What distinguishes winners is the will to prepare to win.

Brazil’s renewal period

By Mama

As you read in “Forward, Always Forward,” the Lord confirmed that our Family in Brazil should partake of the renewal period along with the rest of us. God bless them for being willing to obey the Lord’s counsel, since they’ve just recently been through a six-month fast of worldly input that was unique to their field. The Lord said that the renewal would provide a “secondary boost” for them in their commitments to full discipleship and gaining greater victories, and that it would bring special blessings into their lives.

God bless them, they’re real fighters and are making tremendous progress! Peter and I are proud of each of you, our dear Brazilian Family!

We wanted to let you know that as a result of further counsel and prayer, the Lord has shown us to make a few adjustments for the children in Brazil (ages 0-11) during the renewal period. Family members in Brazil who are ages 12 and up will partake fully in the worldwide renewal, as outlined in the GNs; however, the Lord has given a few “dispensations of grace” for the younger children. We’ll be explaining these specific adjustments to the Family in Brazil via a letter to their field, but we wanted to let you all know about this, so that in case you hear via e-mail or by word of mouth that the children in Brazil aren’t abiding by the renewal guidelines in full, you’ll understand that the Lord has approved a few exceptions for the children.

I’m claiming the keys of vision and inspiration for each of you, dear Family, as we draw close to the start of the renewal period. The Lord has tremendous and wonderful things in store for us as a Family, so keep your eyes open for the flood of renewal-related counsel that He’s poured out, of which six GNs are already posted on the MO site!

Updated List of International Board Members

By Peter

God bless you! We love you and are very thankful for all your prayers for us. Since the Summit there have been a few changes in the make up of the international boards, so we wanted to print an updated listing of those who chair and sit on the international boards (arranged alphabetically). There will possibly be further changes, and these will be posted in the announcement section of the MO site. (It’ll be highlighted on the Homepage in the “Site News” section.)

Children and Parenting Board (CP)

Chairperson(s): Dawn (WS), Julie (EURCRO)
Board members: Esther (SACRO), Hannah (PACRO), Kanah (NACRO), Lisa (EURCRO), Sarah Ireland (ASCRO)

Church Growth and Outreach Board (CGO)

Chairperson(s): Francis (WS)
Board members: Adam (ASCRO), Cassie (NACRO), Lorie (WS), Magda (EURCRO), Pedro (SACRO), Rachel (PACRO)

Family Education Department Board (FED)

Chairperson(s): Dawn (WS), Julie (EURCRO)
Board members: Amber (EURCRO), Elise (SACRO), Joy D. (PACRO), Leah (ASCRO), to be announced (NACRO)

JETT/Teen Board (JT)

Chairperson(s): Nathaniel (WS)
Board members: Ado (NACRO), Mark (ASCRO), Sam (SACRO), Stephen (EURCRO), Sweetie (PACRO)

Public Relations Board (PR)

Chairperson(s): Andrew (WS), Matthew (WS)
Board members: Abi (EURCRO), Luke (WS), Marc/ Claire (NACRO), Mark (SACRO), Stephen (PACRO), Steven (ASCRO)

Visitations and Shepherding Board (VS)

Chairperson(s): Jenna (WS), Misty (WS)
Board members: Dawn (EURCRO), Jeff (PACRO), Joan (ASCRO), Kay (WS), Miguel (SACRO), Simon (NACRO)

12 Bridges—First one available!

By the International CGO board

The 12 Bridges course is now becoming a reality. You can find the first classes of the course on the MO site, on the “Activated” page under “Activated Training Course.” Check out the “12 Bridges Read-Me” file for an explanation on the course and how to get started using it. Thanks for your prayers for continued work on this course. DV we will post one new Bridge (consisting of two to three classes) each month on the MO site over the next year. Happy feeding!
Expressing Jesus’ Love for the Sheep

By Mama

Dear Family,

Peter and I love you so much and are very thankful for your faithful service to the Lord, and your desire to reach the lost with the life-giving waters of His Word.

Someone wrote in asking why the cross, the suffering, and Jesus’ blood aren’t incorporated in all our salvation message tracts, seeing as these are fundamental parts of the Christian message. I want to share a message with you from our Husband that was received in answer to this question, which also has some good points on witnessing and the beautiful message of Jesus’ love that we have to offer the lost.

In this message the Lord talks specifically about the tract “To You—With Love,” but there are elements in this prophecy that can also apply to other Family tracts that we get out which have a similar message. We have a message that’s different from many churches—but that’s what makes us unique and often attracts people to us and our message. Thank the Lord for all that He shows us and pours out in such abundance!

(Jesus:) Forgiveness of sin through My blood shed for the sinner is an important part of My salvation message. This is something that needs to be taught, because when people understand the gift I freely give, then their love for Me and their faith in Me takes deeper root and grows stronger. But understanding salvation is something that comes with study and spiritual maturity.

The babe first receives My gift of salvation just because you pray with him and lead him along in his baby steps of faith. It’s not necessary that the spiritual babe understands fully what salvation means, the spiritual phenomena, and exactly what I did in giving My life for you. My hungry sheep need to know that I love them, and that through My love they can be Mine—they can go to Heaven and have a happier life on Earth.

The important thing is that the Family expresses My love for My sheep. The sheep have to feel My love and interest, and your love and interest, before they will listen to more and be able to absorb more spiritual feeding. I gave the “To You—With Love” tract in these simple, non-churchy words, without specific reference to My blood or their sins in order to speak to the simple soul, the hungry for love, not the hungry for doctrine.

The churches already have tracts that offer the traditional salvation message, as does the Family, but in this case I want the Family to offer a message of love, and then to later educate the sheep with the details of salvation and the full spiritual principles. I need tracts that will reach a different walk of people, the simple, the ones who do not seek out the church for their guidance. Those who need this type of tract will be fed by it and brought to Me, and those who can receive a traditional salvation message can receive it from any number of churches, or from the Family, through a different tract. In either case, the Family can follow up with a full explanation and class on salvation. (End of message.)

I pray that this message from Jesus is a blessing to you, and a help to remind us of how important it is to express the love that Jesus has for His lost sheep in our witnessing.

Praising our loving Husband for you,
Mama

12 FOUNDATION STONES

What’s the Teacher’s Tip?

