distractions.

I believe the kids were better behaved with the parents and guardians along. I felt this was one of the best combinations we've ever had. The shepherding fell on the parents' shoulders, as they were rooming with the kids, eating with them, having get-out with them and spending personal time too.

I used some of the "Loving Shepherding" class material from ASCRO for three of the classes and other compilations I had made for the remainder of three classes. Our theme for the young people was "That Rusty Old Bible," and Gabe taught these while I was reading with the adults. Gabe's classes were filmed, since I will use them in Spain next month, and while in Spain I will film the classes I have with the parents so we can get them around our area, D.V.

We would all have inspiration and pray together at the beginning of the two class periods. Then the adults would leave to read together. The adults mainly read for five hours a day. We had little discussions here and there, but mostly took this time to get fed and re-envisioned and/or educated on how to handle this challenging age. The Word was so convicting, feeding, heartbreaking and we all went away with something special we wanted to try with our own young people. At the end we all prayed and cried out to the Lord for individual kids on our hearts, both in and out of the Family, praying for one another and asking for His help to be the parents He wants us to be for this special age group.

Class Material For JETTS/Junior Teens

Memory Review and Test: During the first day's rest period the kids reviewed their Memory Books. The following day, at rest period, they took the test. We were inspired that 20 kids passed this test with flying colors. The other kids got average scores. During Gabe's classes, he gave small tests, with prizes to those who could answer his questions with a scripture. This helped the kids to enter in more.

The New Testament—Our Cornerstone Beliefs: This was a fun class. The class is divided into two groups, and the goal is for each team to come up with scriptures to back up all of our basic beliefs. Only Bibles can be used. In one session the class came up with 75 topics! (We had some senior teens on each team for this one.)

The Spiritual/Physical Clothing of a Christian: This is a similar Bible activity with two teams. The idea is to find scriptures (using the Bible and concordances) which talk about our Christian garments, such as

"putting on Christ," etc.

Eyewitnesses: This class was put together by Tiago and is a fun study about people who gave their lives for the Lord because they were "eyewitnesses" to his life and testimony.

Son of Man: Bible study about Jesus and all He did in the flesh as a man, all He was to his disciples, to the multitudes and to us. Showing his life from beginning to resurrection. Feeding class that also keeps the kids involved looking up scriptures.

The Appalachian Trail: A "mountain man" study through the Bible, *Good Thots* and *Daily Mights*. This compares the lives of those who hike the Appalachian Trail to those who climb spiritual mountains.

Destruction of Tyre, Sidon and Jerusalem: A scriptural Endtime study that shows fulfilled prophecy and that the kingdoms of this world will all be destroyed until the conclusion of today's kingdoms.

Class Material For Adults

From ASCRO: Loving Shepherding – Introduction
The Need for Self-Esteem
Listening – A Writer's Plea
Personal Time
A Boy Named Jeep Fenders

From Our Comps: "Raise 'em Right":
Teen Characteristics, pg. 401-405
Common Complaints, pg. 15
Common Problems, pg. 53
Discipline, pg. 55-56, 318-319; 424
Disrespect, pg. 674-675
Examples of Needs, pg. 511
Creativity - Making Home the Best Place to Be, pg. 57
In Conflict With Parent, pg. 468-470
Never Give Up, pg. 319-320
Privacy, pg. 421
Questioning Helps Council, pg. 415-417
Communicating with Family Members, pg. 1-21
The Strong-Willed Adolescent, pg. 258-266

Prophecies from:
"Braving The Winds of Change" (LL 22)
"Loving Shepherding" (LL 22)
"Call to the Rescue" Parts 1 and 2 (LL 24)
"Help Is on the Way" (LL 24)

Dear Mama,

This is a note to tell you how much we appreciate all the new wine. It has sure inspired us all. This is my 30th year in the Family and I wouldn't trade it for anything. I have 17 children, some are scattered all over the world, but we still have 9 with us. The Lord led us to leave the States and go to a foreign field. We arrived about 4 weeks ago in the Philippines, a team of 13 are we; me and my wife, our nine children ages: 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, plus two other teens who came with us. God bless them, they are an extreme blessing to us. It's so inspiring to be on the field again, where the people are so sweet, humble, and hungry for the truth. Miracle after miracle after miracle got us to this new land. We love and appreciate you both.

—COUPLE, PI

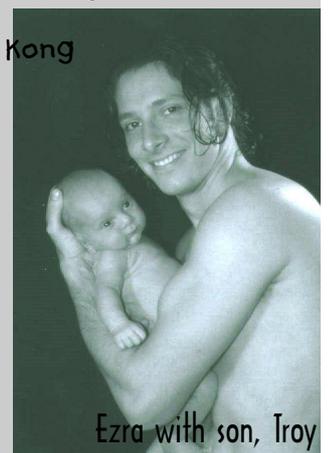
Post-It

Anyone of Indian Origin!

Abel and Marie Claire, India: You can get a five-year multiple entry visa from the Indian Embassy in your country if you can legally prove that one of your parents was of Indian origin or if you have any blood connections. It doesn't matter what passport you hold at present. You just have to give them the impression that you have close links with India through your ancestry and would like to visit regularly. Indians understand that as they usually have very close family ties. ●

Kidbits

Petrina Pearl, 3rd child, born to Paloma and Gideon.—Turkey
Brittany Lauren, 2nd child, born to Vicky and Gabriel on December 19.—United Kingdom
Leilani L. J., born to Polish Meekness and Philip on January 26.—Namibia
Patrick Michael, 6th child, born to Tamar and Gideon on January 26.—Hong Kong
Dylan James, born to Liberty and David on February 1.—United Kingdom
Rory Calvin, 3rd child, born to Sunshine and Happy on February 3.—Japan
Troy Alec, 2nd child, born to Marie Claire and Ezra on February 10.—Japan
Nancine Annali, 7th child, born to Spring and Steve on February 13.—Asia
Valentin Vision, 7th child, born to Maggie Vision on February 15.—Mexico
Caroline Kay, born to Chris and Polish Yanek on February 17.—Poland
Sho, 9th child, born to Mercy and Steven on February 26.—Japan
Cheryl Joy, 2nd child, born to Faithy and Jesse on February 28.—Asia
Luba, born to Maria and Gabe on March 8.—Russia
Lance Kotaro, 8th child, born to Heaven and Marty on March 3.—Japan
Lianna Akari, 9th child, born to Chrys and Andreas on March 12.—Japan
Daryl Tyson, 2nd son, born to Charlene and Ben on March 21.—Russia



Ezra with son, Troy

SCENES Behind

The biggest happening in our neck of the woods is that Peter and team are in South America on a visitation and meeting-holding tour! South America is the last CRO area to host Peter for a visit, and with so many countries to pass through, it's taking about six weeks or so for our team to make the rounds. Accompanying Peter are James, Misty and Rebecca (James and Misty switched at the halfway point of the trip). Please continue to pray for their health, safety and for the fruitfulness of the trip. Full report coming soon! ●

PRAY IN A NEW WAY!

Prayer Ideas:

Spin the bottle: Spin the bottle, and whomever it lands on is the "prayer warrior" for that request.

Darts: If you happen to have a dartboard, attach different prayer requests on it. You get to pray for whichever request your dart hits.

Pin the prayer on the world: Someone is blindfolded and spun around in front of a big map of the world. (Or could stand blindfolded in front of a spinning globe.) They then point to a country or area of the world, without seeing what it is, and everyone in the room begins popcorning word or phrase prayers from the latest worldwide Prayer List, or for recent events that affect the Family in that part of the world. The one who is blindfolded then guesses what part of the world it was that they were praying for.

Claiming songs: After each prayer, instead of claiming a verse, you claim a Memory Book song, and sing it together to remind the Lord of His promises.

Praise Ideas:

Mental telepathy: Kind of like, guess what I'm thinking of in my head and praising the Lord for (letting everyone know it has something to do with nature or whatever general topic it relates to). You go around the room and guess various things until someone gets it.

One breath: Someone compiles a list of one-word praises beforehand, and a couple of volunteers try to read as many of them as they can in one breath.

Guess what?: Everybody gets a piece of paper with something to praise the Lord for, and you praise the Lord without actually saying the word.

