



DEAR

The Zinetoons are really good—we read them with our Outside Witnesses and the people we give Bible classes to, and they really like them.

— From Jered (SGA), Russia

[Here's an original introduction to a letter we recently received!!

Dear zany ZINE zonists (Zionists?) with a zest and zeal that zaps us at each zero hour to zodiacal zenith with a zip, a zoom and a zigzag on a zeppelin-zenith which makes zoophagous zombie-zealots look like zebras with zits in zoology zilch...

— From A.P.

ED

F
E
A
T
U
R
E
S



River bares all in a prophecy interview

DEAD MEN TALKING

4

INTRODUCING...SOMETHING IS HOT!



Miracles pave the way for the making of a music video in Russia

11

C
O
N
T
E
N
T
S

MAY 1999

issue number

6

SPOOKY STORIES

8

CRIES IN THE WILDERNESS

16

BLAST FROM THE PAST

14

FAME AND GLORY

C
O
L
U
M
N
S

BY JAZVINE

You've all probably heard them at one time or another—wild, crazy, or just downright strange ways that couples have gotten together—a sign, a vision, a prophecy, being stranded on a desert island for two weeks with only cannibals to drive them closer together ... you name it! They don't happen to all of us and they don't happen often ... but when they do, they make for some pretty interesting and/or sidesplitting tales—and a great faith-increaser in the Master Plan.

If you are such a person that has had such an experience, we'd like to ask you to immediately

bolts from the

BLEATS FROM THE SHEEP

FROM MELINDA, 13 YEARS OLD, STUDENT FROM YUGOSLAVIA.

My dear Family, both me and my friends and my relatives and my classmates were really happy for the beautiful posters we received. We were reading your letter about love, and we composed a little song from it. Here is the text:

Let love fill us to overflowing,
Let love set us on fire,
Let it flow amongst us.
Give love to us, oh Lord.
Make of us brotherly hearts,
Totally one in You,
Set our hearts aflame with Your love!

Please, pray for me, my friends, my relatives and my classmates.
With much love, Melinda.

**P
O
E
M**

UPFRONT EXCLUSIVE



All of Rima's dreams have come true in her work with the children of Africa.

18

24

COMIC

t h i r t y o n e

23

BACKPACKING ACROSS CHINA

20

STUFF

22

ORB OF THE PROPHETS

17

PHOTO PAGE

THE WORLD OF THE SPIRIT

It spoke to me in echoes,
In night seasons so clear;
It bade me come to follow,
To delve in with no fear.

It encompassed me about,
And showed me its world
Of beauty, of hidden treasure,
Of love always assured.

Though it seemed an illusion,
I held out my hand,
Longing to be a part
Of that perfect land.

I but felt my desire
Before I was taken on high,
And shown beauty and richness
And deep treasures of life.

I now cherish this mystery
That I have been shown,
And await once again
To escape to its realm.

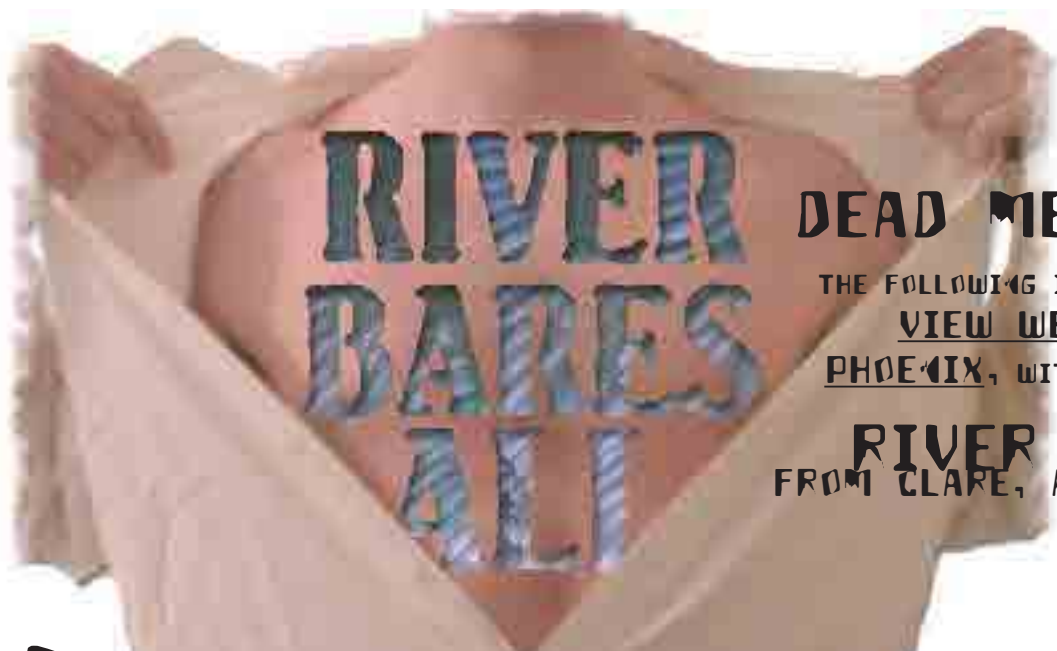
So when the pressures of life
Become too hard to bear,
I take my leave and find strength
uncompared,
In the world of spirit
That's always waiting for us there.

— By Katie (19), Mexico

**P
O
E
M**

turn your experience into a 200-page script for a three-and-a-half-hour movie to send in to Miramax! No, just kidding. Actually, we were hoping you'd write a couple-paragraph description up for us, so we can gladly spread it around to all of you Zine readers. Or do you know anyone else who has such a story (think parents or other close relatives)? See if you can talk them into telling us about it ... or dare I say, tell us about it yourself?—That is, if they agree and if you're connected enough to know the full scoop! (Nothing like a half-scoop to leave your ice-cream cone on empty!) So ... see you in future Zines!

blue



DEAD MEN TALKING

THE FOLLOWING IS A PROPHECY INTERVIEW WE HAD WITH RIVER PHOENIX, WITH OUR TEENS AND JETTS

ASKING THE QUESTIONS.
RIVER BARES ALL
FROM CLARE, AUSTRALIA

Did you enjoy having the “sex symbol” label, or enjoy being popular in that way?

RIVER PHOENIX: It was really difficult for me to have the label of a sex symbol. It was hard for me to live up to the “image” that the Hollywood machine wanted me to be, as I was just me. I was just a normal person inside. I just liked acting. I enjoyed it; it was a challenge. It was fun for me; it was creative. But to try to live up to the image that was placed on me to be something I wasn’t, that was very difficult, and it gave me a lot of pressure—pressure that I could not handle. That was one of the things that drove me to the excessive drugs that I was taking, and to excessive drinking. I couldn’t stand the pressure.

You know how everyone was suspecting you and Keanu of being gay. Was it true?

Keanu and I were like close brothers. We did love each other, but not in that way. We both wanted to buck the System. We wanted to get away from the “image” that they tried to give us, the “labels” that they tried to hang on us. We made the mistake of making that movie, *My Own Private Idaho*. It was very degrading, degenerate. **That was the movie I’m the most sorry for, because of the effect it had—not only on my life, as that movie was my downfall—but it also affected others’ lives, as we were telling them that it’s okay to be gay.**

Well, it’s not okay!—It’s filthy! And that movie was my biggest mistake, for which I’m very sorry! Keanu and I made a decision that we wouldn’t speak up against gays, which in itself is saying that it’s okay. And I’m sorry for that. But, no, we are not [gays]. We were just very close friends, and I love him very much.

I was wondering if you ever thought back to when you were younger, and in the Family. Did you believe anything that people told you about your past?

I was very young when my parents left the Family. It was very confusing for me because they had taught me to love the Lord, and to love Grandpa, Papa Lion.—And I did. I loved him very much, and everything the Family stood for. My sister and I would perform on the streets, singing and playing guitar, and we really enjoyed it. We were very happy. It was beautiful. People loved us and we were very fulfilled.

Then suddenly they uprooted us and went back to the System, back to the “Whore,” back to America. They started teaching us new things, different things, things that were contrary to what we had learned in the Family. And slowly, slowly we drifted away. Our beliefs changed, our faith changed, and as I got older I started to hear negative things about the Family.

It was sad, because my faith had died. But deep inside my heart I still loved Jesus. Deep inside my heart I still wanted what I had had as a child. I wanted that freedom. I wanted to be able to serve the Lord, like you guys, but it was all very confusing to me. I was very confused, and very lonely. And though I was very famous and made lots of money, I was very lonely, and cried and cried and cried.

Fame isn’t everything, let me tell you! Most movie stars would rather not be famous. Once they reach that point of fame, a lot of them regret being so well known, because they have no more privacy. Of course, some people love that fame, because of their pride. But there were those of us who wished we could drop out and not be well known.

Is there meaning to the name “Hollywood”?

Hollywood is a spiritual place—a wicked, spiritual place. It’s very anti-Christ, and it’s run by anti-Christians who are trying to infiltrate the world with their propaganda. It’s very rare that they give any credit or glory to Jesus.

Usually they defame Him, and spit on His name. It is a wicked place, and that’s why there are certain ones that the Lord lays on your heart to pray for. He asks you to pray for some of those who He knows are searching for deliverance, for the truth, for a way out, from that den of iniquity. But God will have His way. You’ll see. He will destroy that place for the evil it has spread throughout the world.

Did you ever get into Buddhism or anything like that?

Well, sad to say, I did start dabbling around in Eastern religions, mainly because I was really searching. My foundation, my faith in Jesus had crumbled. Though in my heart I still loved Jesus, it was buried under all this other garbage. So I started looking to other things—the New Age movement, as that’s very strong in Hollywood. I also got into other big trips, like saving the animals, and all that kind of stuff.

Is there anything you think it’s especially important for us Family teens to know?