The 12 Foundation Stones Teacher’s Supplement, which accompanies the 12 Foundation Stones Class Book, includes a lot of goodies you won’t want to miss out on.

Here’s a brief overview of what’s included here:

* Issues Pubs Lists: Comprehensive lists of publications that you can use to address questions and issues that might come up with those you’re ministering to, but which aren’t covered specifically in the 12 Foundation Stones classes.

* 12 Foundation Stones Teachers’ Checklist: A handy overview/list of preparations and materials needed for each class.

* List of pubs to offer: Summarized list of all publications to be offered with the 12 Foundation Stones course.

* Song Sheets: Nicely categorized by topics, in two versions, with chords and without.

* Meaningful Movie List: List of meaningful movies/videos that you may like to watch with your friends and students. A brief description of the main message is included in the list, as well as suggestions of which class the movie is relevant to. (Many of these same movies are also on the list of movies that can be watched by the Family during the renewal period, and as such, during the renewal period you can watch the movies on this list in the 12 Foundation Stones with your sheep if they are also on the Family renewal list.)

And there are a lot more helpful lists, records, charts, and posters, contained in the Teacher’s Supplement, which you can download from the Activated / Activated Training Course section of the MO site.

Don’t Forget Our Board Games!

By the WS pubs team

Do you enjoy playing board games together? If so, discover the joy of playing Family-created Word-based board games for fun and positive times of fellowship. Don’t miss out on these fun Word-based games, terrific for use during the renewal period! There are Family created Word games that are full of fun and challenge. Try “The Bible Hunt Game” (FCP #57), “The Endtime Game” (FCP #33), or “Journey to Bethlehem” (FCP #21). These games stir the imagination, and at the same time stir up your knowledge of the Word. They not only promote the Word, but they also promote unity through playing them together! Try them for your fellowship times!

And if you think they are simple games for kids only, you may just be surprised! If you play one of these games with an OC in your Home who has played the game regularly, you’ll probably find they will leave you behind in the dust by their skills at playing.

Have an evening of fun and fellowship around one of these games, and hone your Word skills at the same time.

The Endtime Game tests you on your knowledge of Endtime prophecies, and the 16 major points of the Endtime.

Journey to Bethlehem tests you on your knowledge of Messianic prophecies.

The Bible Hunt Game tests you on Bible knowledge questions from Quizorama.

For those of you who want to play a fun card game that requires little thinking after a long day, try “The 100 Souls Card Game” (FCP #56). You may just find it fun to join in and play along with the MCs.

All these can be found on the MO site, under Pubs / FC Pubs. Have fun!
Photographer Credit
BY THE WS PUBS TEAM

Dear Family,

We love you and appreciate your faithfulness to not only spread the wonderful message of Jesus’ love and salvation to the world, but to also take the time to share the fantastic ways the Lord changes lives through your witness by sending articles and photos to be included in the pubs. We’re so thankful for each one of you who labors to write up your testimonies and share your lessons and tips that the Lord’s given you to be effective and professional missionaries and disciples!

As the saying goes, “A picture is worth a thousand words,” and we’re especially thankful for all of you dear photographers who log the many events, CTPs, witnessing ventures, etc., through your skill and faithfulness in taking photos which can be included in the pubs or posted on the MO site. We’re very thankful for each photo, and want to say a special thank-you to all our dear photographers, especially those who use their photography talents to benefit others in taking good quality photos that can be used in PR albums and as a witness to others.

We want to apologize for the fact that we haven’t included credit in our pubs to the photographer for the photos he or she has taken and made available for use in the pubs, something we did more regularly in previous years. This was not meant in any way to undermine the efforts of our wonderful photographers, but has mostly been an unwitting oversight on our part. We’re very sorry for any misunderstandings or discouragement this has caused any of you.

Since as photographers you are artists in your own rights, we would like to announce that we are more than happy to print photo credits along with the photos we print in our pubs or post on the MO site. So if, as a photographer, you’re submitting photos to go along with a specific article or testimony, please feel free to send in a “photo(s) taken by” line with your name, and we’ll include it with the photos.

Along this line, because we receive numerous photos to a variety of e-mail boxes each and every day, along with the other e-mail WS receives, we will not be able to request the photographer credit for each photo sent in. So if you would like credit as the photographer included with the photos we publish or post, please be sure to include that information when you send photos in, along with the captions. If we don’t receive this information, we will assume that you are not interested in us including a photographer credit line.

If you’ve had a Family photographer from your Home or area take photos of your CTPs, show troupe, Home ministry, etc., and the photos are so excellent that you’d like to see them included with an article from your Home about your ministry, it would be courteous to check with the photographer before sending them in. While we’re always more than happy to receive photos, whether to include in our pubs or for posting on the MO site, we want everyone to receive due credit for their efforts. So if someone has gone out of their way to do you a favor by taking photos of your work or Home, please be sure to check with them (before sending in the photos) to see whether or not they’d appreciate having their “name in lights” via a photographer credit. (We realize that this may not always be feasible, but we’d like to encourage it as much as possible.)

Our thanks and gratitude goes out to each one of you who faithfully contributes, via photos and articles, what the Lord is doing in your lives, Homes, and areas. Your articles, photos, and testimonies make the pubs! So a big thank-you to all of you!

Ad: All in an Illustrated Package!
BY THE WS PUBS TEAM

If you’re looking for something new and different to read during the renewal, why not check out all the tremendous illustrated pubs that have gone out over the past year, like the MLKs, Gen-Ups, and XNs. Though these pubs are for specific age groups, they are very feeding and insightful, and have good foundation principles and other spiritual lessons from the GNs included in them.—All presented in a fun, illustrated package.

Not only are they enjoyable to read over, but you’ll find them very feeding and a good review. You might even find parts of GNs that hadn’t stood out to you before coming to life more. Another added benefit is that reading over them will help you in relating with the younger ones in your Home on a Word-based level, because you’ll be able to talk to them about the Word they are reading too. Have fun!

Looking for Meatier Classes for Your Sheep?
BY THE INTERNATIONAL CGO BOARD

Q: The 12 Foundation Stones are a great tool, and through them the Active members really grow. They go from being just friends and sheep to actual Family members! They start to act, think and talk like a Family member, and you can see a marked difference.

