

OUR TEEN TRAINING STANDARD!

--A Talk to Our Teens!: Discipline, Exaltation & Vision!

9/85 By Sara D.

The following excerpts are from a talk I had with all our children here, at Marla's suggestion, due to the slack & lethargic attitude that especially one of our teens manifested at the onset of her visit here for training. Marla encouraged me to tell the teens they can't just rest on their present accomplishments or think they have "arrived" because they've been given the special honour of being here, but they must be challenged to become what they are not yet, to live up to the potential the Lord & Dad see in them, as well as have their shortcomings exposed so that the younger ones would see that we're on the attack & not compromising, overlooking or accepting any less standard than before! Thank the Lord, they really benefitted from this talk, GB'M, & we're all learning & progressing daily! PTL!

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First of all, it is very important for all of you young people to know what we're working towards & what we're trying to accomplish here & all the rules & all the lessons, so that not just the newcomers, but all of us will be aware of our standard here & be in unity.

Grandpa & Marla have a real burden for us to train our Family teens & Grandpa is real excited about it because of the Heaven's Girl vision. He has a real big vision to thoroughly train you all to be real leaders for the future. Well, that's a real big job in itself, & takes a lot of work, a lot of on-the-job training, & you teens especially must put forth a real effort & desire & initiative to do your best with this opportunity!

A lot of what I'm going to say is going to be directed to you teens, but I want all you kids to listen & understand that this is also your future we're talking about, & I'm going to need your help & cooperation in every way too! Remember yesterday when all you kids were putting away the dry dishes?—You had had a big accident in the kitchen & our new teen dropped & broke a big tray of six coffee mugs plus the tray. That was definitely one of the biggest accidents we've ever had in the kitchen! It may not seem important to you, a visitor, but an accident like that is a big deal here! So we had to stop & learn our safety lesson thoroughly & all together, so that we're all aware, & that it doesn't happen again! The reason it happened is because you

all forgot to pray beforehand! We take full advantage of every opportunity to teach a lesson, see?

You all know that in every area in this house there is an overseer & we have some very strict rules in every department & we have to inform all visitors who come of the rules & the standard & the way things have to be in every little area. We have to pretend or assume they know nothing, so they can start anew!

We have a very strict set of rules here & a very strict standard which doesn't allow any "special treatment" or laxness of the rules for anyone. We're not specialising in teens, we're not adoring or exalting or making our teens in any way different than our six-year-old & our two-year-old in the obedience requirements, because you may be a teen in age but you're not a full teen or an adult until you've passed the course! There are many little steps of progress that teens need to take before they begin to undertake any adult responsibility!

Although I'm not used to teaching older kids or teens, it doesn't really seem to matter. The Lord showed me that it doesn't matter how old you are if you still need to go through all the grades. If you still have to start at grade one on some things, then that's what we're going to have to do & that's what the Lord expects me to do, is take you teens through every grade of learning! That's what you are here for!

So first of all, let's get the vision that we're all in this together, it doesn't matter what age you are or where you've been or who you are whatsoever. All of us are here for the Lord's work, but I think you've found out by now that this whole Kingdom is made up of very little things & very little people. So you may feel pretty little, you may not feel very "teenage" or very adult whatsoever, especially if I have to correct you for the same thing that I'm correcting little Mary Dear for!

But I at no cost will sacrifice our sample or our standard here or our rules for any exception or for any reason just because you're teens & you're older. You're supposed to be adults & supposed to know better. When praying about it I realised that there's not much of a difference at all. I've been trying to get ahold of the Lord about "where do I start" & "How do we begin" & "How do you separate the training of 13 & 14-year-

olds from 6-year-olds?"

Well, I have found out pretty much that in most cases you don't & I'm sure glad that we don't, because I really can't! We have 2-year-olds up to 14-year-olds in the same group often. If the toddler's going to put dirty things in her mouth, I'm going to correct her just as much as I'm going to correct a teen for putting her dirty fingers in her mouth, what's the difference? It's still the rules & it's still what we've all agreed upon & it still deserves reproof or correction whether you're 13 or whether you're 2 years old. Do you understand?

