You will need the following in order to get the HomeARC running on Windows 2000:

1. A copy of the installed HomeARC directory (i.e., C:\homearc).
2. A text editor of some sort, like Notepad.

**The Process:**

1. Copy the HomeARC directory in its entirety to a directory of your choosing.
2. Go to the drive with your Windows 2000 directory (i.e., C:\WinNT) and go to (Windows 2000 Directory)\system32.
3. Open the file autoexec.nt (located under (Windows 2000 directory)\system32) in your text editor and add the following line to the bottom of the file:

   (Path to HomeARC directory)\memctrl.com /i

   Please note the above (Path to HomeARC directory) is where you copied the HomeARC directory to (i.e., C:\homearc).

4. Now reboot your computer and run the HomeARC!

**NOTE:** If you do not have your yourname.INF file saved, you will need to create a new one. In order to do this you will need your original HomeARC CD!

**LNF:** You can skip this entire process by downloading the installer for W2K – it does it for you! – at http://www.techxcellence.net/downloads …

Check it out!

PS. From WS Computer Team: GBY, Dan, for figuring this out and sharing this wonderful tip with us all! This is just great and will be a big blessing to anyone that is interested in using Windows 2000.

We have still not found any way to get the HomeARC to work in Windows ME (Windows Millennium Edition), and it does not seem that this procedure can be duplicated there. Microsoft removed support for “real-mode device drivers” in Windows ME, and that is basically what Memctrl.com is. So, since Memctrl.com can not be loaded from Autoexec.bat in Windows ME, the HomeARC will not work on that system. If anyone discovers a way to run Memctrl.com and the HomeARC in Windows ME please pass the tip on to us and we will share it with all.
Commemorating the King of Thailand’s Birthday

BY SILAS, THAILAND

The king of Thailand’s birthday was on December 5th. For Thailand, the king's birthday is definitely the most important holiday of the year—a much bigger event than Christmas, for example, or even New Year’s. The DF and singing teams were involved in some different programs on the 5th, each of which was quite important.

Police Hospital Program: On the morning of the 5th, the singing team, including Jonas, Christy, Angelina, as well as the dancers and the children from the DF Home (all the way down to the preschoolers) performed at a large hospital for policemen who were wounded in the line of duty. It was a CTP type of show in conjunction with the Red Cross to honor HM the King and to help the Police Hospital in its fundraising/blood donor drive.

Though the crowd was not tremendously large, it included the entire administrative staff of the hospital, with their wives. They especially loved the little children, of course.

News of the program has also already been spread throughout the entire police force, as their official photographers and camera crew were present for the program.

Concert at Sanam Luang: In the evening, Jonas and the dancers performed at the main stage in Sanam Luang (large public area in front of the Grand Palace) which, again, was broadcast on nationwide TV, and attended by more people than we could number. They told us that there were around 300,000 there or maybe even more. The crowd was very responsive and enthusiastic.

From Stephen and Lisa, Liberia: Our son, David (13), fell sick with typhoid and malaria on December 12th. On Christmas Eve he was admitted to the hospital. David had been taking medication ever since he fell sick, but the medicine didn’t work, and instead of improving as everyone was expecting, he just got weaker and weaker. The medical system here in Liberia is appalling; it is very difficult to get correct diagnosis and treatment and no one really seems to know what signs to watch for, which only compounded the problem of treating David. It wasn’t till the day of his death that the doctor discovered that David had cerebral malaria (the malaria had gone to his brain) and that he was bleeding internally from typhoid fever. On December 28th, David went to be with the Lord. It all happened so fast; we are in shock and heartbroken as well. Please pray for us. David’s departure has left not only a lot of heartbreak but also a gap in our work that will be very difficult to fill.

The funeral was short but very touching. When we arrived at the funeral parlor, some of our closest friends as well as Family Liberia were there. At the service we played two songs— “The Butterfly” and “White Sails.” Stephen gave a short, inspired talk about the lessons we’d learned from David’s death. To begin with, Stephen shared how the Lord had spoken to our team before we arrived in Liberia—at that time over three years ago—and how He had told us that we would lose one child in Liberia. Stephen went on to tell everyone that David was our missionary gift to the Liberian people. The Lord in His mercy had been preparing us for this event for quite some time.

(Jesus:) Your precious son is safe with Me. He’s Home now and forever, and will soon be able to devote much of his time to helping you and the work in Liberia. He has a missionary’s heart, and has given that which is most precious—his life—to intercede for you in prayer, and to be a personal help to you from the spirit world. He will always be close by your side, and will help you to remember the better Place that he is in, giving you inspiration and incentive to continue to reach the lost and finish your job before I reunite all of you together.

Do not weep for David, for he is happy. He loves you dearly, and though he misses you too and longs to comfort you, he can see the potential of what he can accomplish Here, and what he can help you to accomplish. He’s happy, rejoicing, and eager to begin his new life. He will always be by you—your son—now perfect and whole, and able to do so much more from this side to aid you. (End of message from Jesus.)
BY PHIL, FOR TEAM FOUNDATION

Dear Ones,

Greetings from TEAM Foundation! We'd like to send you a brief "update" about the FLASH CARD offer by TEAM that many of you have responded to, telling us how much you could use and would appreciate this teaching tool for your children and your home schooling needs. We'd also like to thank each of you for writing and relaying to us your educational needs as well as for your encouraging words to us in our ministry.

About the DK Flash cards: In July, a company called PRI (Printing Resources, Inc.) bought the Dorling Kindersley Company, which produces these flash cards. Their management decided to close the "Family Learning Division" who produced the flash cards exclusively. As of Sept. 15th, "Family Learning Div." officially closed its doors for business. I've called and e-mailed various places to find out if there's any remaining inventory or returns, but have not found any. Since learning this, we have been searching for a similar type of flash card to offer. And, we have found one. It is called Basic Word Pictures (set 1) and More Basic Word Pictures (set 2) that is made by Carson-Dellosa Publishing Co., Inc., in North Carolina, USA.

Each set contains 95 flash cards. They are 3 inches by 6 inches in size and are in color. On one side of the card is a simple but cute color picture of the object or animal, along with the corresponding word. On the other side of the card is just the word. These are inexpensive, and cost $5.95 (USD) per set or just under $12.00 (USD) for both sets. We are submitting a request to the company about donating a quantity of these for our Family missionaries; if this doesn't work, then we will apply for a distributor's discount, which is 50% with a minimum order of $150. Please keep this in your prayers. Thank you.