The 12 Foundation Stones are feeding Bible classes, with additional quotes and feeding reading, but then somehow we need to also get them hooked onto the New Wine. Perhaps it would be good to put together a basic MO Letter reading course for our most potential ones?

A: The 12 Bridges course is now in the works, designed for those who have completed the 12 Foundation Stones. It is a course based primarily on the MO Letters and New Wine, yet also including a Scriptural background and foundation, which should be just what is needed for those who have gone through the 12 Foundation Stones and are ready for more! Students will learn about Dad, Mama, Family history, prophecy, loving Jesus, the keys of the Kingdom, the Law of Love, and more. Keep an eye out for the 12 Bridges classes, which will be posted, one set a month on the MO site, starting in May of 2004, DV.

In the meantime, check out the “12 Bridges Interim Reading List”—a list of MLs which covers the main topics regarding Family doctrine that the Bridges will cover. It’s something to start with now, if you have sheep who are ready for it. You can find this list, and all accompanying ML text files that are part of it on the MO site at Activated / Activated News.

It’s Millennial Training Time!
By the SEA FED board

We’re offering a wonderful opportunity to train your kids—young and old—with Family educational CDs and much more! Send us your PGP key, and we’ll e-mail you a full list of all the materials we have available! Only $3 per CD, postage included.

Write to cbreaker_2004@operamail.com. Order today! The Millennium isn’t far away! Hurray!

[Editor’s note: Many Family CDs are also available from each area’s FED Resource Center. Contact your Regional FED board for information and a catalog.]
Online subscriptions to Activated?

Q: Can the Activated magazine be sent to people online if they prefer it this way? Or, the same way we buy magazines to get out, could we also send them online to people we give them to?—Meaning we’d have to pay a price?

A: PDFs of the mags can be downloaded by those who would like an “online version,” from the activated.org site, under “Issue Guide.” It would be preferable to encourage people who are interested in an online magazine to go to the site, rather than sending them the magazine via PDF.—As there is lots of other feeding material on the site, including all the content of the Activated magazines to date, and the more we point there, the more Word they’ll have access to and the more they can be fed. (Also, someone could read the content of the magazine while on the site if they don’t have a connection that allows them to download large files like the full mag PDFs). Also, keep in mind that if someone has the means to afford an Internet connection, they probably have the means to subscribe to the magazine—and that would still be ideal. Having the magazine in their hands is probably the most sure way of knowing they’ll actually read through it. We’ve also received many testimonies of friends or relatives of Activated subscribers seeing the magazine and getting inspired by it or even subscribing themselves. At present, we do not have a system set up for handling online subscriptions, though it is something we may consider setting up in the future.

Sending PDF files to sheep?

Q: Can I send a booklet (for example, From Jesus With Love—For Women) as a PDF file to a sheep? I have downloaded it from the MO site, and I would very much like to send it to someone who I am feeding through the mail, as I feel she would benefit greatly by it. I have sent her smaller things like Grandmother Letters via e-mail or various individual Daily Mights and things like that, but was wondering if it’s okay to send tools like these via e-mail or on a CD? Are booklets like these supposed to be sent in printed booklet form only so as not to shortchange Aurora or anything like that?

A: It would be fine to send PDFs of GP pubs to people who you are feeding via the mail. It’s great, of course, when someone can and does get the actual book, and pays for it too, but we realize there are cases where the other might be more beneficial. The files of our pubs are for the most part readily available online in any case, via the activated.org or thefamily.org Web sites. (It’s often the case with books or magazines that others in the world produce, that they make the item, or most of its content, available online as well … but people still also buy “the real thing,” as so far the world hasn’t gone “e-book.”)

Why is the NKJV version of the Bible used in GP pubs?

Q: I’ve noticed that the New King James version of the Bible is used in the Activated mags, 12 Foundation Stones, and other GP pubs. Why is that?

A: Starting a few years back WS began using the NKJV of the Bible, rather than the KJV, in GP pubs. The main reason for this is because it is much easier for people to understand if they aren’t already familiar with reading the Elizabethan/Shakespearean English of the King James Bible. This applies to native English speakers, and even more so for non-native English speakers. And, while it’s easier to understand, read, and memorize, the NKJV generally still retains some of the power of the meaning in the KJV. For a further explanation, please see: “Understanding God’s Word,” pgs.29–30 (Get Activated! book #8). (Or if you download the book—it can be found on the MO site under Pubs / Activated Books section—the section is called “What version of the Bible is best?”).

Having explained this, we’re not saying that Family witnesses must switch over to buying and using NKJV Bibles in their personal witnessing. We just wanted to explain that the Lord has led us to use the NKJV translation in the GP pubs.

Family music to DFO?

Q: Some of our Active members want us to copy Family music (TCDs/NFs) for them. They are happy for any songs from the TCDs/NFs, but since these CDs are originally for the Family, presumably not all the songs are intended for the GP/DFO (Active members). Thus the question. Is there any list of songs that could be given to the Active members/national church folks for their listening? (We assume that we can check the GP Family site and see it from there, but for that we need to check what CD each song is on, etc.)

A: There is currently no list created of our songs that would be suitable for a DFO audience. However, it is fine to pick and choose whatever songs you feel are appropriate for your Active members, or even copy full CDs for them if you feel they would benefit from them. (Note: Pretty much all Family music is available on the MO site, and listed as to which CD it’s on. You can find the music and lists either via the “songbook” section or the MP3 section, in Audio.)

Read it with them!

(Priscilla, Moldova:) In talking with our ContactS (Romanian Activated) subscribers I noticed that none of them, not even those who are used to reading the Bible, read the Bible study inside each mag. With so many nice and simple articles and colorful pages, I suspected that they would end their reading without doing the Bible study, which requires more work. Now when we meet with them and ask, “Did you read your mag?” and they say yes, but we find out that they didn’t read the Bible study, we sometimes sit down together and read it with them, and we also explain it to them. They like it, and usually are surprised to find out how much new stuff they can get from there. We realized that some of them don’t know how to look up verses in the Bible in an easy way. They wouldn’t be able to find something in the Bible.

