The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in very difficulty.—Winston Churchill

Announcement: Feast 2004 Timing

By Mama and Peter

Dearest Family,

We love you so much, and are keeping you in our daily prayers! Thank you also for your prayers for Peter and me—it’s been a big year, with a lot of travels, meetings, and major projects—and it’s not over yet! But our wonderful Husband is faithful, and has been giving us the strength and anointing for each day. We trust He is doing the same for you, and making your labors of love prosper. We love you, need you, and appreciate you!

In this note we wanted to announce the dates for the upcoming Feast. We’re not sure yet what all our dear Lover has prepared for us, but we know it will be just what we need, and we’re looking forward to receiving it and preparing it for you!

The Lord has confirmed that we should again hold the Feast in January this coming year. He also confirmed that we should again leave the option open for each area to decide which days they will have it on—whether starting on Wednesday (21st) night and going through till Saturday (24th) evening, or starting on Thursday (22nd) night and going through till Sunday (25th) evening. The COs will be informing you shortly of which days your area will hold the Feast.

About this coming Feast, the Lord said:

(Jesus speaking:) You’re not the only ones preparing for this special time—the hosts of Heaven are also preparing! It is indeed a priceless opportunity in the spirit, to have such a block of time set aside to come apart from the cares and press of the world, and sit at My feet as one body, My beautiful bride, for a time of strengthening and refilling with the things of the spirit. I have many precious treasures to pour out to you this time, so look forward with eager anticipation, for you will not be disappointed!

(End of message from Jesus.)

We’re looking forward to spending this time with our dear Love, united in spirit with you, our wonderful coworkers.

With much love and eager anticipation for what’s to come, Mama and Peter

Reclassification of CVC High School Courses

By the WS FED team

Due to the recent Charter Amendments and the heightening of the educational requirements, the CVC academic program has been revised and upgraded. Please note the changes in course level classification, which can be found on the CVC Web site, and on the MO site at http://www.familymembers.com/fed/announcements/index.php?faid=17.

Formerly, many of the courses listed there could be applied towards the 40 academic credits needed for a General High School diploma. However, with the restructuring of the CVC, some of the courses will now only apply to Vocational High School studies (grades 9 and 10); some will also apply to Junior High School studies (grades 7 and 8).

[Note: If you were preparing to apply for a GHS diploma using the courses in CVC Handbook 2000...]

which previously could be applied to GHS studies, please write to your area CVC IC (Instruction Coordinator) explaining your situation, and what courses you have studied and had planned to apply to your GHS diploma. It will be up to your CVC IC to pray about and decide if you can use the courses you have chosen towards your GHS diploma. For more information and details, please contact your local CVC IC.]

Skipping a GV

By the Grapevine team

Dear Family,

We wanted to let you know that we will be skipping the October 1st issue of the Grapevine, and will continue with the October 15th issue. Please continue to send in any articles, news, or views you may have to gv@wsfamily.com. We love you!

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Reflections tweaked

BY THE WS PUBS TEAM

Dear Family,

It’s been very encouraging how the Lord has used Reflections to minister to our friends new and old. We know their usefulness is a direct result of His leading and guidance in their compilation, as well as your faithfulness and spirit-led use of them in your witnessing and giving them to those who need them. He has inspired more and more of you to write for Reflections, and with your input they are getting better all the time. A big thank-you to all of you who have sent in contributions for Reflections—your time and effort goes a long way!

Recently, the Lord impressed on us the need to use them more to point people to the Family and to Him. We are doing this by putting an advertisement for Activated and our Family Web site at the bottom of each Reflections page.

He also asked us to remind you to put the contact address of your Home—whether a mailbox, e-mail, phone number—so that the sheep know where to find you for further feeding. We’re adjusting the layout so that there’s an ample box at the bottom of each page for you to fill in this information.

We believe the Lord will continue to bless as we use Reflections to bring people to Him and to the Family. They are intended to help people make the bridge between the day-to-day life many live without Him, to a place where they see that He and His Word relate to what they experience, and can be a help to them right where they are. They’re a good first step for those who may not yet be ready for Activated, or as additional feeding that you can easily send by e-mail, mail, fax, etc.

On this He said:

“It is good to point the Reflections readers to Me, whether it is Family or System material, and it is good to direct the readers to the Family, and to Dad, Mama, Peter, and your Family members as being people who can provide [spiritual] feeding and an atmosphere for growth.

“I wish to use the Reflections to get people started on a program of feeding. I wish for them to see that there is a Family that can take care of them, and a source where they can find more feeding and grow more. … For them to be fed is one thing, but they do need to know where they can have further feeding.” (End of excerpt.)

Thank you so much for your faithful feeding and care of His sheep, which is sure to bear fruit. We love you!

Love,
Your WS Pubs Team

P.S.: In this mailing, you will find eight pages of Reflections on Christmas, as well as your normal November Reflections. We love you!

Re: Super Work Books!

BY TEAM, USA

We tried to notify as many of you as possible when we heard that the publishing company (known as ESP Publishing) for the Super Work Books announced that it’s closing as of October 2003. We hope you saw our first notice, which was sent out several months ago (GV # 155).

This week we received notice from ESP Publishing Co. that the only books available now are the Super Year Books Grades K–7. We offer these books at a greatly discounted price of US$15 (less than half price) plus shipping. But this offer will soon be expired, and the books will be unavailable. If you are still planning to order, we’d like to ask that you please send in your order as soon as possible while supply lasts!

Hope to hear from you. We’re happy to help you with any questions, order and shipping information.

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

Email: mail@teamfoundation.com
Phone: 972-931-9335
Fax: 972-380-6923

Christian Resources Exhibition

By David, Australia

In July our Home participated in a three-day Christian Resources Exhibition in Sydney. We presented most of the Aurora products. Around 250 people visited our stall and everyone received flyers, catalogs and our business card with the address of our Web site. Though the sales covered roughly only half of our costs, we believe it has been a good investment in the long term because it takes time to establish professional contacts, and it certainly has been a fruitful experience from which we learned a lot.
Dear Family,

Peter and I love you, and we pray and claim the keys every day for your happiness, health, fulfillment, and the supply of all of your needs—big and small, physical and spiritual.

I’d like to draw your attention to some important things we’ll soon be posting on the MO site! There are two new GNs on fighting depression, entitled “Death to Depression!” These are very important GNs; however, since we already have a big line-up of GNs in the pipeline to publish before the end of the year, and we can only print so many pages of material per month, we aren’t able to get them out to you in print immediately. But because it’s such timely counsel for those of you who are fighting depression—and I have heard personally from some of you who the Enemy is fiercely fighting in this way—I wanted to get them into your hands right away.

These GNs are what the Lord called His life-saving Word ammunition for the fight against depression, and although we’ll be getting them to you in the printed format later down the line, He confirmed that we should make them available to you via the MO site in the meantime. There are jewels galore within the pages of these GNs—jewels on fighting discouragement, depression and despair; on praise and what a powerful weapon it is against the Enemy; on using the weapon of the keys; on the power of united prayer; on honoring the gift of encouragement, and much more! So even if you’re not fighting depression specifically, don’t miss them!

I’m also excited to announce that the key promise booklet that we promised you is in the works! It’s going to be printed this year, Lord willing, and you will be receiving it some time in the first half of 2004. Please keep the printing and shipping of this book—as well as the many other books in the works—in your prayers.

This new key promise booklet will include all of the previously published key promises, as well as almost 1,000 new ones. That will make the grand total of key promises in this booklet up to around 1,700!—It’s going to be a tremendous wealth of promises, neatly arranged in one little pocket-sized booklet, which I pray will be a blessing to each of you! There are new key promises added to many of the original key promise categories. But in addition to that, there are new key promises on a wide assortment of subjects.