In case you are unfamiliar with this product, you can look at them online at: www.carson-dellosa.com or at www.amazon.com. We also sent a set of these to Ginny at NACRO-FED to review before recommending these to you. Here's what she commented about them:

(Ginny:) An SGA mom, who teaches our two- and three-year-olds, has been using the basic word picture flash cards for the past several weeks. She said they work just fine and she really liked them. Of course, she preferred the DK cards, as they have real photos instead of just pictures, and they were more colorful and fun for the kids, but she did say these simpler cards work just as well. We liked the fact that the word is written on both sides of the card. It says on the box "for 6 and up," but both of us thought they were fine for younger kids as well. I don't think they would be so good for babies or really young toddlers. They are probably most suited for about two years and up.

Another good thing about them being small is that they fit the missionary lifestyle of not having a lot of bulky stuff! (End of comment from Ginny.) These are not available in Spanish; we could send you a sample of one or two of these cards if you write us (or better yet if you e-mail us) with your address.

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Once again, thank you for your encouraging responses to our survey sent out in August 2000. And, God bless you with a wonderful new year of witnessing and activating your friends and sheep!

P.S. We are also offering the “Sonday Phonics System,” and we can now offer it to you at almost half off the regular retail price. So, get your order in today!

kidbits

Lisa, born to Joanna and John Daniel on August 3.—Japan
Tyler Kai, born to Nicole and Mark on September 8.—Pacro
Gavin O’Test, born to Faith O’Test and Amos O’Test on September 17.—Australia
Cedric Shannon, born to Crystal Lily and Francesco on September 17.—Japan
Tyler, born to Angie and Sam on September 22.—Japan
Daniel Ryan, born to Crystal and Peter John on September 27.—Pacro
Alyssa, born to Joy and Shem on October 23.—Philippines
Sergio Daniel, 1st child, born to Daniela on October 28.—Colombia
Kevin Max, born to Faithy and Jesse on November 17.—Pacro
Paul, born to Pearl and Francis on November 22.—Japan
Chad Marshall, born to Martin and Ruth on December 13.—Thailand

P.S. We are also offering the “Sonday Phonics System,” and we can now offer it to you at almost half off the regular retail price. So, get your order in today!

tidbits

getting together...
Danny (Spanish, 20) and Sara (Danish, 21) were married in India. Congratulations!
Christmas witnessing!

Singing in Bethlehem

BY TINA (VS), MIDEAST

We sent our singing team to Bethlehem again this year for Christmas. Things were very different this year compared to previous years due to the political situation and unrest; many of the festivities were cancelled and there were no decorations or lights up at all. Many people have lost loved ones in the recent Intifada, as it's known here, and many are mourning, so we had to tone down our program a lot and couldn't include dancing; instead the team did mild motions and backup vocals to the songs.

Altogether it was quite beautiful, and though it rained heavily on Christmas Eve, quite a few people still came. We distributed the [Arabic translation of the] new tract called One More Breath, which was sent to us from the Folks’ Home, along with a song that we sang for the first time, “Christmas in Bethlehem.” We believe lots of hearts were touched and encouraged.

We spent Christmas Day together, and even had some local friends join with us. It was a sweet time. We sang carols and the Lord provided a nice turkey Christmas dinner from a hotel in the area. Despite the problems and troubles, people are still so giving and helpful. God bless them!

Christmas in Mexico

BY SEEK, MEXICO

Our wonderful Christmas included … an Activated Christmas party for our friends and sheep, a children’s Christmas show in orphanages, Christmas CTP for 3,000, Christmas CDs going out like hotcakes, new contacts, and thousands of tracts distributed, PTL! The best way to describe Christmas this year would be to say that the Lord answered every prayer!

Activated: At our first Activated seminar, we had distributed questionnaires, and from the answers we found that many who attended would like to attend events with their families. So when we prayed about a Christmas party for our contacts, the Lord led us to make it into an Activated Christmas party where there would be activities for both adults and children. To our amazement, our house was packed in spite of the fact that the party was held in the afternoon of the national soccer finals where Morelia was playing in the finals. This only enhanced the party and we began the party watching the sudden-death playoff where Morelia beat Toluca to win the national championship!

Downstairs the children had their own party with games, while the adults fellowshipped upstairs. Then we had music, reading of a touching Reflections about Christmas, the children’s show, lots of food, and a very funny skit called “The Christmas Carol” taken from the classic by Charles Dickens. Then the adults watched as the children took turns trying to break a traditional piñata.

Children’s Show: This is the second year that the singing and dancing and manger scene was done by the children. Renee coached the team of 12 children who performed regularly throughout December for orphanages. God bless Manantial, who provisioned cakes and milk to share with the children at each orphanage.

Jason playing the part of Scrooge in our funny skit, “The Christmas Carol.”
Christmas CTP: This was our fourth year to host a Christmas dinner for 3,000 poor people. This was the best year ever, and we had an abundance of food and toys, and it was a wonderful example to the community of what the Lord can do through His children. We had a Christmas picnic in a beautiful park on a rolling hill. The families were served and then sat with their children on the grass while beautiful Christmas music was playing and later gathered round for the Children's Christmas show.

At the end there was a truckload of food and drinks left over to pass out as people left. They also received animal balloons which the young people made the night before and had ready to pass out. We were able to give out posters, toys, and clothes as the people left the park. We wanted to thank the brethren in Monterrey who helped by donating 2,000 “Nurf” balls and helped to make the arrangements for us to receive them in time for the dinner. After this event, we returned home to find that we still had more food to distribute, and we packed out the van and one car and took the remaining food to a poor area near our Home.

Tracting: Each year a friend donates 10,000 Christmas tracts for us to pass out. We had fun the last day before Christmas trying to get the rest out by going to the long checkout lines in a department store.
Christmas CDs: Christmas tool distribution was really fun this year, as the new Christmas CDs were such a hit! We hadn’t been doing a lot of tool distribution, but it renewed our vision for what can be done throughout the year. In the process of going to office buildings and shops, we met so many precious people to add to our follow-up. Some of these folks helped with our Christmas dinner for the poor.

Radio Jingle: The most popular radio station created a “jingle” for us, which they played regularly to advertise the Christmas dinner for the poor, along with “Jingle Bells” from our Christmas CD.