When I died I was only 23, so I was just coming out of teenhood. When I came to Heaven, the Lord gave me the opportunity to serve Him

with the Family, because of the prayers that were prayed for me. I was able to work along with some of the teens then who had come to Heaven, some of the kids that were Here, and later the girls from the Austin accident.

I saw the potential that the Family teens have. I saw what I could have had, had I grown up in the Family. I saw that a lot of young people in the Family feel unhappy and discontented, and compare themselves with those in the System.--And sometimes they compare themselves negatively.

I've been on both sides. I've had the Family and the System, and I reached the peak of the System. I was at the top, so I know what it's like on both sides. I know what it's like to be in the Family. I know what it's like to live in poverty, and I know what it's like to be a millionaire. And I have a real burden to help the young people of the Family to realize what a blessing they have.

I wish I could have had what you guys have now, the opportunities that you have. That's what I wanted in my life, but I missed that opportunity. And I have a strong burden now to help the young people of the Family to count their blessings, and take advantage of the opportunities that they have, to serve the Lord, and to give Him all they've got, as I wish I had done.

What hairstyle do you have, River?

Any hairstyle you want me to have! Yeah, I can change my hairstyle!

If you had a chance to redo it all, would you choose to stay in the Family? Like, we wouldn't have you talking, you wouldn't be here talking and all that.

So would you redo it to stay in the Family, or redo it the same way you did it so we would have this chance?

If I had a chance to go back and do it all over, I would stay in the Family, because there is no greater calling on this Earth than to serve the Lord. And there's no greater place to serve the Lord on this Earth than in the Family. So that would be my greatest desire. But if I had a chance to come back and live my life the same way I did, then I would do it differently too.

I would be less selfish, I would think more about others, and I wouldn't have taken all those drugs, as that was my downfall. And though I didn't exactly commit suicide, what I did was pretty much equal to it, because I overdid it. I took too many drugs, knowing the consequences. It was just a real careless and selfish move, and it hurt a lot of people. And that's what I regret the most: the hurt that I've caused my friends and my family, as I can never undo that damage.

What did you think of all your fans?

When I was on Earth, I was very proud, very cool, and very indifferent. I didn't treat my fans very nice; **I wasn't very nice to them. In all my photos you can see that I was very hard and proud, and I'm very sorry that I was that way.** It has convicted me since I died that I was so unloving. I thought they [my fans] didn't really matter, they were just people that didn't mean much to me. I was more interested in my own little life.

Of course, I somewhat enjoyed the glory of it, even though I would rather have not been famous. It was bit confusing, because I went through a lot of different phases and stages in my life, but I never really allowed many people to get very close to me. So I didn't treat my fans very nicely, and I'm very sorry for that, as now I see that they're searching souls who need Jesus. So if you ever hear anyone talk about me, tell them I love them and I'm with Jesus, and I'd like them to be Here with me, in Heaven. Okay? Thank You Jesus!

What do you think about your brother now (Joaquin Phoenix)? Does he have the same attitude towards Hollywood?

My brother is a mess. Please pray for him. He's really screwed up inside. He was traumatized by my death, as he was with me. It was one of the last things I saw—the look on his face. So my deepest regret was that I had messed up his life. He's a good actor, but his heart is hurting. He has a deep sorrow inside, and he's very unhappy. Please pray for him. I have a real burden to reach him. My desire is that I can reach out to him, that way I'd be able to reach Keanu. And there are others too.—My family, and other actors that I lay on your



heart and ask you to pray for, that I wish to reach, because I know where their hearts are at: Johnny Depp, Christian Slater, Winona Ryder, Suzanne Solgot, to name a few.

But there are many others, and when the Lord brings them to your mind, please pray for them, as that could be the start to changing the world. If these guys could get saved and learn about Jesus, they could influence so many others. And their hearts are ready for it. So please pray for them. Please pray for my brother. He really needs prayer. So do my sisters, but my brother especially, as he was so deeply wounded by my death. *(End of message.)* ■

DEAD MEN TALKING



flowers

in the snow

Spooky Stories

FROM DANIEL JEREMIAH AND MOLDAVIAN PRECIOUS, MOLDOVA

A few days ago, we were freezing our boots off in the middle of a blizzard on a notorious highway. What would you think we were doing there, at a time when even street dogs would denounce their right to walk on the streets?—We were hitchhiking, of all things! Our efforts were not proving successful—hardly anyone was driving—but we had no choice; we were already halfway to our destination, a port on the Black Sea coast, barely touched by our almost omnipresent Family.

On top of it, we were supposed to go postering, and now it seemed that all we would be capable of doing would be hanging onto some warm radiator until the spring. (That is, if we could find a spare radiator available!!!) But the Lord prepared a miraculous little sign to encourage our faith.

I was digging trenches in the snow by the road, kinda kicking it very hard, so that my toes would get at least a little feeling in them, when I uncovered a few artificial flowers! Wow!—Then more, and again a few more! And so I ended up with a little flower collection that I dug from under that snow.

Okay, that's nice, but what is so special or spooky about it, you may ask. The spook came when we got on the bus that finally picked us up! Suddenly, when thinking of the flowers, I started hearing: "Alexey! Alexey!" Who's that? I turned my head, but there was no one behind me. Then I got the hint—maybe these flowers are related somehow to our trip, and I got desperate to ask the Lord about it.

The Lord said that these flowers were for Alexey, a young guy that died recently in a car accident near that place, and they were placed on his cross by the road. The Lord allowed them to be carried away by the stormy wind that day to draw our attention! Alexey wanted us to pray for his soul. And so I did, desperately!

I felt something moving in the spirit. I'm not a real spook fan, but this was a true case! I felt a change, and that Alexey was released and jumping all around the bus! Then I got a little message from him, saying that he's so thankful I prayed, and that he'll be with us on this trip and we'd be able to give the posters to many people he knows, that he'd arrange that and would be with us! PTL!

I was a little skeptical, wondering how in the world we would give *any* lit out in such a downpour of biting snow and fierce wind. But when we got to our destination, the weather cleared up a bit, and we did three hours of postering, and the people were preciously thankful and sheepy! We got out 2,000 posters and safely rode back home that same evening!

So if you guz have no money to get your girl flowers, you can dig'm up out there by the highways, especially in the winter.—But check out whose they were first! ■



flowers in the snow

grandma's message

This is from that "Anonymous in Russia"—remember the language funnies? (See FZ #016.) Well, I'm not in Russia any more, so I guess I'm just the "Anonymous Russian" now, ha! All right, here's the story ...

... When I woke up that morning I could not move. My whole body seemed to be spellbound, and all I could do was to look in different directions... *All right let's see, over me is the ceiling (obviously!), to the right of me is the wall with my photos on it, to the left are my plants and down ... is my own body.* As soon as I realized I was looking at myself, I felt a strong pull down and in the next second I was sucked back into my earthly shell. I felt chills all over my body and then I knew I was back, I could move again...

Let's start from the beginning here. I'm no psychic—at least I never thought I was one—and I wasn't used to this kind of stuff. It was a cold December night in Russia, about one o'clock AM. As far as my memory goes, I was 100% sure I was sleeping ... or so I thought. I felt a little chilly on my back, turned around to check the blankets, and all of a sudden realized that there was a dim light in the room and someone was looking at me. The strangest thing is that I was not spooked.

As I lifted up my head I realized it was my grandmother, the one that lives up north, beyond the Arctic Circle ... but that's thousands of miles away from this southern city where we were! In one glance at her I realized I was not seeing her body. She was see-through. Her whole body (or should I say appearance) was made out of this thick, dim light that I'd noticed before.

Oh no! I thought. *Not you, Grandma! How come you are here like that? Are you dead?*

I did not hear the answer, but these lines were sort of flashed into my mind, *No, I just came to see you and give you a little message. I knew you would understand.* She told me something about my parents having a car crash, and I saw a little glimpse of a truck hitting their car head-on, on the slippery icy road. *Pray for them! Pray as hard as you can! There is danger!...* Then she stretched out her hand towards my face and I felt warm all over and must have fallen asleep right there, 'cause I couldn't remember anything else after that...

The next morning I woke up hanging over myself for a few seconds, in the scene I described in the beginning. All I could think about was that message I'd gotten the night before. I got down on my hands and knees, worrying that it might be too late already, and prayed up a storm, quoting all the protection verses I could think of. The



grandma's
message

flowers
in the
snow

thought of my parents' car-crash did not leave my mind that whole day, and I sent up a prayer for them every time I thought about them. At the end of the day I could not take it anymore. I had to know what was going on. Was it just a bad dream? Was I going bananas and worrying too much?

My mom's voice sounded so happy on the phone. "Guess what?!" she said excitedly, "We went to see Grandma last week and just returned a few hours ago. We are here by a miracle, 'cause the road was so icy that at one point we lost control of the car and were almost hit by a truck..."

