The “Fight for Life” Series!
By Mama

Dear Family,

We have prepared a series of Letters about anorexia and other eating disorders, which are now posted on the MO site for you. These GNs will not be printed, so be sure to download them so that you can benefit from all that they contain. There’s a lot of wonderful stuff in them besides counsel about eating disorders, so don’t miss out!

There were a few reasons why we opted to post these Letters instead of print them. One reason is that we have so much material to print for you that if we waited until we could get them in print, we wouldn’t have been able to get them to you for some time. We’re hearing of more and more cases of our young women suffering from eating disorders, and the Lord confirmed that it was important to get this material to you right away.

We would like to ask you who are parents and shepherds to please read these GNs first and get a confirmation from the Lord before sharing them with your young teens, so that they can be presented in the right way, and also so you’re available and prepared for any follow-up that will be needed.

The four GNs in the series contain quite a few detailed specifics about anorexia and how to recognize it, and how to help someone recovering from an eating disorder. We were concerned that some of our young teens who don’t have problems along those lines would be affected by reading the specifics or could get ideas that they wouldn’t have come up with on their own. That’s certainly a possibility. But in seeking the Lord about it several times, He confirmed that it was important for you shepherds and parents to be aware of these things, as apparently the problem has become quite widespread, and the Enemy is viciously attacking many of our youth in this way.

Before reading the material, it’s important that you have good prayer and call on the keys against any attacks of the Enemy or any wrong attitudes or ideas he would try to implant in your mind or heart as a result. It’s important for the Enemy to be exposed, but he won’t like it and will try to retaliate in any way possible. Please be on guard.

Peter and I are praying that these GNs will be a blessing and will help to expose the Enemy and bring the victories needed in this area. We’re desperately claiming the power of the keys for those who are struggling with eating disorders. It’s a big attack of the Enemy, and we appreciate your giving these GNs your attention, and following through with the help and prayer and support needed for those in your Home or area who are struggling with something along these lines.

Much love in our faithful Shepherd and loving Comforter, Mama

Activated subscription progress

As of April 30th, we have a total of 23,513 subscriptions! That leaves 26,487 to go, or 3,783 per month! Let’s go, Family! Reach for the stars!

You folks may think I’m exaggerating when I say “The Lord wants this to be an explosion—possibly the biggest explosion of any pub ever created by any Christian organization,” but that’s the truth! He does want it to be an explosion and it can be if you’ll make it that way. Claim the Lord’s promises! You can do it because He can do it, and He wants to do it! Don’t hold Him back by your lack of faith. God bless you, and may He help you to get activated as well!—Dad (ML #3348:13)

CVC GP Web site!

A basic GP version of the CVC Web site is up! Check out: http://www.ccvcollege.com which we hope will serve as a show-and-tell for people who are interested in learning about the CVC—friends, relatives, contacts, inspectors, whoever!

When you look at it, you’ll see that only the Information Desk and Contact the CVC take you anywhere for now. The Information Desk gives a summary of courses offered—similar to the General Intro in CVC Handbook 2000, as well as some FAQs for the GP. Contact the CVC gives you the current International CVC Office address, and eventually, DV, CVC e-mail addresses for each area.
Check out the new Activated site!

Newly redesigned Activated.org site launched May 1st!

This Web site is designed to help provide information about the magazines, and most importantly, lots and lots of Word to feed the hungry sheep with. It’s a TERRIFIC follow-up tool! Be sure to take time to explore all the new features and content that site offers, such as online subscription and an Activated sponsorship program.—And don’t forget to tell your friends about it!

Here’s what you say about it so far:

The Activated.org Web site is sooooo beautiful!!! It’s perfect! I can’t think of how it could possibly be better! It’s chock full of disciple-making Word material. There is now absolutely no excuse!

We recently met a young man who builds Web sites professionally. He offered to build one for us here in New York. It’s been such a trial to get started working on it with him because there is just so much we want to offer people who log on. But this is perfect. You’ve already done it! All we have to do is link to Activated.org.

—VICTOR, NEW YORK

We are flipped about the new Activated site. I like the personal testimonies section, the mags are gorgeous, the books are enticing. Well, we think it’s all tremendous! Such a great witnessing tool!

—CASSIE, U.S. ACTIVATED DESK

Charter QNA

Kids leaving the Family residing in CM Homes

Question from an Office: It seems that recently there have been many parents working towards helping their kids (who want to leave the Family) get set up, and we’ve found that many of these families are not requesting permission for their kids to reside in their CM Home if that’s the route they decide to take in setting their kids up. They assume that because they’ve either returned from the field to do just that, or because they’re the parents and responsible for their kids, that they have automatic permission. We understand that in some situations this is how it needs to be, and the actual permission to have their kids living with them is not the issue, but many are not letting us know and/or asking permission. Would it be possible to send a reminder or clarification to the Family concerning this?

Answer: In the Charter under “Definition of a Charter Home” section A, 3, it says: “Teenagers who are no longer Charter Family Members, may, with approval of a majority of the Home’s voting members and permission from their continental office, continue to temporarily reside in a Charter Home on guest status, provided they adhere to the following rules: [list of rules follows]

A Home cannot allow someone on guest status who is not a Charter member to live in the Home permanently or for an extended period of time. However, exceptions can be granted by the CROs in the case where teens who have left the Family are temporarily living with their parents or other CM adults in order to help prepare them for life outside the Family, make the transition as smooth as possible, and help them get properly situated elsewhere. If the teens are not of legal age they may have to remain in the Home for a considerable amount of time until they are old enough to move out on their own.

These non-Family teens should not be reported as Charter Members on the Home’s TRF, but a formal request should be sent with the TRF seeking approval from the CRO Office for the non-Charter member to remain in the Home. They are not eligible to read the Home’s CM mailings, have any sexual activity with Charter members, etc.

Those non-Charter members will not need to meet CM requirements, such as witnessing hours or other responsibilities of Charter Members on the HSEC. They must, however, agree to not break any of the rules listed above as well as any other rules or requirements set down for them to obey by their parents and the Home council of the Home in which they are residing. (End of Charter clause.)

We understand that it may be necessary to have teens who wish to leave the Family continue to reside in your Home while you work towards getting them set up in school or help them find a job, get on their feet financially, etc., and the Charter allows for this. It is, however, important to request permission from your Continental Office, and also to ensure that the other members of your Home are in agreement with such an arrangement.

If you happen to be in a situation where you have a non-CM teen(s) in your Home but have not requested formal permission, please write your CO Office as soon as possible and explain your situation. We’re sure they will understand any needed exemptions. This way, you can also benefit from their continued support in prayer. We love you and pray for you!

in My arms...

Written by Abi (CO), USA:

Little Vanessa (of Amber and Steven, Mexico) is now in Heaven. She passed on peacefully around 5:30 P.M. on May 19 in Mommy’s arms. She had been having difficulties these last few days with her breathing and today she seemed to slip into some sort of coma—sleeping for 24 hours without waking. Steven and Amber are doing well, but please do keep them in your prayers as they have to take care of the necessary paperwork and details. Vanessa’s two sisters took her Homegoing well. They kissed her goodbye and are talking about their angel in Heaven.

(Jesus:) My, what a rejoicing it has been up Here ever since your little one has arrived back Home. You may wonder why we would be rejoicing at such an event, when you are left with sorrowful hearts and an ache for your little one. But we are rejoicing because your little butterfly has accomplished her mission there on Earth and she has been rewarded greatly for her brave deed.

She is excited because she now has a mission to help you from the spirit world. She is your own family’s representative in the halls of Heaven. She will be interceding for you on your behalf and helping to keep watch over your other children.

She still keeps the name Here that you gave her there on Earth. She is your little butterfly that floats on the breath of My Spirit and will give you fluttery little “butterfly kisses” when you least expect it. So any time you feel a little fluttery breeze, know that is her, reaching out and touching you from the spirit world. (End of excerpts of message from Jesus.)

(Editors note: More about Vanessa’s graduation, including her eulogy, can be found on the MO site at: http://familiymembers.com/newsview/article.php?nwid=488)
Help get out 125,000 Activated magazines!

By the India Activated Desk

We want to send a big thank you to everyone who has been sending funds to the India Activated Desk towards sponsorship of subscriptions for those who cannot afford it. We now appeal to you for help with another worthwhile project...