Homes Working Together: One reason for the success of our Christmas projects is that the Homes in the city work together. This helps us combine a lot of talent in different areas and we find that we can do so much more, PTL!

Bangkok Christmas Concert 2000

BY SILAS, THAILAND

The Family Christmas Concert this year was again held at the beautiful grand ballroom of one of the best 5-star hotels in the country. The Lord supplied the use of this place free of charge, including food and refreshments, courtesy of one of the Homes who ministers to the management throughout the year.

The hotel management had asked us to try to keep the number of people attending down to about 900, as that was the maximum number of seats the ballroom fit comfortably. Nonetheless, well over 1,000 people came and there was only standing room towards the second half of the program. As a matter of fact, the hotel opened up a whole new section compared to last year, and set up a third giant screen so that the people sitting on that side of the room were also able to partake of the Lord’s Spirit shining through the dancers and singers.

The program was MC’d by Jonas, Christy and Angelina almost completely in Thai and was a beautiful culmination of different aspects of Family life—our little children, the young people, our CTP ministries, etc. (Before the program officially started, we had a video playing with different clips of CTP’s from all over the country, which Benny put together. GBH!)

Something that was quite beautiful to see every time you came through one of the side doors near the front of the stage (you could see the entire audience from there) was that everyone in the audience was smiling and totally captivated and mesmerized by what was happening on stage. It was so beautiful to see the Lord’s Spirit reaching out to the hearts of all present.

We’ve received no end of phone calls and comments from our friends thanking us for the program. We give all the glory to Jesus, as we know it was only Him and a miracle of His love at Christmas!

We would also like to give credit where credit is due to the Thai SC for provisioning the use of the grand ballroom, the snacks, refreshments, lighting, etc., and their further help with coordinating details and supplying personnel; to the DF Home for their help on the organizational side of things and all that went into the children’s portion of the program; to the TC and Ivy Home for making it possible for the singing team to perform, not to mention the different dear ones you sent to help with greeting and ushering friends; to the ThaiVS Home for your help with hosting the pre-concert meetings and for your help with greeting, ushering, and setting things up, and to all the other Homes who sent greeters and ushers, and of course, invited your friends. We couldn’t have done it without you!

The power of a tract

BY BEN, ANGELA AND GYONGYI, UGANDA

As we were on the bus our 2-year-old was, as usual, making contact with people around us so we could easily give out tracts. A 25-year-old girl with beautiful long hair sat next to us. She took a special liking to Gyongyi and we gave her a Christmas Children’s tract (which was all we had with us at that time). She started to read it right away and we could see tears welling up in her eyes. As she had finished reading it she looked at us and said, “This is my most beautiful Christmas gift ever!”
Christmas in Bali, Indonesia

BY STEVEN, FOR THE BALI HOME

It was a very busy month of witnessing! The Lord provided many opportunities for our children’s show to perform at 5-star hotels, schools, restaurants, homes, and friends and contacts’ Christmas parties, sharing the Christmas message of the birth of Jesus in song and dance. **Dancers: Paul (15), Flame (13), Danny (12), and Karen (9).**

Our “Band Group” also got to perform at schools, two restaurants and at an open-air shopping center; playing Christmas songs and the salvation message sung by nine-year-old Karen, “You can become God’s Child.” **The Band: Shem (lead guitar), Danny (bass guitar), Jesse and Flame (keyboard), Paul (drums), Suzy (vocals).**

Many souls were saved and many heard the Christmas message, including the many tourists who came to Bali for Christmas holidays! TYJ!

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Getting the message out in Russia

BY RUTH, RUSSIA

The Christmas push is really inspiring here! PTL! We’ve been meeting lots of people receptive to the message and friendly to us. Last spring we met a sweet man who got to know the Family several years ago via mail ministry. He is a pastor of one of the Pentecostal churches here. He introduced us to other pastors of the churches in the area, and since then they’ve been happy to work with us.

Every week they hold pastors’ meetings in their central church. Recently we came to see these people again, as we offered them a newly translated Memory Song tape *New Life* and the older *Fear Not*, and we also promised them some Christmas tracts for distribution.

When we came in they were having a service and invited us to join. It was sweet, but we couldn’t help thinking what a difference the Spirit makes, as it felt like “the letter that killeth,” ha! We listened to the preachers and sang several hymns together; they all were impressed and glad to see us young people actively participating in the classes, so at the end everybody was smiling at us very favorably.

Then the “business” part of the meeting began. We were given the floor to present our audios, and right at once all the four tapes we had with us were sold. A sweet woman (their equivalent of a CRO) leading their whole work here took two, and this was a good sample to others. She also asked us to come in a week, bring a tape player and present our other tapes, because not all the pastors know them yet. We also could sell the *Countdown to Armageddon*, as she introduced us to the other lady responsible for their funds. They’ve just collected donations and she wanted to buy the video for the church!

Christmas tracts were a great hit! We brought only 1,000 with us, which they joyfully distributed among themselves to take for distribution in their areas, and the lady in charge weekly asked us for more. How much more, we wondered, and she asked for 15,000! Now lots of people in the city, the area and outside (as they have many churches in other areas of Russia) are going to get the message!
Andrew (of Miracle), Oasis Home, Kosovo: As the New Year turns once again, I see my birthday coming in a few days when I will finally join the “over 50s.” PTL! I was not one of the earlier disciples, but because of the numerical oddity of when I joined, I wanted to share it with you here: I joined the Family in 1976 when I was 25 years old. Now I’m turning 50, and have been in the Family for 25 years. So exactly half of my life I’ve been serving the Lord alongside you all! And I can’t think of anything I’d have rather done. God bless you, Mama and Peter, and all my Family around the world!

[“It is the Spirit that witnesses...”]

Izmir Home, Turkey: Because of their faithfulness in their responsibilities as government officials, our friends Mahel and Fira (aliases used) were asked to move on to another higher post in a city quite far away. When they called to inform us of this change in plans, we arranged to meet with them as soon as possible before their departure. The time spent together, though short, was very precious.

Because we are close to them and they consider us part of their family, they invited us to their house on an overnight trip, even though they were in the midst of packing (something unusual, as customarily only immediate relations are allowed to intrude or help out with what are considered by all here to be very personal and intimate procedures).