It might humble your pride a little bit to be corrected & understandably so. It humbles the big people too when I correct them, it humbles my pride too when I'm corrected! But correction is a major part of training, you learn best from your mistakes. So there may be a difference in our ages, but not too much in the way we are treated here. You've seen that in the month you've been here.

We don't have to necessarily even respect one above the other. God is no respecter of "teens"! If Davida knows the rules & she's trying to share something with you teens & she's right about the subject, then you should respect it. Or if Techil's trying to make a suggestion in some area & sees a kitchen accident is about to happen, or that you're walking barefoot outside when you're not supposed to, then she should say so or let me know!

We're all going to have to learn to say things very nicely one to another & not in an ugly way, right? That's a good lesson for all of us to learn. It's very important to learn how to say & how to suggest things nicely. (Phil.2:2,3)

You see, I'm quite used to correcting the situation as soon as it happens & I need to do much better on that & so do all the other adults here! Because if something goes wrong we don't have time to discuss it & hold your hand & explain in detail or correct the situation later on. We need to take care of it right then & there, because what if you're not here for much longer? The Lord is holding us accountable now to correct the situation then & there, & if we've already warned you about that problem area & told you not to do it & you continue to do it, then we're going to have to carry out correction, just like we always have!

Our children are real used to that. I don't know what you're used to & I'm not considering what you're used to. I'm not trying to consider sparing your feelings or anything. I'm trying to do what the Lord wants us to do here & what Grandpa & Marla

expect us to do! Just like when anybody new comes here no matter what age they are, they toe the mark & they learn to take correction & they pan out or they don't. They have that choice.

We're trying to train all of you, not just the teens, but all of you to really be labour leaders in the Lord's work.

I'd rather not repeat myself over & over. You should grab on to every little suggestion & every little correction as an order & pray about it & stop ignoring it or we're going to have to start having some corrections, like missing your weekly video or missing freetime at night & instead typing your personal reaction to your Word project. You've got to realise that we don't have time for repeating ourselves constantly & it's a bad sample to the other children who have been very used to receiving & following through with instructions immediately.

So remember that, if there's a suggestion we tell you, like "Please keep your shoes on your feet! Don't tread on the dirty, filthy ground outdoors & track mud back into the house & then go jump in the clean bed" & "Please don't bite your fingernails" & "Please don't primp in the mirror with your brush so much" & "Please pick up your clothes" & "Please close the toilet lid" & "Please don't use too much toilet paper" & "Please put away the dishes properly" & "Please pray together before you work on your projects" & "Please be on time & don't be slow" & "Listen up" & "Don't giggle"—all these little things that we have to say are orders for actions that are expected of you from then on.

You are expected to obey & follow, you've got to be a doer of the Word & not a hearer only. To the other kids it's something they've heard for a long time & if they see that you continue doing it & don't change in that area, then they're going to start doing the same thing & then we can't have you here, we can't have you teens. Everybody has their little problem areas that they need to work on always, we're always learning. I'm always learning, there is always some area that the Lord is dealing with me about.

But what the Lord's dealing with me about right now is pulling through with this training 100% & doing it right & doing it all the way & making the best of our time here. So I'm on the spot with the Lord, the Lord is testing me about following through with our rules & our conviction, & the Lord's testing you to put those little rules

& your training into action!

I've told you children before—"If you have a problem with some area, like forgetfulness or not saying 'Yes, Ma'am' or something, & you get corrected about it once & then twice, you should get desperate & pray about it at your Temple Time. At naptime we give you 2-1/2 hours with the Lord & at night time you have at least half an hour before falling asleep, & those times are very important to spend with the Lord & not day-dreaming & talking & wasting that time. You're going to miss the mark if you don't use your time with the Lord to hear from Jesus & to call on Jesus & to ask Him in prayer desperately to help you with all these little areas that you need work on.