The new categories are:

- Bitterness
- Boldness
- Comfort/Overcoming a broken heart
- Conflict and War
- Contentment/Happiness/
  Positiveness
- Conviction
- Cooking/Shopping/Provisioning
- Depression/Discouragement
- Discipleship/Relationship to the world
- Driving
- Equipment problems
- Flying/Public transport
- Former members
- Hearing from the Lord
- Homegoing
- Honesty
- Inspiration/Enthusiasm
- Loneliness
- Love
- Marriage
- Memorization
- New Year/Birthdays
- Obedience/Faithfulness
- Pioneering/Pilgrims and strangers
- Praise
- Sleep
- Spirit helpers/Spirit world
- Stress and pressure
- Unity/Communal living
- Unselfishness/Giving
- Weather
- Weight loss/Exercise
- Work
- Yilededness/Forsaking all Young people

And so that you won’t have to wait till 2004 to have these new key promises in hand, the Lord gave the thumbs up for us to post them on the MO site so that you who want to download them can do so, and can begin using them now. So stay tuned, because the new key promises will be available on the MO site in the not-too-distant future. Our loving Husband and Keeper of the Keys is so good to us, isn’t He? I pray that these new key promises will enhance and add new fire to your key promise memorizing and wielding!

Love in our wonderful Husband,
Mama
Peter visits Brazil again/reinstatement plan

By Mama

In mid-July, Peter, Misty, and Joy returned to Brazil for one month to visit with the resident COs in order to counsel together further and seek the Lord for more instruction concerning the guidelines and details for the reinstatement of the Brazil Family. (As you know, the Brazil Family’s punishment period began on June 1 and ends on November 1. Then begins the reinstatement process, which will take a few months to complete.)

While in Brazil, Peter filmed a second set of videos, outlining how the reinstatement process will take place and explaining the various points that the evaluation will be based on. These videos were shown to the Brazil Family during the first week of September, at the halfway point in their punishment period. There was also a package of material given to the Homes at the video showing, containing a Word compilation, various report forms, the basis of evaluation documents for both CM and FM, and several messages of encouragement.

On the videos, Peter clearly explained how the Homes would need to change and progress in order to be reinstated to either CM or FM. With over 1,500 Family members in Brazil, the Lord has shown us that the reinstatement process will not be able to be conducted by individual, as that would be too time consuming. Evaluating by individual would result in months and months of the field being in a state of flux while everyone is slowly reinstated to their proper level of service within the Family. Meanwhile, the board structure, leadership visitation, and the general progress and forward motion the Lord wants Brazil to get on board with would remain on hold. The Lord has made it clear that the reinstatement process needs to be accomplished in a relatively short period of time—a few months—so that the field can begin moving forward as a body.

In light of this, the Lord has given a plan for the reinstatement to be evaluated by Home, based on the Charter responsibilities given to the Home as a collective body, and the recent New Wine in which the Lord has stated again and again what the standard of discipleship is, and the responsibility of each Family member to uphold that standard.

The concept of evaluating by Home rather than by individual is somewhat new; however, it is supported and backed by the listed Charter responsibilities of a Home. The spiritual state of a Home is a result of the collective decisions that the Home’s members have made, therefore, every Home member is accountable in part for the state of the Home. The fact is that every Family member is more than accountable for their own contribution to the fruitfulness of their Home due to all the Word that the Lord has poured out for years and years, the S2K, the “Conviction vs. Compromise” series, “What Is Jesus Worth to You?” and now the Lord is calling in that accountability.

What this means is that, in Brazil, Homes will be evaluated and their CM or FM status given back to them on a Home basis. There are a number of detailed report forms for individuals and Homes that those wishing to regain either CM or FM status will fill out twice over the next three months. The questions on these reports help in a practical way to “put skin on” the standard that is expected of both CM and FM Homes, by asking specific questions as per the instruction and requirements in the New Wine, the Charter, and the FM Statement. These reports will be carefully looked at in the reinstatement process. Information from the SACRO Office, Contato, the Brazil Service Center (BSC), regarding general stats, witnessing stats, and financial obligations will also be taken into consideration.

If the collective actions, decisions, sample, and fruits of a Home reflect CM discipleship, then the Home and its members will be reinstated as a CM Home. If the collective actions, decisions, sample and fruits of a Home are at the FM level, then the Home and its members will be reinstated to FM status.

Please pray for your brethren in Brazil. During these next three months they have many challenges before them. There will most likely be a lot of movement between Homes, as individuals and Homes work to establish new teams, based on the individuals’ desires to strive for either CM or FM status. They will be working to strengthen their Homes as a unit, to shepherd one another, to be in unity, to not just look out for themselves and try to get their own spiritual life in discipleship shape, but to pull up their Home as a unit, and to be their brother’s keeper.

There isn’t time or space to explain in detail all the ins and outs of the Brazil reinstatement, so you’ll probably have a number of questions about how exactly certain aspects will be handed. The Family members in Brazil have watched five hours of explanation about the reinstatement, along with lots of support and quotes from the Word to back it up, and they understand the challenge before them and the fine details of it.

For your interest, below is the basis for evaluation that those wishing to return to CM status in Brazil will be evaluated by. The FM basis for evaluation is similar, but not as comprehensive. This was given to the brethren in Brazil at the time that they watched the second set of videos by Peter.

### Basis for Evaluation for Charter Member Reinstatement

Based on the New Wine (especially the “Conviction versus Compromise” series), the Love Charter, and ML #3454, “Loss of Privileges/Requirements for the Brazilian Family.”

### General points of introduction:

The evaluation of the Family in Brazil will be conducted primarily on a **Home by Home basis**, not by individuals. In other words, your reinstatement will be based on the state of your **Home**, on the collective obedience to the Word and the fruitfulness of your Home.

When deemed necessary, however, those evaluating the reinstatements can evaluate the individual alone and determine his or her status, even if it differs from the status given the Home overall.

Those of you who wish to be reinstated to Charter member status will be evaluated according to the following points, which were explained in the videos made by Peter, and which are supported by the accompanying Word compilation.

This basis for the evaluation of the Brazil Homes also includes other specifics that were required of the Family in Brazil in “Loss of Privileges/Requirements for the Brazilian Family” (ML #3454).

ML #3454 stated: “Those who were previously Charter members or Charter member Homes who wish to return to discipleship as Charter members will be required to: Obey the Love Charter and Fundamental Family Rules, and strive to be a full-time disciple according to the ‘Conviction versus Compromise’ series.” Therefore, while some of the points below are not requirements in the Charter, they will be taken into consideration in your evaluation since they were expressly required in ML #3454, and also because those points are included in the New Wine which, according to your Charter responsibilities, you are to endeavor to obey.

In order to provide those who will review and evaluate the Brazil Family with recent information on your Home, your Home will need to fill out and periodically send in a report about your Home. You will also be required to send in personal reports. These personal reports may or may not be taken into consideration in the evaluation of your Home. Information will also be collected from the SACRO Office, Contato, and the BSC regarding general stats, witnessing stats, and financial obligations.

There will be no appeals to the decisions made by those who are evaluating the Brazil Family and making the reinstatement decisions.

If you were previously CM, but are classified FM at the time of reinstatement, you can apply to become CM, if you wish, six months after you receive your notification of classification.

This document will focus on some of the main responsibilities of a CM (discipleship) Home from the Charter. If a point in the...
Charter is not mentioned in this document, that does not mean that you no longer need to obey that aspect of the Charter, nor does it mean that that aspect of the Charter will not be considered in your evaluation. We simply could not include every single Charter point in this document. Therefore, please understand that you will be held accountable for the full Charter, whether any given Charter clause is mentioned here specifically or not. If you wish to qualify for CM status as a Home, please pay close attention to the following important points:

Practical aspects:

Faithfully filled out and sent in your monthly TRF.

Gave your full tithe monthly, according to the following instruction from ML #3454: “Those wishing to qualify for reinstatement to CM status must tithe their full 14%. (That would be 10% tithe to WS, plus 1% FAF, and 3% Common Pot.)”

HER has been turned in, or repaid, or you are in the process of repaying it, as per any arrangements made with the SACRO Office.

Mandatory reports for the Homes and individuals in Brazil sent in.

Gave your close friends and Active members the official letter of explanation regarding the discipline of the field of Brazil.

Fulfillment of financial obligations: credit payments to the BSC, having the full Charter amount of tool funds ($50, in tools or in cash) per person in your Home, payments to your Home loans, outside obligations, etc.

Held Home teamwork elections on June 15, with a vote of confirmation done on September 15.

The well-being and spiritual life of your Home members:

Making it possible for all Home members to live the Word Revolution and fulfill the required minimum hours of Word, as per the Letter “What Is Jesus Worth to You?” (ML #3433, GN 1016). Those requirements are 1.5 hours of quality Word time daily, and 30 minutes of intercessory prayer.