They introduced us to a number of folks, leaders in their respective departments, who like themselves have a caring heart for the people. Among those we met were a local judge and his wife, and the area director for the Ministry of Agriculture. Our friends’ faithfulness in passing on the different things that they had learned from or observed in us (courtesy of the Lord) impressed us deeply. It was amazing to see how much of the deeper things of the Spirit they had tacitly grasped and were eagerly passing on to those around them.

The judge and his wife were invited over for coffee. Fira descriptively introduced us and our various activities to them.

“Whenever this family comes,” she said, “they always have a story or something positive to share with us.” She related the “Footprints” poem to them.

“You know,” she went on to say, “these people are very different from us. They always think about what they can do to help others. Each morning, they get together and ask God for a message for the day. Then they do whatever He says. One morning, I got up and opened my window. I stood there, prayed and then waited for a message, but I didn’t get one!”

We gave all the glory to God and then encouraged her to spend a few moments with Him every day before things begin tumbling about her. She promised to give it a try.

The next morning, we went to Mahel’s office for the first time. We were to pick up a couple of certificates he had prepared for us in appreciation of our CTP efforts for the earthquake victims over the last year.

It was quite something for us to see our friend in all of his official splendor. Due to the circumstances, we greeted each other formally, exchanged civilities, and were invited for a traditional glass of tea. It was so funny because this gentleman is already quite impressive in himself, but when flanked by all his surroundings, staff and more, one doesn’t know what to think or just how to react!

In between the constant ins and outs of various paper-wielding subordinates, ensuing signatures, phone calls and the like, our friend introduced us to Mr. Gem, the area director for the Ministry of Agriculture.

“These people have learned to find happiness in the simple things. For the last year, they’ve come regularly to bring supplies for the earthquake victims we’ve been caring for, presenting musical programs and animations to help restore the people’s morale, and have been an encouragement all around,” Mahel told him.

After having new certificates made, since the former ones had long been buried in the formidable bureaucracy somewhere within the building, we were invited to Mr. Gem’s office for the next round of tea. We spent the better part of the next three hours with this precious soul, and he poured out about himself, his background, his upbringing, subsequent marriage and present job.

Towards the end of our conversation, he asked, “So, what religion are you? Are you Christians? The reason I’m asking this is because for a number of years I lived in the southeastern part of the country, and I had the chance to observe some Orthodox priests. They are very different from us. In Islam, the Hoca gets paid for everything religious that he does: chanting the holy prayers, reading the Quran, etc. It is like a profession. But those people that I saw, nobody paid them. They did it out of love. They let us come to their services and visit their churches; the men and women were together and it was beautiful.” (In Islam, the men and women are segregated.)

This was the perfect opportunity to tell him about what the Lord has done for us, and how we in turn are indebted to let others know of His care.

[“Cool tips for hot outreach”]

Sam, Crystal, Ben and Meekness, Botswana: Jesus is so wonderful. Since coming to Africa He’s done so much for us. Our time here has been our happiest, most challenging, fruitful, exciting and adventure-filled.

Our Home is a semi-mobile Home. We enjoy witnessing. Here are a few ideas and tips from how we are changing our part of the world.

- To have fruitful outreach, we found that it’s very important to have a reliable car. Two companies out here donate all the servicing and parts for our vehicle. Also without fail, a service check is done every 10,000 kms. The standard we try to keep is “Would we take Mama and Peter for a drive in the car?”

- While on outreach we found that when people say “no” they often actually mean yes. In other words, they are challenging you to convince them that what we have is what they need. We have the best product in the world—Jesus. We’ve picked a winner! How can we go wrong?

- Always offer the tools in large quantities—people feel chauffeured (African term for feeling good about themselves). They actually enjoy that you think highly of them, as well as respect them, by offering them a large quantity of tools. The system is all about “status” and this puts them with the “Joneses.”

- Referrals. They’re like the Nike ad that says “Just do it.” We’ve found that referrals are powerful and carry a lot of weight. If a close friend has sent you, then chances are that 90% of the time they will help, and on top of it they will...
give other names. On one of our road trips, we went to a town with the names of five people. This list snowballed into a list of fifty names. Forty of those names are now regular supporters.

- Go to the Africans. There is a revival with the African businessmen. More and more are coming to the Lord. They are friendly, giving, and want to give to the best to their kids.
- Build up a good stock of tools. It is always a help to have a variety. It's like going to a large supermarket. When you walk in, the atmosphere is customer-friendly. The shelves are always full; the presentation is immaculate; everything is clean and shiny. The aircons are on; people are friendly, and you feel comfortable shopping. We're not marketing System goods—this is eternal life we are talking about.
- Make outreach a goal in life. Reach out to that lost soul and God will always bless it! Witnessing should be a way of life. At every opportunity, don't let people pass you by.
- Consistency brings results. Don't just do it at the month's end when the rent is due.—Do it daily! Do all that you can and watch God do the rest.

All that is getting done here is by His grace as we obey the New Wine by faith, no matter how crazy it seems or sounds. The nice part is we don't have to do it. All we have to do is say yes to Jesus and the miracles won't stop.

[Miracles of supply]

Peace (SGA, of John D.), ThaiVS Home: It's been awesome to stand back and watch the Lord miraculously answer prayer after prayer, supplying need after need over the past month. It's a tangible fulfillment of all that Mama and Peter have talked about and the Lord promised to do in the era of greater works.

To recount a few of the miracles the Lord has wrought for us over the past month, we'd have to admit that initially many of our needs fell into the category of "would be" prayer requests, or things that, although we kept on the back burner of our prayer list, due to more pressing pending needs we didn't have much faith to pursue. So limited by our own lack of faith and persevering prayer, for the previous months we had been praying off and on for many various needs and in many cases hadn't really taken a definite stand in prayer and claimed the answer.