Each little day is a test, each little correction, each little suggestion is a test to see what you're going to do with it, & how desperate you're going to get about it, & then the Lord will even require more of you. That's called, "Greater Victories!"—A Letter from Grandpa that's very good on that subject!

We're winning victories every day but there's no victory without a battle, there's no testimony without a test. Right? There's no triumph without a trial, so it's a fight day by day. But this is our life with the Lord from now on, not just while we're here, while you're a "visitor-in-training". That's the way we live for the Lord daily. Why do you think our adults share those lessons at Sunday Fellowship meetings? Because they learn so many important lessons every week, because we have a big big responsibility here.

All of us have these little areas to work on. We always will, we'll never attain, we'll never be perfect. But don't you want to keep learning for the Lord? Don't you want to learn your lesson & be more like Jesus & Grandpa & Maria all the time? Don't you want to pass the test, knowing that once you have been here that people will be looking up to you & expecting a lot out of you?

EXALTATION

Grandpa has given both you teens a lot of praise & a lot of attention & a great deal of love & exaltation, & real encouragement. He's even given you special gifts & special prayers & we know that that's a very precious privilege & a very special honour. I know you realise that & you don't belittle that in any way. Maria told me to point out to you that it's extremely important that you realize that Grandpa's love & burden &

vision for you girls right now is the Lord, it's the Lord's burden for you & the Lord's desire to encourage you & strengthen you & help you to make it, if nothing else through Dad's love!

You'll always hang on to that, you'll always want, or you should always want, to do your best for the Lord & the Family in every way just by reflecting on how much Grandpa expects of you & how much he loves you! His love will pull you through any difficult situation, especially when you'll be living that Heaven's Girl vision, which is only three or four years away, till the Tribulation.

So the Lord does all that for a reason, a very very important reason, & obviously, not even a fraction of the people in the Family get that special personal attention & that special love & that special treatment from Dad.

But see, you've got to realise what all that means. It doesn't mean really that you of yourself are anything so special & so wonderful & so honourable that you should deserve this special treatment from Dad. It just shows what the Lord expects of you & what Dad wants you to be when he calls you a queen & what can happen in your life eventually if—& that's a real big "if"—if you follow through faithfully with all this day-to-day training that we're giving you now!

That's what the Lord wants you to be, that's what He wants you to strive for, that's what you could be someday, & what the Lord can make of you!

You can't make it of yourself, you can't make yourself a queen. You can't work in the flesh to be a queen or to be a wife of David. I know it's very overwhelming & it's a very very big honour & it's almost too good to be true. But now God has given you that challenge, just like when the little shepherd boy David was anointed as King by the prophet Samuel—He probably thought at the time that God was making a big mistake because it was years before his opportunity came to fulfill the job that God had called him to do. It was a good thing he had had so many years of training, because when he finally got the job of being King, it was a great responsibility.

The Lord saw his potential & gave David his challenge & his commission at an early age, just like you girls. But you have quite a ways to go to accomplish that, & believe it or not, all the girls in this house are queens, but we are queens who mop the floor, & wash dishes & type all day & care for

children & cook & do the mental tasks in the house. I think you're going to find that God's greatest queens are God's littlest people & that's the kind of training it takes to be a queen.

Look at Maria, what better example of a queen could you want than Maria? As you can see, Maria does not sit on her throne decked in gold & jewellery & look like Esther, Queen of FFers, or whatever & expect the World to worship her. She's a servant of all, a Shepherdess & example to all of us!

That special attention from Dad, that special love is real. It's God's Love for you, it's not to be belittled. Don't ever doubt it! Hang on to it with all your heart & love it & cherish it & most of all, do something with it! Get off your fanny & work for the Lord & get on-fire for Jesus & fulfill his desire in you because it's the Lord! It shows what great potential the Lord sees in you. The Lord sees more potential in you than anybody else does!