Complying with the fast of worldly input, in accordance with the instructions in ML #3454, which states: “Fast worldly input for the duration of the chastisement period, from the time you see the videos but not later than June 1, until November 30. The fast will include the following: movies, TV, alcohol, System music (including instramentals and Latin music), computer games, novels, Internet browsing (except for business purposes), and parties.”

Making it possible for all Home members to have a united personal prayer of deliverance.

Participation in the National Prayer and Fast Day which was held on July 29.

Shepherding of Home members, helping them overcome their weaknesses and make spiritual progress, as well as being open to shepherding from one another.

Regularly having the required Home meetings, as noted in the Charter. (Devotions, monthly prayer days, Home council, childcare, finance and outreach meetings, etc.)

The revolutionary Christian sample of your Home:

Taking responsibility for the state of your Home, including its overall sample and fruitfulness, and for your Home’s decisions and the effects of those decisions.

Endeavoring to live the practical and spiritual counsel in the GNs.

Obeying the Love Charter and Fundamental Family Rules.

Living communally, with not less than four voting members. Four is the minimum, not the ideal.

Living in unity with others (both those in your Home and other Homes), and refraining from gossip, criticism, arguing, sowing division, and harboring bitterness.

Fulfilling, as a Home, the counsel put forth in the “Conviction versus Compromise” series regarding those who hold System jobs, and shepherding those who have System jobs.

Have an overall physical sample that is a good testimony to visitors and enables you to minister to potential labor leaders, including such things as cleanliness, good stewardship, having sufficient rooms in your house for all Home members, etc.

Live by the principles of the Law of Love in every aspect of your daily lives. Any and all sexual sharing must be done according to the Law of Love.

Your Home’s missionary work:

Actively witness, each person witnessing a minimum of two hours a week, and those who don’t have full-time in-house ministries such as childcare, witnessing many more hours than two a week in order to have a fruitful, well-balanced missionary work.

Be a team of full-time disciples according to the “Conviction versus Compromise” series so you can be the sample missionary Home you should be, as was noted in ML #3454, which said: “Those who were previously Charter members or Charter member Homes who wish to return to discipleship as Charter members will be required to strive to be a full-time disciple according to the ‘Conviction versus Compromise’ series.”

Have a well-rounded missionary work that includes quality witnessing that bears lasting fruit, not just using Family-created fund-raising methods with very little witnessing. A fruitful outreach ministry would include several of the following: new disciples or potential disciples on the line, tool distribution, Active members, Bible studies, Church of Love, regular monthly supporters, Activated subscriptions being sold, follow up, in-depth witnessing, reaching the middle and upper class, CTP, etc. A CTP or provisioning ministry alone is not indicative of a well-balanced missionary work.

Promoting the Activated program, as ML #3454 requires.

Teaching your contacts, friends, relatives, supporters and Active members the Words of David in the form of publications produced by WS, as ML #3454 required.

In your follow-up ministries and Bible study groups, refraining from teaching your sheep material from System Christian books.

Being affiliated with the name of the Family in your missionary work and CTP ministries, as per the counsel in, “Be True to the Revolution, Conviction versus Compromise, Part 4” (ML #3364, GN 960).

The sample, education, and well-being of the children and young people in your Home/ the quality of parenting and shepherding they receive:

The overall sample of the children, JETTs and teens, and the quality of care and parenting that they receive, including having a united disciplinary standard within the Home.

The quality of education and spiritual shepherding for all children, JETTs and teens, as per “Our Children’s Education” (ML #3066, Vol.23).

Giving all the MCs through junior teens in your Home an adequate explanation about the chastisement of the Family in Brazil.

Spiritual state of the senior teens, who are required to uphold the provisional CM contract, according to the instruction given in “The Shakeup 2000—the S2K!” (ML #3257, GN 857).
Dear Family,

We wanted to take a little time to thank you for the many generous gifts that were sent in response to the request for sponsorship for the Palestinian tape that we were able to produce here recently.

This all-Arabic tape, an idea the Lord gave to Mama, is a compilation of six original Family compositions specifically written for this part of the world, interspersed with messages of encouragement for the Palestinian people that were received in prophecy by a number of people in WS. The combination of the Lord’s Words and songs is so powerful, and from all we’ve heard so far the tape has been a tremendous encouragement to all those who have received it.

Thanks to your donations we have been able to dupe over 20,000 tapes so far. Almost all of the initial run has already been distributed. We’re praying for the Lord’s supply for a second and third duping, if possible, so we can continue to distribute this beautiful tool in the region, as it is so needed at this time.

Thank you again, dear Family, for your giving and for making this project possible, which is reaching and touching the hearts of so many. Any further donations towards this project, small or large, are very welcome and will go a long way in helping us reach out to thousands more! For a donation of only US$10 or US$20, we’re able to dupe 20–40 tapes, which means 20–40 people minimum will be able to hear that beautiful message. Since in the Arab world most people come from very large extended and close-knit families, the witness can most likely be multiplied by at least five! Isn’t that exciting?

The reactions people have shared have been so very touching. We thought that sharing some of the things that people have said about the tape would be an encouragement to you, our dear Family, and especially to those who have sent in donations for this project. We hope it will give you a glimpse into how far your giving has gone and will continue to go in the lives of all those who have listened to and received this beautiful message of hope and comfort.

Thank you again for helping us make a difference in our part of the world.

We love you!
Your Family in the Middle East

Reactions to the Palestinian tape:

We sent the script of the tape text via e-mail to the principal of a top school. He loved it so much that he called us and was raving about it, saying that it was so beautiful and just what the people need at this time. He immediately offered to distribute the tape to families all around.

A Palestinian man we had given the tape to said he let his whole family hear it. He said they all (a very large, extended Arabic family) sat around listening to it. They said that it was so beautiful and encouraging, and they were very touched. The following week, we sent him ten more tapes to give to his family and friends, for which he was thrilled!

A long-time friend said that the tape was really beautiful, and had already lent it to her family members. We then gave her more for her extended family, as well as for each of her office colleagues. On our way downstairs from her office, we could hear the tape playing. Looking around, we could see that it was coming from the security office. One of the security guards called us over, absolutely gushing with emotion. He’d only heard about fifteen minutes of it, but said, “It’s so beautiful and the words are so encouraging! It’s just what the Palestinians need! Thank you so much for going through all the effort of making this. We appreciate it so much.”

He said that he was very touched that we were still doing all we could to help the Palestinians. His favorite song was “The Phoenix,” and he kept playing it over and over.

I went to follow up on a young man. I didn’t know if this young man had received a tape or not, so I pulled it out and asked him if he had it, whereupon he clutched his heart and looked me very sincerely in the eye and simply said, “It is so beautiful! Thank you for doing that for the Palestinians!”

Those few words said it all, and his expression was one of utmost thanks and appreciation.

Another person commented especially on “The Cliff” story, saying how beautiful and encouraging it was, and that hearing the words of prophecy on the tape gives them hope that things will get better for the Palestinians, or at least that God is still taking care of them.

A 19-year-old said that he listens to the tape day and night. He wanted 20 to give out to his friends. Then we met another man, who said he listened to the tape for three days straight.

One lady said that her kids ask her to put it on for them every night. She also took a bunch of tapes to give out to her friends. Later on she was explaining to us what the tape meant to her, and she was saying a word in Arabic to describe it, which means “deep peace inside.” She said, “This is what it gives me—a deep peace inside. Peace from God.”

Pretty much every friend we follow-up on will take 5, 10, 20, or 30 tapes—according to their faith—as they all want to give them to their friends, people who would really appreciate a tape like that. We tell them to just take what they need, and they’ve been steadily going out like that.

[Editor’s note: You can download “The Phoenix” both in English and Arabic from the MO site at http://www.familymembers.com/audio/album.php3?aid=469&sid=contrib.]

Spiritual friends and foes

By Gregg, Tanzania

If you’re interested in an interactive study on our spiritual friends and foes, then check out “Spiritual Friends and Foes” that you can download from the MO site. Just click on the spirit being and you will get a synopsis from the Letters of their qualities (or lack of them). Once you are on that page you can click for additional reading, which will bring you to a page or pages or even whole Letters on that specific spirit being.

With one click you’re back to the main page.