Well, you can paint the rest of the picture. The timing, place, and all the details fit together. I saw the vision of Grandma about three hours after they had left her, having a 20-hour drive ahead of them. If it were not for the message, I might have not seen them again in this life... ■

Cries in the Wilderness

LUCIFER'S FLIGHT REFIQUL

FROM CHRIS (17), USA
 My partner and I were clowning at a Walmart, when I noticed a very weird-looking person. He was wearing black pants, shoes and glasses, and had even dyed his hair black. His T-shirt was white, but he was wearing a black shirt over it. I asked him if he was a Christian, and he told me he wasn't; he worshipped Lucifer. I started asking him why he didn't believe in God, and warned him about the dangers of worshipping the Devil. He told me he thought the Devil was more powerful than God. I noticed his left knee was shaking, and he began fiddling with his house key. I started reading him Bible verses about the power of Jesus and salvation. I was reminded of the Letter "The Shepherd's Crook," but I felt that since this man was only 22 years old, and he told me he

had been worshipping Lucifer for 11 years, it was time he got "preached at." He never got upset during our 2-1/2 hour conversation, but feared the Spirit of God and respected what I was saying. About 30 minutes into our conversation, he took out his house key again, and it was bent. (It had been straight before.) He told me the Devil was mad at him

getting more and more nervous. His voice sounded really weird as well. Another girl and I were telling him about salvation, and we were both trying to convince him that Jesus really loves him. After about two hours, I felt it was time to actually prove God's power over the Devil. I took him outside of the Walmart where nobody could really see or hear



for listening to me, and had bent his key. He told me that he had powers, and that he could lift my body in spirit and in the physical. I just looked at him and said, "No you can't! You may have the power of the Devil, but I've got the power of Jesus!" He didn't want to take off his glasses for some reason, but I asked him to and his eyes looked like the weirdest thing I ever saw. It seemed like he was so scared of the presence of God, and was

us. I said, "If you think the Devil has more power than Jesus, then go ahead and try." So he started praying to the Devil for about 20 seconds, and I said, "You see? Nothing happened to me, now let me pray for you." He told me his stomach was starting to hurt all of a sudden. He said Lucifer was really mad so he was pulling on his stomach. So I laid both my hands on him and prayed, "I rebuke you Lucifer

Felix&Dude
-Beach Boyz-
Two Missing from Ship Wreck
 With hope dwindling after a failed search, officials have lost hope of rescuing the two missing foreigners.
 One week ago, an overcrowded ship with 1000 passengers went down in rough waters. A fishing vessel rescued the other passengers and crew the following day. But the missing men seem to have drifted out to sea or gone down with the ship. A tragic ending to a mission to become...

Thank God we were able to snatch your backpack out of the water!
 Yes, or we'd have nothing to eat. But that's the last popcorn kernel, and this is all we have left of the juice! This is getting desperate!
 Lord, we really need help!
 Yes, Jesus PLEASE HELP!

I think I'm getting something!
 Take now thy rod into thine hand and strike the waters. For this day thou shalt see the power of the Almighty!
 And I'm seeing a vision! - Oh, hi Moses!

Wow! But how are we gonna get an appropriate rod?
 Look, we can use part of our raft!

IN JESUS' NAME!
 Huh?!?

FROM A.G.V. (17)

Recently, while visiting another Home that has an Internet connection, I got to try out a popular chat program. On it I met this girl called Dotty. She was 15, but quite deep. We chatted for a long time, and I promised to meet her online again. But after I closed, I started getting a real burden for her. I knew the Lord wanted me to witness to her, and I also knew that it was my responsibility to do so.

Two days later I caught her online again. I asked her if she believed in the afterlife, and she said, "In a sense I do and in a sense I don't. I think about it a lot though. It's a complicated thing to think about." I told her it was the simplest thing: The secret was just to BELIEVE! I told her Jesus was a real cool Guy Who was the original "alternative." (She likes to be different from the mainstream.) I told her a few Salvation verses, and said, "That's why if you pray with me, Dotty, you can live forever. Wanna repeat after me? It's real cool!" Then as I typed out each phrase, she would type it after me.

When we finished I said, "That's it! Simple, ain't it?" She answered "I dunno what to say ... really, I mean thanx! You cleared a lot of stuff up for me." I asked her how she felt and she answered, "Well, I dunno. I feel weird, like really excited now. I dunno, it's kewl!" She was so happy she didn't want me to go, so I stayed talking to her some more.

It was quite an experience; it's not like the personal witnessing I'm used to. I know it was really the Lord's leading, as I found her completely by chance (she was at another person's computer while I was trying to talk to them), but I guess the Lord was really engineering everything behind the scenes to get this dear soul into His Heavenly kingdom. All this to say: Use IT, but don't let it USE you! KGFG! And to all you faithful witnesses out there: keep up the good work! God bless y'all!!!!

P.S. Thanks Matteo for the connection and for all your patience. And big THANK YOU to Ivan for your technical support. GBY! ■

CLUBBING AROUND

FROM JOHANNA (17), UKRAINE

While on a witnessing trip to Makievka we went to a club of young people. The first time we went there I was expecting to do some great witnessing, but it turned out not to be so. They had invited some weird people to sing, and the whole time I had shivers up and down my spine. I remember thinking that if we came in there with our music, it could blow their minds. They had a message of despair, no hope! It didn't work out then, but I left feeling that we had to do something. I prayed that we could come back as soon as possible with a singing team.

Unfortunately we didn't make it until two months later, but by then we had a "show" roughly put together. We had decided on doing the "Adam and Eve" skit, some wild songs, and a dance. Angie (12), Gabe (15) and I had two days to work out a dance to "Jesus the Light"! Man, were things hectic! I was sure we would never make it, Lord forgive me for my lack of faith!

Finally the day came. My stomach was in knots, feeling as if I could faint any moment. (Oh, I forgot, we also took the puppet show with us.) We arrived there safe and sound and I was desperate, my knees were knocking.—See I had never done a public skit, much less a dance, since I was ten! So you can imagine my

THE ANIMAL-DODGING ROLLERCOASTER

FROM A. (14), CHINA

Recently I was able to participate in a medical clinic, where doctors and dentists came from the States to give free medical care to the poor in remote villages. I had a blast and it was real cool being able to work with others who have the same vision as us. It was especially fun being able to reach the villages where the people have never seen a white face or even heard about Jesus.

The village we went to was so remote that there wasn't even any transportation to get us there! The government of one of the larger cities arranged two army jeeps and an army truck to take us there, as there was no road, and the trail we had to take would have been unsuitable for any other type of transportation. I wouldn't say that it was all that comfortable, but it sure was fun! We went for a two-hour ride through lakes and rivers (getting stuck in the mud every now and then), over mountains, and at the same time trying to avoid hitting animals (horses, cows, ducks, etc.). Boy, that ride sure beat a roller coaster!

PTL, we made it to the village in one piece, and got to work right away setting up our clinic at the village hospital. (Although it was nothing more than an empty building!) We stayed at the village for three days and won 200 souls.

So far on our SWIFT, 573 souls have been saved. Firstly along the China/North Korean border, Beijing, Xian, Inner Mongolia (Chinese province), and 60 souls were saved in Outer Mongolia, an independent country that was under Russian rule from 1920-1992, but now is wide open. Bored with the West? Come out and help us reach this last harvest!! ■

fright.)

Anyway, we got on stage—nervous as ever—and thank the Lord, it went great! Of course we made some mistakes, but nothing major! TTL! It really opened the door to be able to minister to the young people, and they were all asking me if I knew the Lord personally, to which I answered, "Of course!"—That I even talk to Him and we have conversations together. That really turned them on, and they all got saved, Hallelujah!

In another instance I was giving out

the booklet "Who Is Jesus?" and this young guy came up to me and said he was Satan!—I guess he was trying to scare me out or something. I answered quite frankly that the Lord and I were stronger than him, and he started shaking. Then I let him have it! I may have come off a little strong, but he finally got saved, and I hope he leads some of his friends to the Lord. That day we won a great victory, with 16 souls for the Lord's Kingdom. We'll be going back soon where we hope to win some more souls for the Lord! ■

From Phil (SGA), IVM (written while in Russia)

The Lord opened the door for the Home here to produce a 20-minute music video, titled "Something Is Hot." Miracles paved the road, all the way from the beginning of the production till the end, with the Lord as our provider, door-opener, weatherman, producer and guide. The cast, the crew and nearly everyone involved in the production were Russian nationals, and the video was made possible as a result of the help from the wonderful catacombers that are abundant in these parts. Seeing the Lord use each of us for this project was proof that "we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, not of man."

There is an A-class singing team here that performs a small but beautiful show. They have been performing at English camps, schools and other institutions in the city. The dancers and singers (all girls!) are aged 15-17, and they perform from their hearts anytime and anywhere the music is playing. One of the songs that they sing and dance is "Turn Around" (the anti-drug song), which the Home uses to promote drug awareness for the youth. Drug abuse is a big problem here in Russia, and often starts among the 9- to 11-year-olds. So an idea was formed to produce a music video, with this song and three others, to be used on TV and at the schools where the Home has been doing English clubs.

We prayed and heard from the Lord, and He confirmed that it was His will. He also gave us some very wise counsel, that we needed to remember our most important commission: to love, care for and feed the people that He would send our way as a result of the filming.

The action began! Two days after the idea had come to life, we began laying the foundation for the production. We needed a camera, cameraman, actors, locations, musical instruments, costumes, the use of a vehicle, good weather on the days we were to film, etc. The moment we placed our feet on the doormats of a television studio, we were thrust into what was to be 18 days of pure miracles. We hardly had to knock on the doors that stood before us; every door would just fly open!

Our first stop was a TV station—as



no filming can be done without a camera! One of the members of the Home had met the director of this local TV station once before, so he called him up and we arranged to meet him that afternoon. When we got to the TV station, our man of the hour was not there; another man came to talk with us. We were a little disappointed, but we sat down to a cup of *chai* (tea) and met God's chosen, V. He turned out to be one of the directors of the TV station, the head of the production department, and was the man we would work with for the entire time of the production.

We talked to him about the project we wanted to do and how we were concerned about reaching the youth in this city. He smiled as he said, "We want to help you with this project and I will give you my best cameraman for filming this video." We found out that he had directed over 200 films, one of which was a documentary about and with Michael Gorbachev when the communist walls were falling. The cameraman we were to work with had worked with V. as camera operator on a good number of the films that he had written the screenplays for and directed. He had won "best documentary" in the Cannes film festival in 1997. He asked, "When can I see the scripts for the songs?" We told him that we would have them ready in a few days.