In addition to the sponsorship subscription program, we want to request financial assistance to subsidize the distribution of the Activated magazines to the general public. When Activated switched over to “Mag of the Month” there was a surplus of magazines that went out of circulation (mainly issues 10 to 15). Also the new Activated magazines (issues 2-9) were printed on better quality paper there were still stocks of the older magazines. The Lord in prophecy indicated that we should even take the surplus magazines from other Activated desks to distribute to the masses in India.

So to make a long story short, we ended with a surplus stock of around 125,000 magazines that are outdated as far as subscriptions go, but are still a wonderful tool to feed the sheep. In order to get these out we have been selling these magazines to the Homes at a subsidized price—specifically, at the cost of a poster. In essence we have been selling them at a much lower price than we paid for them, believing that the Lord would make up the deficit. We wanted to appeal to you to help towards getting these remaining magazines out.

How we propose to distribute these magazines

India has a network of deaf students and adults who love the Activated magazine and desire to distribute them in their daily outreach and witnessing. These deaf brethren are very sincere and active in their outreach, to not only other deaf people, but to the hearing as well. These deaf catacombers have a burden to distribute these excess magazines.

Many of the brethren in India have hospital visitation programs, where they go bed-to-bed offering prayers and comfort to the patients and their loved ones. Again, Activated has been a tremendous tool in helping replace fear with faith, hope, love, and eternal life.

Many of the Homes go on regular road trips to outlying smaller cities and villages. There is tremendous potential in getting the message to masses via distribution of the Activated magazines. We receive numerous inquiries from people who “came across” or received a sample copy of one of the Activated magazines, asking how they can receive them on a regular basis and learn more about Jesus, the Bible, Endtime, etc.

How can you help?

We desperately need help in covering the costs of these 125,000 magazines. Even a small contribution of only US$10 would allow us to distribute over 100 Activated magazines, or would be a big help towards the deficit we have due to selling so many mags at such a subsidized price.

Won’t you send a gift so that we can get the magazines into the hands of those who need them? Or better yet, do you have a friend, family or sponsor who would like to donate to this worthy project? (Note: This is a good project of getting the Word out to the millions that many Christians in the West may be interested in supporting.)

Please designate your contributions to: “Magazine sponsorship for India” and send it to the India Activated Desk; IA77).

Thank you so much for considering this needy and worthwhile request. We really appreciate it!

Transcripts and course descriptions

In GV #125, there was an article from Ginny titled “Documenting Family Education,” in which she explained how she helped her son to document his Family education. A number of you got in touch with Ginny to request more information concerning how to make transcripts and course descriptions. Unfortunately, due to computer troubles, Ginny has lost your e-mails. So if you haven’t heard back from Ginny, please resend your requests through emily@sunny-sideup.com. Thanks!

Note: The basic transcript and course description files Ginny mentions in the above mentioned article can now be found on the MO site at: http://familymembers.com/fed/announcements/index.php?faid=8

Kids vitamins, posted on the MO site!

Are you familiar with the 16 steps of the Endtime? Do you have a grasp on the many facts related to both fulfilled and unfulfilled Bible prophecy? Looking for a way to review? Try playing the Endtime Game, for ages OCs up through adults. It’s now posted on the MO site, so if you no longer have a copy, you can get it at:

Special Olympics in Turkey
Jim, Hilltop Home, Turkey: It was inspiring to see how much the Lord engineered our presence at the Special Olympics. Compared to our attendance a few years ago, we were treated as VIPs and our entire Home went, including the children. We ended up performing four songs, and the emcee, our dear friend F., introduced us twice … once at the beginning and then again before we sang as "Dolly, Corrie, and the Family Group!" PTL!

The girls opened with the "Titanic song," and virtually stopped everyone in their tracks. The Americans from the Special Olympics committee could not tell us enough how "good" the girls sang. The second song the girls sang was Michael's "Reach for the Sky," and again one of the American ladies had tears in her eyes, even though it was sung in Turkish.

Then with a very good intro by Dolly, they sang Michael's song for Ataturk and the reaction was super. There must have been 10 to 15 video cameras filming, and we believe we were live on CNN Turkey and are checking this with the CNN crew.

When we were asked to perform a fourth song, Lily had the idea of singing a Turkish song by a famous Turkish pop star who died a few years ago. The girls sang it a capella, and turned from the main audience to sing it to the 1,500 athletes in the back grandstands who all joined in together. This perhaps was the most touching part of the entire program.

We were sincerely thanked by the Chairman of the Olympic Committee for Turkey, who we have known for a few years and did a TV show with last summer. Board members came from around the country to our Home, which was hosting the national board meetings back to back. This meant a meeting span of 10 days straight in order to accomplish everything.

Rising to the challenge!
Home in Karachi, Pakistan: Due to travel constraints and distances, in order to save time and funds, we had our board seminar and then our actual national board meetings back to back. This meant a meeting span of 10 days straight in order to accomplish everything.

Board members came from around the country to our Home, which was hosting the national board meetings. It so happens that all the adults in our Home except for one are on a board. This meant

ELMO at work in the Muslim world!
Mary Firstlove, Karachi, Pakistan: “This is just the medicine I need!” said one of our Muslim friends when we gave her the new Motivated mag. (Editor’s note: Motivated is a mag created by the Family in the Mideast to minister to Muslims, based in part on the Activated mag.)

This particular friend had organized many training seminars for poor and needy schools which we subsequently conducted, but we’ve never been able to minister to her in a very deep way. Our interaction with her was more on the “social gospel,” good works level. But this time she poured out her heart about the troubles she was facing. She shared how she often feels overwhelmed by the job she has and all the people she is responsible for, but knows that God has called her to that job. We were able to pray for her, and then give her a copy of the new Motivated. She couldn’t stop thanking us for the words that we shared, the prayer we prayed, and most of all the beautiful magazine which she has reread many times since. TTL for the encouragement and wealth of words we have and this new vehicle of Motivated to pass it on. It truly is effective!
that other than that lone adult, dear Lily, we needed to depend on the JETTs and junior teens to take care of the Home, care for the children, cook the meals and snacks, etc.

Did they rise to the challenge? They sure did—and faster than you can say, “I claim it in the power of the keys!” When we presented them with the challenge and idea they were excited. One week prior to the meetings, we took time with them individually to plan the school for the various age groups. Likewise, they planned a full 10-day menu for the Home, and then went and did all the shopping for it.

During the course of the meetings they did a fantastic job of cooking, teaching, cleaning, and organizing. Our teens here love to cook, and they are very creative when it comes to looking up recipes in cookbooks, and making new and tasty dishes. They really went out of their way to make nice meals, and it was quite impressive—they turned out 5-star meals, which included appetizers and desserts.

On the last evening we held a special dinner to honor all the attendees, and the teens gave it a special pizzazz when for the dessert they presented a fluffy, delicious cake with strawberries and whipped cream.

We then read an original poem that the Lord gave us in their honor called, “Ode to the Youth of Karachi.” And we presented them with a little reward—an ice-cream sundae of their choice at their favorite ice cream parlor. (Editor’s note: Check out “Ode to the Youth of Karachi” on the MO site at: http://familymembers.com/newswire/article.php?nwid=847)

It was very encouraging to see our young people carry the ball in this way. They truly are the future, and we’re very proud of them!

P.S.: During our board meetings, we were also praying desperately for supply for each Home since we were taking so much time off of the field. At the end of the meetings I phoned one of our regular pledgers to arrange to pick up his monthly gift of $75. He said, “Oh, and I have an additional gift waiting for you that was given to me to pass on to you.” We were quite curious, but he wouldn’t tell us about it on the phone. When I went to follow up on him, he handed me an envelope with $400 in it. It turned out that his 70-year-old secretary, whom we also minister to when we come to visit him, had come into some extra money, and wanted to be sure to share it with us!

Supply of a traditional Easter feast
Mercy, Romania: It was my first day in Romania, and the Home was undertaking a CTP to feed over 400 people. We started our rounds by going to the police, who had offered to cook the food. One man donated 800 eggs, someone else gave 50 kg of meat, and someone else donated 12 kg of canned vegetables. We also had potatoes, bread, and cakes donated for the meal. In order to pick everything up, a friend of ours who owns a taxi company gave us rides whenever we needed them.

The CTP started at 1:30 P.M., but when we started setting up there were only a few people waiting to eat. We had made radio announcements about the date and time, but the park was still rather empty. So Peter went around the park to call more people. One of the police who was there was rather skeptical and said it had been a waste to make so much food as there were so few people and he was sure there would be lots left for the police themselves. Well, by the time we were finished there was nothing left in the pots! One old lady was crying when she got her food, and later she came back with a friend and kissed my arm. Though I didn’t understand a word she said, I could feel the gratefulness in her voice. It was very special!