It is a small file (0.2MB) called “Spiritual Friends and Foes,” downloadable on the Members Only Web site at this link: http://www.familymembers.com/pubspages/search.php3?searchpub=57. Please remember to unzip it, or it won’t work properly.

If you have any questions you can e-mail me at greggd@flashmail.com. Enjoy!
In July we held what we hope can be the first of many "Family Concerts." After the CGO Christmas Activated party, the musicians who enjoyed collaborating together for that event expressed a burden to work together again, in conjunction with the CGO and PR boards.

One purpose was to promote unity in the area, and to give a chance for the sheep to get to know the overall Family. While many know local Home projects or individuals, we wanted them to know the Family as a body. We put a one-page explanation called "What Is the Family?" in the concert program.

Prior to the concert, we had been having bi-weekly Holy Ghost samples in the Tokyo area, and during this time we met people to invite to the concert, and at the concert more Activated magazines were sold.

We had Activated members come from across the country, and a wide variety of people—young people to city fathers. We had about 218 sheep come, and about 100 Family members (CM/FM). Besides helping on the setup we had Family members come to be available for witnessing before and after, especially to the visitors who had come alone or for the first time. We had a system on our ticketing whereby we could collect people’s addresses for follow up.

Our performers were: Michael, Keiko, John Listen, Kenny, Amy (Hopie), Makoto, Ezra, Philip, and Niki. What a team! Teresa was our emcee. Kenny did a lot of work finding the hall and working with the organization of the concert and getting all the equipment and friends to help with lighting, sound, and video. We have a super talented dance team in the East Japan region—"Fantastic Friends" from the Shizuoka Home (Mark, Yoshimi, Rejoice, Windy, Gabe, Aaron, and Mayumi), who traveled quite a ways to join us. —A big thank-you to them and their Home for their help and sacrifice!

The show began with songs like "Everybody Be Happy" and "Love Is a Miracle" and then went into message songs such as "The Search," "Why Is That Tear in Your Eye?" "Lord, Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace" (Kenny explained that the Family did anti-war demonstrations using this song), and "Born Free." Philip and Ezra sang their original song "I Love Japan" in which they expressed their love for Japan as missionaries. "Yoku Wakaruyo" is Philip’s new Japanese original song taken from a prophecy, and he explained this to the audience. They also sang Gospel songs such as "Oh Happy Day"—which the audiences stood up and joined in on—and "Amazing Grace."

The dance group performed “Joyful, Joyful” and a second number in Japanese about their local area, incorporating some traditional Japanese dance movement with Japanese style costumes. They’d previously won a dance competition in the area they live in, which the crowd was very impressed with.

I’m sure there are many reactions we could share from the sheep of the influence the Family and the music had on them.—It was an excellent witness.
Rejoining together in spirit

An FGA female, Brazil: I am so thankful for the corrections of the Lord; I’ve felt so loved by the Lord. He saw the state that we were in; it was so sad and a very desperate one. All the sins that the Lord mentioned to us, each one was so right on and clear. For me it’s like joining the Family again in the spirit, a chance to get desperate with the Lord for a new heart and a clean spirit, and to receive a new mantle of humility. I truly desire to preserve this special time that I am having with Jesus.

It’s so much easier to change during this time and to create new habits because everybody is now desperate to change at the same time. Before, though people wanted to make spiritual progress, we weren’t as desperate, and so it was easier to give place to the Enemy. People that were here for the way of living are now finding their level of faith, and others that really want to go for full discipleship status make the videos and GNs for us. It has been a tremendous help to receive this correction in our hearts. A sister in our Home commented several times on how difficult it was for her to come back home after an inspiring day out, and I felt the same way sometimes too. All this to say that this purge of our sins came just in time to save us from the destruction of our souls and service for the Lord.

A wonderful testimony of this last prayer and fast day was how everyone exposed their deepest sins in detail to the Lord and to the Home, asking for deliverance. I witnessed everyone being completely honest and desperate before the Lord and the Home. It was the most deep and sincere meeting I have ever participated in, in my 28 years in the Family. Thank the Lord for putting us with our backs against the wall, and helping us decide whom we want to serve.

Correction = lifesaver

A female, Brazil: This correction and punishment to us in Brazil has been a blessing in my life and Home. Thank you so very much for the time, sacrifice, and effort that it took to make the videos and GNs for us. It has been a tremendous help to receive this shepherding in our lives. At first I was hit with heavy condemnation, but it didn’t last, and the Lord gave me the victory. I’m so thankful for His mercy and your patience with us.

Our Home is doing so much better! Everyone received the punishment so well and is changing by leaps and bounds! It’s so much easier to shepherd with everyone fighting together and all of us under the same restrictions across the board. My kids are getting wonderful victories. Thanks again! And thank you for your prayers for us.

I really don’t miss the worldly input and I’m enjoying feasting on the Word! It’s wonderful! I know I still have a long way to go, but this fresh start is what I needed. I feel like many weights have been lifted. I am seeing things more clearly, and I’m having the faith for the Lord to change me like never before. It has been a lifesaver!

Positive effect on the kids

A mother, Brazil: The initial prayer of deliverance we had in the Home really helped me. I feel like the Enemy’s grip has been loosened in many areas of my life. The reading list has been such a wonderful blessing, and I am so thankful for this specialized Word diet. Since the prayer of deliverance I feel the Lord’s help in reading the Word with a new outlook and desperation, and being fed from the Word in a way I have not experienced in a long time.

I do feel so ashamed to have to admit to myself, to the Lord, and the others here how off track I have been, and that it took a chastening like this to get back to the Word and feed from it, and appreciate it the way I should have all along. Nonetheless, this has been a wonderful experience to get back to my First Love.

I was also very pleasantly surprised by the children’s reaction when we told them about this chastisement. The news that was hardest for them was the fact that there would be no new pubs for kids for the next six months. Also, instead of hearing them quote the latest movie they have watched, now we hear them sing songs from the Family Fun videos, or the Endtime video. I haven’t heard any complaints about not being able to watch movies. They have watched a few of the ones that were approved for our viewing, but it hasn’t been much at all, and they don’t complain. On the other hand, they are taking initiative to wake up early for Word time, and each one has a notebook for receiving...
prophecies which most of them use daily. The reading lists for the kids and JETTs have also been a blessing.

The national prayer and fast day was also a wonderful blessing, and I am continuing to claim the power of the keys of the Kingdom for a complete victory in every way. I can see now it has to come through the power of the keys. I feel that the millstone vision was so to the point, and that by His grace I am rid of it through the power of the keys. Now I will learn to be strengthened by the Lord again, and learn to stand up straight, and my vision will be set right.

The GN about the prayer and fast day was a big help to me and to all of us. Going over it again and again helped to get what the Lord has for me in it. It is not that it was not clear, but there is so much, and I really wanted to get as much as I possibly could from it, and I am sure that as I go over it again later I will learn even more.

I am claiming the power of the keys of faith and trust to keep striving for the goal that is my heart's desire to reach.

**Restoring life**

**An FGA male, Brazil:** Mama, I really love you. No one else cares for my soul as you do—except for Jesus, of course. To those who doubt that the Lord is working through and in you, I can only say that the Words I have been receiving in the mailings over these last few years have restored my faith and changed my life! A tree is known by its fruit, and you and Peter have the fruits to prove that the Lord is speaking to you and through you. Thank you for your love and determination to follow the Lord and Dad no matter what! You are such an example to me.

Something the Lord has shown me to do is to apologize to you and Peter, as well as to the entire Family, for having been lukewarm, half-hearted, disloyal, unloving, unfaithful, and so many other negative things for so many years. I was really one of those “problem cases” (hope I’m not anymore?). I was not on board. I was very harsh with others, and I have reaped the consequences of not following the Lord closely. But the Lord in His unending love and through the power of His chastisements, His Word, and the keys, is restoring my life in His service more and more as time goes by. I have made the decision to follow you and Him to the very End, and with His help I know I can make it, no matter what the Enemy does!

Thank you for delivering the Lord’s messages of chastisement to our country. We needed it!

**A change wrought in spirit**

**An FGA female, Brazil:** Thank you so much for obeying the Lord and giving us, the Family in Brazil, our punishment. It has brought forth so much good fruit and has been such a blessing! I can see so much good fruit in my own life, in my teens, in my Home, and more.