But the breakthrough came when a new GN from Mama came out in which she suggested each Home write up an "impossible" prayer list and claim it as done! This was EXACTLY the extra push we needed to take the plunge and DO IT! So we pulled out that rusty pen and paper, made up our list of "impossibles," and went to work on praying for them every day at every devotion, every meeting and anytime we were together for prayer. Our list included (to name just a few!):

1. A new vehicle
2. Two new washing machines
3. Playground equipment
4. New glass louvers for our back house
5. New glass windows for our main house
6. A new sound system for our van
7. For Mikey (an autistic child in our Home) to be able to attend a special input course for disabled children without having to pay the exorbitant fee
8. For the transportation funds needed for Mikey to attend the class, as he would have to go by taxi
9. Funds for braces for one of our teens
10. A new oven
11. Regular Thai classes for our adults, SGAs, YAs and teens
12. Milk powder contact
13. Paint for our inner perimeter wall
14. Thai dancing and manners classes for our children and teens
15. Funds for a vacation for the whole Home
16. Furniture
17. CD writer

Well, the miracles were on their way! Soon after we began our fervent prayer push, we were able to get in touch with a woman who owns a large playground equipment factory! The Lord touched her heart and she decided to give us three new pieces: a double see-saw set, a swing set and a set of monkey bars! PTL!

Next we heard from one of our contacts that he had decided to donate milk for needy institutions! We still have to keep praying for a contact for our Home's children, but it's a great beginning!

Then we received an answer from a lady who deals in paint who decided to give us 20,000 Baht worth (US$460) of top-quality paint completely free!!

But wait...it doesn't stop there! The Lord continued to supply, to where before we knew it our answered prayer list read like this:

1) Two new washing machines for less than $½ the cost of one
2) A new sound system for our van for ¼ of the usual price
3) A free condominium vacation spot for our entire Home
4) Funds to cover the other vacation needs, e.g., food, recreational activities, transportation, etc.
5) Funds for braces for the teen who needed them
6) New glass louvers for all our back house windows
7) New glass windows for our main house
8) More than enough paint for our inner perimeter wall
9) Free weekly evening two-hour Thai classes for our adults, SGAs, YAs and teens
10) Free special input course for Mikey
11) Funds to cover Mikey's travel expenses to and from the course
12) Free savory and sweet pies and pastries on a bi-weekly/monthly basis
13) New cupboards
14) New articles of clothing for the younger children
15) A new CD writer on its way
16) Free Thai dancing classes for our children and teens
17) Free Thai manners classes for our children and teens
18) A consistently raised budget

And the list of miracles and answered prayers doesn't end there! The Lord is continuing to bring in need after need, performing miracle after miracle, to where we're nearly at the "wants" stage, ha! There're a few things that are still in the "prayer funnel," such as a vehicle, etc., so we'll just keep on prayin' and praisin' and we know the Lord will send 'em through! Praise His Name!

We wanted to say a big THANKYOU to our dearest Mama and Peter for making all this possible through all the Word that the Lord has given us through you. It is our source of faith, guidance and direction. If it hadn't been for your Letter encouraging us to aim for the impossible, we would never know what the Lord is capable of!
Interested in seeing how to get *Activated* an active part of your Home? Take a trip to India in the upcoming *Free Zine #51* and look into the life of young people in the Bangalore Service Home. See how they’re helping making *Activated* their Home’s feature in “Sweet Taste of India.”

Don’t miss the interview! Worth a read for all—old and young. Catch the *Activated* vision!

The Action Series comes to life in Salvador!

**BY JOHN (OF ANGEL), SALVADOR, BRAZIL**

It was exciting to see the Action Series GNs come to life this year, as we saw two new Bible study groups come together in our Home. It all started with one of our long-time faithful friends, Julian, handing a tract to a lady who runs a real-estate agency. She called Julian back to ask about the tract, and he put us in touch with her. Consuelo (of Jeho) went to visit her, and she was full of searching questions from all her experiences with other religions. Another friend of hers came the next week. Then a precious couple, who had recently lost their child in an accident, started to attend, and the class was underway. This couple invited us to use their apartment for our Saturday afternoon Bible studies, and now after about four months we have six faithful members, with more on the line.

Another class started up in the Home of another long-time live-out disciple, Marily, whose daughter was in the Family for several years here in Brazil. She moved here recently and expressed a desire to have classes in her home. A couple (one of whom is a retired federal policeman) who recently rented out their beach house to a Home in a nearby town started to attend the class as well, and now they have four faithful members.

A third Bible study class, which has been going on for several years in the center of Salvador, has recently been rejuvenated with new blood, and they now have five faithful members.

Reading through the *Action FSMs* 2 and 3 provoked us to godly jealousy. Sara (of Tiago) who has the class in the center (of town), plus our Home (Jeho and Consuelo) along with Nehemias and his on-fire YASA band decided to pool our talents, and after getting the Lord’s go-ahead in prophecy, we planned our fellowship lunch for December 16th.

As a confirmation of all this, one member of our Bible study group volunteered to sponsor Christmas T-shirts to sell as tickets for the event! Also, a friend of ours who owns a high-class restaurant near the center of the city agreed to host our get-together at a low-cost price (even though he was tightly booked). Nehemias and his band, along with Argentine Jeremy, spent long hours practicing Christmas songs and up-tempo rhythms, and one member of each Bible class volunteered to give his or her personal testimony—a real step of faith to speak in front of a large crowd. To our surprise, 85 people (one-third Family and two-thirds friends) showed up—not including children!

Ana Luz (of Stef) provisioned a Sprinter van to bring our kids’ Christmas show of ten to perform, and they won the hearts of all present. After all had eaten their fill, several members of the Bible classes came up to give their testimonies. Tanya, of Sara’s group, led off with her stirring story of how the Lord had delivered her from deep depression, and how she is now feeling the Lord’s tug on her heart to serve Him full-time! Then Rita, of Consuelo and John’s group, gave a moving message of how the Lord calls some to come to His fellowship through hardship and pain. She told how one week after she and her husband lost her little boy, she met the Lord through us at her first class, and then one month after starting to attend classes, she got pregnant! There weren’t many dry eyes in the house after she finished.

We wound up our two hours of fun, food and fellowship with a raffle, and then sang Happy Birthday to our dear Birthday Man—Jesus! This was a wonderful way to promote our Bible study groups to those friends who as yet had not been to one, as well as promoting the *Contato* mags, which were on prominent display next to the buffet!

All went home that afternoon with a heavenly glow on their faces, and we are already talking about how to organize a united retreat with all three Bible study groups in March. This has certainly been a year of Action, and we are looking forward to more action next year!

Check out the MO site to download our new Family “Song of Victory” in Spanish!!
Dearest Mama,

My brother’s testimony is remarkable. He’s six years younger than I, recently came back to the Family, and is in an FM Home. I spent a lot of time with him during my recent visit with my relatives, and we did lots of witnessing together.