(International CGO board:) This experience shows the importance of follow-up and the personal touch when it comes to your Activated subscriber. Don’t take it for granted that those whom you’ve subscribed to Activated are doing their Bible studies, or fully understanding everything they read. If you have a way to keep in touch personally, check in with them, find out if they’re reading the mag and all of it, and find ways to encourage them to do it, or even read it together with them if need be. Giving some helpful practical tips about Bible study, would also prove worth their while.
TeleTRF Tips: Witnessing Stats Q&As

By the TeleTRF team

Q: I e-mailed a PDF of a tract to a contact. Where do I report electronic pubs distributed on the TeleTRF?

A: Only physical pieces distributed are counted as pieces distributed. Thus, all files that are sent electronically are counted as “Mass Witness Other” on the Monthly Stats screen, but not as pieces or pages, because there are no physical pieces or pages involved. If you are witnessing personally via e-mail (e.g., writing the sheep a personal e-mail response rather than just sending a form letter response), then the personal witness counts as a “Personal Witness,” but again no pieces or pages, because there are no physical pieces or pages involved.

In the next version of the TeleTRF we are considering adding an “e-tools distributed” stat on the Monthly Stats screen, so you would be able to report lit and other tools distributed electronically as “e-tools distributed” instead of as “Mass Witness Other.”

Q: Can you count New Testaments given as Family tools distributed, and if yes, how many pages do you report?

A: Yes, as “Other” tools distributed on the Monthly Stats screen. Report the number of pages in the Bible as the number of pages distributed.

Q: I sent a printed copy of our newsletter to our supporters. How do I report this?

A: As “Other” tools distributed on the Monthly Stats screen. The following question and answer is from “Answers to Your Questions!”—No. 1 (ML #1254):

Q: If we print our local newsletter with personal testimonies and with a couple pages of LIN and the salvation message to give to the public, is it counted as a full piece of literature?—Achim, Australia

A: Of course!—Count the pages too! (par.28)

Q: Are we still going by the A5-equivalency rule for printed pages?

A: Yes. One A5 (GN size) page or smaller should be counted as one page; but one page larger than A5 size should be counted as the equivalent number of A5 pages. Thus an A6-size tract, four pages long, would count as four pages. An A4-size pub, four pages long, would count as eight pages. See the TeleTRF helps (press F1, select “Special Instructions” on the left panel, then select “Stats Questions and Answers”) for examples and details. But remember, we are no longer assigning “pages” to non-paper tools, such as videos, CDs, tapes, etc.

Q: Should there be a place on the Monthly Stats screen to enter the number of Activated subscriptions?

A: There is no need for you to log Activated subscriptions on the TeleTRF, because they’re reported for you by the Activated desks, and appear in the “Shine On” Grapevine listing each month.

Q: Where do I report Motivated magazine distribution on the TeleTRF?

A: Report under “Other” tools distributed on the Monthly Stats screen.

Q: How do we count Holy Ghost baptisms on the stats?

A: The following question and answer is from “Answers to Your Questions!”—No. 8 (ML #1566):

Q: How should we count Holy Ghost baptisms on the stats? In Acts 5:32 it says that God gives the Holy Spirit to those that obey Him, yet in Lk.11:13 it says simply that He gives it to those that ask. I feel it’s both, ask and obey, but when witnessing in mass, if we pray for people to receive the Holy Spirit, what could be a guideline to help us count how many receive?—Miguel and Ruth Volunteer, S. America

A: The same as when you ask how many want to receive Jesus—a show of hands. Why not? They’re just as sure as the salvation message.

Q: How to count personal witnessing stats? We’re not exactly sure what we should count as personal witness. Some people count each person they talked to, “We’re Christians, and we’re doing volunteer work. Could you help us?” as a personal witness. Other people only count people who they talked to about getting saved, and other deeper things from the Word. It would make a huge difference in our stats depending on how to count them.

A: This is covered in the TeleTRF helps (press F1, select “Special Instructions” on the left panel, then select “Stats Questions and Answers”). Here is some of the counsel on this subject from “Stats Questions and Answers”:

Q: Do people who see us poster, but who don’t get a poster, count as mass witness?

A: It depends on whether they are being witnessed to or not. It doesn’t seem that those seeing you distribute posters are really receiving a witness—your testimony of Jesus or the Family—so in most cases this wouldn’t count.

Q: We are counting our busking audience who hears our songs and preaching for 15–20 minutes as a personal witness. Is this right?

A: No, this is still mass witness. Truly personal witness is one on one, or maybe two or three. Beyond that, you can’t get very personal! (ML #1837.4)

The question about people seeing us posterizing provides a definition of a mass witness—your testimony of Jesus or the Family. So the question to ask yourself is, “Are they receiving my testimony of Jesus or the Family?” If not, it’s not even a mass witness, and certainly wouldn’t count as personal witness.

The question about busking contains a description of a personal witness: “Truly personal witness is one on one, or maybe two or three. Beyond that, you can’t get very personal!” So that gives a clue as to the type of witness to count as a personal witness—it needs to be personal.

The answer to your specific question about what exactly is defined as personal witness is not black and white. This is something that each witness needs to ask himself or herself personally, and ask the Lord. What in fact counts as personal witness may vary from person to person.

Try to put yourself in the other person’s shoes and ask yourself, “If I were them, would I feel that I am being witnessed to, personally?” Did you get their attention and get them to pause and really listen to what you’re saying to them? Did you give them a personal sample of Jesus or the Family? It doesn’t necessarily need to be a deep witness and an altar call, but did you make a connection so that they could feel the Lord shining through you? These are questions only you as the witness can answer.

Q: Where do I e-mail my TeleTRF sendoff file?

A: Please check with your Reporting Office for instructions about where to e-mail your TeleTRF sendoff file to or any other questions regarding reporting procedures. Please do not e-mail your TeleTRF sendoff file to teletrf@wsfamily.com, as we do not process TRFs there. The e-mail teletrf@wsfamily.com is only for answering questions and assisting with problems with the TeleTRF program.

Q: How do I uninstall the TeleTRF?

A: If you need to uninstall the TeleTRF program for any reason make sure you use “UninstallTeleTRF.exe” from the TeleTRF CD. There are several different “components” to the TeleTRF, and this program uninstalls them all properly. If you uninstall the TeleTRF from “Add/Remove Programs” in Windows you might miss uninstalling all the components and then have problems when you install the TeleTRF again.