I wanted to share a little testimony, which for me was very significant and a confirmation of the fact of the spiritual world and how the spirits are fighting and working. I had read in the Letters and also prayed about how we need to see our co-workers as our mates, but for me to actually use that word “mates,” or think about it in reality was something that I couldn’t do with a whole heart. For some reason, it seemed kind of awkward or weird to use that term. But after our prayer of deliverance I began to use that term for my co-workers and Family members, and was actually meaning it. It came so naturally and so heartfelt. This was a real miracle for me, as I did nothing to change, but somehow there was a spiritual change.

Later I prayed about it and the Lord said: “There are real spirits fighting you and your brethren. I let this happen as a manifestation of the spirit world. Although you didn’t do anything in the physical or even try to change, I changed you as your spirit was cleansed and renewed, and as the spirits that were fighting you and your brethren have been defeated. Yes, in the spirit they are already defeated, but you must continue to fight against them. I let this happen to show you how things are changing in the spirit and how there will be more changes.” This showed me how much of a spiritual battle it was and how much it was affecting me without me even realizing it.

Since our Home saw the videos there has been a different spirit in our Home. Before, I was ready to walk out the door and leave. I wanted so much to get back to a “real” Family Home, as I felt and knew that my Home didn’t have the spirit of the Family, and I personally had (or thought I had) tried to change things without success. But the Lord told me to wait. Now, even though there are still problems, the spirit has changed as everyone has the same goal—to be a disciple. Everyone is pulling together and is much more mindful of each other. It’s so encouraging as I had given up hope. Now, although it is a long road ahead, at least we’re all walking on the same road. We don’t know what is up ahead, but we do know that we must bring forth the fruits of repentance, and for now everyone has that goal and is working towards that.

Thank you again for being faithful to give us the Lord’s Words, even if they are hard for us to take. This time has been special for me. I am so thankful to be able to partake of it, and I know that the end result will be beyond my wildest dreams! The Lord has promised that!
were together again, which I told you that you wouldn't challenge I had set before you. You to say goodbye to Me, but to come to Earth and fulfill My parting words that I don't remember, but those work together for good.” You received for Steve shortly before

In the Garden of Affliction

(Jesus speaking:) “All things work together for good.” You don’t remember, but those were My parting words that I told you before you left Heaven to come to Earth and fulfill the mission and calling I asked of you. I knew it was tough for you to say goodbye to Me, but you were eager to please Me and you wanted to take up the challenge I had set before you. I told you that you wouldn’t have to wait too long until we were together again, which you were happy about. I also told you that when you got to Earth you wouldn’t remember all that I had said, and that coming back home would be a tough fight for you. I explained I needed you to suffer great physical pain, but that I would be by your side in the darkest moments, and that I would know the extent of the pain you were experiencing because of the pain I experienced when I was on Earth. I told you that I would pray for you, that your faith would not fail.

I was concerned that you had the full reality of just what you were going to be doing, so we took a walk and stopped by the Garden of Affliction, and I allowed you to experience for a brief moment a foretaste of what you would go through for Me. You asked to again see the time of My suffering for mankind’s sins. Then you saw the souls that would benefit and the lives that would be changed, and the lost sheep saved if you would go through with your mission to Earth. Immediately afterwards you turned to Me and said, “You’ve done so much for me, Jesus, I want to go. Please be close by my side through my time of trial.”

I told you that I would not only be close by you, but that I would surround you with My love. I told you that I would give you parents who loved Me and lived for Me as part of their calling and mission in life. I told you that you would be part of My Endtime army of missionaries, chosen above many of My children and highly honored. I told you that you would be brought up in the nurture and admonition of My Word and surrounded by it all the days of your life.

And so you agreed to go and suffer for My sake, that many lost souls would be saved and lives would be changed. I told you that more would come to know Me [in your death] than [while] you were alive on Earth. I explained that you would be a living sample of what I said of My children in the book of Revelation when I spoke of their triumph over the Evil One: “And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death” (Rev.12:11). I explained that you would be a testimony of glorifying Me until your last breath. We then departed from the Garden of Affliction, and you got ready for your journey to Earth.

So there you are, My love. You are fulfilling My will and I am well pleased. I am with you every moment. My presence is there and I will give you all that you need to complete your calling. The answer is in the keys. The answer is in focusing on the power. The answer is in allowing Me full possession. The answer is in heavenly thought power. Continue to be faithful each day, each moment. Continue to show yourself approved before Me; a workman that needeth not to be ashamed as you rightly divide My Word. It is My Word that will strengthen you and supply all your needs. Keep on believing. It is your faith that will bring you the desired victory you seek. And the desire accomplished will be sweet to your soul. I love you. Yours, Jesus (End of excerpts of message from Jesus.)

Special gifts from Heaven

(Michael [SGA]) When Steve (16) returned to Kenya [from England], we wanted to decorate the living room nicely for him. So we bought a [model] sailboat as a decoration, and behind the sailboat, as a backdrop, we had a picture of the ocean. On this picture of the ocean, we placed a key quote that said, “Step out on the water holding the keys, and see how they will buoy you up, and how you can walk across the water. The keys are not confined to the realm of the flesh or the carnal mind. They work in the realm of the supernatural and miraculous.” The amazing thing is that shortly afterwards we received a sweet note from Ashley, from you, Mama and Peter, and amazingly enough, the key quote included at the end of the note, out of all of the many key quotes, was that exact one! We took it as a beautiful sign from the Lord that He was assigning this special key for Steve! We still have this picture/key quote up in our living room, and when we look at it, we will always remember Steve, as well as the beautiful promise from the Lord, and the beautiful little miracle that He brought about to encourage us and Steve!

The prophecy that you sent us about Steve’s death being a greater testimony than even his life is already looking to be fulfilled, as one of our contacts offered to put a eulogy in the National Newspaper of Kenya, where we can use this opportunity to witness. Also, all of our friends and contacts that have been kept abreast of this event are so supportive, hungering, more receptive than ever, and all want to come to his funeral. God bless them.

An amazing thing happened when Steve died. His face was slightly limp, however, a few hours after he died, his face actually changed, and took a look. He stopped his expression once he died. Right after he died, she said, “That’s impossible! He can’t change his expression once he dies.” We invited her to come and take a look. She stopped, shocked, when she saw the obvious smile on Steve’s face. Then she said, “How?”

Lily pointed at the picture of Jesus that we had put on
the wall for him, and said, "It's because of Him!" Then Lily saw a vision of Steve on a white horse, telling her that he was fine, not to worry, and that he was very happy. It was so beautiful!

When it happened, we of course were amazed, and felt that it was a miracle from the Lord. But afterwards, when talking about it, we thought that it was so cute and typical of Steve. When he was going through chemotherapy the whole time, one of his main concerns was that he didn't look as handsome as before. (He was quite the good looker!) So we all thought it was so Steve to go back and put a little smile on his own face, so that he would look good for all of us, because he really did look good with that smile! It was so sweet!

Many of us have felt Steve's presence since he's gone on to Heaven.

(Robin [VS]:) Steve's funeral was such a touching time. The service was very simple but heartfelt and there wasn't a dry eye at all. We had Sikh friends and many other friends from the Kenyan and local Indian community who had known Steve since he had arrived in Kenya seven years ago, when he was only eight years old. Actually, had the funeral been able to be held later, many more would have come. The most touching part was when Michael and Simon both sang Steve's favorite song "I Believe I Can Fly!" Oh boy, it was so very touching!

Dear Steve knew he was going to be passing on soon, and a couple days before he did, he wrote out his will, and gave his watch, shoes, drums, necklaces, and all his living property to his loved ones and friends. His heart's desire was to be able to be in Mombassa, at the beach, and they have many photos of the week he was here, playing tennis and all just shortly before his Homegoing. He went into a deep sleep the night before he passed on—like a coma—and didn't wake up, so it was a beautiful answer to prayer.

The prophecy from the Folks was beautiful and went right along with one that Nyx (SGA) had received, which was like a spirit story of Steve's life before he came to Earth. Steve has been showing up in so many ways to help us! We had miracle after miracle of supply, protection, direction, all of which are quite awesome, and very much the result of all your heartfelt prayers!

—I'm your angel now
Thru the valley of despair
We traveled on and on.
It was dark out there,
And the battle was in full thron.