Thus it all began; there was no backing out now, and there was more work ahead of us than we had expected, but no more than what the Lord knew a team united in His love could handle. I went home and began scripting the four songs. Three of the songs were in Russian: "Peace," "Love, True Love" and "Turn Around," and "Something Is Hot" was in English. Then the scripts were ready, as well as the filming schedule—which was to begin in two days and would last for two weeks. Filming would take place in the afternoons, as all our dancers, singers and actors go to school in the morning, so we had to work around their schedules.

The Lord's miracles kept coming. The day that we were planning on starting the filming a typhoon was supposed to rip through the city with predicted gale-force winds lasting for three days. Rain flooded the streets the day before the filming was scheduled; so much rain fell that cars were

caught halfway deep in water, and there were traffic jams all over the city. But by that evening the rains had stopped and the winds began to blow, very hard, and they kept on blowing the entire night—close to hurricane status. By the next day there were beautiful blue skies with white puffy clouds that gloriously framed the sun, whose rays dried up most of the deep pools of water.

That cheery but rather crisp afternoon we were off to our first location, which was an orphanage. The five-man man team from this city have been going to this to this orphanage for quite some time to help and play with the orphans, who are very beautiful children. After a few trips to this and other orphanages, the moment you leave you are left with the desire to bring those children home with you. This day was no exception! We got some beautiful shots; they all had such beautiful smiles and enjoyed the time we spent with them.

Production was now in full swing. Day one was behind us, and day two was almost upon us. The team consisted of O. (who gave a powerful performance of "Turn Around," her eyes filled with conviction as she sang the lyrics), J. (who with the voice of an angel sang "Peace"), N. (a beautiful twin whose sister, L., brought double beauty to the show, sang "Love, True Love"), and J. (dancer, who sang "Something Is Hot" with a performance that put the name of the song to shame. Her movements seemed to get hotter every time she would dance and sing to the rhythm of the song's catchy tune!) The dancers who also graced the screen with their beautiful smiles, bodies and spirits were, D., Z. and J.D.

The cast members for the drama portions of the songs were the lively "cats," as they're called, as well as many of the kids from the English camps that take place here regularly. They were all eager to be a part of the project, and we would receive calls every day asking if they could come filming. We started filming without all the costumes we needed, but it just seemed that each time we "definitely" needed a certain costume, we had it. By the time our first major filming session was upon us, when we just couldn't do without the full set, we had every piece of clothing we needed.

Our team of cast and crew were whisked around the city to such locations as a beach, a pier, a classy disco (the manager of this disco is a friend of the Home, and even though the entrance fee is rather expensive, he let us film there at no charge), on the crowded streets of the bustling city, the heights of the 5-star hotel's roof, plus the hotel's Sky Bar.

The FGA member of the team, the man of many brothers, would say "Where do you want to film?" I would name a certain location and he would say, "No problem, I know the owner!"—Or director, etc., as the case was. He would give them a call and the doors literally disappeared.

This top hotel was our next stop, the rooftop shots overlooking the bay and a section of the city. For this filming session we needed blue skies—blue skies with puffy clouds is actually what we made reservations for the night before. Our short-lived dismay saw only a sky of blackened gray, but with our solid contract written in His promises, we decided to go for it. We waited on the roof for only 10 minutes before the blue sky and puffy cloud combination was ready for filming. The angle



with MOVIE and
 at the impossible, a little change
 with a little possibility
 AND IN THIS CASE





WIT H MIRACLES all the way
 made a music video
 at the end of the world
 and in this case, executive

of
 the
 best
 miracle
 to us was

possibility



that we needed to film was the *only* section of the sky that not only looked good, but beautiful.

And the Lord didn't let up on the flow of miracles. Instruments were what we needed next—a bass guitar, lead guitar, drums, keyboard and a saxophone—and instruments we got, not some but *all* of them, and just when we needed them the most. With our newly formed band we set up in a street that looked like a ghetto; it even had the name appropriately spray painted on the end wall. That night we all went for it, and it sure is Heaven that the sound we made won't be coming out on video. We did raise up a few of the startled neighbors though with the music!

The car was another miracle. The Home had a little van that had been in the repair shop for quite some time. It was fixed the day before our filming began, and lasted us through the entire time of our filming, only to break down again just after the filming was completed!—It is amazing that little Japanese mini-van lasted that long on the treacherous Russian roads.

On a location-scouting adventure, one of the girls from the Home and I were led to a place where a young rock group were taking photos. We got to talking with them and first they accepted the offer of helping us out with a few shots, and then they received the much bigger offer of eternal life. They found themselves snugly filling our little mini-van to its maximum seating capacity (for protection from the icy winds that whipped through the elevated location), and in this cozy environment they all prayed to receive the Lord.

The electric guitarist's mother was a reporter for one of the biggest newspapers in this city, who found our filming adventure a suitable topic for one of her reports, took some photos of a scene we were filming one day and then a couple of articles came out about it!

Throughout the time that the filming was taking place, the Lord led us to many people who offered their services as actors for the video, and this gave us a perfect opportunity to leave them with an amount of affection, which they seem to love; once they get a kiss or hug from any of the individuals fluent in these matters they are usually overwhelmingly hooked, and from that point on they are giving a number of enthusiastic displays of affection themselves. Many of them also had the opportunity to hear about and receive the Lord, which made the entire venture worth every bit of our time and effort. We have also been able to stay in contact with some of the fledgling actors.

At the end of what seemed like to each one of us an adventure filled with miracles, the Man of many fulfilled promises gave us the opportunity to have V. over for dinner, where we were able to become even closer friends and continue what seems like a lasting friendship—one that will hopefully lead him to the greatest Friend of all. Seeing the Lord work for us during this time was proof that He will never fail to fulfill His Word. The biggest miracle to us was how with love and unity, plus a little chance at the impossible, when the Lord is the Chairman of the Board (and in this case, Executive Producer), He made a music video with a budget of \$0.00 come to be not only a possibility but a reality. The often-quoted contract agreement has just as much truth as it did on the day when it was first signed: "Whatever I have promised I am able also to perform." ■



STEPHEN KING



AMY TAN

STEPHEN KING, DAVE BARRY, AMY TAN

(From Shad and Amada, USA:) As the Lord told us, "You never know who you're going to meet, so it pays to be always ready!" We were having a W&R night out at a



DAVE BARRY

small club that has live bands that play oldies, where we would go occasionally to witness or just to get away for a while. It's a varied crowd, from people in suits to people in shorts and sandals, mostly older intellectual types, so we can wit-

ness pretty freely.

We were outside talking to a friend who had gotten saved several months ago, when a large group of people filed past us carrying electric guitars and other instruments. They were a band called "The Reminders," made up of all famous authors, including Dave Barry (nationally famous author and journalist), Amy Tan (author of "The Joy Luck Club" and other bestsellers) and Stephen King (probably the most famous author-novelist in the country, with scores of bestsellers and movies to his credit).

We danced to several of their songs and then I went to the car to look for some lit to give them, but couldn't find any. By then they had finished and we were able to talk a bit with Dave Barry and Stephen King. After searching our car again we finally found some posters ("The Man of Love") and gave one to Dave just as he was



CHRISTIAN LASSEN

leaving. He was very thankful for it and said he would definitely read it. We couldn't find Stephen King then but saw a limo ready to leave and knew it had to be him. So we went up and motioned them to roll down the window and were able to get a poster to him! It was pretty exciting and we got the following messages afterwards.

(Jesus speaking:) You never know who you're going to meet, so it pays to be always ready, in season and out of season. These were indeed the tops in the literary world, but I had you there to give them the Words from the tops in My world, the Words of David! They shall not return void. For these, too, have need to hear My Words. For many read their words and if they do hearken unto My Words and change their hearts, it can help to draw many unto Me. So pray for them, that they would yield and pass on the Words of My Spirit to the millions.

(Dad speaking:) I'm proud of you, kids! You almost lost it, but your desperation to give them the message brought you through with flying colors. It's so impor-



tant to always be ready, for as time goes on, there will be more and more of these encounters, for sometimes it is the only way that they can get the message. We're all hopping up and down here 'cause this is going to go a lot further than what you see. The online address is there and the helpers will be speaking to their hearts to use it. So wait and see how it pans out. It's pretty exciting and you followed our cues. Well done!

MOHAMMED

(From Servant and Phoebe, Mexico:) We gave a Christmas poster to Mohammed, a famous Argentinean soccer player here in Mexico.



(From Tia, USA:)

Back in Christmas of 1994 we were doing a concert in Chicago. After we finished we met CHRIS CHULLIO (of the Chicago Black Hawks, and NHL all-star). Julie and Joni went over to talk to him. He got saved and then took some pictures with our team.



KEANU REEVES

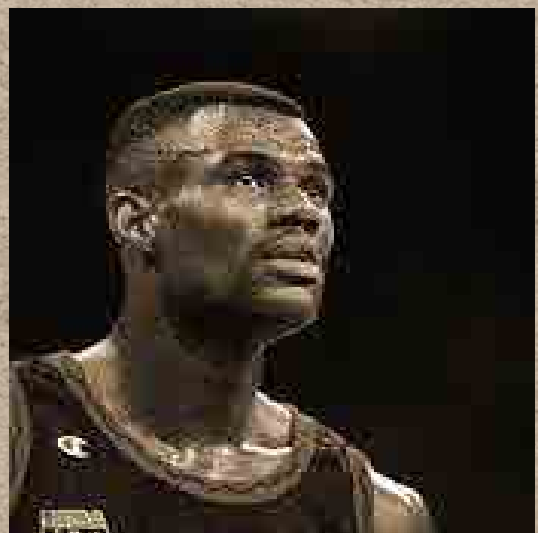
(From Jason and Pat, USA:) Michael got invited to see a band in which Keanu Reeves plays bass guitar. During the concert, Michael



KEANU REEVES

jumped up on stage and gave Keanu a "Heaven Is Full of Sinners" tract. Keanu thanked Mike and put the tract in his pocket.