May 1
A Happy Trip Down Memory Lane

By Maria (of Andy), Colombia

I was flat on my back with a bad cold. The Christmas push was already over and everyone in the Home was getting ready for some days of fellowship and celebration after a fun and thrilling but nevertheless exhausting Christmas push.

All through the Christmas push, every now and then I felt some symptoms of coming down with a flu. It wasn’t the time to get sick; I thought to myself. So I did my best to keep it at bay by asking for prayer and taking some natural remedies.

Right after our last Christmas show on the 24th, my body broke down and felt like it was saying, “Enough is enough. You’re not a teenager anymore. Please, stop!” So I did.

Feeling weak and sick during Christmas celebrations in the Home, plus facing that my body wasn’t as youthful and capable—dividing the years of my life serving Jesus and this precious Family. Like in a movie, I went back to the moment I first met the Family (at 15 years old). I reviewed many experiences—some very happy and exciting, others a bit sad and hard—but I realized all were for my good. Battles made me a fighter; they turned a child into a woman.

As if she knew how I was feeling and what I was going through, a sweet soul from my Home came to my bedroom to cheer me up. She put on some music for me to listen to and while listening to some of the songs, I felt as if the lyrics were the voice of our sweet Jesus speaking straight to my heart. The song “Battle Wounds” sung by Jerry brought tears of joy to my face, and it made me think of the many precious “middle-aged” brethren that perhaps were facing similar battles or physical ailments like me. I couldn’t stop from thinking on the many faces and names of brethren (now about my age or more) that I came across during the 28 years that I’ve been in the Family. “Where could they be now? How are they?”

Three Days of Miracles in Uganda, Africa

By Caleb and Kathleen, Uganda

After receiving many letters from the NuBeat radio show listeners, expressing a growing interest in hearing more of our message, the Lord showed us to do some follow-up in Masindi, a small town about three hours away from Kampala. NuBeat has played on Kitara FM for about two years now. A few of the listeners have received the Activated magazine. NuBeat is aired at 11 AM on Sunday mornings on this station, as well as on many others stations over Uganda.

One of the local DJs told us about a sweet response from a four-year-old, which surprised us all! His parents let him listen to NuBeat, and he loves it! He loved it so much that he begged his dad to take him to the radio station so that he could make his comments about the NuBeat show, and what he thought about it. So the DJ let him get on the radio, and he boldly proclaimed how much he loved the NuBeat show and how everyone should listen to it to help you walk closer to God. He also said that Simon made the show so exciting for everyone to listen to and learn from. It was a real witness, especially coming from a four-year-old! It showed us that not only were the adults and teens turned on to the NuBeat show, but even little kids were being affected by our witness and that it had an impact on everybody.

Most of our listeners are in secondary schools (high schools). The ones we visited in Masindi were eager to receive us and our posters on the Endtime, and to hear about our Activated magazine. The headmasters and headmistresses gave us permission to give Bible classes on the Endtime, which we did—dividing the boys and girls into two classes because there were so many and there were two of us. Some of the teachers even attended the classes along with their students and took notes and asked deep questions. When approaching the principal originally, we asked that only the youth attend who were both Christians and Muslims. On our second trip to Masindi at least 200 people prayed with us to receive Jesus! They were very turned on to the Word.

Once it was all arranged, we were able to get on the radio and tell our listeners about our Bible classes and the showing of our video Countdown to Armageddon, which was held in a local Baptist church. That in itself was a miracle because we borrowed the television from one person, the video player from another source, and finally the building where we could show it from another. However, just before we were going to show the video, the electricity went off, which happens a lot in Africa. So the Lord showed us to give them a class instead right there and then. Of course, the Lord never fails and the electricity came back on and they got to see Countdown to Armageddon too! During this little lapse of time other people heard about the video showing and got there in time to attend. The organizers liked the video so much that they bought it from us to show at other churches and schools in the area.
Simon, a 26-year-old, who has been listening to the NuBeat show and reading Activated magazines and posters for a while now, was a real help to us. He was so turned on by our coming to his town that he got people together for us, attended some of our classes, and worked with us to get out the message while we were there. He was turned on to the Word and our message! He is one of the Masindi bellwethers and will help to keep the ball rolling with other Activated members and NuBeat Club members in the various schools there. We gave him and other bellwethers a copy of Treasures, and also will be sharing their copy of the Activated magazine with others.

There was also another man who has a projector, some video equipment, as well as a generator, and is planning on showing Countdown to Armageddon to more schools in the area—he’s the one who bought our only copy from us. His ministry is to show Christian videos to whoever is interested.

As we were getting ready to leave, we stopped briefly at a restaurant where we had eaten at the day before to pray about our next move. One of the waiters came up to us and said, “Thank you for the tip you left for me, but more than anything, thank you for the tract you left with me. I stayed up all night reading it over and over again, and I am a new man now because of it!” We prayed with him on the spot to receive Jesus. It was so encouraging to hear and see that! It just proves that so many of the seeds we plant are changing hearts and lives, beyond our wildest dreams!

We were only there for three days, but it was three days of miracles, with 200 souls saved, 200 Endtime posters distributed—mostly to students who came for our Endtime Bible study—250 tracts, one video, and one CD. Because it’s a town full of schools, there were potential labor leaders everywhere, wanting to help our message be spread far and wide. It is certainly Uganda’s hour! We hope to go back, do follow up, keep the ball rolling and help these ones continue to grow in the faith. And we’ll certainly keep in touch by mail.

Hot Off the Press—10 New Codebreakers and Word Glasses

By Tiago, Thailand

Codebreakers is a series of Word classes on VCD taught by Tiago. They can be watched on stand-alone VCD players or on your computer. Each Codebreakers episode is full of documentary and movie clips to illustrate the class topic. Each CD features one class (approximately one-hour in length).

Word Glasses are similar to the Codebreakers, but can only be viewed on computers. They can be used for personal study or by a teacher reading the text and showing the embedded video clips on your Internet Explorer browser. Classes can last two or more sessions.