Though my flesh was weary,
As on I dragged my tired soul,
My eyes from the struggle of sickness teary,
I always knew you would help me to reach the goal.

My loved ones stayed steady by me,
Your loving face never left my side,
Till the glorious victory around the bend I could see.
Because of your care, prayers, and faith the last strength of my journey went all right.

I thank you all from the bottom of my heart!
You, my dear Family,
He placed you with me from the start.
And together we'll shout the victory.

I'm helping you from above—
Your special angel at your beck and call.
Because of His great never-ending love,
I'll reach thru the veil to be a helper to you all.

I'll fend for you from the heavenly realm up here—
Your special angel, a helper, protector and guide.
With grateful heart to be,
Chosen to fight by your side!
—Your Steve

(End of excerpt of message from Jesus.)
and sincere and wanted to invite us to I had talked to before. She was so nice she didn’t sound like the same person she called me on my cell phone, and led me to send her the one about mar mag would be the best for her, and He letter, I asked the Lord which I went to send this woman a thank-you and enjoy an entertaining show. When I asked just so I would stop asking, ha.

When I called they kept passing me from person to person, and finally passed me to the person with the authority to make the decision. When I started to explain why I was calling, she interrupted me in a curt manner and asked who had given me her number and said that she was too busy. This made me a little nervous, so I don’t remember much of what I said to her. In the end, she said that normally she didn’t do this type of thing, but to call her back later and see. When I asked the Lord if I should keep trying, He confirmed that I should, and said to activate the keys to change this woman’s heart. I sent a request letter by fax and called again. I think she finally gave the tickets just so I would stop asking, ha.

The young people were able to go and enjoy an entertaining show. When I went to send this woman a thank-you letter, I asked the Lord which Activated mag would be the best for her, and He led me to send her the one about marriage and true mothers. A few days later she called me on my cell phone, and she didn’t sound like the same person I had talked to before. She was so nice and sincere and wanted to invite us to another special event. On top of that, she offered to help us with tickets to all the different events taking place for the whole year. She thanked me enthusiastically for the magazine that I had sent her, and said she liked it so much and wanted to know more about it. She even gave me her personal cell phone number to be able to call her directly.

I thank the Lord for the work that He did through the power of the keys, and through His Word in our beautiful Activated magazines, which made such a marked difference in this woman’s heart.

Get Activated! fruit

By Victor, Spain

The Get Activated! booklets are a wonderful tool for feeding sheep and contacts, and are bringing about wonderful fruit. People’s lives are changing and they’re getting a closer link with the Lord through reading them. The booklets that we are getting out the most are Obstacles Are for Overcoming, Love’s Many Faces, Prayer Power, and God’s Gifts. Many people are spiritually growing through reading these books, and are sharing the books with other people around them.

“Is that the latest issue?”

By Rejoice (of John), USA

While out witnessing, we met a couple who had already spoken with one of the other teams from our Home out witnessing that day. They had gotten a poster from them, but the whole time we were talking with them, they kept looking at the Activated magazines we were carrying. Finally, the husband blurted out, “Is that the latest issue of your magazine? I haven’t seen that one yet! Please may we have one?” They proceeded to tell us that they always look for us when they go shopping so they can get the latest issue. We told them that they could subscribe, and they said they prefer to see us and get them from us. They both were really happy to see the new issue!

Activated on the beach

By Ana (19), Albania

We were taking a little time off at the nearby beach to relax and recharge, but the Lord had other plans for the afternoon. We had almost forgot to bring along some literature—Activated magazines, tracts, etc.—and just at the last second the Lord reminded us to get them.

The boys went swimming and I decided to stay with the stuff, to have some time in the Word. As I was reading, this young girl kept kicking sand up accidentally as she played ball with some friends. Suddenly she came over and struck up a conversation. She was so friendly and talkative that we were like instant friends.

Her first sentence was, “Hey, what’s cha doing? (in Albanian). Reading something about God?” That’s not something I’m really used to people introducing themselves by! We got to know each other, chatted and she was so interested in what I was reading that I gave her an Aktiv (Albanian Activated) for herself. Before long she had showed it to her other two friends who were nearby.

Before we left, all three prayed with us to receive the Lord, and the first girl (a 14-year-old schoolgirl) happily subscribed to Aktiv. The older girl (16) knew some English and wanted to read with me right there from the English Activated I had given her. We told them about our regular Bible studies, made arrangements to meet on the beach again next week and exchanged phone numbers.

Contatto—number one priority

By Peter, Italy

I decided to spend an afternoon on outreach right in the city, presenting the Contatto (Italian Activated) mags first instead of the tools. I usually go into the surrounding area, because the city is kind of tough. I was a little worried about the financial side, but the Lord supplied even more than the previous day when I had gotten out quite a few tools. To put Contatto first is like putting the Lord first, and you never lose by putting Him and His Kingdom first. Now Contatto is the number one priority in my outreach!
Swimming—a valuable life skill for all kids
By Joyful, India

It all started with the hot days of summer and the children asking to go swimming. The possibilities were the hotels where we sang at Christmas time. So we asked at one of the hotels, and the manager said that they have swimming lessons going on for a period of 15 days. They were willing to give a good discount for the swimming lessons, and the Lord supplied the needed fees for the swimming course. So we enrolled the children in the course, and three adults are able to go swimming with the children every day for a whole half-month. Since there is only one instructor, they are thankful for our help.

Grandpa’s tips on swimming (found in the little blue Lifelines) came in very handy at this time, as well as the tips in Heavenly Helpers 2. It has been an inspiration for the children that they can now learn a very needed life skill. Already after a few days most of them were able to venture out in the deep (under supervision, of course). For me, as a mother, it is such a relief that they now know how to swim.

In my own country (Holland) swimming was compulsory in school. I have always been very thankful for that, but on the mission field and with homeschooling you have to find other ways to help them learn and have the conviction that those skills are part of their schooling, and therefore make sure they learn those skills somehow. The hotel will also provide a certificate at the end of the course upon our request after explaining to them that we consider this part of their homeschooling.

Preventing computer addiction
By Marie Fe, Canada

Instead of letting my son spend a lot of time playing games on the computer, I use it mostly for educational programs to complement his homeschooling. For the first half of 2003, he worked on “French to Go” and before playing a short educational game, I would ask him to work for half an hour to forty-five minutes on this program, or half an hour of “Typing Tutor” and “French to Go” for another half-hour, and then limit the educational game to half an hour or forty-five minutes. We do this once a week. I found children can get quite addicted to computers. I prefer exercise and physical education in the outdoors, and indoor times for art and cooking and helping at home and excursions, so try to fit those into their curriculum.

Activity evenings
By Lynne (of Thaddeus), South Africa

One thing we have been trying to do more often with the kids is to have activities instead of always having video evenings. This month we had a “hat evening,” when everyone had to wear some sort of hat to the evening event. It was a lot of fun, even though we were just a few people home for that night.

This coming Saturday we are having a Mexican evening, which will include a birthday party. The kids look forward to these evenings and five-year-old Cesca especially asks, “Can we do that again?” Before we thought that it wasn’t really worth doing these things as we had so few children, but that is not the case.

We also have made weekly fellowship a part of our schedule, which has helped the children to be more settled at other united meetings. Occasionally, when we have united prayer days along with the kids they’ll often sit through a two-hour meeting, including music games and different ways of praying. Of course, we also have had to make these times more “kid friendly.” It has broadened my horizons to see that it can be done!

Language learning = witnessing progress
By Eden, Hungary

During school holidays Bobby (10) has been participating more in local outreach and getting out Activated. Having learned the language has proven invaluable, as he meets so many different people and is able to communicate freely with them. He is proving to be a good little outreach partner, and as he goes with a national here, it’s great hands-on field experience for him.

CD language learning
By Habakuk, Australia

I was able to get some good CD interactive language material and Cherish (7) is really learning Indonesian. We all are learning from it and some other books and tapes, which we got from our local library. It also shows the effectiveness of the CD form of learning for children, making it fun and like a game to learn.

Horse-riding classes
By Francisco, Luz, and Vida, Paraguay

The Lord did a big miracle for our children and young people, by supplying classes in horse riding for them. It has been fun and exciting for them all, and it’s a real blessing.

