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(Peter:) It would be a glaring omission if I didn't mention the heavenly multipurpose vehicles of protection revealed this year: the key craft. Mama and I pray you've been calling on these powerful shields and weapons for your protection, guidance, supply, strength, rejuvenation, regeneration, and defense against attacks of the Enemy—all of which the Lord said the key craft provide. ("365 Miracles! A Review of 2003!" ML #3475:62)

Keys Promise: For extreme results,

call on the extremely superior power of the key craft. No darkness or evil can withstand the power of this heavenly craft.

Xn Issue 41, April 2004. Xn is for ages 12 and up. Parents or teachers, you may read age-appropriate portions of this mag with younger audiences, at your discretion. If you have submissions for Xn, please send them to xn@wsfamily.com. Xn is a nonprofit publication, published free for members. Not to be sold. Copyright © 2004 by The Family. DFO. Cover art by Philippe La Plume

Notable Quote:

(Peter:) There are major changes that must be made in order for the worldwide Family to survive. ... We need all the power of the keys. We need the power of our key craft. We need our spirit helpers who will enhance our efforts. We need our weapon of praise to cut the Devil to the heart. We need miracles, solutions, answers, and practical applications of spiritual principles. We need open minds and fresh insight, so we can think "outside of the box" and let go of the past. We need to be yielded and hungry for the truth. ("New Year's Challenge for 2004!" ML #3468:26)





SPECIFIC KEYS OF HEAVEN Part 4

Negativity / Criticalness

Xn: There are no specific keys named under this section, but please see the following related sections for specific keys. (And here are just a few from the specific related section "Contentment/Happiness/ Positiveness," for your easy reference:) keys of contentment keys of happiness keys of joy keys of merriment and mirth keys of overcoming keys of peace keys of positiveness (See also Depression/ Discouragement; Jealousy/ Comparing; Love; Praise.)

New Year / Birthdays keys of empowerment keys of new life

No Condemnation

keys of gladness of heart and spirit (See also Faith/Rising Above; Praise.)

Obedience / Faithfulness

keys of acceptance keys of endurance keys of faith keys of fruitfulness keys of perseverance keys of strength keys of the desire to do My will keys of zealous obedience (See also Discipleship/ Relationship to the World; Yieldedness/Forsaking All.)



Peace / Freedom from Fear

keys of comfort keys of peace (See also Faith/Rising Above; Fighting the Enemy; Praise.)

Performing / Shows

keys of anointing keys of conviction Key of David keys of testimony keys of witness (See also Boldness; Conviction; Witnessing.)

Persecution / Against

Our Enemies keys of confusion keys of courage keys of conviction keys of defense keys of deliverance keys of destruction keys of faith keys of foresight keys of foresight keys of protection keys of revelation keys of security keys of stability

(See also Faith/Rising Above; Fighting the Enemy; Peace/ Freedom from Fear; Protection/ Security; Witnessing.)

Pioneering / Pilgrims and Strangers

keys of confidence keys of My will keys of witness (See also Change/Spiritual Progress; Supply/Finances; Witnessing.)

Praise

keys of praise keys of rising above (See also Contentment/ Happiness/Positiveness; Faith/ Rising Above.)



Prayer for Others

keys of encouragement keys of revival keys of sustenance keys of wisdom (See also Expect Miracles/ General; Fighting the Enemy.)

Pregnancy and Childbirth

keys of deliverance keys of faith keys of healing keys of restraint keys of strength and endurance (See also Children/Parents; Healing and Health.) [Xn: The above sections have specific keys you can claim for others who are pregnant or are parents, even if you are not!]

Pride

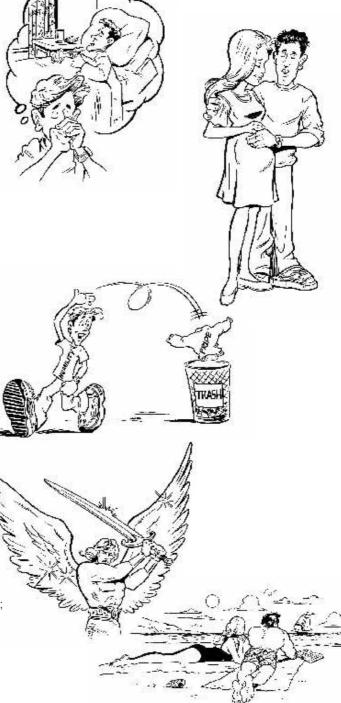
keys of adaptability keys of brokenness keys of humility keys of meekness (See also Change/Spiritual Progress; Spiritual Life.)

Protection / Security

keys of deliverance keys of faith keys of plenty keys of power keys of protection keys of security (See also Spirit Helpers/ Spirit World; Travel.)

Recreation and Relaxation

keys of health keys of relaxation keys of rest (See also Protection/Security; Sleep; Travel.)





Chapter 5: As a Sunflower

"I love them that love Me and they that seek Me early shall find Me."

The deep voice was gentle and warm. It seemed to be coming from just above her left shoulder.

"I wanted to come out and see You," Kyra said softly. "And check on the sunflowers."

"They are looking beautiful."

"Yes," said Kyra looking wistfully into the sunlight that was breaking through the early morning haze. "Especially at this time of day."

"True. Kyra, I have given you this love for the sunflowers. I have entrusted them to your care. But this one concerns me. It's drooping and not turning its face toward the sun like the others."