Codebreakers
CB 1-2: The Bible—Rewind and Fast Forward
CB 3-4: The Bible Code—Prophecies and Prophets
CB 5-6: To Clone or Not to Clone
CB 7-8: The World Cons’ Piracy
CB 9-10: A Plague o’ Both Your Houses
CB 11-12: The Imposter!
CB 13-14: Hearing from the Lord
CB 15-16: Lights! Camera! Blasphemy!
CB 17-18: Life Is Beautiful!
CB 19-20: Committed!
NEW! CB 21-22: The Story of Mankind
NEW! CB 23-24: Dropouts
NEW! CB 25-27: Spirit Helpers and Spirits Helped
NEW! CB 28: Connecting with Beyond

Word Glasses
Ch.1: Life After Death and the Spiritual World
Ch.2: Ye Are Gods!—What happened to the progeny of the angels that mingled with the daughters of men in Genesis 6?

Ch.3: Cool Home School!—Why we adopted the efficient but always controversial homeschooling method.
Ch.4: Literature, Poetry, and Positiveness
Ch.5: The Knight of Light—A Word study on the Crusades and St. Francis of Assisi.
NEW! Ch.6: The Inspired Teacher
NEW! Ch.7: Atlantis—The Vanished Continent

Only $3 per CD! Send your gift via the TRF to Tiago at TH07, and e-mail us your order and postal address. Write to cbreak-er2004@operamail.com. Thanks!

Continuing to spread the news

By the Europe Activated desk

We received the following message from Andrew and Hannah who recently moved to the border of South Africa from Zimbabwe due to the instability of the political situation there. They still make regular trips to Harare to minister to their sheep. This letter is from one of their Active members:

Dear Andrew and Hannah,

How is everything there? Here everything is fine. Sorry I have not written in a long time. I have been so busy and my bike is not working so I am seeing people every day after work or before using commuters.

Here are the statistics for the last month:

- 5 books
- 4 videos
- 4 CD cards
- 35 Activated mags
- 4 subscriptions for Activated

I went out witnessing a few times and I got 13 people saved, and I told them to write to Family Mission, so you will get some mail.

Greet everyone for me, Natalie (Zimbabwe)

Carrying it everywhere

By Cielo, Brazil

The president of the Rotary Club called me after receiving the January Contato (Activated) magazine, asking for permission to read the message from Jesus from the back cover of the magazine at the opening of their annual Rotary Club commemoration. He said that no message had ever touched him as deeply or changed his life as had those few Words. He said he now sees things from a different perspective, and is very excited about helping us in our volunteer work. He says that he carries the mag with him everywhere he goes.

Promoting the message

By the Conéctate desk, Chile

We went out to a summer book fair and distributed old Conéctate mags with inserted flyers as publicity. People were very interested and were reading our mags all over the place. We plan to continue going to different cultural events and spots and promoting the mag in this and other ways.

As part of the 12 Foundation Stones course we’ve been teaching this year, we took our most faithful students out with commuters.

 activat edNEWS
Dear artists and aspiring artists,

God bless you, dear Family, we love you so much! After receiving many notes and letters over the years from the field asking about contributing art and how to go about it, the Lord has shown us that it’d be a good time to put out a notice on the subject of art.

We love artwork, and we love seeing all the beautiful pictures posted on the Field Art section of the MO site! We have such a multi-talented Family, PTL!

Sometimes we get notes from people wondering if/how they might be able to contribute artwork to Family publications. We’re sorry that due to lack of time and personnel we’ve not always been able to respond personally to each one of you, but we hope that by putting out this memo we can answer the most important questions you might have on this subject. We’ll address some of these points in a “Frequently Asked Questions” format.

Q: Does WS need more contributing field artists?
A: The need for contributing artists fluctuates all the time, depending on many factors. So if you’ve written in offering to contribute art and there wasn’t a need at the time, yet you’re serious about using your God-given art gifts, we’d like to encourage you to continue:
   a) practicing
   b) using your talents in any way possible in your local situation (more on that later)
   c) asking the Lord how you can diversify, expand, and build on your art skills, and how He wants you to use them.

Q: I drew a picture that my friends thought was really cool, but when I sent it in to be published, it ended up on the MO site. How come?
A: It can often be difficult to use artwork that is sent in which isn’t originally drawn for a specific purpose or to go along with specific text. Usually, if you draw a picture on inspiration and send it in, it will be placed on the MO site right away, as we’d rather let the whole Family enjoy it there than wait for it to possibly be used in a Family pub someday down the line.

Q: Should I specify which pub I’m applying to illustrate for?
A: At present Xn is the main pub that is sending art assignments to field contributors. But the needs within WS for art help change from year to year, so you never know what could be in store for the future and what other needs and opportunities may arise.

Q: Could you list the kinds/styles of artwork that are potentially useful, as well as the kinds/styles that generally aren’t?
A: A lot depends on the need (for example, realistic-style people portraits painted in watercolor don’t usually come in handy for WS pubs, but on occasion one might be appropriate, if it’s specifically assigned for a specific project.) But here’s a basic list:

Useful:
- Sharp, clean, well-defined, inked artwork
- Comic or cartoon styles
- Some very clean and clear pencil work is useful on occasion
- Fantasy-style artwork, inked only, or with some color/shade on computer

(Note: Please remember that the above is a list of art styles that are most often useful and printed in current WS pubs; this listing is not set in stone and may very well change with time, depending on the nature of the pubs, the target audience, etc.)

Not so useful:
- Pencil/charcoal/water color/oils
- Scenery, still life, portraits of your friends, animals, etc.
- Artwork that is a direct copy from existing art
- Art that is too sexy (remember, the readership for most illustrated Family pubs include kids or JETTs).
- 3D computer art
- Artwork that has been heavily tweaked and stylized with computer filters and textures

Q: My art styles mainly fall within the “not so useful” categories for WS pubs at present. Should I continue to send in my artwork anyway?
A: Of course! Even if your prime art styles aren’t readily usable in our pubs right now, there are many other options for their use (see pg. 9 for ideas on how your art can benefit your local area). Please continue to send your art in so that we can post it on the MO site for the enjoyment of all.

Q: I do some kinds of art that you’ve placed under your “useful” category. Does this mean that I can become an art contributor to WS pubs?
A: There are a lot of factors involved in contributing art to Family pubs from a distance, and we’d like to outline some of the steps we’d need you to take if you are interested in doing this.

---for---

Stage 1

We’d like to ask that before you write in, you please consider the following points:

- * Am I reasonably skilled already in artwork that falls under the WS pubs “useful” category?
- * Do I have a working e-mail address and a reliable modem connection to send and receive large art files, as well as access to a good, working scanner?
- * Do I have time to contribute to artwork right now?