We want to include two prayer requests—things that we need in order to help further the work. The first is for personnel and the second is for funds for a vehicle. If you feel the Lord is calling you to this part of the world, why don’t you drop us a line at media2002@easynet.ro

And... ARE YOU ON THE MO SITE? If not, you’re missing out! Kayte in Mexico says: The MO site is a super site full of goodies and interesting material. Keep up the good work!
By Harmony (CO), USA
I was able to attend three out of the four National Board meetings for the CP Pillar here in NACRO (held in March/April). The board meetings were a tremendous success. Establishing the boards is breaking down the workload and putting in place teams of people who are not only helping to carry the load, but finding the solutions and making things happen.
I know this is the whole idea of the boards in the first place so this may sound redundant, but the point is it’s working! Even just by the boards having their first meetings so much has happened; there are more people not only seeing the problems but also seeking the Lord for solutions.
Unlike other meetings I’ve attended in the past, you don’t come out of these meetings feeling like “Wow, so many problems and so much to do!” Instead you walk away with the feeling of excitement that you, as a team, have addressed the problem areas but then at the same time are establishing solutions or goals to work towards; something is being done about it now and the ball is rolling even as you conclude the meeting.

By Phoenix (CO), Japan
I attended the VS and the CP East Japan National Board meetings this month. I could tell that the chairpersons of these National Boards really wanted to do it right when it comes to leading the meetings. They studied the Board Handbook well, and they followed what it says—to make sure to hear from the Lord at the beginning and for every decision we made. GB’m!

By Stephen (CO), Japan
It’s such a nice feeling to know that there are people who are thinking of and praying about different aspects of our work in Japan. About a month ago, whenever I read an inspiring testimony, I felt like, “Oh, we should do that in Japan too!” I felt burdened. Now we have boards and I don’t have to be burdened about these things. I can just pray that the Lord leads and guides them. It’s such a relief!

By Joy, Pakistan
Our first FED and CP board meetings were refreshing and inspiring. The Lord blessed our desperation, and hearing from Him for a keynote prophecy was very beautiful, and He also gave us some priorities for our agendas.
As a field we don’t have many opportunities to get together, as the distance is quite far, so to meet and focus on our particular ministry is very fruitful. To share ideas, discuss problems and weaknesses as a field, and try to find solutions together is really strengthening. In your own Home, situations tend to get so close that all you see is the trees and you can forget the forest, and lose the vision and also the challenge to improve our ministries by investing more in prayer. To have a deadline also to have board meetings every three months is a boost to get more stirred up and work on our individual to do’s within our board.

By Sam (CO), Chile
It is marvelous to see everyone so happy and inspired about doing something together—inspired about working hand in hand to build a more solid work. For many it was similar to having a baby, in that they were overjoyed and so excited with all the ideas, and were flipped out with the possibilities. Now, though the inspiration is there and folks are still excited, it’s a lot like the process of learning how to change diapers, staying up with the baby at night, etc. I think the “responsibility” factor is starting to kick in and people are realizing that it’s a position of give, give, give. I think everyone is doing very well and it’s such a relief for me to have many others who have the responsibility and accountability on their shoulders as well. It’s refreshing, ha!

Board vision taking off in Japan
By Cryssy, Japan
We had our first board meetings in January of 2002. We had a rock ‘em sock ‘em time together. FGAs, SGAAs, and YA’s all uniting together over this most intriguing plan. It seemed complicated at first and we all found ourselves wondering, Hmmmm, are we the right ones for this job? But each of us took the stand of faith along with our Homes (who also agreed to support this new move of the Family, and let us take part in the structure), and the Lord has again proven Himself faithful.—That if we step out and obey, He does miracles.
We are still learning the basic system and the details of the structure, but the principles have been put into practice and we are all very excited. Here are some photos of our East and West Board meetings. We are on board!
Lots of love from your Japan Family!
Board meetings in Mexico
By Pedro (CO), Mexico

The Lord did wonderful miracles in helping us hold board meetings for the two national areas of Mexico.

It was terrific to meet the precious ones who accepted the challenge of being a part of the board structure. It was especially challenging for us because, having just arrived in this field, we don’t really know our dear Family here that well. We counseled with our VSs and asked the Lord to guide us in the choosing of the first candidates. Some adjustments were made after we met, watched Peter’s videos, and had a chance to pray further about how to set up the boards.

Watching Peter’s videos very much affirmed everyone’s conviction to be part of this move of the Spirit and revolution that we’re in the midst of as a Family. Even for us COs, it was very helpful and eye-opening to hear Peter’s presentation. The vision became a lot clearer!

Many of the dear ones that came to the meetings confessed that they struggled making the decision to accept just coming to the board meetings when they received the invitation, but after watching the videos the reaction from the attendees was extremely positive!

The general reactions were:

“Now I see the need so much clearer and I want to be part of this with all my heart.”

“Please count me in. I wasn’t so sure I wanted to participate and had an overwhelming feeling of incapability, but here we go by faith, as always. What a revolution! We’re in!”

“Please let Mama and Peter know that we’ll give it our best shot and we pray that we can be a help and a blessing to our dear Family. What a privilege to be a part of this.”

We were extremely inspired with everyone’s reaction and wholehearted desire and commitment to do their best to be a part of this revolution. It already feels great to have all these people’s talents, prayers, and dedication focused towards helping us make progress as a field and as a Family.

After watching the videos, we gave everyone two days to pray, hear from the Lord, and reconfirm their acceptance of positions on the boards. The next two days we had marathon meetings with most of the boards. We took advantage of the fact of everyone being here to hold our first board meetings and it was so inspiring! It was far out to see everyone get together, pray and hear from the Lord, share their ideas and burdens, and get inspired with projects. We could see the vision unfolding before our eyes and becoming a reality. This was SUPER thrilling!

As Dad taught us, since all work and no play makes a dull student and an even worse witness, the last day before everyone left back to their cities, we took advantage of the gathering and had a dance and fellowship.

We’re very hopeful that the boards will change the future of the work here in a very substantial way. Long live the board vision!

Mike and Miguel leading inspiration

Morning Star: CGO-VS North

Ahlai: CGO-VS South

Josiah: CGO-YP North

Dust: CGO-VS South Chairman

Cush: CGO South

Lalo: CGO South

Esther: CP-YP North—CP Chairwoman

Maria: PR

Berr: PR

Maria: PR

Beth: CP-YP North—CP Chairwoman

Esther (of Miguel CO): YP-VS South—YP Chairwoman

Celeste: CP North

Chris: FED North

Note: See board members from around the world on the MO site!
Happy Mother's & Father's Day!

To Mothers

(Jesus speaking:) A mother's love is one of the closest examples of My love for My children, because a godly mother loves unconditionally, continually, and despite the circumstances. It is a special love I place in each mother's heart, because I know that through the love that mothers hold for their children, you would be able to understand more of My love.

You may feel incapable in your task as a mother. You see your faults and you know that you are not perfect. Oh, but there is so much beauty surrounding a mother. Each of you mothers resemble Me in some way—the way you unselfishly give, oftentimes without receiving much in return, the way you uphold your children in your prayers and support their dreams.

I knew that when I gave each one of you children that your love would only grow, that you would pass on My love to that child. I knew the words of encouragement you'd speak to help your child in need, for I put them in your heart; I saw the tears that would fall down your cheeks in desperation for your child, and I answered your prayers; I understood that there would be heartbreak in motherhood, and I stood by you during those times. But most of all, I knew that there would be great joy, that you would give love beyond measure, that in your children you would find your hopes and dreams, and yes, even much of the meaning to your life. I could not hold back that gift from you, so thank you for being My mothers!

Being a mother requires much, but it also is rewarded in many ways—the cry of a newborn baby, the smile of a little child, the happy moments shared as a family, and the respect shown by your grown child—these, and many more, are the physical blessings of all that you give up to be a mother.

And one day, Here in Heaven, you will receive the ultimate reward of what you have given, the returning of all that you have ever given up for your children and family—the greatest family reunion ever, unmarred by earthly limitations, where unveiled love and appreciation will envelop you. In that moment you will have the answer to all your questions about motherhood, the reuniting of your family, and the returning of those who have strayed. Then, you will know the great reward of motherhood to the full. (End of message from Jesus.)