"Oh, poor thing. That's unusual for a sunflower."

"Yes, it is, and I'm worried about it. It could wither and die. See? It's already turning a little brown." "Oh dear. What can I do?" "With this one you must take special care each day to gently turn its head towards the sun, not too hard, lest you strain its stem and it breaks. Give it extra water."

"Another dream," Justin said sleepily. "It seems you've had a thing for significant dreams since you've been pregnant."

"It's true," said Kyra, bringing a cup of coffee to Justin. "I used to have them a lot as a kid, then not so much in my teen years and hardly at all until I got pregnant. Anyway, got anything on what you think it means?"

"Am I your Daniel ... interpreting your dreams?" Justin asked with a chuckle.

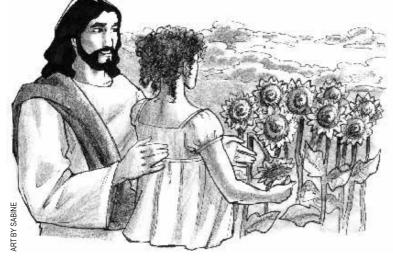
"Well, at least I'm not expecting you to tell me what the dream was! You did pretty good on the last one."

"I'll have to get it from the Lord. But while you were telling it, I was praying and I did get something."

"Please! Tell me!"

"The thing that came to me was 'Crystal Pyramid' for one thing." "Wow! That's what I got, too. Amazing. And the other thing?" "Abner." "Abner? Oh no. What's with this? Clay asked me about him the other day." "I don't know," said Justin. "You've meant a lot in his

story feature



life, and lately he's been down. Out of it, to put it bluntly. But just last night he asked me why you have been avoiding him."

"I haven't been avoiding him. I've been more involved in the business of the band since Clay turned over the finances to me. And on top of that I've been..."

"...Preparing for the baby. I know," said Justin. Kyra caught his reproachful eye and looked away.

"Ókay," she said with a sigh. "It's true. I have been avoiding him. I just can't tackle the issues he's having to deal with now."

"Issues?"

"A loved one leaving the Family. It'll bring up stuff with me that I'd sooner not think about."

"You mean because of your sister and brothers leaving?"

"Yeah," said Kyra, reaching for her guitar case. "I just don't want to go there with him."

"You might have to," said Justin. "You might be the one the Lord wants to use to help turn his head to the light."

* * *

Kyra was on the porch quietly strumming her guitar and taking notes when Justin approached. "That's a cool tune."

"This is the first tune and words I've ever gotten in a dream," she said.

"A dream? When?"

"Last night."

"The same one?"

"Yes," Kyra replied. "It was playing in the background. I didn't want to tell you about it, especially after you got that thing about Abner."

"It's goose-bump material," said Justin. "What's it called?"

"'Am I My Brother's Keeper?'" "Wow."

Am I my brother's keeper? I am, yes I am. Am I the one who's to save him from the reaper? I am, yes I am. The answer's very plain. I am. Bound by more than time and tide, To love and lead and guide. I can no longer hide My eyes.

"...And so on," said Kyra. "I haven't got all the words and that's just the rough. But it seems that's the basic gist of it." story feature

"Putting Cain's question into song," said Justin. "Hmm."

"I know," said Kyra. "But I can't question it, otherwise the flow dries up."

"Whatever. It's doing the trick, babe. It's cool."

"Our long-term visa applications came through!" Clay's announcement was met with praise and shouts of delight from those who had gathered at the breakfast table. By all except Abner, that is, who sullenly picked up his empty plate and after washing it, left the room. Kyra excused herself and followed him.

"That's great," said Javier. "Just in time for the talent contest. And we got Amy's too, right?"

"Of course," said Clay. "They were just a little suspicious that maybe she married a Mexican in order to stay legal in Mexico!"

"That's a corker!" said Amy with a laugh. "It looks as though it was more that Cristiano married *me* to get American citizenship, 'cause the minute he left the Family he made a beeline to the States."

"Whatever happened to Cristiano, by the way?" Mer asked.

Amy explained: "It turned out that the streets weren't paved with gold as he had imagined, and all he managed to land himself was a job at Burrito Bueno, then later as a cashier at a twenty-four-seven. He's been there ever since. But apparently he's living with a nice woman, and is pretty happy." "Anyway," Clay continued, "Humberto said that the long-term visa thing was the best for us to begin with, and the fact that a lot of us are either European nationals or have spent a lot of time there has worked in our favor. The world climate is not too favorable towards Americans these days."

"Yeah," said Justin. "Those hecklers in the audience the other night were pretty heavy duty, and it was only because we spoke such good Spanish that the tide was turned."

"That's a confirmation," said Mer. "Humberto stressed that we definitely shouldn't push the American thing."

* * *

"Ab...," said Kyra, sitting down next to him on the bunk bed. "Abner. That was a super vic, no?"

"What was?"

"The one-year visas coming through." "Oh."

"We're here for a year at least, and don't have to worry about those visa trips. Isn't that great?"

"I guess."

"It seems like something's troubling you. Is everything okay?"

"What's the sudden interest in my welfare?" "Sudden?"

"You haven't given a ... er ... hoot these last couple of weeks. Since I told you about Ivana, actually. Have they been telling you to tune into me or something?"

"They, whoever 'they' are, haven't told me anything. But the Lord's convicted me that, yes, I have been avoiding you since that day you told me about Ivana leaving the Family."