Sleeper: Everyone silently sits around in a circle and each receives a card. One (or two, depending on how large your group is) of the cards is designated as the "sleeping" card. If you get this, you're the "sleeper." The sleeper discreetly winks at people, and whoever gets winked at has to praise the Lord for something before they go to "sleep" (meaning that they're out of the game). If someone else sees the "sleeper" wink, they can "suspect" him aloud. If the one that suspects is wrong, he has to praise and then go to sleep. If he is right, then the "sleeper" gets to praise and you begin a new game with a new "sleeper." Or, if you have more than one "sleeper" you can continue the game until they're all identified. ●

Witnessing! I joined the Family with my wife, Katrina, and one child in 1972 and have been having a great time witnessing ever since. We have spent most of our last 27 years in the Family on the mission field. We started off in Mexico, then the Philippines, Japan and finally Europe, before coming back to the States a few years ago. We have nine children and now four grandchildren. What a life! It has been wonderful living by faith most all of that time and taking part in each of the witnessing directions that the Lord has led us into.

Over the past few years I have prayed about, anguished over and experimented with numerous alternative ways to raise funds to support our family in our efforts to serve the Lord. I have had varying degrees of success from my different attempts, but I have finally come to realize that there is no "business" like the one that the Lord has already landed squarely in our laps. Getting out the tools!—The videos, tapes, CDs and now books.

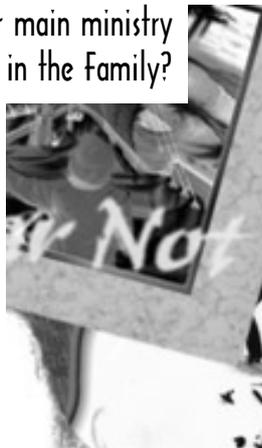
I've tried working at a secular job, starting my own business, chasing "residual income" through multi-level marketing, and have ultimately realized that the best "business" we can operate is that of getting out the tools. It is tailor-made for us missionaries, because besides providing income through the donations we receive for our wonderfully feeding and inspiring tools, it also has the built-in advantage of keeping us witnessing and getting out the message.

When I engaged in secular business ventures, I was mindful to always be a "witness" and compelled myself to witness wherever I went. But when you are operating the "Family business" through the tools, you are always automatically witnessing without restrictions and you are always in contact with hungry souls to reach.

Exactly! In reality, aside from the spiritual goals that we hope to reach through it, distribution of our tools is a small business operation. We are getting an inventory at a wholesale price and getting them out for donations that include enough profit to replenish our stock of tools and keep us fed and clothed. What's so strange about that? It is really not much different than a person that sells paint, or computers, or automobiles to support his or her family.

That we have a very worthy product, one that we believe in, that preaches the good news, His gospel of love; one that will make a difference in other peoples' lives.

What has your main ministry been in the Family?



In your many years of experience, what have you found to be the best method of raising support?



You call it a "Family business," but we're really just talking about regular tool distribution here, right?



Then what's the difference between selling our tools and selling anything else?

If it's as successful as you make it sound, what is it that makes getting out the tools so difficult for some of our Family members?

Interesting question. Why is it that some would rather get a job selling T-shirts, working in construction, or being a secretary? I think one of the reasons is that it is easy to feel comfortable and secure with a "steady" income that you can

count on each week—X-number of hours put in, in exchange for a regular amount of money, as opposed to not knowing for sure when and how much will come in through donations for the tools from your witnessing efforts. But of course in doing this we are trading our freedom for this "security."

It takes faith to live off of the donations of your product from day to day, not knowing how it will go that day, or if you will get out many tools. But as any salesman, or anyone who works off of commissions, or operates their own business, will tell you, it is always "by faith." You just can't know what the outcome of the day will be. Every day is different. But these same salesmen will also tell you that the "sky is the limit" as far as how much you can make. It depends on you. (And in our case it depends on prayer and the Lord as well.)

Any tips you can give to Family tool distributors to boost their confidence in their product and their ability to get them out?

Some of us still have the mentality that we have inferior products, or that we are "begging" as we offer our products for a "donation" or "gift." I think it is time we change that attitude, and take a good close look at our product as compared to other products out there. We also need to change the way we view the job that we are doing. Although it is true that we do receive gifts or donations for our products, we are delivering a very good quality product to our donors, and it would do us well to offer our product with pride and self-respect.

I recently targeted all the private pre-schools and kindergartens in my area, offering the videos in sets. I first approached them with a phone call as the sole distributor and representative for my product and made an appointment to demonstrate our videos. Before going on the appointments I prepared myself with business cards and order forms for the *Kiddie Viddies*, *Treasure Attics* and *Fantastic Friends*, listing each video by name and suggested donation (nearly \$30 each). I would show up with a video cued to one of the songs that I liked, and generally would be escorted into a room prepared ahead of time by the school staff, with a VCR set up, and teachers and principals in attendance.

After introducing myself, I would give a brief talk about the goals and purposes of our videos, and the need for better quality children's materials, and then I would play the cued video selection. Afterwards I would sit down informally with the decision-makers of the school and take

their orders. Eighty percent of the schools that I visited placed an order for at least one set (six videos), and some bought as many as three or four sets.

The schools and teachers had a tremendous respect for our products because we offered them with integrity. As far as comparing our products to others, many thought ours were superior to the many others that they had seen. I'm talking about the USA here, and these teachers see a lot of the products, which are supposed to be the cream of the crop! As we increase our respect for our products, so will they.

Very much so. In some situations I find it difficult to get out the tools by myself as an adult, but we have trained our children to do the tool distribution with us by their side. We've helped them prepare a photo album of their witnessing and CTP activities and taught them to briefly explain that their donations for our tools goes to support our CTP work. This keeps our kids busy for the Lord and participating in our "Family business."

I think the thing that discourages most of us from relying on tool distribution is that we must cope with *rejection*. It truly takes humility and we must be willing to put up with the "no's" that we get when approaching people with the tools. Most salesmen will tell you that it takes approaching at least ten people before making a sale. But because they know this before they start, they are conditioned to it and the rejection just rolls off. They don't let it get under their skin or take it personally.

There is a saying in the sales world. "S-W-S-W-S-W-N," which stands for "Some Will, Some Won't, So What! ...Next." Ha!

Let's face it. We're all "salesmen," whether it be selling the tools, selling people on salvation, selling people on sponsoring our CTP, or provisioning. So if we will look at our tool distribution as our own



Do you feel that looking at yourself as a real "business" helps you in other ways besides increasing your self-respect?

Another benefit is that it makes us appear more legitimate with the System. It is something that others can understand, when we tell them that we are distributors of

children's educational material as a means to support our missionary work and our CTPs. It may also make you more eligible for loans to buy a better car or piece of equipment, or to rent a house, etc.

Another thing I do (and you will have to research this in your own country), is that I record all the donations that I receive from tool distribution, just like any other business. Then, when I fill out my taxes, I can deduct all my expenses such as cost of supplies (seed), fuel, auto maintenance, some of my rent (home business), etc. So the fact that I have children along with these deductions, I can receive a tax *refund* instead of *paying* taxes, and it's totally legal. You could even divide the income from the tool donations among several families in your Home.

Have you involved your children much in tool distribution?

LONG-TIME FAMILY WITNESSER AND FUND-RAISER

What's the worst part about tool distribution?



Any closing words?

I think one reason we may shy away from tool distribution is a spiritual one: simply that the Devil fights it! In the 27 years that I have been going witnessing in the Family, I can't remember even one time that I was going out that the Devil didn't try to discourage me from it. There are all kinds of excuses and outright lies that he throws at us to discourage us from going. This is true whether we are going personal witnessing or getting out the tools. If we are able to overcome that from the start and get out there, we are usually successful. If you witness, you always win! ●

\$ENDING \$PECIAL GIFT\$

(Editor's note: If you want the special gifts you send and receive to reach your recipients faster, please follow the instructions below, given by one of our Family finance men.)

Our veteran missionaries usually know the ins and outs of financial survival on the field, usage of bank accounts, etc. But a large portion of the Family could do with some help in these areas. It's hard to get accurate and complete banking info from many of our Homes for passing on special gifts. In fact, most of them send their urgent financial pleas to us without ever thinking of letting us know *how* they would like us to transfer the funds, resulting in us having to send several CQs, etc. This is a cause of much frustration both for the Homes and our office.