To Fathers

(Jesus speaking:) Your love for your children is strong and dependable; it is silent at times, yet always whispering "I care." You may not always have as much time as you'd like to spend with your children, but this does not limit your love, or your ability to let your children know that they matter and are important to you. Fatherhood is not an easy role to play, and I honor you fathers for counting your roles as a privilege, as an honor. For indeed it is!

You, precious fathers, are a symbol of strength, principle, and continuity in love. You are security and reassurance to the little ones who need someone to put their trust in. I have blessed you with faith for this task. A father's love is so important to children; you become the role model for a little boy, a comfort and pillar of security for a young girl. You become your children's hero.

It takes time, prayer and love to cement all the bricks in the right order so as to build a sturdy foundation in your children's lives. When you begin building you're not always sure what the end result will be, but as you pray, listen to My guidance, and do your part to become the father your children need, I make you into all that your children need you to be.

So often it's the mother's love that is expounded on and paid tribute to, but I also hail and give abundant thanks and honor to you who have been true fathers, who have given your time, love, and energy for My little ones. I am proud of you fathers who have taken up the challenge in your calling as fathers, who rise to the challenge and make a difference in the lives of your little ones. Thank you for being a pillar in your children's lives.

I also thank all the fathers who stand in the gap for children who aren't their own, who love them as if they were their own, raising them in My nurture and admonition. You will receive great rewards for your loving sacrifice—for the care, love, time, endurance, patience, and consistency that you pour into your children day in and day out. Hail fathers! (End of message from Jesus.)
We'd like to announce a new offer! Through our research efforts, we have found a ready-made curriculum entirely in Spanish for Grades 1-6. This curriculum is very similar in format to CLE, but entirely in Spanish. This offer provides a 45% discount for these curriculum items and free shipping. The “free shipping offer” applies to surface mail only. Here are the details:

The company that offers this curriculum is called “Literatura Monte Sion.” It is a Christian-based organization, non-profit, and its goal is to make their curriculum very affordable to those who home school in Spanish in Latin America. The company is based in the USA. If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact us and we will provide you with an order/price list, catalog, and instructions for ordering and payment.

We at TEAM Foundation have set up an order desk to receive your orders and payments, which we will pass on to the company who will ship the materials directly to you. [Note: The prices listed in the order/price list that you will receive are already discounted by 45%]

Before offering the curriculum to the Family, we requested some of the materials to be able to preview and evaluate. Below is an evaluation by Ado, who is fluent in Spanish and has many years of teaching experience, which we feel explains the benefits and educational merits of this curriculum:

(Ado:) The overall spirit of the material is very godly. From the introduction of the books to the material for the children, it seems that all is done with a godly purpose and vision. I guess it’s the “spirit” of the books that one senses. The explanations given in their catalog are clear and plainly express their Biblical basis. The Teacher’s Guide is also quite helpful, as it explains step-by-step things that can be done by the teacher, using the student materials. It is simple and would be easy for home schooling parents to use.

The Social Studies table of contents follows a clear progression of material for the appropriate grade level. It has a lot more references to Biblical events and the influence that the Bible has had on history than many similar textbooks that I’ve seen. What I found interesting in this outline was that it attempts to cover a good variety of information from various countries. Although my impression is that it could have been written with Mexico and Central America in mind, it doesn’t over emphasize any particular country. In my opinion it could be applicable in just about any Spanish speaking country.

I’m sure our Family will find it helpful and useful. I haven’t read the Social Studies textbooks from “Monte Sion,” and therefore don’t know how much religious doctrine might be included, but from the table of contents the material seems godly but not churchy.

As an added note: The Social Studies curriculum is designed by academics in Costa Rica and is geared towards the Latin culture and history. Additionally, we asked Michelle (SGA) at the TEAM-Family-CLE desk to preview this curriculum, and she passed along this insight. Michelle has taught CLE for years in Family schools and Homes, and speaks Spanish fluently.

(Michelle:) I think these are great school materials, especially since they are so similar to CLE, are Christian based, and something that most families are pretty familiar with. This curriculum covers the elementary grades very well.

I looked over their reading program and it seems to be basically the same as what CLE offers; the only difference is that it’s not as colorful, but then again, that’s what makes it more affordable for many Family Homes. The Spanish curriculum, for example, has a student workbook, booklets for testing, answer keys, and a teacher’s manual. It comes in paperback, is lightweight, and with simple instructions for use.

To order:
- Request a catalog and price/order form, which we can send you (Editor’s note: The Spanish order form can be found on the MO site at: <http://www.familymembers.com/fed/index.php>)
- Fill out the order form which calculates the costs of the curriculum materials automatically for you (if done on computer)
- Shipping is “free” (for surface mail outside of the U.S.); curriculum prices are already discounted 45%

Fax, e-mail or mail your order to us at:
Fax: 972-380-6923
E-mail: mail@teamfoundation.com

Offered by TEAM Foundation

Mail to:
TEAM Foundation, P.O. Box 797804, Dallas, TX 75379 USA

Payment:
You can make payment by credit card, bank check or money order, or send your payment to our bank by wire transfer, or by TRF (though this takes 1-3 months for us to receive).

Credit card:
- Credit card number:
- Name on card:
- Expiration date:
- Billing address:

Bank check or money order: Send to our address (given above) and make payable to “TEAM Foundation” (payments must be made in U.S. dollars, please).

If you wish to send your payment directly to our bank account, please contact us for this information, which we will gladly send you.

If payment is sent by TRF: Please specify on your TRF that it is for “TEAM Foundation,” and specify that it is for your “Spanish Curriculum order” and include your name and mailing address.

Cash: This is risky. We don’t recommend sending cash in the mail because if it gets lost, we are not able to replace it or fill your order. Sorry.

(Editor’s note: You can find the above notice in Spanish on the MO site at: <http://familymembers.com/fed/index.php>)

Quizorama, the fun and educational Bible question and answer game (also used in the Endtime Game) can be found on the MO site at: http://www.familymembers.com/fed/index.php

Samara’s essay, titled “Tears of Blood,” mentioned in GV #131, can be found on the MO site. Check it out at: http://familymembers.com/newswire/article.php?nwid=819
Action education for kids!

Active learning is very important for young children—for all children, in fact. Please don’t let yourself get into a “schoolroom” mentality for your little children. There’s lots they can learn, and should learn, and want to learn from many activities in their daily life. Make learning fun, and enjoy it with your kids!

“Children are always moving and if you just can’t keep ahead of them they soon just move right around you. In that respect I guess children are a lot like God—always on the move! Perhaps that’s one more reason why God wants us to be more like children in His Kingdom.—Excited about His wonderful creation, excited about life, so trusting, so interested, so open and believing and continually receiving...”

“As you most certainly have noticed, children like ‘A-c-t-i-o-n E-u-r-o-p-I-a' “Please may I try it now? Can I do it? Let me try!” Learning by “osmosis” is fine for plants, but active children want action education. They want to learn by doing. Just as soon as they get the idea—and usually before they get the idea—they want to take the reins and try it for themselves.

“Much to Daddy’s consternation—Son preferred action instead of explanation!”

“The development of thinking and reasoning abilities are surprisingly inseparably connected to what we learn from our body. ‘Motor skills’ is the phrase often used to refer to learning how to command and control the movements of our body.

“Children need lots of good opportunities to feel, manipulate, crawl, walk, balance, climb. Catch and throw, coordinate hand and eye movements, judge shape, size, weight, color, texture, and a host of other skills needed to be called upon daily for the rest of their lives. Not only will their thinking and mental prowess improve with the exercising of their senses, but their health and safety and effectiveness for the Lord and His work will greatly increase if they learn to increase physical abilities with wisdom.

“Doing things together teaches us more than just one special skill. It teaches us how to get along with others, how to cooperate, how to share, how to encourage others, how to help, how to follow directions, how to respect the work others do, how to take criticism, how to react to comparisons and competition, how to react to frustration and discouragement, and more. Learning to work and play together, learning how to be a good winner or a good loser, are all essential skills for life.”

(Excerpts from “Action Education”—Introduction to Activity Book 1.)

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Alpha-Omega CD program a success
FROM GIDEON, MARIA, TIM, AND VICTORY, USA

After reading in the Grapevine about a new computerized home school program put out by Alpha-Omega (Switched-On Schoolhouse), we went ahead and bought the program for most of our schooling children. We have found this program to be one of the best we have come across for the kids. Once you establish the days for the school year, the program then calculates the number of classes the child will do each day. If the child begins to fall behind, the program will indicate to the student and teacher that some of the subjects are overdue.