Apologizing for interrupting, Clay stuck his head around the door. "There's a little ... er ... sad news accompanying the vic."

"The applications vic?"

Clay nodded. "We can't change the return date on Abner's plane ticket. ..."

He looked apologetically at Abner and patted his shoulder.

"What?!" exclaimed Kyra. "How come?"

"Well, I've called a number of travel agencies to see if I could get his ticket changed, but it will end up costing about the same amount as it would if he bought a new ticket."

"No," said Kyra. "There's got to be something we can do."

"I don't think so," said Clay, shaking his head.

"He has ten days till his ticket expires. At least our parents are there in Timişoara, and even if Abner has to go back, I'm sure the Lord will work it out so that he can return as soon as possible."

"Oh, I'm so sorry, Abner," said Kyra.

"It's okay," mumbled Abner, looking crestfallen. "Really."

"Sorry to have to lay this on you guys," said Clay, "right in the middle of what seems to be a serious conversation. I'll excuse myself. A couple of sheep from the club the other night just dropped by and want a Bible study."

(Dad:) The Lord allows incidents and circumstances in life that are disappointing to strengthen us. He tests and tries us to see how we're doing and how we're going to react. Even disappointment and things going wrong don't have to keep you down and discouraged, because your faith and your attitude can determine the way the circumstances affect you. And often your faith and trust in the Lord can even change circumstances completely, as the Lord works on your behalf. It's all in how you look at it, how you take it.

Circumstances and events don't have to control you. With the Lord's help and with the right positive attitude, you can go through any changes, any disappointments, any circumstances, and come out happy. It's often the tests in life that can really bring out the best in your attitude, if you'll let them. It's not a test to stay encouraged when everything's going *right*, but it's when things go *wrong* in life that your attitude and faith get tested.

The Lord has all the power and strength you need for any situation. All you have to do is look to Him and draw on His strength to overcome any difficulty. Just ask Him to change things around. If He can't change the *circumstances*, then He can help you to change how you *feel* about things. ("Gems and Jewels," ML **#**3416:63–65)

"So, how do you feel about this?" asked Kyra after a few moments of silence.

"I got what I asked for," Abner replied. "And now I'm not so sure."

"What do you mean?"

"It's hard to explain. But to be straight up on this, Kyra, I've been praying against this whole visa and ticket thing, 'cause I was secretly hoping that I'd have to go back to Timişoara."

"Whatever for? To see Ivana?"

Abner nodded.

Kyra sighed and shook her head. "Oh Abner, if you'd really wanted to see her, we could have asked the Lord to show us if it was His will, and arrange-



ments could have been made, without you having to pray such a prayer. Unless you put a clause in there like, 'only if it's Your will, of course, Lord'! Did you?"

"I guess I did ... kind of. But my burden was to see her."

"So, are you happy?" "Not so sure. It's weird, 'cause now that my prayer has been answered, I feel a bit bummed out. I wonder if I'm in the Lord's will. 'Leanness to my soul' and all that."

"Abner, if you truly did pray with that condition that only if it's the Lord's will would He do this, then you can trust that the Lord is in control. And besides, as Clay said, hopefully it'll work out for you to come back quickly."

Abner managed a weak smile and nodded. Kyra took his hand.

"Abner ... about our discussion. My ignoring you, as you say. It's true, I was. Not because I don't care about you. I do, and you know that. You're a great guy and I admire how you've taken it and grown. I'd go through major battles if you were to leave here and not return. The thing is ... the situation with Ivana leaving the Family, ... I haven't wanted to get into it with you because it brings up a whole chapter in my life

story feature

about my brothers and sister not being in the Family, and the stand some of them have taken against me."

"What's the deal with them?"

"A couple of months ago my older brothers got into throwing a lot of mud against the Family and my choice to be in it, which is weird. I've preferred to not think about it, and just tried to get on with my life for the Lord and committed it to Him. To bring it all up now would've been a huge trial for me, and I felt like 'what can I do to help Abner, it'll be like the blind leading the blind.' I knew that Clay had planned to talk to you, so I figured that would take care of things, but then it got delayed, ... I'm sorry."

"I don't think my brother has experienced much along this line," said Abner. "I'm worried that he'd come on heavy, and just tell me to forget about it and press on type of thing."

"I'm sure he'd be very understanding," said Kyra. "Anyway, the Lord's convicted me of late to help you and share these battles and vics with you. It's just that I don't have any dynamic vics regarding it."

"But just knowing that you've gone through it over something like this would've helped," said Abner, blinking back his tears. "I just needed you to understand."

"I do," said Kyra. "It's funny, 'cause that's why I didn't want to discuss it!"

"Okay," said Abner. "I have to 'fess up. Can't hide anything from you, can I?"

"That's good," said Kyra with a cheeky grin. "Shows you trust me."

"I guess we'll see how much after this. In Ivana's last e-mail, she went on about the site..."

"Sinking Fast?"

"Yeah. I deleted the letter and resisted the urge to get into it. But on that recent shopping trip with Amy, I did sneak into an Internet café and logged onto the site, and I read a lot of it. Amy was so busy and all ... she asked me to watch the kids, so I took them over to the Internet café. I said we were going to play some educational kids' computer games."

"And Amy believed you?"

"I don't think she really heard. Like I said, she was busy with the shopping list and exchanging the shoes she'd bought."

Kyra smiled knowingly. "And?"