When I last saw him 18 years ago, he had just dropped out. He was temporarily in the same Home as I, but when I left, there were lots of changes going on, with most people going to South America or other fields. In those post-RNR days, there wasn’t much organization, and many people did their own thing or had their own plans, and somehow my brother never found a Home that took him in. In fact, some people even treated him without much love and were not a good Christian sample to him. However, he took it very graciously, and amazingly enough is not bitter about it.

For a while he had to go back and live with my parents, and later on, he started living on his own. He was never able to fit into the System; he knew the Family was where he was meant to be. He had gotten hooked on the Word that I shared with him in my catacomb days, and he always knew Dad was God’s Endtime prophet.

He told me during my recent visit that I had instilled in him the concept that he had to keep his eyes on the Word, and not on the people in the Family, since we are human and can fail. I had forgotten about that, but that explains why he stuck for so many years. And then, when he was living on his own and there were no more Family members around, he would go to an old contact and print Family GP pubs and get them out, and even make faith trips. He lost touch with me through a series of circumstances, until the Lord by a miracle put us in contact again about five years ago.

More recently, he’s had the blessing of having Homes nearby and coming back to the Family he always considered himself a part of. He’s read plenty of Word and uses prophecy, and even practices Loving Jesus, even though it breaks his bottle somewhat. The Lord has delivered him from the chronic stammering that he used to have. But the biggest miracle is that some time ago he developed a tumor and the Lord delivered him in just one day, which he spent in prayer and fasting, and he’s been whole since then. This happened when he was still by himself and didn’t have Family brethren around that could give him support and prayer.

To me, my brother’s case is a proof of how far the Word can go and the fruit it can have in people’s lives. Only in Heaven will we know all that was accomplished because of the Word that we give out.

—FGA man
Peeves:
Parents who simply cannot see the advantages of math dots. The secret truth, however, is that parents such as myself are in fact terrified of their children learning to count using these spotted cards. Imagine serving your child a bowl of granola and having him immediately complain that he got 26 less oats and 3 less raisins than his sibling.

How we can help them:
It’s simple. Thank them for taking care of the children and show them your appreciation in tangible ways. Words are nice and needed, but there’s nothing like a thank you card with a night off, occasionally accompanied by a nice big stack of photo-filled magazines and a pair of scissors.

Portfolio:
As the name implies, a secretary is a “keeper of secrets,” and she finds herself doing so almost continuously. For example, she will never reveal to you the exact amount of time she spends finding just the right sticker to place on her monitor and deciding where and how to place it. Casual surveys show that a heart and a butterfly are among the most popular stickers.

Pastime:
Scouring every magazine, newspaper and catalog for pictures to cut out and paste on picture fact cards. The volume and diversity of picture facts is staggering, with the typical set taking several months to show to children and requiring a helicopter to transport from Home to Home. “What’s this, Johnny? That’s right! It’s a hemlock woolly adelgid. Isn’t it cute?” “And this is a brand new one I just cut out this morning, can you say ‘antibody dependent cell-mediated cytotoxicity’?” Oh, and here’s one of your favorites, Gooooood, Johnny! It’s a Sandinista rebel eating a taco.”

Secretaries

Peeves:
A broken computer, which is also sometimes referred to as “a computer.” Don’t ask me why, but in the 72 or so years I’ve been fixing and troubleshooting computers, I have never seen a vocation that has more computer problems. I’ve seen computer error messages that range from the perplexing (“Error: Keyboard malfunction, press any key to continue.”) to the downright bizarre (“Error: All files have been gobbled up by a big, green, scaly monster straight out of a ’50s horror movie. Raise your hands, run around the room and scream to continue.”)

How we can help them:
Make life easy for them by being considerate of what we ask them to do. We must realize that underneath that pretty little smile may lie tight deadlines, piles of messages to write, databases to update and low pitched sobbing noises to make when the computer munches it all up at the end.
Peeves:
about to go over your alcohol quota.

over the Internet just before you're
that will send you a mild electric shock
paragraphs, or www.WillPower.com
relatives using randomly generated
will automatically send letters to your
site such as www.LazyWriter.com that
may someday be possible to create a
terment of our lives. For example, it
Internet in amazing ways, for the bet-

Pastime:
Figuring out how to use the
Internet in amazing ways, for the bet-
terment of our lives. For example, it
may someday be possible to create a
site such as www.LazyWriter.com that
will automatically send letters to your
relatives using randomly generated
paragraphs, or www.WillPower.com
that will send you a mild electric shock
over the Internet just before you're
about to go over your alcohol quota.

Peeves:
Message to the Web team from John

Dear Web team,
My name is John, and just so you
don't get me mixed up with the thou-
sands of other Johns, I'm the one
who lives in a Home and has two
arms, two ears and a head. My Home
number is either BE003, US1234 or
JA933, but I'm not really sure.

Thank you for working so hard on
your Web site. I'm sure it's really inspir-
ing, but I haven't been able to visit it yet
because I lost my password. Again.

Also, what do you think I should
do about the situation with my land-
lord? Can you tell me who the Anti-
christ is? Why do young people wear
pants that are too big for them?

Love, John

Web designers

Portfolio:
Collecting plenty of interesting in-
formation, pictures, sounds and vid-
eos and placing it on the World Wide
Web in a presentable format. Sounds
easy, doesn't it? Well, it's not. The Web
is a wonderful way to share information
with the world, but behind all those pretty (and sometimes not so
pretty) sites out there, is often a quag-
mire of technical difficulties. For ex-
ample, cnn.com will not run without a
rubber band and a piece of chewing
gum positioned between the server's
hard drive and the power adapter.

Pastime:
Figuring out how to use the
Internet in amazing ways, for the bet-
terment of our lives. For example, it
may someday be possible to create a
site such as www.LazyWriter.com that
will automatically send letters to your
relatives using randomly generated
paragraphs, or www.WillPower.com
that will send you a mild electric shock
over the Internet just before you're
about to go over your alcohol quota.

How we can help them:
In spite of its best efforts, WS has
yet to find a qualified psychic to join
the Web team; so until then we can help
them immensely by giving them as
much info as possible about who we
are and what we want. Also, keep in
mind that although the Web site con-
tains a huge variety of material on
many topics, the primary responsi-
bility of the Web team is, well, Web sites,
and they are more than happy to do
all they possibly can to help you get
connected and online. However, ques-
tions regarding prophetic interpreta-
tion, relationships, recommended cat
food brands and columnists who won't
stop making up ancient proverbs,
should be directed to the appropriate
party.

