

1. "WOULD YOU LIKE TO HEAR THE STORY of my early days and life in the house of the King? Oh, I was a real big surprise to everyone--a whole new thing in Mommy and Daddy's house! They had been used to living alone in small hotel rooms and being totally self-sufficient, until I came!

2. "THEY HAD NEVER NEEDED A HOUSEKEEPER, a cook, nanny, childcare advisors, extra bedrooms, a bigger house and a play yard until I came along. The Lord gave us a beautiful little house in a small urbanisation outside of the city of Orotava, Tenerife. Maybe I'd better let sweet Lucy tell the story:

3. "ELOTH OR LUCY AS THE FAMILIY PREFERRED TO CALL HER (Daddy said she was more like a Lucy than an Eloth) was my first helper and nanny. She came to help us when she was about five months pregnant. Abraham said she was very special and would encourage the heart of the King, and that's why she was chosen over many other girls who were being considered for the job of taking care of me at that time.

4. "DEAR LUCY, WE ALL LOVED HER very much. My present teacher, Sara, has added her own notes to the daily log that Lucy kept so faithfully during the first months of my life. She begins my story on

5. "JANUARY 25, 1975:" THE DAY LITTLE DAVID WAS BORN, 7 pounds 7 ounces born on the 7th day of the week, Saturday, 49 centimeters long (7 times 7!) on the 7th hour of the day Bible time!

6. LUCY AND LYDIA HELPED care for the baby and Maria while they were still in the clinic. Davidito had a lot of mucus and we had to have it taken out with the suction machine while he was still in the hospital. He sneezed about seven times while awake, which really scared Mommy because she was concerned that he was too cold, but I guess he was just trying to clear his nose.

7. HIS HEAD IS 34 CENTIMETERS: 34-7! He's got gorgeous long, black eyelashes that any female would envy, and he gracefully waves his fingers in the air like he's doing magic tricks!

8. WE WERE SO USED TO FOLLOWING RIGID REQUIREMENTS FOR STERILISATION in American hospitals that it was a surprise when the nurses brought us warm, boiled sugar water in an open cup to spoonfeed to the newborn. So we did as the Canarians do! We weren't sure the water was sterile, according to American standards, but it sure didn't hurt him. Of course, we always prayed a lot, too, and preferred honey.

9. AMERICAN BABY BOOKS SAY that water is not actually sterile until boiled a full 20 minutes, and baby's dishes should be boiled for five minutes before use until the time children are six months old. Dad's comment was,

10. "WELL, ADAM AND EVE SURE DIDN'T DO ALL THAT STERILISING!" He agreed that after washing baby bottles and equipment in hot soapy water that rinsing them in hot boiled water should

be sufficient, and good ol' soap and clean water should be sufficient for wiping the nipples before nursing. Our forefathers never had the convenience or necessity of "sterile" cotton or breast pads either!

11. AS LONG AS ALL OUR SURROUNDINGS AND EQUIPMENT ARE WASHED and rinsed well and kept very clean, we should have no problems. He says when their first four children were small, he and Mother Eve boiled all baby bottles, nipples and utensils vigorously for ten minutes and then kept them until needed in covered sterilised containers.

12. THE CANARIANS CONSIDER BABY EQUIPMENT "STERILE" if it is only rinsed in water that has been boiled previously for a few minutes. But their homes are kept almost as sparkling and beautifully clean as this dear little friendly clinic. They aren't as finicky as the Americans about sterilisation, but there is a good chance that their children are healthier and their homes even cleaner.

13. INCIDENTALLY, WE HAD 12 MORE BABIES BORN THERE in the next two years and our girls were tremendous testimonies to the entire medical staff of the city of Puerto de la Cruz! Praise the Lord! Dad always said it was "The Island of Love" and we sure have the proofs! Hallelujah!

14. THE NEXT DAY, JANUARY 26, MOMMY AND DAVIDITO CAME HOME and he settled in his nice little nursery room Daddy had helped fix up beforehand with good lighting, ventilation, heat and all the necessary equipment. Daddy brought Davidito to the

dinner table tonight because he seemed a little lonely and whining in his room all by himself.



15. HE SEEMED TO ACT SO HUNGRY right from the beginning, that we decided to feed him formula and he drank 90cc's the first time! Daddy advised that Davidito suck Lucy's breasts (he said it was good preparation for her baby!) or take a little wine if he seemed to be troubled, ha! (We didn't try the wine, however, until he got to be a little older.)

16. WHEN THE BACKGROUND MUSIC WOULD STOP during dinner, Davidito would open his eyes and start to fuss. He didn't like the Don MacLean tape, it's beautiful, but too sad, Daddy said, and not inspirational enough. Soft instrumental music makes a nice accompaniment for evening fellowship and bedtime, and happy voices and family music for the daytime. Whenever Daddy came near, Davidito would open his eyes and peek at him!

17. THE BABY DOCTOR CAME and visited a few days later for a simple check up and said everything was going fine! Praise the Lord! Maria's breasts were so full and hard by now that she said it hurt even more than hav-