"I hooked the kids up to an educational Web site, and then went onto another computer. It was too much ... the Sinking Fast site, I mean. There were quite a few friends of mine who had left, posting their stuff. It was all really ... I don't know how to put it ... convincing. Know what I'm saying?"

"Absolutely," said Kyra.

"It's funny." Abner went on. "I even began to wish there was more heavy-duty bashing stuff. It would have made it easier."

"Easier to reject it?" "Exactly." Abner caught his breath as Kyra looked into his eyes.

"You know what?" she said. "I'm proud of you."

"Proud of me? Sneaking into an Internet café and logging onto a detractors' site?"

"Mmm hmm. Because, despite your battles, you were in tune enough with the Lord to know that it was pretty subtle stuff. You must have been praying."

"I guess I was," said Abner. "I really want to be sure. My birthday's coming up pretty soon. ..."

"The 29th of August," said Kyra.

Abner smiled at this token of Kyra's interest in him. "Right. And I'm expected to make a decision on the provisional contract."

"So now you know that Sinking Fast is not the clincher of your decision?"

"Yeah," Abner replied with a laugh.

"You really love Ivana, don't you?" Kyra suddenly asked. "I mean 'love' like, you know..."

"I think so," Abner replied. "I miss her like crazy, and can't stand to think of her out there in that Podunk job. I don't get it. She seemed so dedicated. It makes me feel like ... well, hey, if *she* flubs out, what about me? And you? You're dedicated, are you going to quit?"

"I don't plan to," said Kyra with a gentle smile. "But we're all here by the grace of God. We've just got to be convinced that the Family is the place for us, that it's the Lord's will for us, come hell or high water. Look, until you leave for Romania, let's make it a point to read some good Word on the topic together every day before you go, maybe after dinner. We could start with reading 'The Silver Lining.' You know that one?"

"No," said Abner with an apologetic grimace.

"Don't feel bad, it came out when you were an OC or a JETT at the most! It's a cool GN with the Lord's encouragement for when loved ones leave the Family. So, I guess it's a nightly Word date, okay?"

Abner grinned sheepishly. After saying a prayer for their day, and for their peace of mind on the matter, Kyra left him with a kiss on his cheek.

(Jesus:) Pray for your loved ones who have left My service, that they will always keep their hearts open to Me and their ears attuned to the voice of My Spirit, because there will come a time when I will gather each of My wandering children unto Me again, when I will call them to serve Me once again in a special way. My voice will ring in their ears when the time is right, and My Words to them will be clear, as My Spirit is revived in the corners of their hearts that are protected and preserved through your prayers. ("Crowns on the Ice," ML #3465:14)

Chapter 6: Unknown Opportunity

After a long journey carrying a hot, hungry and tired crew, Luna's Volkswagen van, with Clay at the wheel, bumped along the narrow clay dirt road into the crowded grounds of Morelia's Fiesta Internacional de Musica where the talent contest was taking place. Justin was feeding Kyra crackers and cheese; Mer was telling Tim and Abner about her victory over resentment of authority as a prepubescent teen, and what she went through before signing the provisional contract. Javier had been sitting in the back trying to pep up a pair of somewhat grumpy little girls with key promises of witnessing power, while Amy silently prayed that the Lord would have His way. She still found herself hesitant **story feature** about the girls being in the talent show, but was willing to give it a try since Javier had already entered them in the contest, and the Lord confirmed to all that He was leading this way.

The show, which featured Mexican children's routines that included accordion players, traditional dance troupes, little boy rap artists, and little girl divas singing romantic ballads expressing emotions above their years of experience, had already been under way for over three hours.

"We're so sorry we're late," said Mer. "Difficult roads and a lot of traffic."

"No problem," replied a stagehand as he guided them behind a rickety wooden stage to a tent where they were greeted with the sight of a sawdustcovered dirt floor and hastily tacked up sheets of canvas that served as dressing rooms. "You're not booked for another hour—seven o'clock. That's a good time. The evening stage lights add ambiance that works in your favor."

After prayer and more claiming of the keys for boldness and witness in their performance, at 7:00 Luna hit the stage with a powerful set in which Jessica addressed the crowd in flawless Spanish, playfully egging them on, and occasionally upbraiding them if they didn't participate completely, but above all astounding them with her powerful vocal delivery of a repertoire of songs and styles ranging from pert and sketchy to moody and moving.

"She's phenomenal. A natural. I assume you're the mother."

Amy, who was monitoring the show from the wings, nodded as she glanced out of the corner of her eye at a portly, middle-aged man standing beside her with a large, hooked nose and a graying goatee. He wore an earring, dark sunglasses, and a silver-grey mohair suit that extended down to a pair of highly polished black lizard skin shoes. He smiled and extended his hand.

"My name is Salomon Mendez, president of *Cometa* Records. Congratulations."

"Nice to meet you, Señor Mendez. I am Amy Davila. Congratulations on what?"

"Such a delightful prodigy."

"Gracias, Señor."

"The outcome of the contest is sealed," he whispered in her ear. "You've got the contract."

"Contract?"

"For Cometa Records. It's a done deal."

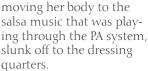
Sweating profusely after a number of encores for "Alleluia," Jessica dashed off the stage and breezed passed her mother with an offhand sigh.

"Great performance, kid," said Salomon.

"Gracias. I'm so thirsty, Mom."

"There's some juice in your backpack."

"Juice again," Jessica groaned, then, rhythmically



"She's got attitude," said Salomon with a grin. "That goes great in the biz."