I have always admired the paintings of the world famous marine artist and surfer CHRISTIAN RIESSE LASSEN. A few years ago I wrote him a short letter saying how much I enjoyed his paintings, and sent him a few



DAVID ROBINSON

While we were street light postering one day, DAVID ROBINSON (of the San Antonio Spurs, and NBA all-star) drove up at the light. He was very sweet and admired our work. Mark (IS) gave him a poster and he gave a good donation.

posters. I received a letter back from him shortly thereafter saying, "Truly I am blessed to have the gifts that God has given me. I'm glad my work inspires you. Thanks for your support and prayers."

AND GLORY

Ministering to the Rich and Famous

DONOVAN

(From Angie SGA and Jo, Nepal:) On Feb 1st, 1999, "The Prince of Flower Power," Donovan Leitch was playing in Kathmandu. We remembered that our Family in Italy had met him before (FZ #025), so we weren't sure what the Lord wanted us to do—if we should follow up on him and try to see him or what. By a series of little miracles and following the whispers, we were able to attend the concert and speak with Don for a few minutes. We had a little package ready with some lit, a newsletter about what we are up to here in Nepal and a personal message that we had received from Beyond when praying about what the Lord wanted him to hear. He was very warm when he received it, and said, "Thank you very much! I will treasure this!" The mystifying thing is that we don't know who the message was from—it sounded like someone who knew Donovan personally, but we just had to step out by faith and be the channels and let the chips fall where they may—yikes!

The Lord led us to give him some Word about Heaven, and the message from the USB (uni-

dentified someone Beyond) was all about the power of love. Now, I don't know about you, but the last stuff I had heard from Don was from not less than 20 years ago, so I had no idea what kind of stuff he was into now. Amazingly enough, one of the songs he had written was a cynical but searching song about Heaven, and another one was about "the other side ... together ... forever." And then he sang a song he had just written that hasn't even been released yet, and it was all about love and how it was the thing worth living for—beautiful!

F&G

Thank You Lord for such direction, when we didn't even have a clue. That increased my faith a lot for the whole deal with communicating with other spirits (besides the Lord and the "known" saints), and just being a faucet! It's up to the receiver as far as what they will do with the truth they are given, but there is a certain thrill to fulfill-



ing our role as the mediums and prophets of this day and age!

★★★★★★

While visiting in Japan we got stuck in a bad traffic jam. In the next lane over was LEONARDO DICAPRIO in a limousine! He waved to us and then had to move on. We would have liked to talk to him and get him saved, show him the Lord's love, ahem!—Maybe next time!



MOHAMMED ??

PRESIDENT OF ROMANIA

(From Lily, Moldova:) In May 1998, while Diamond and I were doing our weekly shopping, we saw lots of people in the market, more than usual. Then we started seeing video



EMIL CONSTANTINESCU



LEONARDO DICAPRIO

F&G

★★★★★★

SALLY FIELD

(From Freedom and Happy, Canada:) We gave some posters to Sally Field, while she was in our neighborhood making a movie. She said, "Thank you."

FORMER JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER

(From Robin, Japan:) Our long-term live-out, Aoyama-san, who loves all the new wine and is an excellent witness and teacher, was for years in the same class in school as the previous Prime Minister of Japan, Hashimoto Ryutarō. They all call him "Ryu-chan" which is a playful name, and in Japan, this relationship stays the



HASHIMOTO RYUTARO

same regardless of whatever role any of them grow into. When he was actively prime minister, several folks heard from the Lord for him, and Aoyama-san sent him the prophecies, along with a personal note. She is presently following up with personal encouragement-type communications and witness, as he's probably more open to hear and get the help from the Lord than ever, given Japan's difficult situation economically, and desperate need for leadership since he stepped down.



SALLY FIELD



DONOVAN

Itch^hiking

ADVENTURES

And

THE LITTLE VOICE



From Paul, Kenya

Reading "Endtime Prophecy Power" reminded me of something that happened to me many years ago after I'd been in the Family for a year. I was 18 years old, living in a Home in Southern Ireland, and I had to go up to a town in Northern Ireland alone. (Not recommended!) I decided to make a mini-road trip out of it, and hitchhiked up. The first day was spent traveling, and I stayed in a "Bed and Breakfast" for the night.

The next day, the Lord showed me to poster on the street and hitchhike to the next town in the evening. After a good day on the street I was standing by the road with my packed dinner, praying about what to do next. The Lord said to sit down and eat, and that the first car that passed would give me a lift and a place to stay for the night.

So I ate, and lo and behold, as I stood up, a young guy stopped and asked if I needed a lift. On the way I witnessed to him and asked if he knew of a place where I could stay the night. He thought for a minute, and then very apologetically said that he could not let me stay at his house because he did not know if his wife would agree. He dropped me just a few miles short of the city, and turned off down a dirt road.

I thought, "Well, PTL!" And I carried on hitchhiking. Half an hour later I was wondering why I had not found a lift when my attention was caught by a car horn behind me. Yes, it was the same guy. He had not even made it home. He said that he got halfway and then he couldn't go on any longer. After fifteen minutes battling what to do he turned around to pick me up. Well, it all worked out; his wife was okay and I was able to witness to them.

The next day I witnessed in the town, and in the evening I looked in a few bars to see if there was someone I could witness to and try to find a place to stay. It was getting dark and I was praying desperately, as the bars and streets were empty.

After some time I noticed a very beautiful girl walking on the other side of the street. The Lord said, "Follow her." For a moment I wondered, "Wait a minute, that sounds like a witness of the flesh and not the spirit!" Ha! Anyway, out of desperation I followed and she led me out of the town center. Eventually she entered a large building with singing coming from inside. Still I followed. It was a church meeting! Yikes!

"I've really blown it," I thought. Still, I got the impression to stay until the end, which came soon, thank God! And I looked for someone to strike up a conversation with. However, as soon as the service was over everyone immediately congregated into little well-established cliques, leaving me feeling that I'd made a big mistake. I headed for the door.

Out of nowhere a guy appeared. "Hey, how are you?" he said excitedly, greeting me like a long-lost friend. "What are you doing here?"

Somewhat taken aback, I greeted him, not knowing who he was until he reminded me that he was someone that had picked me up hitchhiking six months previously, two hundred miles south of where we now were! Stunned, I fumbled through my story, and as quick as a flash he called over a friend who put me up for the night. Praise God! The next day I went witnessing and then hitchhiked home in the evening. I remember it made a big impression on me how the Lord led and provided through the whole trip. TYJ!

Steven (17, of Nathan and Leah), in Thailand experimenting with the best way to read zine-toons on screen after downloading the zine from the members only site.

FRENCH KISS



KATE (16),
FRENCH CLAIRE (22),
FRENCH JEANNE (16).

"A FRENCH
KISS FROM
RUSSIA."

PHOTO PAGE

GAIL E. (19, OF CLAY AND BROOK) AND
ELIAS (15, OF THIAGO AND PRISCILLA),
PORTO ALEGRE, BRAZIL

MANNY (18)
SUMMER '98
SOCHI--RUSSIA



THE BECKMAN CLAN

BROTHERS:



BOWY, GABE,

IMMER, LEVI.

Stacy's

0010015



ALL OF MY DREAMS

FROM RIMA, AFRICA

My parents left the CM Family to become FMers when I was 11. For the first three years after that, I really wanted to become CM again. I often asked, but was told I was too young. I thought they had forsaken me, so I became bitter against the Family and the Lord. I felt that I couldn't sit on the fence any longer; if I couldn't be in the Charter Family, then I would go to the System. During this time I was studying, and got into going out to nightclubs, having boyfriends, trying drugs, etc. But when I turned 16, I became very disillusioned with all this. I was very lonely and felt I couldn't talk to anybody. I didn't have any real friends.

I didn't know which way to turn. I didn't feel that I was getting any of the fulfillment and satisfaction I wanted from my System way of life. Even though I had my whole life ahead of me—the best grades in my school, a future at university—it just wasn't fulfilling, and I felt empty.

At this time, my parents went to Romania for a couple of weeks to work in an orphanage with another organization (not the Family). Ever since I was about 12, I had wanted to work with children in troubled spots around the world—in Rwanda or Bosnia or Romania. So I went with them.

When I got to Romania, I saw that helping the kids made me forget all my troubles. I was really happy. I was working with mentally handicapped kids, and I was able to see that everything I gave them made such a difference in their little lives. It seemed to put everything in the right perspective for me. During this time, I decided to leave my studies and join this organization full-time, and work in these orphanages as a volunteer for 2-3 months.

But on the way home we stopped in Hungary. One of my cousins had joined the Family a few years previously, and we hadn't seen her in a while, so my parents wanted to stop by and see her. At this time I had this bitterness against the Family, and I didn't want to see them or have anything to do with them. So the idea of going to a Family Home was not so popular in my mind.

Anyway, I kind of dragged along with my parents to see my cousin. I was happy about seeing her, but I just didn't want to see the rest of the Family.

When I was young I'd always read these testimonies about how when people walked into a Family Home they could see the light on people's faces, etc. I thought people just wrote that because it sounded good in a testimony. But when I walked into the Home, I could see the happiness and the light on their faces! I hadn't seen that for years, and it shocked and surprised me that they were that happy. I liked this about them, but I still had my own desires and things I wanted to do, and I didn't want to forsake all that to join the Family.

We stayed in Hungary for a couple days, and my cousin asked me what I wanted to do with my life. I told her that I didn't want to join the Family, because I didn't want to just work in the Home or be on childcare or in the kitchen, and forsake all my dreams and all the things I wanted to do with my life.

Later on, when I was alone, I could feel the conviction in my heart. I knew the Lord was zeroing in on my life, but I didn't want anything to do with it! To get myself off the hook, I said, "Okay, Lord, I'm going to go ahead with my plans to go to Romania and work as a volunteer. But if You want me to join the Family, then You have to make an opening for me before I go to Romania, in the next couple of months. Otherwise I'm not going to join."