Banking information should be complete, bearing in mind that it most likely is going to be an international transfer going through several countries. As an example, the way the CLE banking info was given in the *Grapevine* a few months ago is a good example of information that is too skimpy. It may be okay for transfers *within* the US, but for any international transfers it leaves the field wide open for misunderstandings.

We need both the **account number, name of account holder, bank** as well as the **address of the bank** and if possible the so called "**SWIFT code.**" That's not Summer Witnessing Inspired Family Teams, but an international transfer code (Service Wire International Financial Transfer). Some of our Homes are a bit lost in all this and need help. Being more diligent and accurate, not only in financial matters, but also in sending addresses and making sure their e-mail address is correct would be helpful. If everyone could please try to be a bit more diligent in this area, it would eliminate a lot of frustration and friction and plain misunderstandings that sometimes come about between the giver, the recipient and the offices. Thanks to all who send the gifts as they are greatly appreciated and needed by our faithful and sacrificial missionaries! We just want to do all we can to help get your donations to them as fast and safely as possible. God bless you! ●

T A R A H U M A R A S



TARAHUMARAS

Cave dwellers

of the

twentieth

century

By Carlos A.

Hurtling through space and large enough for me to notice it was a white speck of light—a satellite?—The Hubble telescope taking pictures of some far off galaxy? The cold night air broke my gaze from the starry sky as I pulled my sleeping bag in tighter. Fifteen of us were sleeping on the side of the Bufa canyon. A Tarahumara family slept peacefully five yards away. These are the inhabitants of the Sierra Madre, a tribe of Indians that came to these mountains in the 1500's to escape the Spanish Conquistadors. Since then man has walked on the moon, invented computers that operate at one trillion calculations per second, taken great leaps into cyberspace—but for the Tarahumaras, time has stayed the same. They grow their corn the same way, wash their clothes in the river, and their dwelling can be a wooden cabin or a cave...

In early 1999, we were back in the Tarahumara mountains with a group of 35 volunteers willing to endure the sub-zero weather and dangerous mountainous trails in order to deliver our payload of blankets, beans, cornmeal and rice—all vital survival supplies for the Tarahumaras at this time of year. Three of the most needy Indian communities were visited.

January 15: Five of us left Mexico City this week for Chihuahua. We were looking forward to another exciting CTP adventure high on the Sierra Madre range. Sr. Samora, our friend from the moving company, helped us with one of his five-ton trucks to take our supplies of beans and rice for the Tarahumaras. We were not planning on going to the Sierra Madre until later in the year, as we'd just completed a major charitable event in Mexico City. However, an e-mail from Chicago changed our plans, as we found that our donors there had sent us a shipment of blankets which were waiting for us in

Texas. Just thinking of the many Indian children who would perish this winter because of the cold was all the incentive we needed to set out on the nearly 2,000 mile drive to Chihuahua, where we would rendezvous with other Family members coming in from Texas, and Ado and his teens from California.

January 25: We met with Epenettos at the Walmart parking lot in El Paso to get the blankets he had brought.

February 1: Ado and his teens arrived from California and joined up with part of our team in Chihuahua and headed to Creel to meet with the rest of us. From there we caravanned with four vehicles to our first Tarahumara target near San Juanito, 20 kilometers outside of Creel.

February 2: In San Juanito the governor's wife, Mrs. Martha, had been expecting us and had ready some quaint wooden cabins for all 35 of us. She and the governor were enthusiastic about helping us in whatever way necessary. The next day she and her assistants drove us four hours into some of the most remote mountain areas, where Tarahumaras are desperately in need of food supplies and where some children had frozen.

As soon as we stopped the vehicles, Ella and Ado's teens organized a bagging team for the beans and cornmeal, and others spread out blankets to start our on-the-spot distribution operation. The trickle of just a few dozen Indians soon transformed into hundreds, and we worried for a moment as they kept coming, more quickly than we had expected. Quietly and in orderly fashion the Indians formed lines according to the instructions from one of the government coordinators who had come to help us. The quiet of the valley was broken with a buzz of activity as our teams hurriedly passed out blankets and food to the more than 400 Tarahumaras who had arrived. Looks of humility and gratefulness were on many of the faces in front of us, but did not hide the features of hunger, pain and

easy reading

Does God still speak to us?

A young man had been to Wednesday night Bible study. The pastor had shared about listening to God and obeying the Lord's voice. The young man couldn't help but wonder, "Does God still speak to people?"

After the service he went out with some friends for coffee and pie and they discussed the message. Several different ones talked about how God had led them in different ways. It was about ten o'clock when the young man started driving home. Sitting in his car, he began to pray, "God, if You still speak to people, speak to me. I will listen. I will do my best to obey."

As he drove down the main street of his town, he had the strangest thought—stop and buy a gallon of milk. He shook his head and said out loud, "God is that You?" He didn't get a reply and started on toward home. But again, the thought—buy a gallon of milk. The young man thought about Samuel and how he didn't recognize the voice of God, and how little Samuel ran to Eli.

"Okay, God, in case that is You, I will buy the milk." It didn't seem like too hard a test of obedience. He could always use the milk. He stopped and purchased the gallon of milk and started off toward home. As he passed Seventh Street, he

again felt the urge, "Turn down that street." *This is crazy*, he thought and drove on past the intersection.

Again, he felt that he should turn down Seventh Street. At the next intersection, he turned back and headed down Seventh. Half jokingly, he said out loud, "Okay, God, I will." He drove several blocks, when suddenly, he felt like he should stop. He pulled over to the curb and looked around. He was in a semi-commercial area of town. It wasn't the best, but it wasn't the worst of neighborhoods either. The businesses were closed and most of the houses looked dark like the people were already in bed.

Again, he sensed something: "Go and give the milk to the people in the house across the street." The young man looked at the house. It was dark and it looked like the people were either gone or they were already asleep. He started to open the door and then sat back in the car seat.

"Lord, this is insane. Those people are asleep and if I wake them up, they are going to be mad and I will look stupid." But again, he felt like he should go and give the milk.

Finally, he opened the door, "Okay God, if this is You, I will go to the door and I will give them the milk. If you want me to look like a crazy person, okay. I want to be obedient. I guess that will count for something. But if they don't answer right away, I am out of there."

He walked across the street and rang the bell. He could hear some noise inside.

A man's voice yelled out, "Who is it? What do you want?" Then the door opened before the young man could get away. The man was standing there in his jeans and T-shirt. He looked like he had just gotten out of bed. He had a strange look on his face and he didn't seem too happy to have some stranger standing on his doorstep.

"What is it?"

The young man thrust out the gallon of milk, "Here, I brought this for you."

The man took the milk and rushed down a hallway, speaking loudly in Spanish. Then from down the hall came a woman carrying the milk toward the kitchen. The man was following her holding a baby. The baby was crying. The man had tears streaming down his face. The man began speaking and half-crying, "We were just praying. We had some big bills this month and we ran out of money. We didn't have any milk for our baby. I was just praying and asking God to show me how to get some milk."

His wife in the kitchen yelled out, "I asked him to send an angel with some.... Are you an angel?"

The young man reached into his wallet and pulled out all the money he had on him and put it in the man's hand. He turned and walked back toward his car and the tears were streaming down his face. He knew that God still answers prayers!

—AUTHOR UNKNOWN

suffering in what seemed like *the valley of hunger*: When all the provisions were given, we invited all to pray with us. We were relieved that although we'd given out almost all of our food supplies, there had been something for all that came. But we still had another Indian village to visit.

February 5th: Cusararé is a small village surrounded by mountains on all sides. Hundreds of years of strong winds and rain have carved unique rock formations that seem to defy gravity, and a variety of caves offer shelter for Indians and animals.

Chemo and Margarita, a Tarahumara couple, live here with their two children in a small log cabin that they built, and through our visits we've become close friends. After some warm handshakes and hugs we all sat around their potbelly stove and sipped some coffee as we talked about the corn crops and the cold weather they were having. We pulled out some blankets and shoes as gifts for them and sadly explained that we did not have enough food supplies or blankets to give to the village folks, as we had the year before.

In a moment of quiet around the stove we sent up a prayer for help—help with more supplies, or something...the need here is so great. Ella then got a brainstorm: "Why don't we make a one-pot-meal with the chicken that Epenottos brought?—But would there be enough for the 100 Indians of Cusarare?" Go for it!