"Señor Mendez...," Amy began.

"Excuse me, Señor, I'm Javier de Santo. I didn't know that Amy had such exclusive friends."

"We've only just had the pleasure," said Salomon. "And you are her husband?"

"We're, er ... working partners. I'm more the manager of the little troupe."

["]Ah, the watchdog! So I should discuss contractual matters with you."

"I don't know that we have any such matters to discuss at the moment, Señor," said Amy, hesitantly, "without first praying ... er

... counseling about

any proposals." Javier chuckled nervously. "What Amy is trying to say is that we take decisions regarding the girls very seriously."

"Precisely," said Amy. "What should be understood from the onset, Señor Mendez, is that my girls have not been trained to be showbiz stars. They have a unique calling in life."

"May I ask you both a question?" said Mendez. Javier and Amy nodded.



"Did you enter this contest with the intent to win?"

"Mom!"

"Excuse me," said Amy. "Carol needs something. What's the problem, honey?"

"My backpack. It's gone!"

"Where did you leave it?"

"In the back there. The dressing room. I bet one of those poor kids stole it!"

"And you've looked all over?"

"Of course."

"Lord, help us to find it."

"It's not a prob, Mom," said Jessica. "We can just get her a new one. It was a crummy backpack anyway."

"But didn't you have anything important in there?"

"No," Carol replied. "Just a wash up bag, a *Praising U* booklet, and some tracts."

Salomon Mendez smiled and put a confidential hand on Javier's shoulder. "Let me buy you a drink. Beer?"

"Sure."

"Look, Señor de Santo," said Mendez staring into his glass, "this is going to be *big*, really big. I don't stick my neck out like this unless I know what I'm banking on. Jessica's got star power, and to put it bluntly, there's a bundle to be made off of it for all of us."

Javier put down his glass.

"I don't know, Señor," he said. "It sounds great and all, but it's Amy's call."

Mendez laughed. "No small obstacle! Well, you're going to have to convince that little lady of yours that there's nothing to get freaked out about. And there's just one other thing—the name."

"The name?"

"Luna," said Mendez musingly. "It's good, but I've been thinking ... Las Perlitas. It's different."

"I'd have to check with the rest of the band about that," said Javier. "But Luna already has a following."

"Si, si. Local, no doubt. But the major media splash has highlighted the kids, *Las Perlitas.* That name has family appeal."

"Hmm," said Javier. "Las Perlitas ... I can see that."

"Anyway, take time to think about it," said Mendez reassuringly. "Sell your *muchacha* on it, and we can try it on a six-month contractual basis. If it doesn't fly, we can drop it with no strings attached. Nothing ventured, nothing gained, you know."

"Right. That's the spirit of a true pioneer," Javier story feature

was saying when Jessica burst into the bar tent and excitedly informed him that the judges were giving the results of the contest.

Javier joined his Luna companions out in the spotlight lit night, as a strident announcement of the results resonated through the fiesta grounds.

"Number three—the child rap artist, Ramon T. Kool!"

A nine-year-old Mexican boy stepped up to a mild ripple of applause permeated with a few shrieks and whistles from a small group of people in front of the stage that were presumably his family and friends.



"He was okay, if you can deal with his accent," said Jessica with a tone and a nod of authority.

"Stay humble, sweetheart," said Mer.

"And number two ... Luna! Featuring the phenomenal child bombshell Jessica Davila!"

Despite the thunderous applause, Jessica's mouth fell open and tears came to her eyes. "Number *two*?"

"And number *one*—the winner of a one-year contract with *Cometa* Records—the beautiful, young Latin singing sensation, Miranda Gonsalves!"

As a pretty, eleven year-old girl clad in black leather and a forced smile stepped out to a halfhearted reception, and delivered a lackluster routine of a Britney Spears song, Salomon Mendez took the time to explain to the bewildered members of Luna that the winner just happened to be the daughter of a local oil magnate, who was about to launch a campaign for election as mayor of the province.

"But that doesn't change my proposal one iota," he continued. "Did you see the crowd's response to you guys? You were the winners by a long shot."

"We'll let you know, Señor," said Javier. "As far as I'm concerned, I'm with the program."

"Great," said Mendez, shaking hands with the Luna team. "Here's my business card and home number. Call me anytime."

"Javier! I can't believe it, but you pretty much gave the guy a gentleman's agreement!"

"Amy, I'm sorry. But your reaction to him was bordering on rude, in my opinion."

Amy sighed. "Look, I've run into these feisty entrepreneurs with their own interests at heart concerning the girls before, and to be quite frank, I don't trust them. Even if they are from *Cometa*, or whatever the big shot, fly-by-night shooting star."

"That's no reason to be sarcastic, Amy," said Javier. "Señor Mendez was genuinely interested, and the Lord has been leading us in this direction. He told us to do that gig, and look what happened."

"I know, ... Jessica took the place by storm, so?" "It was incredible," said Javier.

"Yes," retorted Amy. "An answer to prayer and a testimony to the power of the keys. Let's leave it at that."

"What's the deal, Amy? Do you see the doors these kids are opening?"

"Yes. But when the 'little child bombshell' hits, are you prepared to handle the fallout?"

"What do you mean?"

"What I mean is that since the show in the plaza, Jessica especially has been more difficult to handle. This talent contest was the icing on the cake, and she's been primping and posing and pulling even more the prima donna trip. It concerns me. Thank God she *didn't* win, it would have ministered even *more* to her pride."