As the work is being done, it is self grading. Whether the child is doing daily school or quizzes or tests, once they put their answers in, the program corrects and grades the work, immediately letting the student know what their grades were. The parent or teacher can go into “teacher mode” and set grading methods and other options that determine and control how the program oversees the student’s work.

We have found our kids to be more motivated and challenged with their schooling since putting them on this program than they have been in the past, which has been a big blessing and encouragement. We also like it because we have a record of all their work, their grades and curriculum which makes for easy record keeping. We found the program to be a bit pricey, but now that we have been using it we know it has been worth the expense.

Another good thing about this program is that is that each grade comes on CDs which allows you to teach five students per year for each grade with the CDs provided.

Special discount on Alpha-Omega schooling programs
FROM JOANNA B. (SGA, MOTHER OF 4)

For anyone interested in the Alpha-Omega schooling programs, I wanted to pass on a wonderful contact through which you can purchase these items on discount. Alpha-Omega is a Christian Home Schooling program that produces both the Switched-On Schoolhouse program, which is grades 3-12 on CD ROM, as well as the “traditional” workbook-based program (called LIFEPACs) for grades K-12. If you go to the Web site www.pmschoolhouse.com, you can order the Alpha-Omega programs through them for 20% or more off of Alpha-Omega’s prices. But best of all, they also have a special discount for missionaries!

Just recently I got Grades K, One and Two through them, and with the missionary discount, I was able to get around 40% off of Alpha-Omega’s regular prices! (With that discount, it came to be cheaper than CLE.) If you go to their Web site, you just contact them through their e-mail contact link, and explain to them that you are a missionary, and they will communicate with you by e-mail and work out with you what you need and give you the discount. They are a home schooling couple themselves that put together a little business to help other home schoolers, and they have a special heart for missionaries! They said that for missionaries, they basically give them the supplies at cost price, with just enough to cover shipping costs. They told me that they have even helped people by allowing them to make regular payments on time (without interest, of course).

I pray that this is a blessing to anyone on or considering this program—it certainly was for us! We stumbled upon their site “by chance,” so we knew it must have been from the Lord!

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CD Program suggestions
FROM BEN AND MEKNESS, BOTSWANA

We have been using a program called Jump Start for the kids and find this very educational for the children. The kids enjoy the Attic Fun as well and recently we found an Australian program call “Zoboomafoo” which has many positive, uplifting features, as well as educational lessons for kids in a fun and happy, lively atmosphere.

(Note: Sounds fun! A reminder about computer programs for kids—while many of the Jump Start programs are quite good, beware that some are not suitable for our children. Jump Start 4th grade, for example, does not seem worth getting. It features a haunted house setting with lots of demons, etc.

For comments on Jump Start computer programs for Toddlers through Grade Five, check out the MO site at: <http://www.familymembers.com/fed/index.php>)

Learning to read with phonics
FROM SARA (OF JOHN), GERMANY

I had a comment regarding teaching children reading with CLE. I taught my first children, six of them, mainly with the sight-reading method. Some of them liked it more than others; all learned to read eventually. Then our Home started using CLE and we introduced our then five-year-olds to the Learning to Read series from CLE. Since then I have taught four more of my children, using this phonic approach, and in all have found it much more thorough and in the end easier for the little ones to learn, compared to the sight-reading methods. Now maybe this just worked like this with my children, but a fact that has me convinced of continuing teaching phonics first to children who learn to read (I guess it doesn’t have to be CLE*), is that the kids become much better in spelling right from the start.

Some years ago I had checked into teaching reading with A Beka, but not being a
native English speaker myself, I found the teacher handbook from CLE so much easier to use as I only have to diligently follow the steps outlined therein. The children also receive a good amount of satisfaction, being able to fairly early into the program read short paragraphs all by themselves.

From reading others’ comments I realize that CLE doesn’t always work for older children, but if you have several little ones and want to get them started in their “schooling life,” learning how to read and spell well, then this program is definitely a big help.

(*Note: Find out how you can teach phonics yourself in CCHB 2: “Keys to Reading,” page 83; “The Spalding Method of Teaching Reading,” page 111; “Montessori Reading Materials,” page 114; Alphabet and Phonogram cards, page 129. Also see lots of helpful ideas in Kidland 2, pg 7-15; Kidland 8, pgs. 4-9.)

“Between the Lions” reading program
FROM MIKE AND KARYN, USA

I don’t know whether anyone else has found this program on PBS television in their areas, but there’s an excellent reading program called “Between the Lions” about a family of lions that are librarians of the local library. It’s very well done and teaches all kinds of reading principles in a very fun and catchy way that is just as much fun for the adults watching as for the children. I’ve noticed that it’s really helped my son to read quite a few new words and even learn how to sound words out that he might not otherwise have tried to. It’s worth taking a look at if you haven’t already.

(Note: If PBS television is not available to you, you can see some “Between the Lions” reading games at PBS Online: http://www.pbs.org/teachersource/arts_lit/preschool_language.shtml)

Getting a learning tip from Jesus
FROM A HOME IN CHINA

Recently, we found our Home would be having quite a bit to take care of as far as follow up, mail ministry, and home improvements—all very pressing matters that we wouldn’t be able to postpone. It looked like our kids’ schooling was going to be neglected for this particular time, so I took some time to seek the Lord about it, being the main person involved with their school.

Our wonderful genius Husband showed me to photocopy the spelling lists and the times tables that are in CCHB 2, cover them nicely with contact paper, and have a “mini-meeting” with the two OC boys and my teen daughter. We discussed some age-appropriate goals, as they are all on different levels, and the older ones only needed review of most of this. After agreeing on some goals, we decided to celebrate reaching each goal with, for example, a meal out.

An added bonus is that, since we agreed that all three would need to “pass their exams” before anybody could go on the outing, it was very uniting, since they found it better to help each other learn. There has been a whole lot of drilling, coaching, and even encouraging each other (“you can do it, don’t give up!” etc.) and less competition and sibling rivalry. The children had been having quite a bit of difficulty with their Math and Language Arts, mostly having to do with their spelling and basic skills, so this has helped greatly. Also, we haven’t heard the familiar, “I’m bored. What can I do?” either! They have plenty to keep them challenged for the moment, and the Lord has been showing me how we can use this method of learning a bit more, incorporating local language vocabulary and phrases, geography and science facts. Of course, their daily Word memorization and review projects could get a boost through this method as well!

Science newsletter and science kits
FROM GINNY, USA

I have been receiving the Home Training Tools’ Science Explorations Newsletter for a couple of months and it seems really helpful. This is a company that sells ready-made science kits to fit any curriculum you are using. Their prices are reasonable (in the USA, I don’t know about postage for overseas, and they can’t ship chemicals overseas), and it’s all made up for you. You just order by what curriculum and grade you are using and they have already put together exactly what your child will need to do the experiments for that curriculum and grade level. It really revolutionized my daughter’s science course! Now we can actually do the experiments without any preplanning (or skipping due to lack of supplies).

(Note from the newsletter: “This newsletter is published as a free service of Home Training Tools and should come in full issues every two months, with supplementary issues each intervening month. You can contact us at service@hometrainingtools.com or (800) 860-6272, or visit our Web site at www.hometrainingtools.com.”)

(Administrator’s note: Some Homes in different mission fields have found places to buy inexpensive science kits, chemicals, etc.—such as government stores. If you have any tips on this, could you please write in, so we can let others know? Thanks!)

Advertising for volunteer Japanese teacher
FROM DAVID, JAMES, PANDITA, AND VICKY, JAPAN

It has been a big battle for us to find the time to teach our kids Japanese, since we home school and have lots of other ministries to take care of; however, since last month we’ve begun doing it regularly. The Lord gave us the idea of putting an advertisement in our local newspaper, requesting a volunteer Japanese teacher. A few people responded. A couple of candidates came over to our house and we interviewed them. We decided to have one teacher for teens and the other teacher for the younger children, each giving a weekly two-hour class. The woman who teaches our younger children is a former elementary school teacher. She loves children and wants to do something with them. Both teachers are very dedicated and we can see that our children are learning Japanese slowly but steadily.

QUESTION CORNER

Dear Readers,

Do you have answers or suggestions about any of the following questions? Please write in to the Grapevine (Home School Corner) and let us know. Your hints and tips could be a big help to others. Thanks!