Moving out by faith, the girls started peeling the crates of potatoes and carrots we'd been lugging around. Chemo and Sara drove into Creel to buy ten kilos of tortillas, and the men went off to look for a pot big enough to serve over a hundred people and came back with a barrel. That evening the village Indians strolled over to Chemo's cabin at our invitation, and each was served their bowl of chicken soup and tortillas. We were amazed at the *miracle of the chicken and the tortillas*, as there was not only

enough for the inhabitants of Cusarare but from the remains the children at the village school were also fed!

February 8: A Buick, a Ford van and two motorhomes formed our caravan going into the Bufa Canyon. After three hours we hit dirt roads which went from bad to worse as they narrowed into winding paths in and around the Bufa Canyon. Five hours into the canyon our engines started overheating and the brakes started giving out on one of the motor homes. To lighten the load some of us took to walking. After three hours of walking and looking for Kimo's mountain cabin, we wondered if we were lost.

Kimo, a tall, lanky American, has been living—almost hermit style—up on the side of the Bufa Canyon for twelve years. Meeting him after so long up in the wilderness was almost like a "Dr. Kimo, I presume?" situation. With little or no help, Kimo has been assisting the area Tarahumaras with food and medication. His affection for these Indians endangered his life when he exposed some of the foreign enterprises, who in the name of Tarahumara Aid took advantage of the area's natural resources. These companies left behind only broken promises of retribution to the rightful owners, the Tarahumaras.

Late in the evening we found Kimo and that night we camped out with the Tarahumaras on the side of the mountain with our sleeping bags, as there were too many of us for Kimo's small quarters. In the morning, Ramon, an old Indian friend, sent a message to the nearby dwellings and soon we had a large group of Tarahumaras coming to pick up the remaining blankets and food that we'd brought. Kimo was very happy that we'd come back as we'd promised. He was serious when he said that his mountain home would always be our home up there in the Bufa, and that if he ever decided to leave, he would give it to us.

PHOTO CAPTIONS (L – R):

top:
Ben & Maria with Indian family; Chemo & Margarita & daughter.

Ella working out distribution details with Ben.

Flor, Ado & teens distributing supplies in valley of Las Margaritas.

bottom:
Ella preparing a one-pot meal for Indians at Cusarare village.

Line of Tarahumaras waiting for their bag of food at Las Margaritas

happenings

[Tract power]

Sally Scribe, WS: Here's a beautiful note I received from my son's mother-in-law (my son is not in the Family). She's a Christian and super sweet, and we communicate by e-mail. I sent her a *To You With Love* tract at Christmas time, and here is her reply.

"Thank you very much for the letter from Jesus to me. You sent that at a time of need in my life. I was having problems with my boyfriend and kids all at the same time and I felt so unwanted and unloved. I got that letter from you and it just seemed to make everything so much better after reading it, just knowing that Jesus no matter what still loves me, and that letter just reinforced it into my heart!!! Tears filled my eyes as I was reading it because all I could think of was you, yes you! I wanted to give you a big hug for sending it to me. You helped me get through this problem by sending it to me. Thanks again!"

[Average businessman's plight]

Michael and Joanna, Russia: Businessmen in Russia are experiencing tremendous trauma as they reluctantly go through the motions to try to make ends meet. One such person is Sergei, who though not a believer in the Bible, has been actively supporting us for three years. He runs a photo studio and deals with electronic items.

After the economic crisis hit here, his business has been going downhill so bad that he had to borrow money to offer us tea and cookies. Since he has no savings in hard currency he doesn't know where everything is leading to, as he cannot even afford employees, and customers are fading extremely fast. From day to day he lives by selling off his studio equipment. And even with that, he has difficulty in finding other businessmen who can buy the equipment because business is going so bad in most cities that everyone fears for what the future holds. On top of it all, his new wife, who is half his age, doesn't want him anymore.

Through all this he is getting desperate and has started to acknowledge the Lord. Thank you for your prayers for these dear people who are passing through such difficult times here in Russia—for His blessings on their lives and that the Lord helps us to continue to feed and strengthen them spiritually.

[7th FESPIC Games]

Kristia, for Garden Home, Thailand: Recently over 2,300 athletes from 36 countries came to Bangkok for the regional "Olympics" for the disabled

called the FESPIC Games. They competed in 15 events including track and field, swimming, basketball and other sports that the able-bodied pride themselves in.

It was heart wrenching yet inspiring to see these determined, spirited athletes overcome all odds in their disabilities to prove themselves capable of meeting these physical challenges. The games featured track and field events with paraplegic/quadruplegic athletes running with metal supports as legs; swimming featured the blind, as well as some who were missing both of their arms or both of their legs or one of each. It was incredible to see these ones, young and old, display such perseverance to do their best and finish the course. Many times, the largest applause came at the end, showered on the last contender who made it long after the winner hit the finish line.

It was an eye-opener for our children to see such exemplary sportsmanship and goodwill between competitors. For example, in wheelchair basketball where there were a few run-ins and tumbles, it was neat to see how players immediately apologized, helped each other up and showed courtesy and respect to their opponents.

It was an honor for us to represent the Lord and His Family at these games as His witnesses—witnessing to and encouraging the handicapped athletes for four of the six days of the games. We started off by taking the 10 kids in our Home (ages 7-14) to watch several events, which quickly gave them a burden and a vision for witnessing to these athletes. Then, we went to work.

It was truly an opportunity for us to 'go

into all the world' to preach the Gospel, as there were folks there from exotic destinations such as Samoa, Mongolia, China, Cambodia, New Caledonia, Myanmar, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Nepal, Brunei, Laos ... wow! A witnessing haven! On the final day of our witnessing, for our Family Day all the parents and their children, including the little pre-schoolers, set out to FESPIC. We met and talked with many athletes, giving out the message as well as words of hope and encouragement. The children especially went for the gold as they were inspired and more enthusiastic than we have ever seen them in their witnessing. In the final tally, we won a total of 65 souls and gave out more than 100 posters and tracts.

[¥ 100,000]

Robin, Japan: In our little Home, none of us are great fund-raisers per se, but each time we'd hear from Jesus, He'd lead us to trust Him, do all we could each day, and He told us to not get stuck in a regular job to bring in income.

Well, one afternoon, just after they'd heard that I might be leaving to another home, Dorcas was a bit concerned about our finances when she got a phone call out of the blue from a lady who Paul had ministered to with Lydia (of Johane) about a year ago. The lady said she was in need of counsel and when she considered who she really trusts with her heart, she could only think of us. Well, Dorcas ministered to her and talked to her for a while. At the end of the call, the lady casually said, "Actually, I have a hundred thousand yen I've been wondering what I should do with. Could you use



SNAPSHOTS FROM FESPIC GAMES '99

left: Thai athlete signs 'Victory' after winning the 100m on his artificial limbs.
right: Even without the full use of his arms and part of his legs, this Thai athlete swims the butterfly and wins the gold in this event for the physically disabled.

below: Witnessing to one of the many foreign handicapped athletes at the Games. Everyone we met was sweet, willing to take a tract and sometimes take the time to talk with us and the kids.

above: The Singapore basketball team, even though they lost their games, they won a place in the Kingdom of Heaven after we witnessed and prayed with all of them.

"Something is Hot" in Russia. Check out the latest Zine (#31) to find out what!
[Sneak preview: A two-week adventure filled with miracles!]

it in your work?" Ha! Dorcas just flipped out! So the lady sent it right away—almost a thousand dollars from the sky! Isn't Jesus just great?!

[The NUTS forsook it]

Pauline, Russia: One of the fruits of the Feast: THE NUTS FORSOOK SYSTEM MUSIC! The Lord told us in prophecy on February 17th that He wanted us to, and so we did. That was a toughie, but hey, we aren't gonna be left behind when the great battle starts, or find ourselves hiding behind other people's backs 'cause our weapons are dull and our feet are weak. He also spoke a lot about us being more loving and praying more, and told us lots of cool things about our spirit helper warriors. We were dumbfounded! Now right after our praise time we have love time—three times a day—when we all hug and kiss and say sweet, loving words to each other. It really works!