"The girl's got talent," Javier insisted. "And she handled those reporters and TV people admirably at the end of the show. She was a good witness. And besides, you know what Dad's said many times about people like that. ... They're sometimes a bit more difficult to handle, but they just need more help in those areas, right?"

"Right."

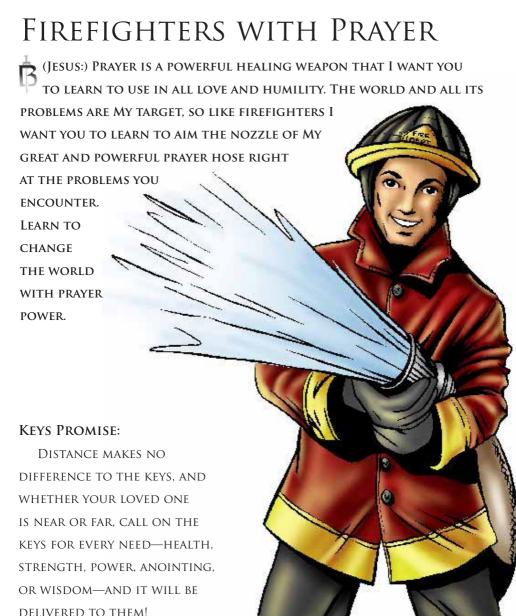
"But that doesn't mean we stick her light under a bushel. The Lord won't bless that, and it'll only cause her to rebel."

"*Rebel*? You're talking like she's a teen, Javier, and she's hardly eleven."

"It won't be long," said Javier, dryly. "But I prayed about her behavior, like you asked me to. The Lord suggested that we discuss it together some more, and set some boundaries in place."

Amy sighed and slumped onto the bed. "I'm sorry, Jav. I should be asking the Lord more about this instead of just venting all my fears and concerns. I know you really love the girls. What I'm actually trying to say is that I give you full and free rein to discipline Jessica and Carol, as you see fit. It's beyond me, but maybe the Lord allowed this whole thing to show me even more clearly that I need your and others' help with their training, especially if He wants us to go through with this." Javier sat down beside her and held her to him. "Wow, Amy. You're too much," he whispered after giving her a kiss. "What I mean to say is, 'You're great.'"

- To be continued -





Our commission to witness

(Dad:) Witnessing and telling others about Jesus is not just a nice thing to do when we feel like it or can find the time, but it is the God-given job and responsibility of all His true children.

Paul said. "For though I preach the Gospel, I have nothing to glory of, for

necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me if I preach not the Gospel!" (1Cor.9:16). (See also Eze.3:17-19.)

This is why we have banded together and spread around the world in the first place: To devote our full time and energies to preaching the Gospel to every creature and winning their souls to Jesus Christ and their bodies to His service for others!

That's what we're here for: To win others for Christ! "Herein is My Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be My disciples!" (John 15:8). ("Witnessing," ML #344, May 1975)





(Dad:) The last question that Jesus asked His disciples was, "Lovest thou Me?" They said, "Well, of course, Lord. You know we love You!" He said, "<u>Then feed My</u> <u>sheep</u>!" (John 21:15-17).

The greatest job we have to do if we <u>truly</u> love Him is to feed His sheep, to "go into all the world and <u>preach</u> the Gospel to every creature!" (Mark 16:15).

Unlike the churches, we believe that all we need to do is to heed Jesus' call to "Go <u>out</u> into the highways and the byways and the hedges and compel them to come in!" (Luke 14:23).—To witness to them where they <u>are</u>!

Simple faith, simple salvation, and a simple Gospel for simple people snapshots to simply believe and receive and be saved. Then they too can simply serve Him to the best of their ability, witnessing throughout all the world!

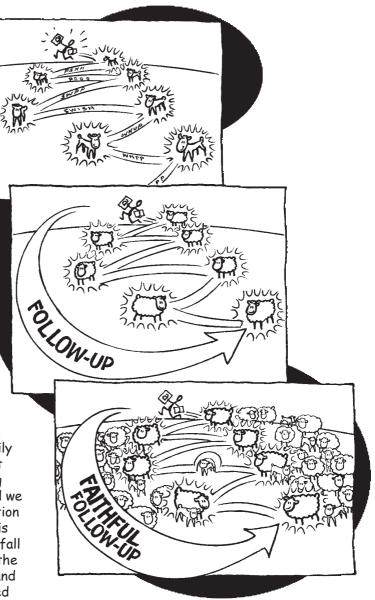
As a result of our obedience to His Word, God has "given us the heathen for our inheritance" (Psa.2:8) in over 100 countries as we preach the Gospel in [dozens of] languages throughout the world! We have mass-witnessed the Gospel to billions, and litnessed the Gospel through literature to hundreds of millions, and personally won over [25] million to Jesus Christ in the [34] years since we first began giving God's love to the hippies in that tiny little storefront mission on the main street of Huntington Beach, California

It's not that our numbers are so great; in fact, we're one of the smallest religious groups in the world! But we are militant, active, and on the attack for the Lord! ("To Whom Will You Go?" ML #1966, March 1984)

FOLLOWING UP ON "THE FLOCK OF GOD"

(Peter:) While we in the Family are experts at

witnessing and winning souls for the Lord and we certainly have dedication and conviction, there is one area that we still fall very short of hitting the mark in: following up and turning our newly saved converts into solid believ-



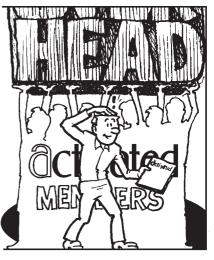
ers, disciples, supporters and useful Christians for the Lord's service.