It might sound like quite an exalted position to be called a queen by Dad, but you're going to find out like that "Life with Grandpa" comic, "The Real Princess"—which would be good for you to read over again—that's what royalty & honour & leadership is all about!

You have to deserve it. The Lord might offer it to you & the Lord might encourage you with your potential, but it all depends on how much you fulfill that role God is giving you to play. And the Bible is very clear that you must hold fast & be faithful & obedient in that which God has given you, or someone else will take your crown. And that has happened quite a bit in the Family!

"So You Want to be a Leader?" No, we don't, we don't want to be leaders, but the Lord wants us to be leaders. The Lord wants you to be leaders sooner than you think but it's not easy getting there & it's not a comfortable place to be. Along with a great big blessing comes a great deal of responsibility & you've got to be able to take it & you've got to be a strong, dedicated soldier to be able to take all these lessons & all this training, be willing to go through your humbling & Boot Camp Training first!

It may seem a little funny to you that Dad may publicly praise & honour you as being a glorious wonderful future World leader & queen, & then you walk in the door five minutes later & I correct you for biting your fingernails! It may look to you like a double standard is going on, when you've just been so exalted by Dad, & then we have to punish you minutes later for being so lazy & sloppy, but that's what I'm

supposed to do. That leadership role is what you're supposed to fulfill, but you haven't yet! You are not yet a leader or queen, the Lord wants you to become a queen, but you haven't yet attained to that & that's going to take a lot of hard work & initiative & faith & real instant obedience & whole-hearted desire on your part!

Make that your desire every day! No-body's going to make you, right? No one's going to make you be good, no one is going to make you be faithful, no one's going to make you get the vision, no one is going to make you have initiative. You've got to desire it so God will give it. "Ask & it shall be given you", like wisdom or any gift of the Spirit.

Now you know your potential because of Dad's special love & vision for you. You know the potential the Lord sees in you, it shows what you could do, but it doesn't prove that you will! God anointed King Saul as king of Israel too, but then he turned out to be one of God's great disappointments through his rebellion & stubbornness & his own will. He wanted to do his own thing. So you see, it's up to you what you do with your commission, what you do with that special mantle & anointing that the Lord gives you, & I think you can do it! PTL!

A person's initiative—their ability & their desire to do what needs to be done without being told—a person's initiative tells everything about them—how far they're going to go with what they've already learned, whether they'll obey what they're told to do, & how willing they are to do even more than what's expected of them. Your initiative says everything about you. So that's what we're going to work on—learning initiative & instant obedience, learning to redeem the time, learning diligence, & faithfulness, this is what our job is to teach you every single day. And the way we train you & work on you here is how you're expected to behave later on without being told. So take advantage of it now because it won't last forever.

So the Lord's offering you everything on a golden platter, teen training here & even the Love of David & a tremendous future. But it's up to you to fulfill it & I can't make you do it & even the Lord can't make you do it. It's up to you. Do you see that vision?

You've got to show the fruits of change too before we can really trust that you're learning your lesson. You've got to show it, you've got to bring forth fruit to show that you're really learning something by not having to be constantly prodded about things

& to be a little quicker to react, more responsive, more openly show that you agree with the correction, the suggestion or the training by putting it into action!

All this training is for now. It's not for the future. It's not for later, it's for today, it's for right now. You can't decide someday that you're going to put it all into action & then become what God wants you to be. It's a day-to-day test. You have to be what we train you to be today, right now.

How are we going to work on teaching you to train a toddler fulltime? How can we trust anyone to take care of a new baby or Mary Dear if they're not prayerful in other areas & not faithful in the other little areas & not instantly obedient in any other area?

I tell you, I would never put any one of these children in the care of anyone who hasn't shown a real prayerful & obedient spirit, because it's a big responsibility! If you happen to drop her & break her out there on the cement under Grandpa's window, like you broke six coffee mugs yesterday, then that would be a very sad story & you would see that those little things add up to big things! But we're trying to teach you in the little things so you can apply it to every big area, because he that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much. (Lk 16:10) But if you're unjust & you're just-not-doing the little things, then we can't & the Lord's not going to give you big responsibilities, like childcare!