[Puppet sets on their way]

Steven, Claire, Gerson and Keiko, Russia: We started receiving donations towards our Puppet project (making free puppet shows for the Homes in Russia) from our wonderful Family, GBT! After we received the first funds for it, we went ahead and started making puppet theatres for all the Homes that have requested them, which was more than those funds covered. But the Lord promised us that He will bless our efforts, and now He is fulfilling His promises. TYJ!

[Not coincidence]

James and Joanie, Sri Lanka: We usually try to do our shopping in the evenings when it is cooler. We make it part of our get-out walk to the beach and then take a detour to the store. That way we can leave the mornings free for outreach and follow-up. But one particular day the Lord had other plans, and for some reason when we prayed about it James felt that he should go to the store in the morning and then leave the evening free for just get-out. But, we couldn't even go out for a walk in the evening as it suddenly started raining quite heavily.

The way we saw it was that the Lord had arranged for us to do our shopping in the morning because He knew that it would rain in the evening. But NO, it was more than that, we found out later when watching the news. There had been a bomb-blast right near the area where we shop and at around the same time that we would have been out there had it not been raining! Apparently, a suicide

bomber had flung herself onto the car of a police intelligence officer, sadly killing four people, injuring about a dozen others and damaging eight vehicles. Boy, were we praising the Lord for His protection of us!

[Band for the Balkans!]

Oasis Home, Central Bosnia: The Hungarian Studio (EAST) band came to help us minister God's message in song to hundreds of youth in Bosnia! To have a live international band in Bosnia is a rare occurrence, and the audiences were very receptive and enthusiastic! We have been working with a few NGOs whose goal is to unite the different ethnic groups and channel the youth into positive activities and away from alcohol and drugs. Our Family CDs are also very popular in many radio stations here, especially songs like "When will the wars be ended?" We have a friend in one radio station, which reaches Belgrade, and she faithfully broadcasts the message of peace and love found in our songs!

[Heaven 4 hearts, shoes 4 feet!]

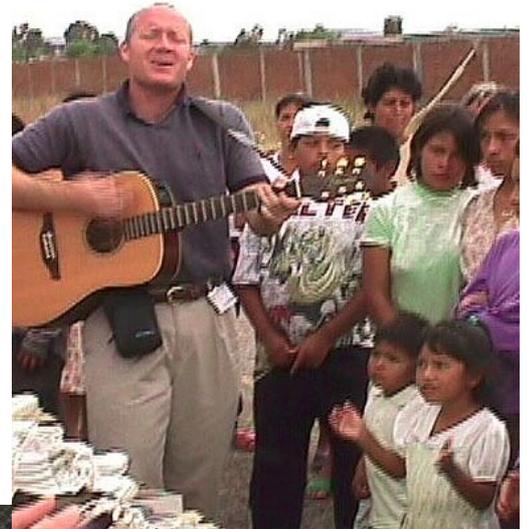
Jason, for the Mexico Southreach Home: After reading the recent "Mama's Memos" section subtitled "Be A Sample and A Sermon!" (GN #830) where Mama shares the importance of not pulling our punches in asking people if they would like to receive the Lord, we got together as a Home and asked the Lord if He had any counsel for us along these lines.

As always, when you take time to hear from the Lord, He speaks! Among other things He told us to put up a "soul chart" and take a day to go out witnessing specifically aiming for souls. So we did! And through it the Lord led us to a very sweet man who owns a sport shoes store called "Teni Mundo." After seeing and hearing about what we do, he said, "You know, I give discounts to customers who leave their used shoes when they buy a new pair, and I set them aside to give away. Thankfully some people have given away really nice pairs." He proceeded to

show us a closet full to the ceiling with good pairs of shoes, as well as several big boxes of clothes that he had set aside.

At the time our van was in the shop getting fixed (a regular occurrence here in Mexico) so a few days later the man called us asking if he could deliver them to our house himself, GBH! We didn't realize how many shoes he was talking about, but as he unloaded his car and went back to his store two more times, we began to get the picture. We're talkin' SHOES!!! It inspired us to see the Lord open the door for a potential exciting CTP opportunity through us going out witnessing solely for the purpose of winning souls.

The happy ending of this story is that today we loaded up all the shoes and headed for one of the poorest communities just outside of our city, called *Solidaridad*. Not only were we able to distribute all the shoes and clothes to precious needy people, but before giving them away we were able to pray with them and give them the very best gift ever—Heaven!●



entertainment



Movies Rated for Senior Teens and Up

KISSING A FOOL (1998)

David Schwimmer, Mili Avital, Jason Lee
Romantic comedy about a man who asks his best friend to try to seduce his fiancée, in order to test her loyalty to him.

Movies Rated for Junior Teens and Up

BLAST FROM THE PAST (1999)

Brendan Fraser, Alicia Silverstone
Romantic comedy. A young man, who was born and grew up in a sealed nuclear bomb shelter, comes up to the outside world for the first time, to try and find a wife. Caution: Homosexual character in a supporting role.

OFFICE SPACE (1999)

Ron Livingston, Gary Cole, Jennifer Aniston
Comedy-satire about a stressed-out computer programmer who is fed up with his job, his boss and his work place.

Movies Rated for YCs and Up

HANS BRINKER (1969)

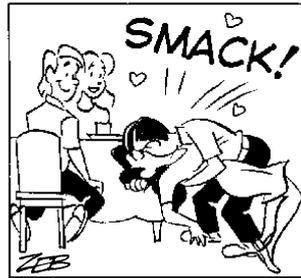
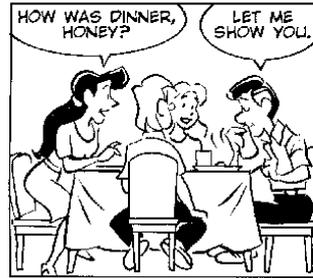
Robin Askwith, Richard Baseheart
Musical adaptation of the classic story. An Amsterdam teenager devoted to ice skating hopes to find help for his injured father, and dreams of winning the New Year's Eve ice-skating competition. For young or sensitive viewers, you may want to fast-forward the scene where the upset father tries to push the mother into the fireplace.



Kissing a Fool

(Jesus speaking:) This is a fun and enjoyable movie to watch. It has many good lessons. There are some System attitudes and ways of looking at relationships that are not of Me, but overall it has a good message and it will remind My Family of the true blessings and riches that you have in having found true love. In the System some do not even know what this is. Like the handsome sports announcer who has everything in the eyes of the System: a good job, popularity, good looks, lots of girls, but it becomes obvious what he doesn't have, and that is true love, or even an understanding of true love, for he is so full of pride and his own success that he is incapable of even finding it. Real love comes from humility, which is so difficult for people like this to have, for their whole life is filled with just the opposite. They

PECULIAR PEOPLE



are so proud of themselves and their accomplishments, which are really nothing in My eyes, for they are not the things of true importance.

As I have told you over and over again, love is the most important thing, and those that seek to give love to others are the ones who will find true love and happiness. In giving of My love and even sharing your loved ones with one another, you receive My blessing, and greater love. You can give and love in faith, and not have to fear, as those in the world do, that in giving or sharing or opening your lives you will lose. For they do not know Me, nor the freedom that My Spirit can bring, nor My godly principle that you never lose by giving.

Pray that you can eschew the evil, but at the same time drink in the good. It can also be used as a springboard for good discussion on how to find real love, and also how to be a real lover—by giving unselfishly and sincerely. (End of message from Jesus.)

Blast from the Past

(Dad speaking:) This gives a sweet portrayal of a sheltered young man who brings a touch of sweetness to the life of a somewhat cynical and hardened young woman. It's such a shame how movie producers these days love to throw their little pieces of garbage into what could otherwise have been a really great movie. You've just got to learn to choose the good and eschew the evil.

There's always going to be some little problem, some subtle, perverting influence, some bad example or thing that you want to be on guard against. That's why it's so important that you bathe your kids—and yourselves—in the Word and in prayer before and after you take your time with the tube. There are so many things that are not according to God's Word, and it can be the slightest little attitude or way of looking at things, but which goes contrary to the truth, and that makes it a lie. So be on guard, and don't take it lightly! It's a lesson that you need to apply to all the movies you watch, to give yourself a good lathering up in prayer first, and then rinse down again afterwards, to clean off any of the gunk that might've stuck to you from the show.

