

The first day when Jason was discouraged after school, we asked him if he had cried out to the Lord & asked for His help & claimed a verse. He said he hadn't, so that night he prayed & claimed James 1:5 & prayed for good Spanish/English speaking spirit helpers! The next day he said that when things were hard, he remembered to pray & ask the Lord for help.

THE FIRST DAY THE KIDS WERE AT SCHOOL I FELT LOST!

As I came home there were 4 little smiling faces running to meet me. I felt, Oh Lord, do You mean You want me to start all over again? I knew the answer, but it was still quite an adjustment as I had generally worked with Jason & Sherah in school & provisioning & now they weren't here. Now I am learning to continue without their constant help & gearing everything to the level of the younger ones again. I felt like I was going back 5 years, but PTL, He is showing us how precious are His little ones!

A NEW GUITAR: One of the few things the Lord hadn't yet replaced after our things were stolen was a good guitar.

We had been borrowing one, but needed a better one for performing with the children. A brother we had worked with in Finland & his wife met a drunk on the street one evening who gave them a very good steel-string guitar. They read in the FN that ours was stolen & gave it to a sister who lives in Spain who happened to be visiting her family in Finland. She makes this visit once a year. She brought it by plane to us. The Lord sure works in funny ways, His wonders to perform!

LESSONS LEARNED: We thought it was really funny

when a brother in Canada wrote to us after we sent him a tape of the children singing & a card & book marker that they had made for him. He said that he was really turned on because before he thought it was a big thing to sing with your children, but after listening to the tape he saw how simple it can be. Now he says he wants to get out & try with his too. Then he said when he saw how simple it was to make things for people, he was encouraged to do the same. PGL

THE LORD CONVINCED US HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO TAKE A FEW MINUTES

to really talk with each child individually just before they go to sleep each night. Sometimes it's the only special time we have with each child & they relate things to you that they wouldn't say in the hustle & bustle of the day. This seems to really strengthen our relationship with the children.

SCHOOL PRIORITIES: We know how important the kids' schooling is but thru' the years

we've found that the priorities before school need to be: 1. The Word, then 2. Teaching the children to care for themselves physically, & then 3. That they also learn to be concerned & care for others. We regularly have to devise new ways of making memorizing interesting, but it is worth it so that they learn their verses. We make sure that they also know what each verse means & tell us when quoting the verse.

SOMETIMES WE'VE TAUGHT THE CHILDREN HAPHAZARDLY—a little here & a little there.

They really fail to learn anything. We've seen thru' good & bad experience that the teaching needs to be like carefully building a building. We need to de-

cide what we want or need to teach & then decide how we plan to teach before we get started. I've also seen since the kids have been in System school that maybe we go too slowly with our children when they could learn more quickly & thus stay more interested.

KITCHEN CLEAN-UP TIPS: Since we have no adult help with the children,

we really have to stay on top of things. One thing is kitchen clean-up. I think a really good cook cleans up as he or she goes. It's so easy to make soapy water & wash up as you cook so that when the meal is served the dishes & counters are clean. Then after a meal the kids bring me the dishes & I quickly pre-wash each one & stack them next to the sink. If we can't wash & dry them right away, at least the kitchen is clean-looking & there is not food left on the dishes to draw flies & ants. We also wash off cabinets & tables with a solution of chlorine bleach & water after meals & before bed. This really discourages flies & bugs & is a very cheap & excellent disinfectant. We keep it in a labelled squirt bottle, & it's good for cleaning kids' toys & baby rooms too.

HOUSE DECORATION: We used the first week the kids

were in school to make a much needed clean-up & redecorating of the house. We are improving the livingroom with new drapes that Secundus made & cloths for the tables & painting the chairs for the table. It is so easy to make attractive arrangements from dried flowers that are in abundance right now. We are making a children's playroom, covering apple crates with foam & bright coloured vinyl that was provisioned, & provisioned carpet. It is so much more inspiring

to live in a clean, bright house with nicer surroundings. Sometimes our homes can be dull & lack the inspiration that a little touch here & there can add. I know, because ours was!