Do you have Word classes?
By Harmony, USA

Recently, requests have come in from different people asking if there is any way that we can get ahold of some classes given by people like Amos O’Test, Book of Acts class by Gary, Endtime classes done by different people from different fields.

[Editor’s note: Have you put together any Word classes on different subjects that would be a help to others? If you have or know of someone who has, please send these classes in to gv@wsfamily.com. Thanks so much! We love you.]
Entertainment

Movies Rated for Senior Teens and Up

THE MAN FROM ELYSIAN FIELDS (2001)
Andy Garcia, Mick Jagger, Julianna Margulies
Drama. A novelist is down on his luck and struggling financially, which leads him to get involved with a most unusual line of work.

(Jesus:) This movie is fairly complex and touches on some very deep issues. It's thought provoking, and it's an interesting insight into what might happen in such a situation, but it's not especially uplifting. Those who are going through or have recently gone through marriage problems or separations may want to avoid it, because it focuses a lot on the negative, on the things that can go wrong, on the hurt that is caused through lack of communication and wrong decisions.

This movie spotlights some of the difficulties many encounter in the System when they come up against the selfish motives of others. This true-to-life presentation shows you the pitfalls that a lack of honest communication can lead to in a marriage. It gives you a good picture of some of the many blessings you have in contrast to what those in the System have to struggle through.

The world's values and the values you have in the Family, as far as relationships and sex and freedom, are very different. It goes without saying that a Family person in a similar situation should handle it differently, and when you watch a movie like this, it's hard to say really whether some of the things done were "right" or "wrong." The fact is that, in some cases, certain actions can be right, if done with the right motives and handled right, whereas in other situations, even if in principle what you're doing isn't wrong, if you are unwise, and if you don't have the faith for it, then it can be very wrong. That's a lesson that, while not brought out as such by the producers of this movie, is something that My children can see and gain from if they view this.

This movie also shows the lengths that a man will go to in order to prove himself and his worth. Although this man [the writer] loved his wife, and she loved him for himself, he felt that fame and money and prestige were what she wanted. Those things were not nearly as important for her as for him, and the movie shows the dangers of these values, as they lead to wrong decisions and hurtful actions.

INVISIBLE CIRCUS (2001)
Jordana Brewster, Cameron Diaz, Christopher Eccleston
A teenage girl travels to Paris in the 1970s trying to find out about her sister, who had died in mysterious circumstances.

(Jesus:) This movie gives a good portrayal of what was happening in the late '60s and early '70s. It shows what happened to many of the seekers who didn't find Me. So many young people were seeking and looking for the truth, and trying to find something to live for that would really make a difference in the world situation. You see the sad fate of some who missed the true revolution and then became disillusioned with the phony one. The only real way to change the world and make a difference is to change people's hearts.

It's a true-to-life character study type of film. The story deals with suicide, so it won't be to everyone's liking and when praying about whether to view this movie, those who might be disturbed by such things should be sure to consider this point.

Movies Rated for Junior Teens and Up

THE GATHERING STORM (2002)
Albert Finney, Vanessa Redgrave
A story offering an intimate look inside the marriage of Winston and Clementine Churchill during a particularly troubled, though little-known, time in their lives, before Churchill was prime minister.

(Dad:) The Gathering Storm is a powerful and emotionally stirring movie. It's a wonderful portrayal of Winston and his wife during a difficult period of their lives. The story takes place between the two World Wars, when Churchill and his politics weren't in favor. He was struggling financially, his wife had gone on a long voyage overseas, and he himself was fighting the black dog of depression.

Churchill was a man of outstanding force and inspiration, but he was also a man of faults. This is a very vivid and intimate look into Churchill the man—his strength of character, as well as his weaknesses and vulnerabilities—all of which combined to make him the man and leader he needed to be in order to fulfill his hour of destiny.

If you took the time to really dig into what was going on in the political realm during this period of British history just before World War II, you might find that the movie gives a few misrepresentations and has some inaccuracies, and isn't necessarily a faithful enactment of history. But it's powerful, touching, and wonderfully acted.

Keep in mind that you're in a very similar position to the one portrayed by Churchill in this movie, for you, too, are called to speak out and raise your voices with a message of truth and warning to a very disinterested world. Pray for the Lord to use this moving portrayal to stir your hearts and inspire you to become all that you can be for Him, so that you might also fulfill the hour of your destiny—regardless of the obstacles.

An interesting aspect of this movie is that Churchill was an old man, and many said he was past his prime, over the hill, done, finished. But he was yet to reach his prime—the main role of leadership that he was destined for. This should encourage those of you who feel your usefulness may be past just because you are getting older. His trials and experiences and the wisdom he gained with his years only served to make him a better leader. He lived the saying that he is so famous for—he didn't give up.

[Editor's note: See the message from Winston Churchill in "Issues, Part 16," ML 93450, GN 1040.]

Movies Rated for MCs and Up

101 DALMATIANS II: PATCH'S LONDON ADVENTURE
(Animated)
Sequel to the original animation 101 Dalmatians. Roger and Anita are planning to move to their Dalmatian Plantation, but young Patch gets left behind in London and wanders into an unusual situation.

(Jesus:) This movie has a sweet message that each one is special and has worth, even if you're one in a hundred. You're special to Me, because when I look at each one of you, I see just you and love you individually and for what you are.

This movie did have some scarier scenes and weirdness on the part of the main villains, and it was more emphasized than the first one. While it has its enjoyable parts and good lessons, it's not the kind of movie to watch over and over again, especially because of the attitudes and mannerisms of the odd, artsy character in it. That is what the kids would start imitating after repeated viewings.

Some of the scenes of Cruella de Vil, her henchmen, and the artist fellow, are quite long and could easily be fast-forwarded through without missing much of the story at all.

Other Movies

[Editor's note: The "other movies" rating covers a variety of movies, ranging from those that are almost ratable minus one particular aspect, to those that have "not recommended" elements, but also have some redeeming qualities. (Please see movie QNA in GV #142 for more details.) We expect that a Home as a whole, or individuals, will read the published counsel and with that in mind, pray and ask the Lord whether movies in this category are appropriate for them. If a Home is considering showing an "other movie" to their teens or JETTS, some adult members should view it first and pray about whether it’s suitable or not.]

Angelina Jolie, Gerard Butler

(Jesus:) This is an action/adventure movie, and is pretty predictable in that respect—lots of surrealistic action and unbelievable maneuvers by the heroes of the movie. There's a fair bit of violence, including a couple of graphic scenes, although it's more the typical action movie kind, where there's lots of shooting and the good guys never seem to get hurt.
Three weeks later we got the tests back: My cholesterol level was normal, as was the content of fat in my blood. The CAT scan showed everything normal with no signs of any problems. Truly “while we were yet speaking,” He was answering our prayers! It was such a miracle. Thank You, Jesus! He never fails when we trust Him.

James Child, PACRO: About one and a half years ago I was diagnosed with Diabets Type 2. After prayer, following a good diet and exercise I am almost normal, and I have never had to take insulin. A real miracle and answer to prayer!

Luke Q., USA: I want to thank everyone so much for praying for me for the healing of my broken ribs and collapsed lung. The Lord is answering your prayers, and I am healing very quickly with no complications. Praise the Lord.

Testimonies of Answered Prayer

James Newheart, Canada: I had a herniated disc that was pinching my sciatic nerve. Thanks to your prayers, the Lord healed my back and leg of the terrible pain I was experiencing.

Clare (of Peter Newlife), Japan: My cholesterol level had been dangerously high, over 450. I had a near collapse, and it seemed like it wasn’t getting any better. The Lord told us to keep our eyes on Him during this time. I went for a checkup, feeling very apprehensive about what the doctor would find. We really prayed that the Lord would have His way, and asked for prayer for me.

I don’t like any kind of violence, but in some ways the light attitude towards death and inflicting pain that’s brought out in many action movies like this is worse than seeing the more realistic effects when they show all the gore and suffering, because it desensitizes people. If you really pray and are on guard and mindful of this ploy of the Enemy to desensitize the masses through this kind of action movie violence, you can protect your spirit, and you can receive My cleansing afterwards. It’s important to do that, as otherwise you’re pretty much partaking of the Enemy’s propaganda, and even if not to the same extent as the people of the world, to some extent you can lose the purity and perspective that I want you to have.