The portrayal of the sodomite is not very overt, and while it would be important to clarify this for the teens when they watch it, reminding them that this is not a normal, ac-

ceptable lifestyle but something diametrically opposed to God's Word, I don't think it would cause such a problem that you shouldn't list the movie. It's got a good message. Just be prayed up, and I say that for this movie and for all movies.—Or the boogey man will get you if you don't watch out! (End of message from Dad.)

Office Space

(Dad speaking:) Ha! What a riot! There's no one like the System to poke fun at the System! I guess they really know the ins and outs and all the things they hate about their way of life! This is a great portrayal of the reality of the green-door System. Let's tell it like it is! This is a good movie for our young people to see. They've seen the other side, all these glamorous job movies, how great the System workplace is—now let's have a bit of the other side. And I'll tell you, this other side is a lot more truthful, the real unvarnished stuff.

Oh sure, there's dramatic license, and it's been exaggerated to make it funny. But anyone who's ever worked at a job like this will tell you that's pretty much just how it is. Every day, get up for the grind, and it just goes on and on. Thank God for our Family! Thank God that we don't have to be slaves to the System, that we have jobs that we love and thank God that we can burn free and fill the world with His light.

It's a shame that the movie stops just short of the best answer of all—Jesus. Wouldn't that have made a terrific ending? To not only see what's wrong, but what's right as well? There are people like this out there, folks, and you're the ones who need to reach them. That person you're walking by on the street might be just at the right moment, just desperate enough that he will do anything to know the truth. Be there to give it to them, and turn their lives from a green-door hell into a beautiful, Heavenly Heaven. Amen? Keep on keeping on! (End of message from Dad.)

Hans Brinker

(Jesus speaking:) This is a sweet, old-fashioned movie. It doesn't have much of a message, but it's got a sweet, positive spirit. It would be fine for the children to watch. (End of message from Jesus.) ●



Q: I was just wondering if the Ultra Zone is an official Family site or not, as there seems to be a lot of controversy on the subject.—*Anonymous*

A: Ultra Zone is not an official Family site, nor is WS involved in any way. We don't know what's on it or anything about it, except that a number of people have written in complaining about some of the negative postings on that site, which we're sorry to hear about.

Q: Could you please publish an updated guideline on how to fill in the witnessing stats, i.e. what counts as a personal witness, a mass witness, etc. Also how many pages does each kind of pub count as? Actually, we'd like to suggest that you drop the pages stats altogether, as it seems to be pretty meaningless.—*Home in Japan*

A: Please refer to LNF 276 and LNF 258, which answer the above questions.

Q: Has Eman Artist recovered from his stroke?

A: Yes, TTL! Eman is pretty much recovered and is beginning to do artwork again. However, he still doesn't have the full use of his right hand, so please continue to keep his complete recovery in your prayers. If you'd like to drop him a get well note or a word of thanks for his recent artwork (*Christmas to Remember, Trudge and Zippy*, etc.) please send it to us and we'll pass it on.

JAS

John Listen, Japan

I was wondering why there hadn't been any *Grapevine* news from JAS for a while, when I realized, "Well, of course! Andrew V., our faithful reporter, has been *gone* for a couple months!" Yes, A.V.'s off to Europe on important biz and perhaps some of you will catch sight of him there. Look for the guy with a laptop under one arm and a keyboard under the other. Come back soon, Andy!

Before his departure, Andrew mastered 7 projects: *Famine for Love*, *Oasis of Love*, *Be So Happy*, *Sweet Dreams Tonight*, *Fear Not*, *I Like to Dance* and *Heartbeat* (FTT#15). The release of these tapes was already mentioned in King Peter's "Year-end Review of 1998," but I'd like to share some audio insight on some of these:

Famine for Love has got some of our best GP musical meaty material to date. (Also, the opening song, "Famine," was re-instrumented and re-mixed to polish it up for GP.)

Fear Not—that good old tape—got four replacement songs, such as "My Strength Is Made Perfect" (produced by Jerry) and "I Have Loved Thee" (produced by Martin), are also inspiring. "Peace I Leave With You" got a melody change. And old-faithful "Psalm 121" was beautifully resung by Joan and crew in Peru. The whole tape was remastered from scratch, improving its quality.

Lion, Dragon, and the Beast was also completely remastered, and I think you'll find it noticeably punchier than the former version. (Plus going techno for the "Marriage Supper"!)

And one more plug—for *Be So Happy* and *Sweet Dreams Tonight* (children's compilation tapes). We dug out the original mixes of every song, running them through state-of-the-art digital Noise-Reduction and other processing, just like they do to those oldie-goldie hits in the movies. Those kids' songs never had it so good—clear, quiet and "in-your-face."—Even though some venerable numbers were originally sung in Greece, over 15 years ago! [*"Hey that's older than FTT #3—really old! You mean they had tape recorders way back before the FTT tapes?" "Yes, son, as I recall, they did."*]

I updated words and chords on songbooks for these tapes, as well as proofed chords for the

Wings of Prayer and *Wild Wind* songbooks (newly classified GP). Cheers for our unsung FGA layout team of Simon and Sharon, who work long hours to polish up and prepare all the CD and cassette songbooks for printing.

Then Christmas came! Well, we couldn't have possibly been as busy as most of you, but we did manage to be involved in many Christmas shows here. Martin and Keiko, along with being some of our main "show-people," produced a whole tape of local-language devotional songs.

Also around Christmas, we "lost" one of our long-time Jassociate members, as Sylvia and hubby Mike moved to Australia to have their baby (and my first grandchild!). And from there it's "Goodbye Ma, Goodbye Pa"—look for those brave pioneers in a far-flung field!

Speaking of people moving on, if the Family rumor-mill has been efficiently grinding away, you're probably aware that our famous blob has shrunk to a blobette and will soon be just a blip. Yes, we're downsizing at last! [*"Mommy, why is the dining room so quiet?" (Mother begins weeping.) "Mommy, did I say something wrong?" "No, dear...it's just that it's the first time I've ever been able to hear your voice at the dinner table."*]

It's been sad to see some of our pillars and loved ones go. But no one's had much time for self-pity. The remaining IVM video editors have been working shifts to finish up their projects. Cesco and Andrew joined Philly for a couple weeks to help finish off songs for the first series of *26 Treasure Addicts...er, uh...Attics*.

Since they don't toot their own horn, I'll mention that the WS Audio team has been writing and recording fun new songs to replace some that needed to be changed on the *Great Adventures* tapes. *Heaven's Magic* progress: The Lord showed us all to work very closely and unitedly on this project. We're auditioning the songs at every stage of creation to ensure the best results. We hope that the songs on this "album" will have that nice common musical thread, or "band" sound.

In view of that, it was nice to have Mike Drummer's input before his departure to China. Due to shortness of time, we originally planned to capture Mike on only three songs. But after working hard to get a good drum sound (some of you know what a technical feat that is!), the quality was so nice that all the guys wanted to get Mike on more songs. In the space of a few days, Mike ended up

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learning and performing eight very intricate, solid, artful, driving, expressive and professional drum tracks. We slipped a couple FTT numbers in the recording line-up while we were at it. (Thanks again, Mike!)

As soon as all the studios' contributions arrive, we'll be putting together FTT #16! Thanks for your prayers!

focus

From a reception Home—real life scenarios

Here are a few tips that could make things flow smoother, as it seems that some in the Family have a way sometimes of wearing out a good welcome.

Most of the time when we serviced incoming personnel we were only a six-man team, with one being four years old and one crippled who had a hard time going up and down steps. We were trying to do outreach, and the other couple living with us were trying to school their children. Mind you we're not complaining, and it's funny when we look back on these experiences, but it might help if the Family could realize how things fall on others when there is no advance notice of their arrivals, or when they don't consider that we also have a Home to run. Some days everything would come to a halt in order to service others. But, hey, it was fun too! Most folks were real precious as well and we enjoyed the fellowship.

When coming to our Home it's helped greatly for us if we are given advance notice. At times we've been put under stress to take people in because of their demands and then we'd have this belittling feeling of not being loving enough, when in reality we were doing the best we could under the circumstances.

