Dear Dad & Maria, Feb. 9, 78

As we already told you at dinner last night, we really thought that the Letter “Where Are the Shepherds” is just what is needed. It was very convicting and we had to ask ourselves the same question, because we certainly weren’t any shining examples of what a real shepherd is supposed to be! God help us! We really wanted to be good shepherds, but we made a lot of mistakes. Thank God for your obedience to the Lord and your sample. We’re sure you’ve heard this before, but we have to say how thankful we are for the new “RNR”! Thank God, we are doing away with the bureaucratic monster and making way for the little people!

Last night at dinner when you suggested that we would assume some very important responsibilities, we almost cried because we just don’t feel we deserve it. We can say now though, that if it does work out this way, we are going to really do our best to be sure that the bleats of the poor little sheep are heard and not only heard, but answered and taken care of!

We don’t want to leave any stone unturned, so this may be quite a lengthy letter. Many things the Lord is bringing back to our memories that we hadn’t thought of for quite some time, because we, like many others, just tended to overlook things, which we see is definitely not what true shepherds should do! We really wanted what was best for the sheep, but because we were so concerned about what our overshepherds would say, we finally lost the conviction to say anything. We feel so bad now, and we know that being sorry is not enough. So, Lord helping us, we are going to show our faith by our works and we are really going to do our best for the Lord, you and all the kids!

HISTORY OF PAST PROBLEMS IN NORTH AMERICA

Before the “New R” Letters came out in 1975, I was a full-time lit- nesser and Miriam worked around the colony cooking, cleaning, taking care of children, as well as lit- nesing for 3-4 hours a day, 4-5

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days each week. (DAD: GBY!) I then did some right-hand man work and was kept really busy. In April of ’75 after the receipt of the “New R” Letters, we went to New York to be District Shepherds for about 3 months when we went to D.C. as Regional Shepherds for 6 weeks. We then went to Atlanta to work as Bishops for one month.

This was during the time that Rodent’s and Corny’s bad sample had quite an influence on a lot of people. However, we feel that regardless of what their spiritual conditions were like at the time and although a lot of the shepherds were getting into a very materialistic spirit, a lot of the colonies were starting to up their standards, which had been needed for so long.

We then went to New York to work as AB’s. “Hamburger Boat” had just come out, thank the Lord, because it was sure needed to get all of us “bigshots” shot down. This Letter was followed by a visit from Caleb and Lydia. Their visit helped a lot of leaders, but didn’t leave a lot of room for really following the Letters.

Every situation was dealt with the same, regardless of the fruits. For example, there were some kids who did have a genuine desire to up the standard of their homes, but with the dealing sessions, everyone had to forsake their nice clothes and even nice housing! We even heard of a few people who were going to help out each other sexually because of a need in their lives, but it was prohibited through counsel by Caleb and Lydia. We’re not saying that all of the sessions were wrong, because some were needed, but what we felt was wrong was that everything was placed all in the same category and judged exactly the same, with no alternative but to obey what leadership said in every situation. (DAD: God help us!)

They came, supposedly, as representing you (DAD: Ha!), so it was hard to argue against what they said. Also, this is the first time we had ever seen a “mini MO Letter”, when Caleb showed them to us and encouraged us to start printing them. Of course, everyone really liked them and encouraged the printing of them too, so it wasn’t all his fault, that’s for sure! Most of their visit was really a blessing, but in some ways it really hindered the growth and progress that was being made.

A few months later we had the Great Escape and then the FF Letters started coming out. The thought of past problems and how they were dealt with was always in mind, which made it rather difficult to step out by faith. We were always told that because of America’s problems that we were not mature enough to handle this new freedom.

Well, we did start going out, until “Little Dog Dream” came out, and with the thought of the past dealings concerning any freedoms, along with some personal problems Nathanael (our former overseer) was having in his own marriage, he interpreted this Letter to mean that we should not do any FF’ing. We fell for it, God help us! We followed a man and not the Letters!! (DAD:
God help us!) How we let ourselves be so deceived, we don’t know!