I thought that this would never happen, and I could just get off the hook by saying that, so I wouldn't feel guilty before God. Ten minutes later, while still lying in that same bed, my cousin came and said, "Okay, if you want to join, you have to join today, now, in Hungary." My parents were going back to England the next day. I was like, "Oh no, this can't be happening! God, how could You do this to me?" But I felt like I had to keep my part of the bargain. I said I would give it a try for a while and see how things went. So I joined.

For the first few months things were a bit

UP FRONT EXCLUSIVE

EXCLUSIVE



difficult for me. I had to forsake my independence and everything I was used to. Also, I was helping in the Home a lot on kitchen and in childcare. But after a while, I realized that I had so much more than I had in the System anyway, so I might as well forsake all of those things and just trust the Lord that He knows what's best and be happy with what I was doing. With the Lord's help, I did just that. And for the next nine months to a year I had my childcare group, I helped in the kitchen, and I was very happy.

I wanted to work in Romania with orphans, or in Bosnia with refugees, or in Rwanda or Ethiopia. I had all these dreams, but once I joined, I forsook them and laid them on the altar. I told the Lord that I would just do what He wanted me to do. Looking back now at this point in my life, I've been able to accomplish every single one of those dreams. In a few weeks I'm going to Rwanda, on one of the first projects there in some children's centers. It's incredible that the Lord has given me back every single thing that I had to forsake to rejoin the Family.

As I said, I've always had a burden for Africa, especially for Rwanda and Ethiopia. About a year and a half ago, I got very discouraged because I had this burden in my heart and it was getting stronger and stronger by the day, but I couldn't see any possibility of doing this in the Family. I received some personal prophecies, telling me that this was what the Lord wanted me to do, but at that time it didn't seem that this was the direction that the Family was taking—to do more relief work, especially with children, children's centers, and other humanitarian things in these trouble spots in Africa. As I was getting discouraged, I thought very seriously of leaving the Family and trying to do it on my own through another organization.

I asked for prayer and prophecy, and the Lord confirmed that He had put this burden in my

heart, and this was His calling for me. Here are a couple of excerpts of the prophecies that were received for me:

(Jesus speaking:) There are thousands of relief workers. There are thousands of aid workers. There are thousands of young people going there, trying to do what they can to help others.— And it does help some. But if it is done My way with My Spirit and with My anointing, it will go so much farther. It will be so much more lasting, and it will bear fruit that will last for eternity—not just for a moment, not just from one refugee camp to another refugee camp, or from one civil strife to another one, or from one natural disaster to another, temporarily on a short-term basis, but it will bear fruit for eternity and it will make a lasting difference.

So you see, it's important that if you go, you go in My strength and My light and My anointing.

Because if you do so, you won't fear. You won't worry. You will have perfect peace. You will know that you are not going too slowly or too fast, but you will know that you are going at My speed, and we can give you such peace and reassurance at heart. We'll give you peace and faith so that when difficulties and tests and trials come along the way, it will be much easier to face. But if you run ahead, when the difficulties come, the tests come, you may start to doubt, you may start to fear, and you will

be confused, and your strength will wither. *(End of prophecy excerpts.)*

After receiving several prophecies, I decided to hold on and see what the Lord was going to do, and just trust that He would work it out in His time. A year later, I was invited to join the team here in Nigeria. So I came. Just a couple of months ago I was able to go to Ethiopia and be one of the first pioneers of the country, and see what openings there are. In a few weeks I'll be going to start on the first projects in Rwanda, doing the very thing I've always dreamed of. It's just so incredible how the Lord answered my prayers. As I followed His Word, He fulfilled every single one of His promises. ■



bible riddle

From *Crystal*
Faithful,
Germany

What man
in the
Bible
dressed
his
animals?

Abraham's
servant

"And
Abraham
ran unto
the herd,
and fetcht a
calf tender
and good,
and gave it
unto a
young man;
and he
hasted to
dress it"
(Genesis
18:7).

BY NIKKI, PI
I
E
T
O
J
G
O
D
E
T
P
Y
R
K

stuff

INSTRUCTIONS:

The number on each box corresponds to a letter of the alphabet ... but ... you have to guess what number corresponds to what letter. See, it isn't a sequence like, 1=a, 2=b, 3=c, and so on. Any number could equal any letter, get it? So, you fill in each number with whatever you think the letter is that it corresponds to. Names of those who can figure it out will be printed in a future *Zine*!

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	19	5	10	11	11	9	12	3	2	13	12	3	
8	9	2	10	11	11	14	13	10	1	10	15	1	8	19	2	19	2	3			
14	11	10	16	4	3	9	9	13	17	10	18	13	15								
18	13	20	4	16	8	4	14	10	1	10	15	17	7	13	12	9	5	2	13	13	11



what's gross?

From some young person,
Pacific

That's not a trick question. I was just thinking about how, as far as I know, in the beginning of the Family, "gross, weird, perverted, off, disgusting," and so on, would have been words only used to describe the System or the Devil's works. They probably wouldn't have used them to describe their food, a Family song, the weather, a visitor, or especially each other, like we often do. I saw a verse in the Bible where Jesus said if you even say "Raca" (which might have been their way to say idiot or stupid) to your brother, you're "in danger of the council," whatever that means.—But it doesn't sound like He was happy about it.

I was giving the kids breakfast one day when one of them said, "This milk is gross!" Soon all the kids in the group were saying it, whereas up until then they had been fine. We big people can also cause others to think negatively about things by carelessly uttering one of our habitual "gross" words.

If we carried a pen and paper around for just one day and counted the times we use one of those types of words to describe things and people around us, some of us would be surprised how often we do it. If words are real things and have meaning, maybe we should keep those gross words for things that really are that bad. As for us and our Homes and food, etc., we should "in everything give thanks."

I read this quote: "When we praise Him for all things, even the unpleasant things become good things." *Christian Digest* #23 ("Bringing Out the Best in People") says that if we describe things and people a certain way, they will become that way. It's a psychological thing. So maybe we can help each other be sweeter and our surroundings better by talking about them positively!

Recently, while on outreach with the kids, Esther forgot her bag full of tools, her newly made PR album, and some money, in a tuk-tuk (local public transport). Upon later discovering her loss, she prayed that by a miracle, someone would return the bag intact to our doorstep. Everyone was hoping for a miracle, but knew that the chances were VERY slim. Esther never stopped praying.

Two weeks later, two women came to our doorstep with the lost bag! They had happened to be in the same tuk-tuk as Esther, and were touched by the kids' smiling faces and their efforts to care for the baby. Knowing that most tuk-tuk drivers are poor and therefore might keep the bag and its contents, the two women carefully took the forgotten bag home. At the next chance they got, they came to the spot where Esther and kids got off, asked around, and were able to find our house!

They said that after seeing the PR album they *had* to come—seeing we were good people that helped their country. The husband of one of the women is a top Marine Police Officer. Esther witnessed to the women, and they both got saved. The Lord certainly turned this disappointment into one of His appointments!

tuk tuk, tsk tsk

From *Name Not Given*,
Thailand

MATE WANTED!

I am an **EXCITING, FUN-LOVING, COOL, HIP, YOUTHFUL, HANDSOME, SEXY MALE**. I love traveling, romantic dinners, music, dancing, and kids. I'm waiting to fulfill your every desire and make all your wildest dreams come true. Plus I will take care of your every need!
 I'm open to any offers—age, looks, and size aren't important; I can see past all that. My only requirement is that you give your all to Me. I will treat your heart with care and show you ecstasies that are out of this world—literally.
 I'm for **REAL!** This is no joke! But then again, you'll never know for sure if you don't get in touch with Me today at: 777 Up in Heaven—JESUS!!!

From Tim, Joy, Linda, and Joani, USA

A little history on this want-ad: We heard from our neighbor that his daughter had married an extremely wealthy man from Kuwait. He came to the States to buy a car for his mother, and ended up buying three Lincolns and two Cadillacs, paying in cash and then shipping them back to her!

After they got married, they settled in Kuwait. They lived in a mansion with a pool, and since there are no pool filters there, the servants would empty and refill the pool every day! This girl had everything money could buy, didn't have to work, and had a husband that loved her dearly and would give her anything. All that was asked of her was that she not go out alone (without bodyguards). She also had to let the chauffeurs drive her.

But that wasn't enough for her; she was an American woman and felt that her independence was being infringed

quotes that missed the mark

upon. So she left her husband and returned to the States. She is now a single, works 9 to 5 to pay the bills—your basic, everyday woman. But ... she has her independence and can do as she pleases (outside of work and social responsibilities). That's the American dream, all right!

We were discussing this over lunch, and we thought how sad it is that a person can give up so much for so-called "freedom," when in reality they became slaves to the System. We sure don't want to give up our precious Lover and Husband and all our eternal rewards for a few mortal moments of pleasure and independence! HOW ABOUT YOU?

lost and found

From Elimelech and Maria Clara, Venezuela:

As I was reading the newspaper, without really meaning to I found myself looking in the ads section, when my eyes met a big ad that said: "Children of God, friends of the '70s: I really want to talk to you! Please contact me! Signed, Josue" (along with his phone number). So I called him, and he was really happy, and we made an appointment to meet. He had received Jesus in one of the Holy Ghost samples we used to have, and was a DO disciple for two years a long time ago. He said he really didn't want to fellowship with any other group but with his Family. He said that he never found anyone on the streets and decided to put this ad in one of the main newspapers here in Venezuela as a last resort to find us. I gave him some literature and the telephone numbers of the Homes in the capital. Thank You Jesus for helping us to find His lost sheep!