Which reminds me of an ancient
Indian proverb (rough translation
from the original Sanskrit): “He who
swats the stubborn elephant with a
bamboo stick probably needs to ac-
tess the MO site.”

Portfolio:
Contrary to what some may think,
WS members are not required to fast six
times a week and get a prophecy before
taking each bite of food. We are in actu-
ality perfectly normal “human beans,”
as my two-year-old sister used to pro-
nounce it. And as you know, we humans
need plenty of beans to give us the en-
ergy to live, work, play and break things.
Thankfully, our dear cooks are there
when we need them, ready to provide
us with plenty of delicious, wholesome
food. We simply would not survive with-
out them, or if we did we would be re-
duced to creating a cooking schedule
that would include me, which is slightly
worse than starvation.

Pastime:
Scrubbing garlic out of their finger-
nails, washing smoke out of their cloth-
ing, cleaning flour out of their hair; gen-
erally just having a really great time.
They also tend to enjoy experimenting
with ingredients that you would expect
to find in the manual for assembling an
intercontinental ballistic missile, but
coming out with exquisite dishes that
make our mouths water and increase
our waist lines exponentially.

Peeves:
Anonymous: “What’s for dinner?”

Cook: “Black beans and rice. Just
like it says on the white board at the
kitchen entrance, written in 14-foot let-
tering.”

Anonymous: “White board?”

Anonymous No. 2: “When will din-
ner be ready?”

Cook: “At 7:00, just like we decided
back in 1975.”

Anonymous No. 2: “Really? I guess
I was kind of young back then.”

Anonymous No. 3: “Hey, what’s
that?” (Slurp, Slurp.) “Hey, that looks
good.” (Lick, lick.) “Oh, wow, I wonder
what that tastes like.” (Glug, glug.
glug.)

Cook: “Be careful, the dish soap
container broke this morning, so I had
to put it in a coffee cup temporarily.”

Anonymous No. 3: “Argh.”

How we can help them:
Anonymous No. 4: “Wow, that
smells wonderful! Thanks for not only
preparing the food but taking extra
time to make it particularly enjoyable.
What would we do without you?”

Cook: “I just made this fresh batch
of cookies. Would you like some? Aw,
you might as well just go ahead and
take them all.”

Anonymous No. 4: “Munch,
munch.”

Time would fail me to tell of the
many ministries within WS that have
all been set in place to make your life
and work as a missionary more effec-
tive and enjoyable. I find life in WS to
be both satisfying and enjoyable. Since
making the decision to join, the Lord
has blessed me with a fulfilling min-
istry, a lovely wife, a beautiful
bouncing baby boy, the opportunity
to share with you a wealth of ancient
proverbs and the realization that I
am indeed a very happy human
bean.
Movies Rated for YAs and Up
PASSION OF MIND (2000)
Demi Moore, Stellan Skarsgard, William Fichtner
Drama about a woman who feels she is living two lives, her day in each one beginning when she goes to sleep in the other one. After a while she is unsure which world is the real one.

Movies Rated for Junior Teens and Up
RED PLANET (2000)
Val Kilmer, Carrie-Anne Moss
A small team of astronauts runs into various problems and difficulties after arriving at Mars on a mission designed to help save Earth from ecologic disaster.

WHAT WOMEN WANT (2000)
Mel Gibson, Helen Hunt
After he survives a serious accident, a self-centered and egotistical Chicago businessman learns that he has the power to read women's minds. For the first time in his life, he understands women.

PROOF OF LIFE (2000)
Russell Crowe, Meg Ryan
The wife of a kidnapped American engineer retains the services of a freelance professional hostage negotiator to arrange his release. Set in Latin America.

Movies Rated for MCs and Up
RING OF BRIGHTWATER (1969)
Bill Travers
Film adaptation of Gavin Maxwell's novel—the tale of a man who gives up the rat race of life in the city and moves to a quiet cottage in Scotland to write and interact with his new pet, an otter named Mij.

(Note to parents: There is an unexpected scene towards the end of the movie where a local workman kills Mij with a shovel—off-screen—not realizing he was a pet.)

Reviews

Passion of Mind
(Dad:) It's got a good message about love, about the power of thought, and about facing your fears and overcoming them. It's an unusual and unique plot which keeps your interest. The woman's openness and honesty about her situation helps her to get the help she needs, to find a solution to her problem.

Real love is a key ingredient that helps the woman overcome the state she had gotten into, and in a way that glorifies the Lord, for He is love. Of course, if the woman had had a strong relationship with the Lord she wouldn't have gotten into the predicament she found herself in, and this should reinforce what the Family already knows: that there are many tormented souls in the world that need the Lord and His truth in their lives.

Thank you, dear Family, for being a great spiritual help to so many lost souls in a world with so many in need of the Lord's spiritual help.

Red Planet
(Jesus:) Man is coming to his limits and is trying to find a new home. While this movie may contain unlikely scenarios, it is a good exposé of man's neglect and lack of care for the world I created for him. This movie could be looked at in two ways: Through his efforts to clean up his act, man has made for himself a bigger mess, showing man's need for Me. The second way this movie can be looked at is through the eyes of the men involved—bravery vs. villainy; the selfish and the sacrificial. It shows good lessons on perseverance and not giving up in a difficult situation.

One thing this movie also brings out is the failure of science to answer the questions of the heart of man. In spite of their discoveries, they still cannot answer certain fundamental questions, which have led some of them to turn to Me. Any honest scientist will tell you that the more they discover in the world of My creation, the more they find that proves that there is a greater power at work than they can explain, and this movie helps to bring out this message.

What Women Want
(Dad:) This movie was a lot of fun, with some interesting and humorous insights on women and the differences between male and female. It's not chock-full of deep lessons, though there are some. And though it was somewhat exaggerated in parts, I nevertheless found it to be quite entertaining, enjoyable and insightful—and I think you will too. If you're looking for a fun romantic comedy to watch when you want to have a little time away from it all, to sit back and relax a bit and have some laughs, this might be a good one.