If we had followed up on and made outside members of <u>10</u>% of those that we have led to the Lord over the past [34] years, it would mean we would now have an outside membership of [2.6] million members.

Imagine how many more souls we would be winning if we had another 2.2 million people witnessing to some degree or another or supporting the missionaries that do!



Even if each outside member would only lead one person to the Lord per year, that would almost triple our present rate of salvations. And if each of those members would give only one dollar per month to a Home, it would



cause a tremendous increase in the Family's finances and greatly lighten the financial burden you Homes carry.

If we don't build a broader base of believers and fellow laborers, our ability to be and do all the Lord has for us in the future will be greatly hindered.

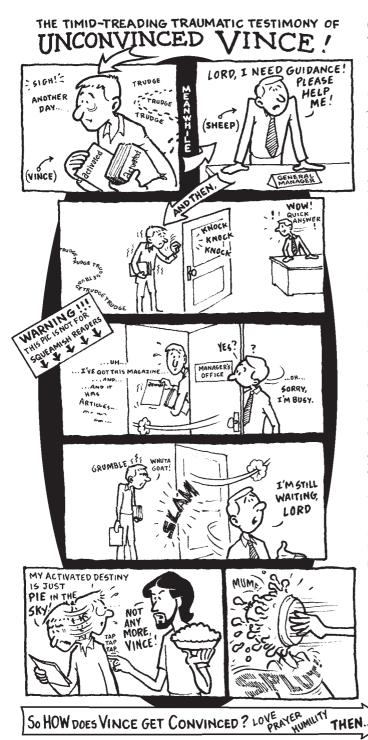
If we are going to accomplish <u>more</u>, then we need <u>help</u> in the form of manpower, money and materials, which the Activated program can potentially supply.

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Jesus said, "If you love Me, feed My sheep," and that's what the Activated program is all about—feeding His sheep.

("The Activated Program," ML #3238, January 1999)

CHOMP CHOMP BITE GOBBLE GOBBLE WARNAH CHOMP 7(4:7)9:3(9:7)



GETTING OUT THE MEAT OF THE WORD

(Jesus speaking:) Why treadest thou lightly as if thou dost peddle a despised thing?—When I have given thee the treasures and the secrets of this time which all the prophets and holy men have sought to see, but it was reserved for thee. Despiseth thou these riches that I have given unto thee?

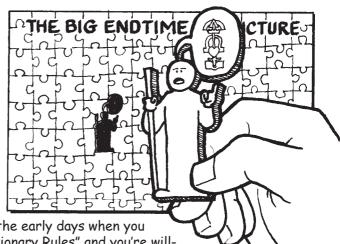
For these Words a man will give all that he hath, for they are the true riches. Thou alone hast the true riches which multitudes clamor for, millions in the Valley of Decision, wondering what will befall them. <u>Thou</u> hast the answer, <u>thou</u> hast the plan, thou hast been given the <u>key</u> to know the future which hath been reserved to My David.

("Preach the Word!— Prophecies Given at Summit '92," GN 498, December, 1991)



(Mama:) Even successful communal living and trusting the Lord for supply, even building a greater church isn't the all in all, if that means you're discarding or burying the unique and important <u>Words</u> <u>of David</u> that the Family is blessed to have received.

If you only want to witness the Bible, you should be in the <u>churches</u>! If you want



things to be like they were in the early days when you only had to follow the "Revolutionary Rules" and you're willing to downplay or forget 30 years of Letters since then, then you're in the wrong place!

I want to remind you of what the Lord said in Part 1 of the Conviction vs. Compromise series:

Only if the Family members are strong in faith and willing to preach the truth as given in the Words of David will you fulfill your special place in the big Endtime picture. It's that <u>uncompromising witness</u> that will allow Me to continue to give My full blessing to the Family.

("Be True to the Revolution," ML #3364, September 2001)



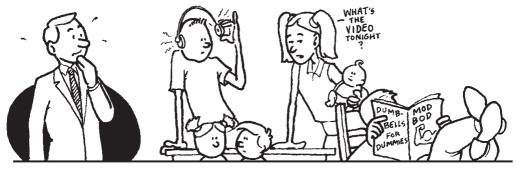
FINDING A PROPER BALANCE IN OUR MINISTRIES

(Jesus speaking:) I want, and in fact <u>expect</u> you to be witnesses to all men everywhere. I don't want you to become so embroiled in one level of society that you cannot relate to or reach those of other levels.

The Activated push has been the program of choice to change the world, which includes reaching the rich, winning new disciples, cultivating Active members, and appealing to the class of people who will not only help support you, but help you to stay in the country, help protect you, and carry on the work long after you're gone.



The potential labor leaders we need to reach won't be happy just hanging out in your Home, with little or no vision.



The middle- and upper-class people who have education, drive, connections, and the money you need to further your work in a big way certainly are going to want to be involved in something that they consider to be worthwhile, fruitful missionary work!

Eking out a living, barely surviving, having no vision or fruit while you get out a little bit of message is not going to inspire anyone to join you and become a part of the Family!

If you met the Family today, would you give up your job, your education, your independence, your family, your girlfriend or boyfriend, your car and money, to do what your Home does now?