If you answered yes to all the above questions, you’re ready to move on to the next step: Filling out the “Form for Field Artists.rtf” that’s posted on the MO site (you can find the link to this form on the Homepage under “Site News”).

Once you’ve sent us a copy of your “Form for Field Artists,” plus your PGP key and five art samples on specific themes (please see the form for details), we will send you a one-liner acknowledging that we’ve received it all safely.

Within a month from the time we’ve received your art samples, we’ll get in touch with you and let you know whether we have an assignment for you at that time.

---for---

Stage 2

If we have let you know that we’re interested in sending you a tryout art assignment, please ask yourself the following questions:

- * As an art contributor, am I okay with the fact that art corrections/tweaks/adjustments may (and usually will) be requested for art I submit for
publication? That sometimes a picture I draw may have to be dropped for various reasons?

* Am I prepared to use the weapon of prophecy about every stage of my artwork, to make sure it’s fresh, appropriate, and has the right spirit?

* Do I realize that contributing art isn’t about doing it “my way,” but it’s about creating something that will be a blessing to the Family and appropriate to the assignment I’m given?

* Am I prepared to work under deadlines and to communicate faithfully with the art department if/when I’m unable to meet deadlines due to unforeseen circumstances?

* Am I prepared to get assignments that might not always be on my favorite theme, or that might be a little more of a challenge to get right?

If you answered yes to all the above points, and you respond positively that you’re still interested in possibly contributing, this is the point at which the art department will (after confirming with the Lord) send you a “tryout” art assignment for one of the pubs, if there’s a need at this time. Thank you so much for your willingness to use your gifts for the Family. We and they really appreciate it.

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Q: Whoa! Your “Stage 1” and “Stage 2” make it all sound a bit complicated.

A: We wanted to paint a realistic picture of the time and prayer and effort it would take for someone who has a desire to contribute art to WS pubs. In the System, most artists have to go to art school and practice and create for many years before they ever see their work published. So we’d like to encourage you that even if you draw a picture today that doesn’t get published, remember to persevere, and to study the CVC art courses and any others you find or use. You also might want to ask the Lord for specific ways to use your gifts and get practice, and what kind of style(s) you should focus on growing in. Then you can always reapply in a year if your situation or the factors do change.

Q: Just curious. How come you request art samples on five specific themes in your “form for field artists”? Why not just ask for five art samples of any kind?

A: It’s easy to draw a pretty picture about something you’re personally inspired about/skilled in (i.e.: angels, sunsets, animals, people portraits, etc.). However, we’re looking for illustrators and not just artists—meaning people who can “draw on demand,” and create a picture(s) that will support and complement the story/message they’re assigned, even if the topic or theme of their assignment is somewhat unfamiliar or challenging to them. The five specific themes are to give us a basic idea of your artistic versatility, strengths, and weaknesses, before we consider assigning you an official art project for a pub. Also, it will help us know what types of assignments to give you.

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So Many Ways to Contribute Your Artistic Talents!

Q: Earlier in this memo you mentioned “using your talents in any way possible in your local situation.” Can you be more specific?

A: We highly encourage you to actively use your artistic gifts. It’ll help you to hone and become well rounded in your skills, while being a blessing to others. Here is a brief list of ideas, and others you find or use. You also might possibly contributing, this is the point at which.

- Keep sending artwork to the MO site (web@wsfamily.com)
- Create computer wallpapers for the MO site wallpaper section.
- Create greeting cards to give to your Home’s sheep/contacts for birthdays/holidays or just to say thank you!
- Illustrate your CVC Portfolio, personal prophecy book, or Word quote book!
- Offer your talents to your local CP, JT, or other board (you can find your Home’s sheep/contacts for birth dates and to communicate faith and being yielded and open when others give suggestions and you have to re-draw part or all of a picture in order to make it better and more useful to the Family. It means being desperate with the Lord, keeping a clean spirit, claiming the keys for inspiration and anointing, and faithfully using your gift of prophecy.

But if the Lord has given you artistic talent and is calling you to use it more at this time, you can be sure that you also get a big blessing in Heaven and lots of fulfillment on Earth for the unseen “blood, sweat, and tears” you invest for the sake of others.

We appreciate all of you so much!

With much love in our artistic and creative Husband,
Your Xn art department

kidbits

Andrea Heart, born to Natalie and John on September 6.—Canada
Kyla Surrender, born to Tammy and Sam on October 7.—USA
Rowan Gabriel, born to Miracle and James on November 7.—USA
Kiara Angelina, born to Angela and Carlos on December 19.—USA
Leila, 1st child, born to Elaine and Mark on December 30.—USA
Jasmine River, born to Suzie and Tim on January 24.—Canada
Laura Cathrine, born to Gloria and Samuel on January 24.—USA
Tiana Lauren, 5th child, born to Christina and Tommy on January 27.—Thailand
Eleanor, 9th child, born to Meekness and Arthur on January 28.—Thailand
Alex Niran, 14th child, born to Joanna and John on January 30.—Thailand
Julie, born to Maureen and Eman on January 31.—USA
Anthony Mechanic, 1st child, born to Vesna and Nicolas Mechanic on February 9.—Japan
Rylie Elizabeth, born to Harmony and Philip on February 11.—USA
Darren Koji, born to Mia and Titus on March 5.—USA
Abundant Blessings Through Faith

Giving rewarded
By Margie (CO, of Jerry), Mexico

Unfortunately, we are one of the Homes which did not get to complete the “Show Me the Money” assignments, and though we had done some of them, we got caught up in trips, fares, Christmas events, meetings, etc. We were also missing some of our key people to come to an agreement on some of the questions. Before I left for a visit to Central America, I suggested that while I was away the Home go over the parts we had not covered as a Home.

One important question that our Home had not discussed was our giving/offer ing policy as a Home. We had voted on keeping a small percentage of our witnessing income to help toward personal funds, but we had not voted on our giving to others, so no wonder we were getting in the red! We had some expenses to face, but the Home decided to give US$200 right away to WS (though we did not have it as an “extra” at the time), and from then on to give an extra 6% as an offering. Putting aside 20% of all our income was a step of faith, especially for our young people, as our Home had not been in the red before. But amazingly, as soon as we gave by faith, a bunch of doors opened for various shows and fairs, and the Lord miraculously supplied a spot for us to have a tool table at a world conference. This was attended by top representatives from many countries, including the Mexican First Lady, whom we were able to meet personally and give some of our tools.