Proof of Life
(Dad:) This is an "entertainment only"-type movie in that while it's exciting, it doesn't necessarily have big lessons. It is, however, a good reminder to take the time to pray for our Family brethren in difficult and dangerous countries—for the Lord's protection and safekeeping in all that He calls them to do.

Ring of Bright Water
(Jesus:) Here's a sweet story that introduces you to a way of life in Scotland, shows you how the friendship of a man and woman can be a support to each other, and is very enjoyable as you watch the little friend I gave them with his funny antics. Pet animals are My gift to show man My love. This little fellow was just that, a token of My love. He changed this man's life, taking him from the frustration of his everyday city existence, to a fishing village of Scotland where he learned more of life's true values. Enjoy this sweet, loving tale.
By Celeste, EURCRO Media Desk

Jeremiah, England: Thanks for all the latest mailings. I’m so happy and grateful to be virtually back in the fold. I’ve read through nearly everything and as usual it was exactly what I needed. I am very comfortable with Maria. I am reassured by her warmth, gentleness, her humility. She is so precious, and she has done a great deal to expel my doubts and fears, and to encourage and strengthen my faith. The love of the Lord through her is irresistible and a happy, encouraging occasion.

Michele, Italy: Many thanks for your fidelity in giving to me the precious Word. I’m nothing without it!

Matt E, Norway: Just a little note to say thanks for the mailing received today. It is always such an encouragement when the white envelope arrives. “I’m not forgotten!” When one has messed up one’s life as I have, one feels not deserving of anything. So, the arrival of the mailings is always a happy, encouraging occasion.

Peter, Holland: I’m very glad that I can receive the New Wine from the Winepress publications. I believe every single word of it because I know it comes from the Spirit of God. It’s been such a blessing to get back in contact with you again. Lately the Lord has started using me more and more again—just last month or so He has used me to lead seven people to the Lord.

Lydia, England: Thank you for the Family mailings you send me each month. I am grateful, God bless you all in Jesus’ name. I am so eternally thankful for all I learned in the Family in 1972 in San Diego. The witnessing, provisioning and learning so much, have stayed with me all the years.

Denise, Switzerland: Dear Family, thank you so much for your recent communications. I was particularly interested in Tamar’s testimony. I have experienced rest and peace in the Beloved arms. Every need is met and there’s every consideration.

Angela, France: Dear Family, thank you for your last Winepress mailings. You are and you’ll stay the only true family I’ve ever known.

**Japanese Family Web site, December 2000**

Christmas Love Homepage:
- New E-card page (Christmas greeting cards). You can choose from 6 pictures and 3 background music files, and add your personal note to the recipient!
- Nine MP3/WMA audio files added.
- Dec/Jan calendars (wallpapers and PDF files).
- Christmas screensaver (No.3).
- i-mode page: Four Christmas stories and some color/B&W pictures for the mobile phone screen. Also a new “Chaku-melo” download section was opened. (Chaku-melo is a tune you hear when your mobile phone receives a call.)

Send a beautiful Christmas e-card to your friends and contacts!
(Japanese only):
http://www.family.gr.jp/christmas/e-card/greeting.cgi

By the US Activated desk

From Jennifer Morgan, New Hampshire, USA
I really want very much to be a part of the Family. I met you when I was surfing online and knew right away that to serve Jesus was what I wanted. You all sounded so happy and ready to give me information on Him so abundantly without thinking twice. I want to be able to do this too as enthusiastically as you do. If I did that here I would be made fun of. I want to be around people who want to spread His message as you do. I so look forward to hearing from you soon.

From Mark
Could you send me info on how to join please. I am very interested about your organization. My name's Mark and I feel very alone. I'm 17 and I was just wondering if you could help me because I feel so alone.

From Juliet, Mombasa, Africa
Thanks for your e-mail. First thing on Monday morning, I am blessed by your words. You’ve made my day and also reminded me that I had not had a word this morning with our dear Lord (I didn’t pray). Your e-mail has made me talk to God.

From Erika Kvistad, Norway
My name is Erika, and I’m a 10th grade student in Trondheim, Norway. I got to know about the Family through a school project about religious organizations in Norway. I visited the Web site to learn more about your organization, and from what I have seen, it seems like an active and involved fellowship with a positive influence on many parts of the world.

From J. and J. Stone, San Malco, California
Dear Family, We are a married couple fed up with the materialism and “rat race” lifestyle that we see all around us. We are seeking a better, cleaner life. Your Web site looks very promising ... please send us information about how to join you and further your efforts to spread the Word.

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TIME TO MAKE THE E-MAIL SWITCH!

The IBM e-mail addresses [mpg@ibm.net, grape@ibm.net, homemail@ibm.net] are closing! If you’re still using them, please switch over to the new listing of e-mail addresses below today. And please also try to make the switch to PGP from CPY! Thanks!

help wanted

Help wanted for moving missionaries! Zeb Geppetto and Kristy (and seven of our kids—soon to be eight!) are on our way to open a new Home in Mexico! Any help would be greatly appreciated and help us reach our goal faster! No minimum! Our present Home number is BR048. Please designate your gifts for Zeb and Kristy. Thanks so much for your help and prayers!

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Insult to your intelligence?

Have you ever been absorbed in a Blade mag, and come across a definition for a word that you already know? Well, please don’t take offense. Remember, we are an international movement, present in many foreign lands, and we try to define unfamiliar words for people—including new disciples or close outside friends—who’s mother tongue is something other than English. It’s not to insult anyone’s intelligence; it’s just to make the meaning of the Lord’s wonderful and deep Words even clearer. Of course, you can look up words too, when you come across a word that needs defining. There’s always something new to learn, even if your mother tongue is English. Lots of love to you!—Your Blade editor.

Cute Kids

While reading with the children, the new Feast Letter “Nothing Is Impossible!”

The Word says, “Nothing shall be impossible to God!”

“No, I don’t believe that is the case, my dear. Look, as the Word states again here...”

“But wait a minute,” pops up a little hand from the grand assembly.

The sincere child responds with, “It’s impossible for Him to fail!”

The news and views from Family members published in the Grapevine are not intended to reflect WS policy. Suggested reading age for this publication is 14 years and up. Selected portions may be read by or with those younger at parents’ or shepherd’s discretion. The Grapevine, P.O. Box 168751, Irving, Texas, USA - 75016-8751 e-mail: gv@wsfamily.com Copyright © 2001 by The Family

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