The whole time we were in leadership positions, we never saw Nathanael ever visit more than a half dozen colonies. He never showed us how to do it or gave us much instruction of any kind. He only told us that we had to get out and visit ourselves. Well, that’s what we did. We only had three colonies in New York that I visited pretty regularly, and we were Regionals for only about one month in D.C. and were unable to visit any at that time, but we did visit every colony in the Southeast when we were Bishops there. So up until Nathanael left for the Philippines, I think that he only visited six colonies at the most and there was also little or no childcare oversight to speak of. Nathanael left in October ’76 for the Philippines, which was one year after Caleb and Lydia’s visit.

During the time that Nathanael and Talitha were gone, we wrote him for counsel but never really heard any word from him. So we started directing most of our letters to Caleb and Lydia, instead, who were a lot more faithful to write us back on most things. We kept hearing that both Nathanael and Caleb would be coming for a visit soon, but they never came and we didn’t see them until one year later when we went to the Philippines.

During this time, without much oversight, we spent eight months on the road visiting the colonies, some of which had not been visited in nearly two years by top leadership. The colonies were in a horrible mess, and some of them still are.

Also, there was no solid Childcare oversight, which was a real sad thing, because the children were so neglected, as well as the Moms and Dads. None of the families were reporting, and as a result, a lot of the children in the States are really behind in their training both physically and spiritually. (They are making some progress now.)

The first thing we did was send out a Childcare Checklist, along with reports for the families to fill out each month. It seemed to help quite a bit, thank God, but it still wasn’t enough.

We still had not heard a word from Caleb and Lydia about FF’ing and why we weren’t doing it, etc. And we realise now that the visitation and reports etc. that we initiated to improve the overall standard, did not work as well as they should have, because we were not obeying the Lord, and He just cannot bless disobedience, and that’s why things couldn’t pull together. In a letter they wrote to us, they said something to the effect that, “when we actually start FF’ing in the States we should do so and so...” which led us to believe that they knew we weren’t FF’ing, but that it was okay.

After Faithy’s inspiring visit in New York, we did receive some counsel from Caleb and Lydia concerning FF’ing. But again, it was very restrictive in that they indicated that their feelings were that it would be best if none of the colonies went FF’ing without top leadership there to help them, but of course not to prohibit anyone from going if they wanted to, but...
to try and encourage them to go with top leadership. We weren’t able to personally go out with the colonies and train each one, so we just started going out with the Colonies we were close to. We eventually did pass down that all colonies definitely needed to FF (DAD: GBY!), but it was really a step of faith, because we had not received any word of counsel in this respect.

By the way, whenever Nathanael had ever taken any action concerning sex problems, it was always a “hardline, hands off, firmly-against-anything” policy, and any infractions were really dealt with severely, even down to the simplest little thing such as skinny dipping, which Nathanael dealt with too during Caleb and Lydia’s visit.

After Nathanael left, we began to see how things concerning sex were not being handled right, but we were taking it slow and cautious because we didn’t want to make a mistake. About six months after Nathanael left, we received a call from one of our immediate under-shepherds about a supposed sex problem that had happened between one of his Regional Shepherds and a single sister whom the Regional Shepherd was in love with. He was going to deal with it in the traditional manner, but we told him why we didn’t think that was a very good way and explained how he had probably had a real need in his life and that love and understanding was what he probably needed. We told him we thought that they should be together, if that’s what they wanted and not taken down and dealt with. He was absolutely shocked, because he was one of the people who was denied sex help from another sister by Caleb and Lydia when they had visited. (DAD: God help us!)

So this was the phone message, and all phone messages had to be passed up two levels in the Chain. So we were kind of scared about passing it up, because we had given counsel for this situation contrary to what the past policy had been. So, we sent it in expecting to hear word back that we had blown it! From this point on, more sexual freedom was being allowed, but we were going at it slow because we didn’t want to do the wrong thing.

Then we left for the Philippines. We were so thankful that we were finally going to be able to have a meeting with our leadership, which included Faithy, Hosea and Esther. These three were a tremendous blessing and inspiration to us! We counselled with them quite a bit about FF-ing and sexual freedom, which really helped us to have a clearer picture that the Letters say what they mean! (DAD: Amen!)

However, when counselling with Caleb and Lydia, we were again given a slow-down type attitude concerning sexual freedom within the Family, which really confused us again. We even asked them about being able to encourage liberties in some specific cases where we personally knew there was a real need, but we were cautioned to go very, very slow. They even told us that they didn’t agree with Ho’s liberal counsel on helping out the single brethren! One thing that was kind
of confusing us was the fact that none of the brothers or sisters in the Philippines were getting their sex needs met, even though Faithy, Ho and Esther were there.