FINALLY, ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSONS

we have learned is that if we properly care for & really live thru' our little ones & forsake our own ideas & desires to give

them what they need, the Lord will always bless & care for us. When we've neglected our little ones we've lost the Lord's blessing & provision & protection. We've realised more & more how important these little lives are to the Lord, & to neglect them seems to greatly grieve & concern the Lord.

WE REALLY PRAY THAT THIS HELPS & ENCOUR-

AGES. Sometimes we feel that the things we write are just so simple & that they couldn't help so much. But each week we get letters from Family members thanking us for writing the testimonies. This helps us so much, & we really praise the Lord, as these letters are such an incentive & encouragement to us in return. Love, Seek & Secundus.

Parents Worldwide Give Candid Answers To Questions By M & M!

How they serve the Lord with their children, going to school, reactions to Davidito Letters & more!

(Recently, at the request of Mo & Maria & Sara Davidito, the KQL's around the world sent out a Childcare Questionnaire-Advisory to all parents. In it were such questions as: "What are your true & honest feelings about your present situation with your little ones?" "Do you have sufficient help with your children?" "Do you find the Davidito Letters helpful, or a hindrance in any way?" "Do you think that you, or the Family, could improve the rearing of our children?" "Are you able to meet the physical & spiritual needs of your children?" Following are some of the honest "Green Shirts" answers received from parents around the world!!)

PACIFIC

ELI & EPHESIANS L.A.: (Six children, ages 1 month to 7 years.) The spiritual situation of our marriage is great! We have our little disagreements now & then but it just makes making up even more fun. We get along great & are happy together, especially

to burn free & do things that make us happy & fulfilled. We do have a few disagreements about raising the children but usually just over a certain circumstance & not as a whole. When we disagree, we try to sit down & decide what's best. Then if it doesn't work we try something different. We try to avoid making the "Ten Commandments" of childcare rules. We try to be flexible. If something doesn't



we have written to several single people in the States & are hoping & praying they get their fare & come. People we hear from most of all that offer help are usually girls who have been childcare workers before & even have their own families now but want to help still. GBT!

THE GREATEST ENCOURAGEMENT

to me, is after a super hectic day just having one thing happen where the kids do or say something really in the Spirit!—That makes it worth it all! Also my husband encouraging me to keep fighting, knowing I have his love & prayers, & of course the Mo Letters most of all! No matter how busy a day is, when we get those new Letters & FN's, I read everything immediately! They are so refreshing!

DAVIDITO LETTERS: I read them & use what I can.

The things I like the most are the things Dad says—how he handled a specific situation that needed to be dealt with. They also opened our eyes to see the children as individuals with individual needs, but in our case we have to run our family like the "army" Dad describes when his children were young. I just can't give them the freedom Dito has of choosing their own foods etc. I'd really like to hear about not only how Dad had to handle his 4 before, but things that he would do differently now if in the same circumstances but with the new knowledge he has now. I think that kind of info would help large families a lot! If you could imagine yourselves with your present staff now & 3 or 4 more Dito's (but not more childcare helpers) & how you would face difficulties that arise, that's what would make

great reading & living! Please don't get me wrong, I appreciate the Dito letters but the attitude I personally have had to take is one of "Well, PGL, that's what they do with Dito & what he's up to" & not let it discourage me. That's why the Letters & the Lord help me so so much to keep fighting & fighting!—Love, Ephesians & Eli & family.

AMOS & MARY O'TEST: (7 children, ages 2-17 years.)

We have 5 boys & 2 girls & are so thankful for each one! Three attend school & are doing really well. The oldest teenage boy has sufficient schooling, but the next, Reuben, is behind & could really use another year. We have help in the Home from the other brothers & sisters, especially in the physical matters which is a real help!

WE'VE FOUND THE BEST WAY TO WINNESS & LITNESS

is while going about our

daily duties—on the way to school, at the park, while shopping etc. We really feel it encourages the children's vision of what witnessing is—something you're doing all the time no matter what else you're doing, & not just limit it to "going litnessing."

DAVIDITO LETTERS: Without their help & counsel,

we'd be lost. They're our greatest help & encouragement, & the Techis have been a great help about baby care!