On the positive side, this movie has a good example of being dedicated completely to the cause that you feel is worth dying for, and not letting anything get in the way. Sometimes it’s easy to feel ready to take a bullet for the cause you’re living for, but when it comes down to forsaking something you really love, that’s where the crunch comes in.

On the negative side, the movie’s main figure is a calloused feminist who is proud, arrogant, reckless, overly ambitious, competitive, and insulting. To be blunt, she is the total antithesis of the wise and virtuous woman of Proverbs and is caught in a cruel and vicious cycle of having to belittle and outdo everyone else.

This movie would be okay for some people to watch for entertainment, if you’re aware of the weak spots and ask Me to cleanse and protect your spirit, but it’s not a must-see by any means.


Samuel L. Jackson, Colin Farrell

(Jesus:) This movie has the typical good versus evil sort of scenarios, good does triumph in the end, and the violence and bad language is not particularly bad, but you don’t go away from watching this movie feeling inspired or uplifted or having learned something.

It’s supposed to be a look into the lives of those on SWAT teams, which could be interesting, but since it’s so glamorized and touched up by Hollywood, it doesn’t provide the proper realism on that score either. There’s a lot of shooting, violence (although not graphic), car chases, and the like. The plot and intrigue is minimal.

The primary message of this movie is the glorification of self and flesh, and particularly those who push themselves to the limit to become effective killing machines. The attitude of the heroes in the movie, and particularly the main character, is not one of love and caring and compassion for others. They’re not hard hearted or bad, but they’re not on the SWAT team because they want to help others, or if they are, it’s not brought out in the movie. Rather the impression that one is left with is that it’s the adrenaline rush that makes it appealing.

Non-Recommended Movies

AMERICAN WEDDING (Jason Biggs, Seann William Scott; 2003)

(Jesus:) This movie has no redeeming qualities that make it worth the Family’s time to watch. There are sweet parts, but it’s not worth sitting through all the garbage that you have to go through to get the few good moments. The gay element is very prevalent throughout the movie, along with nuances or portrayals of perversions, and other humor that is plain disgusting.

GIGLI (Ben Affleck, Jennifer Lopez; 2003)

(Jesus:) This is a sad movie about the state of those who work in the underworld of crime. They’re torn in their choices, because while they have some morals and a conscience, once they commit themselves to working for the wrong side it’s the situation of “kill or be killed.” This is a dead-end depressing movie, without much storyline or lessons. Almost all of the attitudes that the movie portrays are ungodly, with the main focus of the movie and topics of conversation being on homosexuality/lesbianism, and senseless violence. The amount of foul language in the movie in itself is reason to avoid it.

MARCI X (Lisa Kudrow, Damon Wayans; 2003)

(Dad:) Although the movie has its funny moments, the overall message goes against what the Lord has said in His Word about the spirit behind music and its effect on people. It tries to excuse the horrible spirit behind some of the gangsta rap that is out there, as well as promoting other uggage behavior. There is an underlying sado-masochism theme to the movie, with song lyrics promoting homosexuality. This movie is not worth the Lord’s children’s time.

North America

Larry: Recently diagnosed with a probable case of early glaucoma. Please pray for complete healing from high eye pressure and glaucoma, and that the Lord will completely heal Larry’s eyes and optic nerves, and reverse any damage that has thus far occurred, and that He will prevent any more damage from taking place. Please also pray that the pressure in his eyes can be reduced to well within the normal range, to the specific amount that is healthiest for his particular eyes and optic nerves. Please also pray against any side effects from the eye drop medication.

Pacific

Jude: Angioma (benign brain tumor made of blood or lymph vessels). The tumor is not malignant, and it doesn’t grow, but the location is very dangerous if it bleeds, as is often the case with these types of tumors. Please pray for a complete and miraculous healing, against headaches or loss of memory. For strength and wisdom.
ACTIVATED RESPONSES

Thank you for the books you sent me. I used to be a shy guy in public. In class I was always ashamed to answer questions that the teacher asked me. I hardly spoke when there were lots of people. When I read one of the books you sent me, I immediately knelt down and prayed to overcome my shyness. Then I also decided to practice the things it said to do.

I went to school the next day. I greeted everybody I never used to greet. When the teacher came into class, he wrote a sum on the board, which no one could answer. I asked myself, should I attempt? I raised my hand and the teacher called me up, and I solved the sum. He told me the sum was correct, so let me explain it to the class. Everybody was surprised to see the shy boy become so bold.

We have a small Christian society in school known as the Young Christian Society, which I've presently joined. We had a program last week together with Muslim students in our school. The Holy Spirit gave me the courage to talk boldly, and I give all the glory to God.

—Julius, Gambia

Your Activated Web site is very good. I like the messages in it, all about faith and love. I found it to be a tremendous blessing. I was surprised when I was going through them as I found many new revelations on the Word of God. Would you kindly forward any phone number of yours in Bangalore where I can be in contact with someone? Do you have any church or gathering that I can be a part of?

—Joseph, India

Greetings to you in the Name of our love, Jesus Christ, Who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light. I wish to commend your God-given grace in your ministry and your quest for winning souls for Christ through the distribution of the Word of Truth. I say, “Let God’s favor continually rest upon you, as you continue working with and for Christ Jesus.”

—Ivánchoe, (Mexico)

I came across an issue of your magazine in our college library and was quite impressed with it. A word of congratulations to all those who are behind this magazine, it’s so refreshing to read and so very encouraging. My dad is a pastor and would like to know the subscription details of the magazine.

—Shiji, India

I had the opportunity to read Activated. It is a very enlightening message. I was very much impressed and touched by the articles. Would you kindly send me the last issue, and also let me know how I can subscribe?

—Sister Caroline, India

Thank you for your esteemed magazine, Activated, which I have been receiving regularly. I pass it on to my friends as well. May the Word find a welcome entry into many hearts. Thank you, and God bless you!

—Sister Caroline, India

I have moved from Mumbai and am now in the small town of my childhood—my final resting place. I am 64. I have enjoyed your magazine for its simplicity and its stories. I passed them on to a friend of mine who had a prison ministry who in turn gave them to the inmates. I would be glad to read them and continue to pass them on.

—Dina, India

Hi there from sunny Botswana! As a Home we have a goal and vision to distribute 10,000 Activated Mag of the Month each and every month, at present we are distributing 2,500. There is an Activated revolution happening out here! Our team consists of folks from almost every continent: Ikumi (Japan), Peter (Latvia), Natalie (Kazakhstan), Marcos (Mozambique), Aneta (Poland), Ashish (India), Ben (South Africa), Nicole (Botswana), and Paul (USA).

We are looking for sponsors to help distribute the mags and get the job done. Are you one of them?! Let’s win the world for Jesus! We look forward to teamworking with you, and activating the world! Gifts can be sent via the TRF, for the “Target 10,000 Activated Project.” Our Home number is BO1513.

We love and appreciate you, The Botswana Home

Dear Victoria, please contact me at brigitte@theboonies.com. I really want to get in touch with you. I am Praise (French Laura, Diamond’s mom). I have such wonderful memories of our time together with you and Simeon, and your wonderful kids in Indonesia and Japan. Hope to hear from you soon. I love you!

Soy Joy (antes Faithy) Mexicana, me gustaría entrar en contacto con J.B. y Abby Mexicanos. Escribame a auroramarina_74@hotmail.com

I’d like to get in touch with Gabriela. I was surprised when I was going through them as I found many new revelations on the Word find a welcome entry into many hearts. Thank you, and God bless you!

—Esoa, Nigeria

I own a copy of From Jesus—with Love, and it really feels like God is talking to me through this. Every time I say a prayer and open the book, it answers my question. I live by this book and would like to give it to people I care about as a gift.

—Sheetal, India

Thank you for your Activated magazine. I am very happy to read it! It helps me learn lessons in my life. I want to change my life for the better.

—Hafeez, India

“Target Ten Thousand” with Activated!

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—M.L., India

The news and views from Family members published in the Grapevine do not necessarily 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 shepherds’ discretion. All Family members in China use pen names for their contributions to the Grapevine.

The Grapevine, P.O. Box 500107, San Diego, CA 92150-0107 USA e-mail: gv@wsfamily.com Copyright © 2003 by The Family

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