A.) We've gotten phone calls which go something like this:

FAMILY MEMBER: "We're coming to your Home on Friday at about 2:00 A.M. Could you pick us up? We're only an 8-man team, I think it's Air India, see you then. Sorry, we gotta go...."

US: "Hello? Wait! It's Thursday at midnight! Could you call back so we can pray about it?"

FAMILY MEMBER: "No, actually we can't, sorry. See you then." Clunk! Phone goes down.

US: "Honey, a few e-mails just came, looks like about three teams want to stay here all at the same time. Let's pray."

"I wanted to get back to that couple, but the visitors are on the computer!"

"All the outgoing messages that our visitors sent were not coded, oops!"

"Honey, I wasn't able to go to sleep till late last night. The visitors didn't leave our office/bedroom until after one AM."

B.) People often stay longer than they actually anticipated.

US: "Oh, we were wondering what your plans are? You've been here a week longer than you originally mentioned."

FAMILY MEMBER: "I'm not sure. Don't worry, it'll be okay! By the way I'll be gone all day tomorrow, just save dinner for me!"

* People coming often have business to do so they are gone most of the day, thus the work falls on the Home team, which includes the cooking, the laundry, and JJTs because the visitors have to get out early which is understandable. You don't mind helping, if they show they're thankful.

* Some do pitch in and help but most are too busy and have come to do their business and be gone. Appreciation is accepted!

* Or what happens sometimes is, a team will leave a person back in the Home that needs the most shepherding, taking the more well-behaved ones out and leaving the Home with the "rascal" who wreaks havoc on the home front, as well as not doing much to contribute.

C.) Picking people up from the airport in the middle of the night, with many flights delayed till early morning.

Visiting Family Homes



Inspired by Mama's Memos #8 (GN #832: "Poor Manners when Visiting other Family Homes")

US: "Honey, I'm not sure if I can get up at 6:30 in the morning to go downtown for follow-up tomorrow because I didn't get home from the airport until 5:30 A.M. Oh, I feel kind of sick!"

"Don't worry, Honey, the team coming in tomorrow night will be in at 1:30 A.M. sharp!"

Scenario #2

US: "Honey, could you go get a taxi for these folks to go, and call the airport to make sure the flight is leaving on time. Also, could you get some money changed so they can pay the rickshaw, and help them with their luggage, etc. etc.?"

THEM: "Bye, we love you! Sorry we're fresh out of change! We'll give you something another time, see ya!"

D.) The "vacation mode" syndrome.

THEM: "Can we watch a video tonight?"

US: "I think it's okay, we realize you've been traveling. You must feel like just relaxing. Sure!"

Next team arrives same week: "Oh, can we watch a video?"

Next team arrives: "Can we watch a video?"

US: "Honey, I think the Home watched a total of seven videos this week! Ha!"

E.) Hygiene of the Home

US: "We just wondered if you could keep your room tidy? That would be a big blessing to us."

US: 2nd day (sweet tone) ... "Oh, I noticed you weren't able to get to your room. Do you think you could keep it tidy? Thanks so much!"

US: 3rd day (slightly stretched tone) ... "You probably forgot but the room still looks messy, could you clean it up?"

THEM: (shrug of shoulders) "Sure, I'll try!"

US: "Honey, the visitors just left. Could you help me clean the room? Oh look! There are all the dishes that have been missing. Oh, how many cups does that make that we've found? The food sure is caked on! Honey, could you do the laundry? It's only 10 sheets. Thanks, love you!"

Scenario #2

US: "Here, you guys can stay in this room. It has an adjoining shower just for you. Enjoy yourself!"

THEM: "Thanks!"

US: (A few days later after visitors leave) "Yikes, Honey, it looks like someone could go swimming on this floor!"

"Oh and look, I think they forgot to flush...."

"Is that our hand towel that they used to wipe up the floor?"

HUMOROUS AND SOMEWHAT EXAGGERATED

Is Your Home Keeping Family Visitors Happy? —Use This Visitor Questionnaire Form And Find Out!

S. (FGA man), North America:

F.) Dress Code

US (To the visitor:) "Honey, I think if you wear that outfit out of the house you're looking for trouble. It's cute and all, but a bit too sexy for this situation."

THEM: (Rolling of the eyes) "Yeah, sure." (An hour later) "I have to wear this because it's the only thing I have!"

US: "Here, Sweetheart, you can wear this nice jean shirt over your sexy top!"

THEM: "Forget it, I don't want to go out! Yuk! This field is so restrictive, I feel the Family needs to lighten up!"

G.) Phone Bill

US: "Honey, I don't remember making these calls all over the country. Do you know what happened?"

"I think the team that left forgot to pay the bill ... oh well, we'll have to cover it!"

These are real things that have happened on a day-to-day basis as we've served the Family. If folks coming realize that we're not on vacation, but have to carry the responsibility of taking care of the visitors and keep up with our Home, maybe they'd be a bit more helpful instead of having a familiar attitude of expecting more than we can give gracefully. We don't mind giving, though, as we love each Family member. Thanks for listening! ●

A happy story

Sara and Home, Czechoslovakia:

Recently we had two separate visits from single sisters. One needed some urgent dental work done and the other had problems with her computer set-up, needing our help in fixing it.

We are very happy to say that both girls helped out in the Home whenever they could, taking care of our baby, washing laundry, going out witnessing with us and also helping financially. Our Home at present is in great need of personnel and we aren't doing so hot financially either, so we believe the Lord sent us these sweet sisters, not only to help them but also to encourage and help us. Sweet Jana and Marie, you are always welcome to come back!

Not long ago while sitting in a waiting room I picked up a book by Art Buchwald, the famous columnist and humorist. The book was an assortment of some of his columns and one in particular caught my eye. Mr. Buchwald explained that many parents aren't sure if their sons and daughters really enjoy their Christmas and Spring vacations when they come home from college. So borrowing an idea from the large hotel chains he wrote up a questionnaire so that parents could find out if their children had a good time over the holidays.

Interesting idea, I thought, and then it struck me—maybe a questionnaire like this could work well for the Family. With so many Family members traveling, especially since the Charter, sometimes Homes might not get a chance to determine if their visitors are happy campers. So here is a list of questions designed to help you find out. Feel free to photocopy, edit, add, subtract or make any adjustments necessary to fit the needs of your Home.

1. Was the receptionist alert and cheery when she received your early morning call letting her know that you were at the airport? Was she sufficiently sympathetic when you explained that "someone from our Home was supposed to call," and was she reassuring when you added, "but I guess they didn't"?

2. After being informed of your arrival by the receptionist, was the scheduler able to juggle the schedule and personnel to quickly dispatch a vehicle, driver and partner to the airport?

3. Airport trips aside, were your other transportation needs met while visiting our Home? Were the Home's schedulers able to rearrange the Home's business in order to provide you with transportation to meet your business, shopping, and fellowship commitments? Was this done in a timely manner?

4. Did you find the food satisfactory? Was the cook accommodating on the days you needed to fix your breakfast while he/she was preparing lunch? Were there plenty of snacks on hand?

5. Did you get enough sleep while in the Home? Were arrangements made to move devotions out of the living room on the mornings you decided to sleep in? Was the vacuuming and cleaning of the living room postponed to a more opportune time? Was a responsible person assigned to fold your sheets and blankets and move them and your mattress and personal items to a safe designated area?

6. Did you have abundant uninterrupted time on the telephone? Were you able to contact everyone on your list of people you wanted to phone? Did you have enough fellowship time on the phone? Were incoming calls handled to your satisfaction?

7. Did you have easy and frequent access to the Home's computers? Were you able to send and receive e-mail at will? Were the computers stocked with enough interesting and challenging computer games and did you have enough time to enjoy them fully?

8. If you needed to get a driver's license while visiting the Home, did the teamwork and all concerned parties readily grasp the gravity of this important mission? Did they realize the enormous setback that would result, not only to your Home but to the entire field, if not the worldwide work, should you return without a driver's license? Was every effort made to visit each and every office for the needed paperwork, and were vehicles, driving teachers, and practice time made available? If time was running short due to an unchangeable return airline ticket, did the Home readily jump into red alert, or even scarlet fever mode, to insure the success of this vital mission? Were Mama and Peter kept well informed throughout the mission with particular attention paid to the slightest possible setback?