TEENAGERS: Both boys, Joseph-16 & Reuben-15, have

been in the Family for 10 years. One of the biggest lessons we have learned is to not try to force them into the mould that we think they should be in, or make them in any way or force them to live up to our standards or expectations. They must find their place in the Family & God's will for their lives with our help & encouragement & not force!

WE MUST NOT MAKE OLD BOTTLES OUT OF THEM!

I've seen many people in the Family "freak out" when my teenagers played a game of pool, watched a horror movie on TV or sometimes refused what an adult had asked them to do. They wonder: "What's wrong with Amos' teenagers? Are they really in the Family!" etc. etc. Some even said that they should go back to the system or their grandparents!

I'VE ASKED MANY OF THESE SAME PEOPLE: "Well,

what did you do when you were a teenager?—Did you play pool or watch horror movies, & did your parents kick you out or send you to Grandma because of it?"

WHEN WE WERE TEEN-AGERS, we did the same things,

& a lot worse! So God help us to be more loving, understanding, like Dad said, & not so self-righteous! These guys have never tasted of the System, so I say, let them taste it & get sick of it, like we did! Otherwise, they'll rebel against their parents & Family, just like we rebelled against our parents. (AMEN!—Dad.) SO I NEVER SAY TO THE BOYS, "No, you can't do that!"—I just say, "It's your life, it's your decision, so pray & ask the Lord & do what He shows you, & I'll stand by you." This attitude has brought me closer to the boys than ever before. They are always seeking my advice & counsel on things, & I do the same with them. I did this about leaving my former wife. Those guys can really hear from the Lord & they really know where things are at, a whole lot more than people think!

TWO OF THE SISTERS OFTEN SHARE SEXUALLY WITH THEM & they really like it!

I know these guys know Jesus & His calling in their lives & they'll never get away

I REALLY FEEL WE NEED TO HELP OUR TEENAGERS

in the Family to find their place, where they can feel really happy & used. Joseph is good at music, so goes witnessing & street singing. In fact, he'd like to get more into music as an outreach. Reuben hasn't yet found his place tho', so goes thru' it a lot more as a result. At present both boys work part-time for a friend of the Family, as it's the only way they've found just now of paying their way & having a little extra pocket money, even tho' they don't like working.

DAVIDITO LETTERS: They have really helped me to

understand them & to put myself in their place. Hosea 12: 13—"And by a prophet the Lord brought Israel out of Egypt, & by a prophet was he preserved." Dad is truly preserving us with His Letters! GBH! They're the truth & so helpful! Love, Amos & Mary.

SHEM & ZEAL; V.S.'S OF S.E. ASIA: (3 children.)

The main area we need to improve on is the area of discipline & also real prayer for the children & their needs. I know we all fall short in really praying for the children every day.

ANOTHER THING I'VE NOTICED PERSONALLY is

when one of our children is "out of it" & really going thru' something, it's a reflection of our relationship with the Lord. They certainly do reflect us. The children have taught me so much about the Spirit & prayer! They sure get me desperate sometimes—ha! I never thought I was the type to have children & be a Mom, but I love them more & more all the time & thank the Lord for 'em.

ONE QUESTION ABOUT "JESUS' BABIES":

Whose name should the mother put on the birth registration & passport etc.? It seems to me that it is best to put the baby in the mother's name as this would cause less legal trouble, especially in travelling. In some cases, sisters have put the baby in the name of the brother who actually physically fathered the child even tho' they are not mated & don't intend to get mated. It seems this could cause unnecessary hassles. (Amen!—Or some mated Moms who are not legally married can register their babies in their own legal name with their mate's legal name as the child's middle name—so both mated parents' names are on the passport!—Find out local laws!—Sara D.)

ANOTHER SUGGESTION

I had was perhaps there could be some kind of allowance or



Zeal with Marie-2½ & Renee-3½ on the train from Thailand to Malaysia. Photo by Shem.



Amos & Mary O'Test & their 7—Joseph-17, Reuben-15, Stephen-8, Benjamin-7, Aulje-5, Crystal-2 & Darren-5 months!