("Reach the Rich," ML #3400, February 2002)

IN CONCLUSION



(DAD:) IF THE REVOLUTION IS ANYTHING AT ALL, IT IS A SOUL-WINNING, DISCIPLE-MAKING REVOLUTION OR IT IS NOTHING AT ALL AND NO BETTER THAN THE REST OF THE CHURCHES! If we don't want to be another has-been, we'd better get it back in gear fast and step on the gas and start driving like mad again and start getting someplace, or we're finished! We might as well close up shop if we're not going to do anything but scatter seed and never reap the harvest!



If this is not a life worth winning disciples to, then let's save our breath and our paper and our leg work and go back to the Pit from which we came, if we've become nothing but another money-making, just-make-a-living and merely-exist system like they are! Which are you?

("The Disciple Revolution," ML #328B, February 1975)



KEYS PROMISE: TAKE HOLD OF THE KEYS OF BOLDNESS TO PROCLAIM MY TRUTH; GRASP TIGHTLY THE KEYS OF REVOLUTION TO REMAIN SEPARATE FROM THE WORLD; AND CLING TO THE KEYS OF COMMITMENT, WHICH MAKE YOU NEVER WANT TO BE A PART OF THE WORLD AND ITS WAYS.



RAPTUROUS FEELING

HOW TO DO IT: Hidden within the puzzle below are twenty words taken from the following verses. There is one different word from each verse, and they are hidden in every direction: backwards, forwards, up, down, and diagonal—including backwards diagonal! Match each verse to a word in this puzzle. *Can you do it?*

Daniel 7:13 Daniel 7:14 Daniel 12:2 Daniel 12:3 Matthew 24:27 Matthew 24:28 Mark 13:25 Mark 13:27 Luke 21:25 Luke 21:27 Luke 21:28 Acts 1:11 1 Corinthians 15:51 1 Corinthians 15:52 1 Thessalonians 4:15 1 Thessalonians 4:16 1 Thessalonians 4:17 Jude 1:14 **Revelation 19:11 Revelation 19:16**

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Name: ____

Themes 12–13

---Using Heaven's Power---Combat Zone: Mind! (Xn 08) (Comic Feature)

Hard Copy

The "God Factor!"
 (Xn 08) (250 words)
 Combat Zone: Mind! Part 2
 (Xn 09) (Comic Feature)

Hard Copy

Released from the Clutches, part 2

(Xn 11) (Comic Feature) Hard Copy

□ Desperate to Separate Us! (Xn 11) (150 words) □ An Altered Perspective (Xn 12) (Comic Feature)

Hard Copy

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□ Use the Keys! (ML #3351:11–38) (2,200 words) (FD/MM Only) □ Call on the Power of the Keys (ML #3368:33–39) (600 words) □ Keys Turned to Swords! (ML #3375) (2,500 words)

Heavenly Key Craft!

(ML #3435) (4,500 words)



We're referring you to the hard copy for art-intensive Comic Features, as they're easier to

absorb if you see the art as well. Feel free to download and view the PDFs if you don't have a hard copy handy!

—The Weapon of Praise—
☐ How to Make us Both Happy (Blade 12) (300 words)
☐ Why Praise?/The PCP Plan (ML #3449:1-16) (1,150 words)
☐ (Memory Chapter) Psalm 100 (Make a Joyful Noise) (Bible) (100 words)
☐ (Memory Chapter) Psalm 150 (Praise) (Bible) (100 words)

The Weapon of Prayer
Shine with My Prayer Power (Xn 11) (200 words)
Don't Hold It All Inside (Blade 21) (150 words) Date:

□ Fatalism! To Pray or Not to Pray (Treasures) (600 words) □ What Is a Prayer Warrior? (ML #3414:46–57) (1,000 words) □ The Spirit of Prayer (ML #3414:58–61) (350 words) □ Getting Alone with God (Word Topics) (1,750 words) **EVC**

Basic Letters of Father David 14–15

□ Law of Love, The (ML #302C; Vol.3; DB 1) (DB: 1,900 words) □ Living the Lord's Law of Love!—Part 01 (ML #3201; GN804; Vol.25) (12,200 words)

CAT Study of the Day CVC Web Only

 Temptations of Pride (3,100 words)
 Answers to Prayer (8,900 words)

Question: Lord, can You please give me a personal keys promise that I can claim for this next month, something You know I'll need?

How to Make Your Word Time Come Alive Again!

Vary your Word times with different types of material. Maybe for part of the time you'd want to study a certain book of the Bible. Then after a while, read some of a new Letter, tuning in to the New Wine for today. Then perhaps you could end your time of reading with some portions of *From Jesus—With Love* or some praise prophecies, or take some time to ask the Lord about something that stood out to you in the Letter that you read, or that you were convicted about. ("Desperate for Jesus!" ML #3250:56)

Some of the earliest recorded inventors

- 1. Abel—shepherding (Genesis 4:2)
- 2. Cain-farming (Genesis 4:2)
- 3. Cain-the city (Genesis 4:17)
- 4. Jubal-tents (Genesis 4:20)
- 5. Jubal-harp and organ (Genesis 4:21)
- 6. Tubal-cain—metalworking with brass and iron (Genesis 4:22)
- 7. Noah—the ark and zoology (Genesis 6:14)
- 8. Noah—wine (Genesis 9:20-21)
- 9. Nimrod-hunting (Genesis 10:8-9)