- ➔ "Computers in the future may weigh no more than 1.5 tons."—*Popular Mechanics, forecasting the relentless march of science, 1949*
- ➔ "I think there is a world market for maybe five computers."—*Thomas Watson, chairman of IBM, 1943*
- ➔ "I have traveled the length and breadth of this country and talked with the best people, and I can assure you that data processing is a fad that won't last out the year."—*The editor in charge of business books for Prentice Hall, 1957*
- ➔ "But what ... is it good for?"—*Engineer at the Advanced Computing Systems Division of IBM, 1968, commenting on the microchip*
- ➔ "There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home."—*Ken Olson, president, chairman and founder of Digital Equipment Corp., 1977*
- ➔ "This 'telephone' has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication. The device is inherently of no value to us."—*Western Union internal memo, 1876*
- ➔ "The wireless music box has no imaginable commercial value. Who would pay for a message sent to nobody in particular?"—*David Sarnoff's associates in response to his urgings for investment in the radio in the 1920s*
- ➔ "The concept is interesting and well-formed, but in order to earn better than a 'C,' the idea must be feasible."—*A Yale University management professor in response to Fred Smith's paper proposing reliable overnight delivery service. (Smith went on to found Federal Express Corp.)*
- ➔ "Who wants to hear actors talk?"—*H.M. Warner, Warner Brothers, 1927*
- ➔ "We don't like their sound, and guitar music is on the way out."—*Decca Recording Co., rejecting the Beatles, 1962*
- ➔ "If I had thought about it, I wouldn't have done the experiment. The literature was full of examples that said you can't do this."—*Spencer Silver on the work that led to the unique adhesives for 3-M "Post-It" notepads*
- ➔ "Drill for oil? You mean drill into the ground to try and find oil? You're crazy."—*Men who Edwin L. Drake tried to enlist to his project to drill for oil in 1859*
- ➔ "Airplanes are interesting toys, but of no military value."—*Marechal Ferdinand Foch, Professor of Strategy, Ecole Superieure de Guerre*
- ➔ "640K ought to be enough for anybody."—*Bill Gates, 1981*
- ➔ "Everything that can be invented has been invented."—*Charles H. Duell, Commissioner, U.S. Office of Patents, 1899*

MULAN LEAD SHALL

From C., China

I started seeing pictures of spiritual warfare: a great army assembled in oriental armor, and weird shapes and ugly faces, like Chinese demons.

"The dragon knights," Mulan explains. "They fight for the Evil One." She lifts her arm to point to them. Her skin is very pale for a Chinese, her hair black and long in two braids. "His [the Enemy's] army is assembled, but see, also the Heavenly host. The Heavenly army are people of light, dressed in white, flowing garments on white horses. The Devil's army is mounted on dark horses that foam and chaff like they are also possessed of evil spirits. It's like the horses are spirits that fight also. But there are empty places on the Heavenly horses, gaps in the ranks. Some people have deserted their plows and left the fight."

"Look," says Mulan. "They play in the malls and on the computer games. Their mounts stand riderless! Who will come? Who will ride with me? Who has the guts? Who has the courage to fight? For soon we close in battle. Come mount up, for your steeds are your protection, lest you be trampled by the Enemy's charge."

The Enemy's horses are large with huge hooves (like the ones in the Kumamoto horse festival, that were said to have fought in some battle), big heavy shire horses with Chinese/Japanese armor, etc.

"They will trample you underfoot. You will run, but you cannot escape them, for they move fast, and every rider is armed with a sickle to harvest the dead. You must mount now!" Mulan blows the horn, like the horn of an animal, to summon the warriors to battle. "The time to play is over. Come now!" she cries. Tears are streaming down her face.

"They must mount," she says, "or they will be destroyed by the Destroyer." She calls the second generation Chinese (and Japanese?). The Heavenly horses have a word written on their flanks. It is the word PROPHECY. "They must mount up now, or it will be too late!" she says. She looks back and forth from the Heavenly forces to the Enemy's army. "The spaces must be filled."

(Jesus speaking:) "Must I give My steeds to others? My ranks must be filled."

It's like if His Asian children will not mount, He will bring teens from other lands, but they are not Asians. They do not know so well how to fight here or how to use Chinese stirrups and weapons.

He holds the stirrup of a great white war-horse. "Mount!" He says, "Mount. See, I make it easy. I hold the stirrup." He even holds His hands together that you may step in them, so He can help you spring into the saddles. The Heavenly horses are very big and tall. It takes effort to mount, but once in the saddle you take on the strength of the horse, you also become great.

(Jesus speaking:) "From up here you will see things differently. Your view is higher from the saddle."

You take the reins

in your hands. Suddenly you are no longer a little teen running around or goofing off. You become a warrior with great power. You guide the horse, like all the power of the spirit world is at your disposal. You kick your heels and the horses gallop towards the foe. There are many, many charging together. They have their swords drawn, giant swords pointing towards the Enemy.

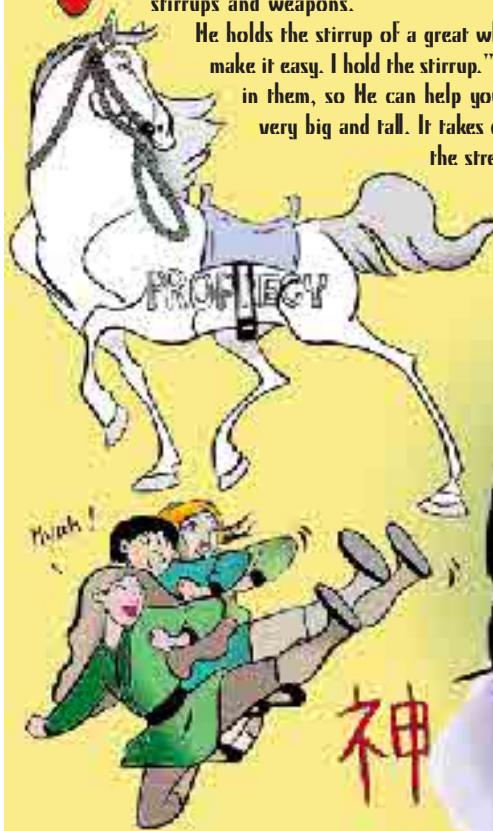
(Jesus speaking:) "You fight not only for yourselves, but for others [souls the Enemy would trample]. See the horses stand ready! Mount up, My children! I know the saddles are high, but you must see from this viewpoint.

(It's like the height somehow transforms you and gives you power. The saddle is very high in front and behind, so once in the saddle it's very hard to unhorse you.)

"The horses are standing restless. They await My Chinese children. Some are already mounted, and have engaged the Enemy, but I need more riders. See My captains!

(Mulan is one of the captains. She holds a banner. It is very long and thin, white trimmed with red. The banner says LOVE in red letters—in red because it is a fight to the death.)

"In My love conquer, but also fight the Evil One. You must be warriors like Liza. You want to fight, boys? (Asian-style kick-boxing, etc.) Use it on the Enemy! Do it as you rebuke him. Kick him where it hurts! But above all, mount up! For foot soldiers are many and common, but knights are few. Mount up! It is your calling and heritage. Your steeds stand ready. You have but to spring into the saddle and Mulan shall lead you!" ■



BACKPACKING ACROSS CHINA—A TWO-WEEK JOURNAL

FROM DN. (18) AND DV. (16), OF A+J, PEARL GATE HOME, CHINA

21/8/98 — OUR PRESENT COURSE HAS BEEN SET FOR YUNNAN PROVINCE IN THE SOUTHWEST OF CHINA. AT OUR PRESENT SPEED WE SHOULD ARRIVE IN THREE DAYS. THE VIEW IS STUNNING AND SEEMS TO GET BETTER AS WE GO. OUR PLAN IS TO GO TO DIFFERENT CITIES WITH THE VISION TO REACH THE SHEEP SO FAR SO GOOD.

24/8/98 — THIS CITY HAS SO MUCH POTENTIAL. WE HAD A CHANCE TO SEE THE EXOTIC MARKET, WHICH WAS FILLED WITH ALMOST EVERYTHING IMAGINABLE, FROM THE ORDINARY TO THE BIZARRE. ONE FUNNY INCIDENT HAPPENED WHEN DV WAS SAMPLING A LOCAL NUT (AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE). IN A DISGUSTED TONE DAVE BLURTED OUT, "TASTES LIKE BEANS!" THE VENDOR INDIGNANTLY REPLIED "DA BIEN??!!" (UNIVERSAL TRANSLATOR: DA BIEN = S**T)

ON A MORE SERIOUS NOTE, WHILE CRUISING THE FASCINATING MUSLIM SECTOR WE STUMBLED UPON A MUSIC SHOP. THERE WE MET A VERY FRIENDLY MAN WHO INVITED US TO SAMPLE SOME MUSIC ON HIS SOUND SYSTEM. WE STARTED TO WITNESS TO HIM AND HE ASKED US, "ARE YOU GUYS CHRISTIANS?" WE TOLD HIM WE WERE, AND HE PRODUCED A LARGE BIBLE FROM A CUPBOARD. HE WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT ANOTHER FOREIGN CHRISTIAN HAD GIVEN IT TO HIM, ALONG WITH A WITNESS. SINCE THEN HE HAD BEEN STUDYING IT WITH HIS FRIENDS. WE TALKED FOR SOME TIME THEN LEFT HIM WITH SOME LIT, WHICH HE PROMISED TO READ.