I guess our whole problem was we have been waiting for other people to set the sample for us when we should have been setting the sample ourselves! We did want to mention that in the three months that we were overseas, Caleb only went out a couple of times FF'ing, but Lydia went out a lot more and we really felt very close to her and felt encouraged to FF by her sample. Thank the Lord we were able to go out a lot with Ho and Esther and Faithy and Juan.

Upon our return to the States, I was able to go out at least four times a week (DAD: Wow!) while Miriam was able to go out only a couple of times a week because she was so close to having the baby.

HOW WE FEEL THE ‘RNR’ WILL AFFECT N. AMERICA

The “RNR” is already having positive effects in our area! There haven’t been any serious uprisings or rebellions, although we agree that the kids certainly do have a right to be angry with the way they have been neglected in the past. We have heard that many of the Homes are starting to meet each other’s sex needs and for the most part, from what we can gather, most of it is bearing very good fruit.

We’ve only heard of one abuse of this freedom, and that was when a former District Shepherd went into one of the Homes without mutual consent of the parties concerned and went a little bit overboard with liberties, which resulted in quite a few hurt feelings. So, thank the Lord, the “RNR” is having such overall good effects! The kids are being set free to obey and follow the Lord through the Letters.

We feel that the “RNR”, even above the “New R”, is going to produce more well-rounded and stronger disciples with more faith and initiative. TYJ! We believe that most of the kids have a real love and genuine desire to do what’s right. Because of this, we don’t see any major problems at all. The statistics may fall for a month or two, but when the kids realize that the responsibility now rests on their heads, we know that they will all do what is best for the Lord and the Kingdom. PTL!

We still have quite a few questions to answer, such as how would we make the change and who we’d put in charge, etc. But we are still praying about how to take care of these situations, so we’ll let you know when we’ve made some decisions in this respect.

We love you so much! God bless you! We’re sorry this is so long, but we really wanted to write you about everything we could possibly think of, and we’ll probably write more!

(DAD: Good! GBY!–Tks!)

Much love and prayers,
Andrew and Miriam

(DAD: Thanks so much for writing this honest letter, and thanks for trying to obey in spite of hypocritical leadership who were enjoying for several years all the freedom they themselves wanted, including several wives, lots of lovers and
plenty of children from them, but covering up their own escapades while prohibiting them to others!—What hypocrites! These are the same rebellious disobedient hypocritical leaders we exposed in "Grace vs. Law" and why we have new 

KOS's all over the world! It's a rebellion against the rebellious! Hallelujah!—Love,—Dad. 11/2. 
P.S. Thanks so much for our freedom last night!—TTL 1. It draws us all so much closer together—truly one! TTL!)

How FFing Helped Our Marriage

Dearest Ones, 6 Feb. 78

We love you so much and will never thank you enough for all you have done for us. I believe that one of the greatest lessons we have learned from you is to love and to give to others. We really thank the Lord for the FF Revolution and how He used it in our own lives to give us more love and appreciation for each other, as well as for others.

We wanted to write a few lines to tell you how indeed it has rejuvenated our relationship and about all the victories it has helped us to gain, on top of the priceless souls we were able to affect and bear into the Kingdom. We know that a lot of couples have battles getting into it, and maybe our experience and victories will help some.

We always loved each other and worked well together, but it seemed that after living together for three years, we could not grow much more in love. As we were opening our eyes to the needs of the people outside the Family, we started to be more sensitive to the needs of those within as well. But, we did not really know how to go about it, as we were afraid to hurt each other, and because we did not claim the law of love by faith then, we failed to minister to and/or see that the needs of the people around us were met.

But when the FF Letters came out, we realised that we had to share this love with others. So we started to go out by faith together, with other brethren. "As you pour out (love), He'll pour in (some more)." This began to revolutionise our lives! It reup the emphasis on witnessing and winning souls, it made us raise our standards, we dressed nicer and started to live better, etc.