Rotational teaching suggestions?
FROM A TEACHER

Would it be possible to get suggestions from others on how they work out rotational teaching, either between Homes or within a Home? That’s how we cover our teaching now: Someone does language arts, someone else math, and the 3Gs are covered by different Home members giving one hour a week. Word class is taken care of in a similar way. Could anyone tell us how it works for them?

Phonetic reading program?
FROM STEVEN AND VANESSA, USA

Does anyone know of a good phonetic reading program for teaching kids to read?

(Note: See also article below: “Learning to read with phonics.”)

Questions about computer-based program for schooling
FROM MATT AND ROSE

There have been a number of comments in recent Grapevines (GV #128, 130, 132) about the SOS (Switched-On Schoolhouse) home school program. The ones that wrote in sound like they’re pretty sold on the ease and other benefits of this computer-based school program. It sounds pretty good, but we had a few questions that we were wondering about:

1) It’s a computer-based program. How much time do your kids have to work at the computer on a typical school day?

2) How do you divide up the computer time so that all the kids get the needed amount of school time during school hours?

3) We have six school-aged children. Based on your experience, is this program practical for this number of kids (or even more kids) to use all at the same time?

4) How many children per computer do you recommend to make using the program practical with a large group of kids?

Thanks for taking the time to help explain this.
“Reach the Rich”—it can be done!

Dear Mama and Peter,

I just downloaded the two new GNs from the MO site (“Reach the Rich” and “The Professionals”), and I want to thank the Lord and you so, so much for these GNs! They are right on!

I wanted to say a hearty “Amen!” to the counsel given in “Reach the Rich.” This GN brought to mind a pretty major CTP that a lot of the Homes in India were involved in last year—the Gujarat earthquake. Our Home was involved in it too, and I, along with some other Family members and Active members, went on a couple of relief trips down to the earthquake-affected areas of Gujarat. We worked in a lot of villages there, distributing food, clothing and other essentials, but by the end of it all, I think I can honestly say I was cured from wanting to do a big, elaborate CTP project, which until that point had been my dream. I realized firsthand that I could spend the rest of my life in just one village and I still wouldn’t be able to solve all of that village’s problems. (Or even if I could, I wouldn’t be able to do anything else with my life!) I think that’s why we need the Millennium!—Time is too short to get involved in all that now!

As you so very rightly pointed out, we in the Family are called to be teachers, witnesses, and disciple-winners. Of course, it was good that we got involved in those relief operations for the sake of our sample, and to show that the Family can respond quickly to a crisis, and to be a comfort to the quake-affected, but even then, the thing that I cherish the most from those trips is the witnessing that we did. We played with the quake-affected children, told them stories, showed them Treasure Attics, and witnessed a lot to the other relief workers and even got some of them activated.

I totally agree with what Dad said in this GN: “I’ll tell you, if you’ll get out there and distribute the tools on your mission field, the Lord will bless every area of your lives!” (GN 992:136). So completely true! When the year began, as a Home we asked the Lord to help us make tool distribution and the Activated program the focus of our lives for 2002, and we claimed the power of the keys for that. It’s been so inspiring to see the Lord open the doors ever since. Actually, the opportunity to get out lots of tools has been there all along; we were the ones that couldn’t see the opportunities. But ever since we got into the “Let’s get out more tools!” mode of operation, doors have been opening everywhere!

Just to give you one example: There’s a lady who owns a nursery school in the city where a lot of the top people in the city send their kids. We have been doing Christmas programs there for the last five years, but it was only when the school principal got activated that she started getting close to the Family. A few days after that, she asked us to come and set up a tools stall at the school’s PTA meeting. We were able to get out 30 Treasure Attic VCDs and 20 children’s books in less than an hour, and also ended up meeting some very top people who want to place orders for Mottos for Success. We were even able to meet and sell a VCD to a top newsreader, thereby opening the door to follow up on him and witness to him more deeply. All that to say, tool distribution and Activated is the way to go, as it opens the door to reach a certain strata of people we would not be able to reach otherwise.

The Lord on … GN 992 “Reach the Rich”

(Jesus speaking:) This Letter will bring My dear loves deliverance from the evil demon of Apotheon, who has crept into many a Home slowly and subtly. He has made them think that their present standard is sufficient, and that even if they are struggling and lack many things, they are at least comfortable where they are with this lower standard, lesser vision, and more limited ministry. This Letter will help them up their standard, increase their vision, and expand their ministry.

Yes, you in the Family have many pushes, many new initiatives, but this is how I keep you stirred up and desperate in your prayer life. If you did not undergo constant change, then there would be the danger of stagnation, which has been the bane of many a religious group. While many other religions have their ministry in the present, their counsel often comes from far in the past, from My Words of old in the Bible. So they have a tendency to become old and rigid very easily. Your counsel, on the other hand, is not only from the Bible but from My living, up-to-the-instant Words right now, so you are more easily able to remain flexible—new bottles, new brides, a new church! (End of message from Jesus.)

I also really enjoyed reading “The Professionals.” It did my heart good to see each of the Devil’s yucky lies and half-truths being shot down one by one. Thank you, Peter! We feel bad, though, that you have to spend so much of your precious time contending with the ridiculous lies of the Enemy. We want you to know that we really, really love and admire you and are very thankful for all that you do for us! Thank you for being channels of the Lord’s wonderful Words! We can’t live without them!

—MALE, INDIA

To my Palestinian brother

It is not hard for me to speak of peace,
For I have never known a war.
I’ve never seen my brother die before.
My very eyes.
I’ve never heard the cries
Of wounded children, tried to calm their fears,
Or dry a mother’s bitter tears
For sons who will return no more.

It is not hard for me to speak of love,
But you, my brother, you have seen the worst:
Your homes seized by an iron-fisted glove,
Your numb ears ringing from the burst
Of mortar shells.
Yes, you have tasted of the deepest wells
Of war’s insanity,
Yet somehow have retained the cool
Untainted waters of your rich humanity,
And kept your faith—
A hidden polished jewel.

I wish my eyes concealed two reservoirs
Of tears, that I might weep them all for Palestine.
But I know you would take my hand in yours
And tell me not to cry,
But look up where the stars of God still shine,
And dream of love and opened prison doors,
And talk of olive groves and flowering vines,
And breathe the mountain air of hope divine,
That peace shall one day wash
The world’s embattled shores.
Oh my brother, you are braver far than I!

—Written by Michael Piano, Middle East June 1
I asked for bleeding again. This time we thought it was my condition, but two days later I started transfusions. They were able to stabilize of severe blood loss. I had to have several transfusions. The doctor suggested that she undergo surgery immediately since her problem was quite serious.

One day when he came to visit, he was having severe liver pains. I suggested that we pray for him, to which he said, “Yes!” Then I explained to him about receiving Jesus, and he prayed with me with his whole heart. He was smiling the whole time and the pain in his liver went away! Because of all my transfusions, the donors were wiped out and couldn’t give anymore blood, so this young boy who works at the blood bank came up to me and asked, “Would you accept my blood?” It was such a kind gesture. I told him of course I would! Just our sample of love touched his heart to want to give.

I had no idea of how the Lord was going to use my situation to touch people’s hearts, pride, and even their pockets—really touching so many lives! Half of Guatemala was attentive to me and my kids’ desires. It’s wonderful to see that having a spirit of love, faith, and tranquility—the Lord’s Spirit in your face, your eyes, your hands, your feet, your body—strengthens the faith of those around you and helps them to believe in God once again. And not a distant God, but a living God.

Mama, and my beloved Family, I want to thank you for showing me how I can have the Lord’s Spirit transmitting through me at all times and how I can show the Lord’s love to others. It’s been worth it all!

Asia

Nidhi (7 weeks, of Daniel and Rachel): Haemangioma (benign tumor caused by a dense cluster of blood vessels).

Thai James: Heart disease.

Europe and Africa

Liberia: Against the evident spiritual oppression and rampant witchcraft. For the protection, wisdom, and guidance of the Family there.

Emanuel (of Daniella): Hepatitis C. Level 1 cirrhosis (liver disease).

Victor (2, of Eternity): Skin problems, possible psoriasis.

Aaron (of Flame): Sciatica.

Thomas (1½, of Jonathan and Sara): Fever, seizure.

Steve (14, of Andrew and Lily): Leukemia; undergoing treatment.

North America

Clare (of Katyi): Pre-cancerous cervix, stomach ulcer.