26/8/98 — WE HAVE JUST ARRIVED AT THE QUIANT TOWN OF DALI. THE AIR IS REFRESHING AND THE OLD WALLED TOWN IS LIKE A BLAST FROM THE PAST. WITHIN THE ANCIENT WALLS, THE COBBLESTONE STREETS ARE FILLED WITH TRIBAL PEOPLE SELLING THEIR VARIOUS GOODS. CARS ARE RARE HERE AND THE MAIN FORM OF TRANSPORTATION IS HORSE-DRAWN CART. THE TOWN'S MANY CAFES ARE FREQUENTED BY BACKPACKERS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. WE ACQUIRED BIKES AND ZIPPED OFF TOWARD THE SHORES OF LAKE ERHAI, WHICH IS LINED WITH MANY MINORITY VILLAGES. WE INTERACTED WITH THE FRIENDLY VILLAGERS AND PASSED OUT SOME TRACTS. ANOTHER DAY WE VISITED A VILLAGE INHABITED BY THE BAI PEOPLE, WHERE WE SAW FIRSTHAND THE LIFESTYLE OF THESE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE. THE KIND AND SIMPLE PEOPLE GREATLY APPRECIATED THE LIT WE GAVE THEM.

30/8/98 — GUILIN, OUR NEXT STOP, WAS HIGHLY TOUTED AS AN "INTERNATIONAL TOURIST GEM." ALTHOUGH THE SCENERY WASN'T BAD, THE MAJOR DOWNSIDE WAS THE ASTRONOMICAL EXPENSE OF THE PLACE. DESPITE THE LETDOWN WE WERE ABLE TO MEET AN OLD FRIEND WHO TOOK US OUT FOR DINNER AND HELPED US FIND A CHEAP PLACE TO STAY. WE SOON HAD OUR FILL OF GUILIN AND DECIDED THAT IT WAS TIME TO SPLIT.

EXIT GUILIN, ENTER YANGSHUO. THIS TOWN IS INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN AND IS A FAVORITE HANGOUT FOR BACKPACKERS. JIMMY CARTER AND BILL CLINTON ARE AMONG THE MANY VISITORS THAT HAVE COME HERE. THE TOWN ISN'T OVERPRICED OR OVERRATED LIKE GUILIN—A RARE FIND IN CHINA. SOME OF THE CHIEF ATTRACTIONS OF YANGSHOU ARE A SERIES OF LIMESTONE CAVES, A PECULIARLY SHAPED HILL KNOWN AS MOON HILL, AND THE LI JIANG RIVER.

EXPLORING THE CAVES WAS QUITE AN ADVENTURE, AS THEY WERE REMARKABLY INTACT. THE SAME DAY WE STOPPED BY MOON HILL, A GREAT PLACE TO WATCH THE SUN FADE AWAY. YIELDING TO OUR DESIRE FOR ADVENTURE, THE NEXT DAY WE GOT A COUPLE OF INNER TUBES (BIG ONES), AND DOWN THE RIVER WE WENT. WE CAME CLOSE TO DISASTER WHEN A HERD OF WATER BUFFALO SUDDENLY SURFACED OUT OF THE WATER. WE WERE THANKFUL THAT THE SIGHT OF US FLOATING BY DIDN'T SEEM TO INTEREST THEM MUCH.

CREDITS:

TO THE GOOD FOLKS WHO PUT US UP AND PUT UP WITH US DURING THIS TRIP, THANKS A MILLION! THANKS ALSO TO PACRO FOR THE GIFT, AND THE GARDEN HOME (TAIWAN) FOR ALL THEY DID.

4/9/98 — THE MISSION COMPLETE, WE'RE HEADED HOME. WE VISITED MANY PLACES WHILE OBSERVING

THE PRIME DIRECTIVE (MARK 16:15). WE EVEN MANAGED TO SQUEEZE IN A BIT OF FUN TOO! THIS TRIP ENABLED US TO LEARN A GREAT DEAL ABOUT THIS VAST NATION AND ITS MANY FASCINATING FEATURES. ALL TOLD, IT WAS QUITE A MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE.

LOG SUPPLEMENTAL: A COMMON MODE OF TRANSPORTATION HERE IS THE TRAIN. THESE TRAIN RIDES CAN TAKE DAYS, SO IT OFTEN PROVIDES A GOOD CHANCE TO MEET PEOPLE, AS WAS THE CASE ON ONE OF OUR TRAIN RIDES. WE SHARED OUR COMPARTMENT WITH A FAMILY HEADED FOR SHANGHAI. AN IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION ABOUT BELIEFS SOON ENSUED, AND THEY WERE ABLE TO COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING OF GOD AND HIS LOVE. THEIR 18-YEAR-OLD SON GAVE US HIS ADDRESS FOR FUTURE CORRESPONDENCE.

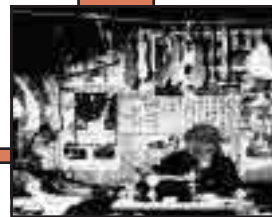
FACTOIDS:

China's minorities: China is home to a number of minorities, ranging from Tibetans to Uighurs. There are a total of 55 or so minorities, though they only account for seven percent of the total population, the rest being Han Chinese. Yunnan province alone contains twenty-five registered minorities.

Chinese Muslims: China has a substantial minority of Muslims, scattered throughout many provinces but concentrated mainly in Xinjiang province and Yunnan province. While the Muslims of Xinjiang are mostly Uighurs and have little in common with the Chinese, Yunnan's Muslims, or the Hui as they're known, are quite similar in appearance to the Han Chinese.



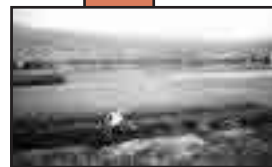
The karst scenery of Yangshuo. (karst = an area of irregular limestone in which erosion has produced fissures, sinkholes, underground streams,



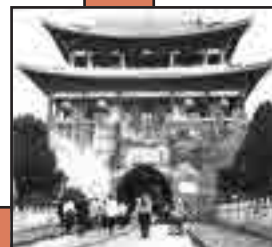
A studious tailor in a minority village



A Muslim couple in Yunnan



The landscape of Dali, Yunnan



The south gate of Dali

THESE OLDFATHERS TOOK SAVING THE WORLD

BY LABAN CEDAR OF LEBANON

AND THERE'S NO WORSE CREATION THAN A CHEAP IMITATION!



WHAT FOLK CALLED IT?



AND LOVE NEVER
GROWS OLD
FROM A MERE
CHANGE OF
CLOTHES

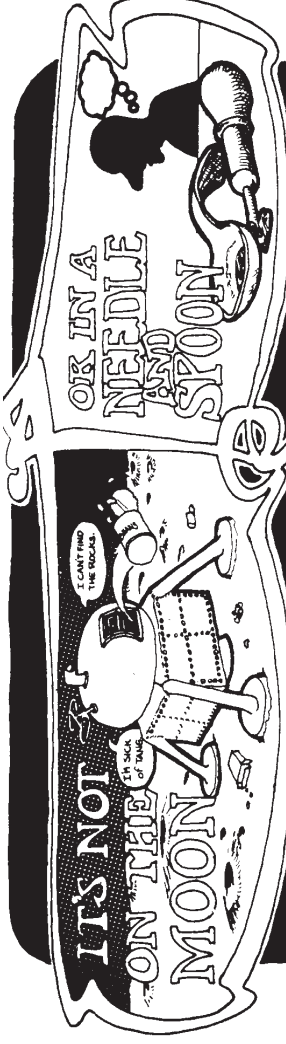
TRUTH
CAN'T BE
FOUND
IN THE
DARK
FOUR
FOUR
FOUR

IT'S GUARANTEED
FRUSTRATION!
YOU CAN'T EARN
SALVATION!!
PEOPLE!

IT'S NOT IN GETTING PAID OR THE WAYWARD AFRICA WIND THINGS JUST ENSLAVE AND LEAD TO THE PEOPLE A FRIEND ONLY ONE THAT FREES UP AND THAT'S JUST JESUS

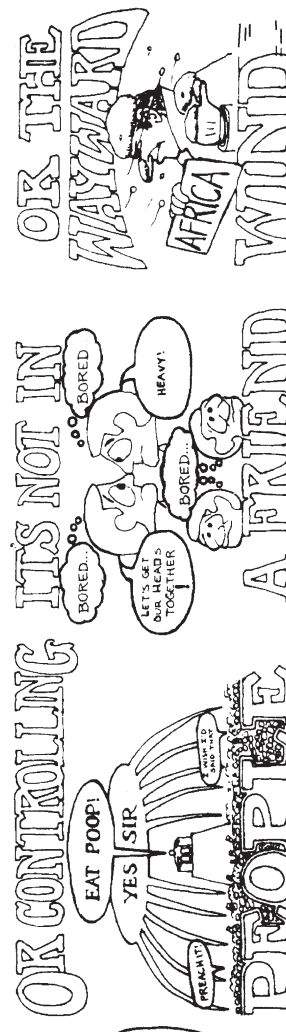


IT'S NOT IN
GETTING
PAID
OR THE
WAYWARD
AFRICA
WIND
THINGS JUST ENSLAVE AND LEAD TO THE
PEOPLE A FRIEND
ONLY ONE THAT
FREES UP
AND THAT'S JUST JESUS



IT'S NOT
ON THE
MOON

OR IN A
NEEDLE
AND
SPOON



OR CONTROLLING
IT'S NOT IN
GETTING
PAID
OR THE
WAYWARD
AFRICA
WIND
THINGS JUST ENSLAVE AND LEAD TO THE
PEOPLE A FRIEND
ONLY ONE THAT
FREES UP
AND THAT'S JUST JESUS



IT'S NOT
IN
YOUR
BRAIN
OR A
NOSE
FULL
OF
COCAINE

IT'S NOT IN
GETTING
PAID
OR THE
WAYWARD
AFRICA
WIND
THINGS JUST ENSLAVE AND LEAD TO THE
PEOPLE A FRIEND
ONLY ONE THAT
FREES UP
AND THAT'S JUST JESUS



IT'S NOT IN
GETTING
PAID
OR THE
WAYWARD
AFRICA
WIND
THINGS JUST ENSLAVE AND LEAD TO THE
PEOPLE A FRIEND
ONLY ONE THAT
FREES UP
AND THAT'S JUST JESUS