9. Was there any mention of you possibly contributing a monetary gift to defray some of the extra expenses incurred by the Home during your stay? If so, was this question asked with the utmost delicacy? Was the business teamworker, or whoever asked you this question, quick to grasp the explanation of your economically challenged situation and did he or she have the good taste not to mention the movies, excursions, and side trips you enjoyed while visiting the Home?

10. Would you consider staying with us on future visits?

Shine On March '99

TEAMWORK

SOUL SHINERS FOR MARCH '99

	Per Adult	Total
Samuel, Rosita, Mexico	3,514	7,027
Ben, Tirzah, Diamond, Linda, So. Africa	2,892	20,250
Josue, Maria, Mexico	618	3,091
Madras Deaf Home, India	507	1,520
Emanuel, Joy, Tamar, Venezuela	425	1,700
James, Liberty, Joseph, Italy	166	1,000
Timothy, Rejoice, Dove, USA	157	1,569
Fco, Mariana, Colombia	150	300
Paulo, Luz, Benji, Shelley, Brazil	140	560
Elimelech, Esteban, Maria Clara, Venezuela	135	405

POSTER SHINERS FOR MARCH '99

Peter S., Crystal S., Mary M., USA	2,534	10,134
Dust, Heidi Peacemaker, Italy	1,601	6,405
Adino, Abraham, Joana, Brazil	1,350	4,050
John, Angeles, Portugal	1,340	2,680
Michael, Maria, Japan	1,298	3,895
Abner, Japan	1,270	1,270
Francis Mountain, Joanna Rose, USA	1,088	8,706
Elizabeth, Norway	1,000	2,000
Promise, Japan	930	930
Delhi Deaf Home, India	897	5,382

TAPE SHINERS FOR MARCH '99

David, Madalena, Andrew, Paula, Brazil	107.2	429
Dave, Jenny, Czech Republic	107.1	750
Francisco, Flor, Mexico	74	148
Juan, Rosa, Spain	73	146
Andrew, Crystal, Angela, Maureen, Jul, USA	71	354
Tim, Claire, Stefan, Joy, Switzerland	70	280
Josue, Abigail, Caleb, Heidi, Costa Rica	70	352
J.B., Abby, Mexico	65	130
Rufus, Dulce, Ivanna, USA	65	195
Lalo, Ruth, Sweetie, Mexico	63	377

VIDEO SHINERS FOR MARCH '99

Martin, Marie, Holland	114	229
Maria Fiel, Mexico	84	335
Joseph, Rosa, Chile	75	150
Ben, Meekness, Botswana	50	100
Daniella, Steven, USA	50	100
Estrella, Juan, Lily, Colombia	49	249
Andrew, Mercy, Aaron, Italy	40	400
Miguel, Samuele, Paloma, Ester, Brazil	36	147
Primavera, Mateo, Chile	31	219
David, Esperanza, Santiago, Peru	28	114

Personals

Johnny (Canada), thanks for your gifts. We would like to hear from you. Don't have your address.—Ufa Home

Meekness (of Asher and Joan) is looking for **Gabriel** (of Samson and Christine), last met in Poland. Contact me soon at: denise1@usa.net.

Mark Willing (Gary R.) could you please get in touch with Esther Praise in Bangalore, India? I worked with you in Hyderabad. Add: Family Services, Clockwork Business Centre, Vasavi Complex, 17, St. Mark's Road, Bangalore 560001, India. E-mail: access@giasbga.vsnl.net.in>

Lena (of Crystal and Joel), we lived together in India for years. Cathy is desperate to get back in contact with you, last heard you were in Germany. E-mail: <access@giasbga.vsnl.net.in>

Mike (of Crystal and Joel) in Germany would like to get in touch with **Matt or Kerri** in Mexico. E-mail: RUSH189@aol.com.

This is Clara (Windy), I used to live with you (**Charity and Chris**) in Japan. I'm in Australia. Last

time I heard from you was right before I left to Russia. I lost your address and I'm not sure if you're still in Australia. I'm in Bali, Indonesia. E-mail: balih@denpasar.wasantara.net.id.

Bianca needs to contact **Angie of (Issac and Ruth)**. Last heard from you in Europe. Also could **Stephan and Jessica**, last heard of in Madagascar, and **Michael and Lydia** in Mauritius please contact me at e-mail: bihere@yahoo.com or add: PO Box 33, Ubonrachathani, 34000, Thailand

Jonathan and Lily Fighter, USA (from GV #60 article, "A committed prisoner"), please contact Lily in New Zealand ASAP at: lily_dsouza@hotmail.com.

David H. and Crystal please contact **Dauida** (of Joshua and Faithy) in Brazil! And **Joanna** (of Apollos, Brazil) would like to contact **Jonathan** (of Felipe and Julieta). She lived with you in Vitoria. Add: CX. Postal 100 446 CEP. 24001-970 Niteri R.J. E-mail: nithome@uol.com.br.

Christina Braveheart, where are you? Please

contact **Daniel and Vera** (together in Novgorod). There is a message for you. e-mail: pvalour@dndk.dp.ua.

Sammy (Norwegian) and **Maria** (English) would like to get in touch with **Australian Peter and Kate**, and **Peter Nicklicky**, old friends!

This is French **Meekness**, looking for **Melissa**, the daughter of Abner and French Lily. Lived with you in India, and met later in Belgium. Please write to this e-mail soon: denise1@usa.net.

Dear **Francis** (of Willing and Crystal), please write to **Vicky!** Contact me via China Desk. E-mail: tyofam@crisscross.com.

Chris (of Gentleness) please contact **Stephanie**. E-mail: bild@crTelco.com.

Kristina and Yan want to contact **Bowy and Reina**. E-mail: rodinake@napri.sk.

Jessica Peruvian, **Joanna Australian** is desperately looking for you! Contact me through **PACRO ABM**. Also looking for my sisters, **April, Amber and Serena**, somewhere in India?

NOW THAT'S FUNNY!

Jake is struggling through an airport terminal with two huge and obviously heavy suitcases when a stranger walks up to him and asks: "Have you got the time?"

Jake sighs, puts down the suitcases and glances at his wrist. "It's a quarter to six," he says.

"Hey, that's a pretty fancy watch!" exclaims the stranger.

Jake brightens a little. "Yeah, it's not bad. Check this out..." and he shows him a time zone display not just for every time zone in the world, but for the 86 largest metropolises. He hits a few buttons and from somewhere on the watch a voice says: "The time is eleven till six" in a very West Texas accent. A few

more buttons and the same voice says something in Japanese.

Jake continues, "I've put in regional accents for each city. The display is unbelievably high quality and the voice is simply astounding."

The stranger is struck dumb with admiration. "That's not all..." says Jake. He pushes a few more buttons and a tiny but very high-resolution map of New York City appears on the display. "The flashing dot shows our location by satellite positioning," explains Jake. "View recede ten," Jake says, and the display changes to show eastern New York State.

"I want to buy this watch!" says the stranger.

"Oh, no, it's not ready for sale yet; I'm still working out the bugs," says the inventor. "But look at this," and he proceeds to demonstrate: "The watch is also a very creditable little FM radio receiver with a digital tuner, a sonar device that can measure distances up to 125 meters, a pager with thermal paper printout and, most impressive of all, the capacity for voice recordings of up to 300 standard-size books, though I only have 32 of my favorites in there so far," says Jake.

"I've got to have this watch!" says the stranger. "No, you don't understand; it's not ready."

"I'll give you \$1,000 for it!"

"Oh, no, I've already spent more than ..."

"I'll give you \$5,000 for it!"

"But it's just not ..."

"I'll give you \$15,000 for it!" And the stranger pulls out a checkbook.

Jake stops to think. He's only put about \$8,500 into materials and development, with \$15,000 he can make another one and have it ready for merchandising in only six months. The stranger frantically finishes writing the check and waves it in front of him.

"Here it is, ready to hand to you right here and now. \$15,000."

Jake abruptly makes a decision. "OK," he says, and peels off the watch and hands it to the stranger. They make the

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.

The news and views from Family members published in the *Grapevine* are not intended to reflect WS policy.

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exchange and the stranger starts happily away.

"Hey, wait a minute," calls Jake after the stranger, who turns around warily. Jake points to the two huge, heavy suitcases he had been trying to wrestle through the terminal. "Don't forget your batteries."