Jeremiah: Stomach and duodenal ulcers.

Pat (of Love): Hepatitis C.
Movies Rated for Senior Teens and Up

STARDOM (2000)
Dan Aykroyd, Jessica Pare
Comedy/spoof. A sports photographer in rural Canada sends a picture of a high school athlete to a Montreal fashion agency. This starts her on a worldwide modeling career.

This film is a spoof on the frenzy the press and the public create around someone famous. People have their 15 minutes of fame, and their rise is quick and the downfall is hard. It shows the shallowness and fickleness of the fashion industry, and the whole hype around public figures and personalities. It shows the greed, the selfishness, the loneliness and despair that these people go through. There are some issues touched on that are not pleasant, such as wife beating, but nothing too graphic.

It is done in an unusual style, similar to a "mockumentary," but it does have a plot and main characters. It certainly should make you glad you are not caught up in that kind of world or lifestyle, as it is sheer hell and torture, when you get right down to it. Once the honeymoon has worn off for these stars and public person- alities, if they don't start finding the real and true values in life, their life and spirit will be snuffed out. It is not a film for everyone, but those who don't mind something different and in an unusual style may find it interesting.

Movies Rated for Junior Teens and Up

CHANGING LANES (2002)
Samuel L. Jackson, Ben Affleck
A minor traffic accident and some misunderstandings change the lives of two men who get into a progressively escalating match of tit for tat.

(Dad:) This is a very interesting movie. It shows the standard System reaction, how people would normally react in such a situation. It shows that the normal response is wrong and has negative consequences. It shows that doing things in revenge doesn't pay and it exposes the distrust and the lack of love between people in the System.

People should be aware that there is a lot of revenge and unloving behavior in this movie. It's a bit intense for a while with their sinful and unloving actions towards each other. However, it does end well and it has a good message. Unfortunately you've got to go through a bit of hell first to get to that ending. Poor, poor people who don't know how to go to the Lord for answers or counsel, who don't have the support that you do in the Family, who have to or choose to lean to their own understanding.

This movie has a good message about change and forgiveness. It shows how revenge does more damage than good and will not rectify a situation but adds more harm and sadness to the person who is in the wretched state. Also, it shows how I am in control of everything—people's lives, paths that cross, circumstances, and how it's all for a reason.

This movie shows the importance of little things, little decisions, and little actions that reap big results. It's a good example of how one wrong decision can lead you down a path which just leads lower and lower until you've got yourself into a real mess and done things that you would otherwise never have thought of doing when in your right mind. It's the little compromises that lead to bigger ones.

This is a worthwhile movie with good lessons, as well as an interesting plot and good acting. It stands out among much of the trash coming out from Hollywood these days.

JOSHUA (2002)
Tony Goldwyn, F. Murray Abraham
A stranger comes to a small, sleepy town and starts changing things. While not entirely allegorical of the life of Christ, the story touches on many basic Christian principles.

(Jesus:) There are so many movies about the wrong things, the wrong attitudes and beliefs, that it's good to have a movie about Me, about neighborly love, belief in miracles, and forgive- ness. It will make believers and non-believers think about Me, and about how love goes a very long way to influence and change lives.

Although not completely correct doctrinally, this movie is an attempt to share My message, and I am thankful for it. There are Christians out there who are trying to get the message out the best they can, and this is the way they chose.

This is a good example of the kind of movies that Christians are beginning to produce and market; it is the movie equivalent of the music that the same Christians have been putting out for some years now. It's pretty weak, but at least they're trying to do something to help further the Gospel. The counsel I gave you about brackish Christian music in the "Three Wells Prophesy" (ML #3022) also applies to the new genre of Christian movies, of which Joshua is a prime example. It's fine for the Family to watch a few of these movies to see what other Christians are putting out, but this one is not worthy of repeated viewing.

So many times you watch a movie and go away thinking how much better off the characters would have been if they could have found Me and let Me help them with their problems. Well, in this movie they do. The main messages of My love for My children and how I accept and work with each one according to their need and where they're at, are very clear. The makers of this film show Me being able to relate to and help everyone, regardless of who they are, what their problems are, or how they practice their religion.

This movie is also a peek into the future for the Family and your use of the gift of miracles. I have said you would raise the dead and heal the sick through the power of the keys. It's an interesting portrayal of how miracles like that could happen in your everyday life.

Movies Rated for OCs and Up

NOAH (1999)
Tony Danza, Wallace Shawn
Warmhearted modern-day adaptation of the Biblical story of Noah's Ark. Since the death of his wife, a widower with three sons has cocooned himself in his work as a ruthless businessman and contractor. His life takes a turn when...
A mysterious stranger instructs him to build an ark in forty days. *(Could be suitable for MCs with previewing.)*

*(Jesus:) This is a movie that could be enjoyable for kids. They’ll understand the parallel tests and trials of a modern-day Noah. It’s interesting for them to look at the role of a Biblical character and see how difficult it might have been for him to fulfill God’s calling. Of course, this movie makes it lighter than the actual event was, but it does touch on it, and may help kids start thinking about their responsibility to obey the Lord no matter what the cost. Kids could pow-wow comparisons to Noah and this movie. They even might want to make up some skits of their own, comparing the actions of biblical characters to someone in modern days.

This is good for kids to see, but in order for them to get the good out of it, and not be left wondering why certain things happened, etc., things will need to be pointed out and explained. The main lessons that could be brought out are: obeying by faith, even if things seem to be crazy; if it’s the Lord’s will, do it no matter what people say; not being too proud to ask for help; if you do it the right way, the Devil will fight you; dealing with loss of a parent and learning to move on; keeping on going and not quitting; loving people no matter what, and forgiving them no matter what they did.

The guy is your typical sinner-type whom God chooses to do something that just does not make sense to flatlanders. The kids were quite nice boys for a change without all the usual bad mouth bantering.

**Non-recommended movies**

**Big Fat Liar**

*(Frankie Muniz, Paul Giamatti, 2002)*

*(Jesus:) While movies are understood to be the perpetrators of very unrealistic portraits of life, this one takes the cake. In an attempt to get the message across that lying was bad, this movie ended up taking you through one lie after the other, and the sad part about it is that in the end it glorified lying. It made it seem that it was okay if it was done for the right purpose. This movie is a waste of time, and not wholesome. Often movies try to get you to feel that “well, the main character is not that bad, he means well,” but since actions are an outward manifestation of the heart, one cannot excuse people for being well inside, while their actions hurt others and are for their own selfish gain.

**Other movies**

**Panic Room** *(2002)*

Jodie Foster, Forest Whittaker

*(Jesus:) This is a suspense thriller that’s somewhat typical, but with a little more depth to it due to the character-study element. However, the overall spirit of the movie is far from uplifting, and to some it will be depressing or even disturbing.

It’s obviously a little far-fetched, but it does make you wonder, “What would I do in such a situation?” It is good to think about how you react, or would react, under pressure or in intense situations. The most interesting thing about this movie was the insight into the characters, where they were coming from, and how they behaved.

Getting Heavenly thoughts power

I was reading the Winpress today—
the one with the Letter about Heavenly thoughts power. Man! It blew me away! I’m working on getting the gift, and the Lord and I are getting really close. Every night we have a conversation about this or that before I go to sleep.

I love you guys with all my heart! —TINA (14, WINPRESS MEMBER)

**Reflection reaction**

By Joy *(of Ben)*, Hungary

Here’s a Reflection reaction we received from a doctor who works in a children’s hospital where we minister.

Thank you so much for your warm touching letter. I usually read your letters and Reflections when I am on call in the hospital, and they so nicely nurture my soul. I found the story of the little girl and her mum in the rain so beautiful. Thank you so much for sending them to me. Of course I have the Treasures book. I used to read it a lot, but to be honest, I have not read it in the recent two years, so it is time to start it again. Thanks for remembering.

You are absolutely right, I should spend more time on filling up myself, especially as nowadays I often feel a kind of emptiness, tiredness. I am always away from home, my loved ones and I hardly spend any time together, and I feel guilty. I have a nice companion who loves me, cares for me, trusts me, and I cannot give enough to him. I feel stuck to my work. I am praying to be able to find the balance. The first step will be that tomorrow night I will tell the story of the girl and mom in the rain to my little family before dinner. It’s so touching. God bless you and your family.