Heaven's Girl is motivated by the Lord's Spirit in that story. She's not motivated by her nanny beating her over the head, is she? She doesn't have her mother or childhood nanny there making her obey & making her pray & making her hear from the Lord, right?

But I bet you she learned her lesson when younger, she learned, she accepted the challenge! She took up the torch & she got on-fire for the Lord & thus the Lord is able to use her!

So just remember, this training time is what we make it & it's going to take a lot of work & a lot of humble submitted receptive hearts! The Lord'll make out of you what He wants you to be if you're just willing to take up that challenge. Don't let these opportunities pass.

Apparently you weren't really used to such close oversight before & you were on your own a lot more. You were not so rigidly scheduled & closely overseen. Funny how both of you had the same bad habits when you first came of locking in the mirror a whole lot & brushing your hair a whole lot & being

concerned about your clothes & how you look & all that kind of thing, that kind of vanity streak, you know? Both of you were that way when you first came, although you're not so much like that now, you've already changed in that area quite a bit. You both kind of jibber-jabbered a lot, not really redeeming the time so much & were used to personal time with boys & having frequent dates & that kind of thing, which has no priority here whatsoever. We're thankful for your willingness to sacrifice of yourself to learn while here, GBY!

Maria got a verse for you teens. She said, "What you've got to do is crack down, Sara, you've got to discipline those children! You're going to have to make those kids toe the mark, 'because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of man is fully set in them to do evil'" (Ecc.8:11) Because if no one's on your case, if no one is correcting you, & helping & changing you, then you're fully set in your old ways, your own ways.

Maria said we've got to correct an offense the moment it happens & not let it pass! And all the other adults & teachers too are responsible to discipline you. If you know better & you don't do it, you get an instant punishment. If you've been told already before but disobeyed, then you deserve to be punished! And the degree of punishment should be based on the severity of the offense. Maybe you'll be deprived of something like your video or freetime at night or even something more severe if necessary.

We're going to have to punish because we can't stand for any less standard than we've already set up here, or all the years of good training put into these other kids is going to fly to the birds! We're used to obedience here, we're even used to that with the big people here!

The best thing is to obey. The best thing is to toe the mark, the best thing is do what's expected of you & then we can all have a lot more fun. I would like to have fun, wouldn't you? I don't plan to nag, I plan to enforce the rules & obey, & punish if need be! Once you know the rules & then you make an offense, the first time you get a warning, but the second time there is no need to warn, especially if you're considered a teen & you know better, which you all do. Why should we waste God's time with talking about it all over again?

So God is no respecter of persons, God doesn't respect the fact that you're supposedly a teen or a supposed adult, any more

than He respects & gives anybody like even Mary Dear any special treatment. If you make the same offense, you'll get the same punishment or the same degree of punishment, if not a spanking it'll be a type of punishment that will do you just as much or more good.

So after someone's considered responsible enough to be a leader in this Family these days, you know now what they've been through & you can see how responsible & accountable they are being on the top! Pray for them! It's not easy!

All you children have so much less to overcome in yourself than our Family adults who have sometimes 35 or 40 years of their own old life, their old man & System training, & they've even had bad training in the Family from the old Chain, the tax collectors of the past, the old House of Saul. You kids are so wonderful! I love you & I

know you can do it!

So you can only be what Jesus wants you to be if you let the Lord do it. "The less there is of you, the more the Lord shines through!" I've already made a list of some good Letters we can read on our training & vision here. PTL! We're going to read a full MD Letter first thing together every morning after group devotions to ground you in the Word & the Basics of our Family beliefs! HAL! Now is the hour to really train & envision you that the Lord & the Word are your strength & life & power source!

The Word is going to train you & remake you & envision & prepare you now for your future, & we're going to absolutely soak in it daily to give you every golden opportunity to be what Jesus wants you to be! PTL! Are you with us? It's a Teen Revolution!