Timothy was always encouraging me, uplifting my faith, and reminding me to be concerned for all the needs of the men I was witnessing to. Encouragement is so important, and without his loving inspiration, I probably would have always shied away from getting involved sexually which was oftentimes the very key that opened the door of their lonely hearts. As God always blesses obedience, He really encouraged us from the very start. Immediately, we got to witness to important men, souls were saved and influential men's lives were starting to change!

When we first began, Timothy want-
ed to know every single detail of what happened with them, how it happened and how many times, etc. But then we realised that it made the FF blues worse than it helped us. So we finally agreed to dwell on the spiritual victories rather than on the unnecessary details, until the time came when we could even share the details without feeling hurt!

Whenever we followed the Lord and the Letters, God never failed to give us better and sweeter love, as well as more exciting lovemaking and greater victories. I have always been so thankful to have someone to come home to and discuss everything with, a special friend, someone I could share with and get refilled again (ha!).

When we were in Tenerife, we lived with four, sometimes five other girls, and I was the only one in our apartment who had the privilege to have a mate. We then realised that I, too, could share him with the sisters, which served the triple purpose of (1) helping and comforting them also, (2) avoiding the aches and trials of FF blues and its sequel, and (3) making me freer to minister to others without worrying about Timothy being alone.

All these experiences made us grow into a whole new dimension, and made us know and enjoy the increase of the love we had given away. I did not go without being jealous at times, but we had to get over this mental block of the selfishness and possessiveness of private marriage, to reach a greater victory of being closer to the ones we were living with and thus, having a tighter unity and freer communication for His Work’s sake. As you give, He never fails to give back 100-fold, and we can truly say that we are more in love with each other now that we have learned to share.

We will never be able to thank you enough for your sample of so freely and cheerfully giving the best you had and also for the lesson that, “Love was not put in your heart to stay, love is not love until you give it away.” I love you forever, Abeille.

(Ed. They are new V.S.’s of France!)

Living Love!

Dear Maria,

15 Feb. 78

We had a wonderful experience the other night! I never thought I would enjoy a threesome!—But it was so spontaneous and in such a spirit of sharing and fellowship, it was the logical conclusion of being really close and together in the Spirit!

After an inspiring evening of Family fellowship and reading a new MO Letter, Timothy and I had gone to bed when we heard Sue dropping in next door, in Andrew & Miriam’s
room. A couple minutes later they knocked at our door! Soon the five of us were sharing all the lessons and the exciting events of the last days, Andrew and Miriam sitting on the bed, while Sue crawled in bed with us to keep warm.

Well, warm we soon became, holding each other in each other's arms!! Timothy started to kiss me and caress Sue, and we were all loving each other. It was really nice and sweet!—So wonderful that we can enjoy such freedom together.

As Andrew and Miriam were returning to their bed, Timothy started to make us both happy, and we girls loved each other up too! The three of us were all enjoying this wonderful gift from God. We all got misty-eyed and were thanking the Lord for this sex shared in love!—So spontaneous, soft and beautiful!

It was quite new and unexpected to Timothy and me, but it was just the Lord's set up to keep breaking these false ideas and sexual bondages, when love has no limits! Thank You Jesus, for such a wonderful Family of Love and the sample of true freedom of our dearest, sexiest Dad!

Lots of love & kisses,
Abeille.

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To David, My Love!

Dearest one,

13 Feb. 78

Thank you so much for such a wonderful day and night yesterday. You make me feel so loved! I truly love you, more than anyone else in the whole world, thank the Lord!

It's so good being so in love with you, because I know you will never let me down. XXXX! I'm a little sad today and trying not to think about leaving. But I'm so happy for every second that the Lord has blessed me with here. And besides, "Love wasn't put in your heart to stay, love isn't love until you give it away."

Love forever & ever,
Shalome

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I'm madly in love with you!
My heart is pierced thru and thru
With love, with joy,
with sadness and pain,
To have to say good-bye again.

I've known your love now, better far
Than what was thought of, seen afar!
I've felt the love, gazed in your eyes,
Two lights to brighten cloudy nights.

But most of all, what I hold dear
When the world's realities I fear,
When I don't want to leave your side
Where love and warmth flows like a tide,

Your love supports and sends me on,
To share the love from Heaven's own.
What you said helps my heart to mend:
"It's the beginning, not the end!"

—Shalome.