How we use “Mag of the Month”

By Tim, Shine, Marianne, USA

The “Mag of the Month” has proven to be one of our Home’s favorite witnessing tools! When we first subscribed to 100 a month some of us were a bit nervous as it seemed like a lot of mags to get out when we still like to get out the posters. We prayed together and the Lord told us to go for it. By next month’s witnessing meeting the subject was brought up right away: “100 just isn’t enough!” Everyone agreed, so we raised the number of mags in our subscription again. We raised it again the following month! We must have driven those at the Activated desk crazy!

If you’re ever in a similar situation in real life, it’s important that you take a look into the minds and hearts of the participants. With just a little bit of common sense and discernment, you can often tell a lot—and with the gifts of My Spirit, and especially the gift of Heavenly thought power, you, My children, have a great advantage. Because you can hear from Me, and because you can communicate with Me clearly—perhaps if you have kept your channel clean and exercised—you can be at peace, knowing that if you’re ever in such a trying situation, you can talk with Me and get My guidance, and I can show you what to do or not do, so that you’ll come out all right. That’s a real feeling of security, isn’t it? To know that you’ll never be in a situation that you can’t figure out a way out of—because even if you can’t, I can. And even if there’s nothing you can do, well then, you still have Me to take care of things for you, to do miracles for you.

Another interesting observation is that it really doesn’t pay to get riled up or emotional or fearful in dangerous situations. You can’t help but feel a little fear, but staying calm, which in the case of My children is done by trusting in Me and putting your faith in Me, is a great plus, and in fact, can’t be done without.

The sad thing, which is prevalent in so many movies and books and shows today, is the element of violence. It seems that people are becoming more and more hardened or indifferent to it. There wasn’t a need to have that continual violence, and that detracted from the few pluses this movie offered.

At one point we decided that before raising the number yet again, we would get out the huge stack of older mags we had ordered when Activated had started. They had been sitting there all that time and what do you know, after deciding that, they were all out in less than a week! We do use a large number of the “Mags of the Month” for our provisioning contacts and they love them. One person even asked us if Keith Phillips was the leader of the Family! The rest got sent to our sheep, read with and given to people we have Bible studies with, and we all take a stack out with us when witnessing and people really like them!

The Get Activated books look so nice and have such good content that on outreach generally if you offer them, you get them out! We have received phone calls quite often from people asking how they can get more of the same book to give to friends and family. Or people have called who have seen the books from a coworker and they want their own! It’s good to know that we are giving people the real meat of the Word. All of these new tools are inspiring and make witnessing even more fun!
Dear Family,

Two years ago I, Philip (formerly of Faith who passed away in ‘97) started a new whole life with a new wife in a new and wonderful field—Swiss Maria and the Middle East! I could go on and on about how wonderful Maria is, but that’s for another forum. (Ha!) In this forum I want to say that the precious Arab people of this region have taken us into their hearts and lands with warmth, friendliness and receptivity. It has not been at all hard to see how they will play an important part as the AACs of the last days. Besides that, they are the most precious, appreciative people you could ever hope to meet; very hungry, believing and receptive to our message, with Arab Christians (more numerous than most people realize) and Muslims living in peace side by side. Having been consistently misrepresented and misunderstood by the Western media, they are in great need of our encouragement and the Lord’s love and Words.

Now as a family, Maria and I (Philip) with our two youngest teen boys are preparing to help pioneer a new sensitive country in the region. We will need good support there to start off, as it seems unlikely that we can provision or raise support from the field immediately due to the sensitivity of its government. We are now receiving some monthly support, but the initial expense of costly visas, deposits and rent on an apartment (also expensive) and all that goes into setting up a Home will be more than our support will be able to carry.

Therefore, our wonderful worldwide Family, can you help us get a start in this new field with a pioneer gift? Of course, if you are looking for a Home to adopt and help support regularly and long term, we would be more than happy to be that Home. And you’d receive a regular newsletter telling you all we can about what we are doing. From what we have seen, the cost of daily living is not too high there, so even a small amount will go a long way, so all gifts will be greatly appreciated. You can give any gifts to this pioneer effort via your TRF to "Phil and Maria, 302, Mar del Plata, Argentina. Please write to her at: jubilives@yahoo.com.br or by snail mail: Cx postal 584, cep 36001-970"

Russian Praise (of Philip) is looking for Merryheart (FGA, American). Where are you? I wrote to the address you gave me a few times but didn’t hear back from you. Please write me ASAP at vision@safe-mail.net.

Would like to contact Nyx Martinez in PI regarding artwork, please write: kwproject@hotmail.com

Seeking contact with David (of Andreas and Chrys), author of “Is my life worth it?” article in Zine #44, July 2000. Would like to get a follow-up story for a youth article. Any friends, family or anyone who knows his current whereabouts drop a line at: kwproject@hotmail.com

Thank you!

Patrick

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**TEAMWORK SOUL SHINERS FOR APRIL 2002**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Per Adult</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Faihty/Mark/Premika, India</td>
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<td>Salomon/Belen/Cristal, Mexico</td>
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<td>Simon/Angel/Cesaris/Anita, Mexico</td>
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**POSTER SHINERS FOR APRIL 2002**

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<td>Clara/Priilla/Thiago, Brazil</td>
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<td>Charity/John, USA</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Marianne/Shine/Timothy, USA</td>
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**TAPE SHINERS FOR APRIL 2002**

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<td>Rosita, Mexico</td>
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**VIDEO SHINERS FOR APRIL 2002**

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andreas/Andrew/Angie, USA</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben/Meekness/VallFe, Botswana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joyful/Pedro/Susanna, Brazil</td>
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<td>Douglas/Iordan/Keren/Maria, Ecuador</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dove/Maria/Sueta, Russia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Esther/John/Simones, Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plan/Victor, Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prem/Ruth/Sharin/Simon, India</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawn/Lydia, USA</td>
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</tbody>
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**backtracking**

The credits for the song “Gentle Caresses,” which appear on the label for TCD#25, “Letz Danz,” are incorrect. Please note that they should read as follows. Sorry for the mistake, dear Sam! (singer/music/lyrics/producer): Kat D. Sam

Seeking contact with David (of Andreas and Chrys), author of “Is my life worth it?” article in Zine #44, July 2000. Would like to get a follow-up story for a youth article. Any friends, family or anyone who knows his current whereabouts drop a line at: kwproject@hotmail.com

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This is Jenny (of David and Maria) I’m looking for Suzanna and Sam. Sorry, I lost both of your e-mail addresses. My e-mail is: livingwt@plum.ocn.ne.jp

This is Coral looking for Ruth Elan and anyone else I’ve lost contact with. Please please write me at e-mail: rjyam@ig.com.br Can’t wait to hear from you!

Joana (of Apollo and Dulcinea) wishes to get in touch with her bro Felipe, Simon and Claire, Mano and Andre. Please write at: jubilives@yahoo.com.br or by snail mail: Cx postal 584, cep 36001-970

Silvana (Fiamma Italian, of Davide) would like to contact Andres Argentino (Anibal) and Maria Argentina who in 1984 was Andres’ wife. Also Eduardo and Patricia with daughter Heidi in 1994 in Argentina. Please write to her at: epicelli@genie.it

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**former members**

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Meeting we have an Indian friend whose name is Matthew and he remembers meeting an Indian (maybe) brother whose first or middle name might be James and he has an English wife. You were visiting Cochín (also called Ernvakulan, I hope I spelled it right!) from Mangalore and you were staying in a hotel called the “International.”

Do you remember? Please write us at circuit@mie.1st.ne.jp

Ana Cruz is looking for Simon (Brazilian) and Shiloh (Chinese), who lived in Aldeota, Fortaleza, Brazil. She then lost contact with the Family and is looking for her 15 years ago. She then lost contact with you about going out witnessing with you about 15 years ago. She lived in Aldeota, Fortaleza. She used to go out witnessing with you about 15 years ago. She then lost contact with the Family and is looking for her friends. Please write her at: Ana Cruz, Rua Argentino (Anibal) and Maria Argentino (Brazilian) of Philip) is looking for Andres Argentino (Anibal) and Maria Argentina who in 1984 was Andres’ wife. Also Eduardo and Patricia with daughter Heidi in 1994 in Argentina. Please write to her at: epicelli@genie.it

Eduardo and Patricia with daughter Heidi in 1994 in Argentina. Please write to her at: epicelli@genie.it

Anabel/Rejoice/Simon, Indonesia | 26  |
| Plan/Victor, Spain | 18         |
| Prem/Ruth/Sharin/Simon, India | 17  |
| Dawn/Lydia, USA   | 16          |

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