This table to get our tools was for free, and was in exchange for some of our girls’ help as multilingual hostesses. (Our daughter’s ability to speak Japanese was a big asset!) It was an exciting experience for the young people involved, as they were right away used for the VIP section and they established very good communications with the personnel manager of the event! The tool sales were outstanding, with 244 Cherub Wings videos, 33 other videos, 194 CDs, 14 cassettes, 87 Get Activated books, 27 Feed My Lambs, and 112 other kids’ books sold.

A lot of top people stopped by our tool table, and it was exciting to see how interested they were in our Activated material! We now have quite a few shows lined up, some with our puppet show, some with the kids singing and Irish dancing and the puppet show. New doors are already starting to open for more show opportunities in various malls, etc. It has been super encouraging for all! Thanks to the extra income we not only are not in the red, but have been able to do some needed home improvements.

Activating the “pillars” through our mail ministry
By Shiloh (of Phil), Ukraine

The thing that impressed us about the “Show Me the Money” series is how thoroughly Mama covered the subject! It’s a detailed course on the Lord’s economics and a sure-fire way to financial success. If we just do our best to implement the 10 pillars outlined, we are guaranteed to win!

We have been on the mission field most of our 30- plus years in the Family. The Lord has never failed to supply for us! Sometimes we’ve abounded and sometimes we’ve abased, but actually we would say that mostly we’ve abounded, which is such a miracle!

In reviewing the 10 Pillars to Financial Success, we realized that there is definitely a direct link between how well we’re doing financially and how much we are implementing the pillars. If we slack off on any one of them, we start to notice the difference in our income. We don’t want to come across as though we’ve “attained,” because there are many areas of our lives that we constantly fall short in, but at the same time, we’ve seen so many Homes struggling financially and if there’s anything we can share that might help, that is our prayer.

One thing we would have to say that has been the key to having the support to be able to remain on the field, especially in sensitive countries where we’ve worked for many years, has been our mail ministry. In the Letter, “The Missionary Mail Ministry” Dad said:

“How can I convince you of the importance of the mail ministry?—How tremendous a witness it can be and also how tremendous an income it can be for your survival! Of course, it is hard work, folding letters and stuffing envelopes and licking stamps and filing cards and things like that, but I want to tell you right now, that’s how I got my start” (ML#1069:1, Vol.9).

This whole Letter is vision-building, and goes along with everything the Lord says in “Show Me the Money.” In “The Missionary Mail Ministry” Dad says over and over again that if you faithfully get out a newsletter, the Lord will bless and He will supply; for us this is a tried and proven fact.

We first started doing a newsletter in 1981, and since that time most of our support has come through our mail ministry. To have a mail ministry you have to have a well-rounded missionary work (pillar 1), otherwise you won’t be able to inspire people to want to support you. You have to be obeying the Lord or He won’t bless you. There have been times when our support started to wane a bit. But as soon as we got our hearts right with the Lord and asked Him to forgive us, it would improve (pillar 2). Of course, you have to ask for help (pillar 3). This is the whole point of newsletters and most people understand that’s why you’re sending it to them. Through our mail ministry we have been able to reach the rich (pillar 5), as many of the people on our mailing list are quite well-off, although we receive many “widow’s mites” as well. Pillar 6 says we need to work hard, and having a mail ministry that pays definitely requires that. It can be almost a full-time job writing the newsletter each month as well as a personal letter or note to each person, answering the letters we receive from our supporters, hearing from the Lord for them, thanking each person as soon as possible after receiving a gift from them, and praying for them (pillar 10). In recent years the Lord has worked it out for us to make yearly trips to the States to visit and follow-up on our supporters as well.

So in just having a faithful mail ministry, you are implementing 6 of the 10 pillars. Of course, all of this is in addition to our real ministry, which is on the field. The Lord is working in our lives as far as the other pillars go—learning to be professionals (pillar 4), living Acts 2:44–45 more (Pillar 7), etc.

Also, since receiving the “Offerings” GN (ML #3463, GN 1052), we took a step of faith to give a set percentage of our income each month over our 14% and has the Lord ever blessed that! Ever since we’ve been doing it our income has been higher than ever (pillar 9).

So all of this to say that we believe that all of the answers to any of our financial problems can be found in the
“Show Me the Money” series. Lord help us to do our part so the Lord can do His! He said, “Dime from the sky stories will be much more plenteous when My Family is following Me closely in every area of their lives, because I’ll want to spoil them and treat them to miracles, and I’ll want to always ensure that they know that I am the One in control, the One pulling the strings, touching the hearts of others and bringing in abundant supply” (ML #3462a:26, GN 1047). That’s why we can’t forget to praise the Lord for all that He does for us, because only He can do it (pillar 8).

Following our Shepherd
By Joan (of Tim), Ukraine

It was a blessing to read the “Show Me the Money” series together, then pray and evaluate our work and hear from the Lord personally and as a Home. The assignments after each pillar helped us see how we’re doing, and what we need to improve and do better in. There’s nothing like fresh inspiration, clear priorities and vision from the Word. While we felt we were doing well in reaching the rich, activating, and CTPs, we felt the need to improve in reaching labor leaders, new potential disciples, motivating our friends to witness more and take an active part in our work. Seeing our weak areas made us seek the Lord about how to do better. Since we’re a new team, we’re still trying out different ways and seeing what works best, and how to use everyone’s talents to the full.

On the practical side, we had to make some changes in the schedule to reach our goals more effectively. Everyone in the Home is actively involved in witnessing, and since we’re a small team of six adults and five kids, we have those whose ministry and burdens are childcare, but who also actively witness, and those whose ministry is outreach, but who also help with teaching the kids. We have one day for phone calls—arranging appointments for the week, provisioning, writing thank-you letters, and e-mail. One day is fully dedicated to follow-up on Activated subscribers and friends, one day for tooling and meeting new people, one day of follow-up combined with tooling, and one day for reaching youth, going to dormitories, etc. We have scheduled our teams so we have a follow up team who goes regularly to meet our contacts. That helps us as we know which days which teams are doing follow-up, tooling, reaching the youth, etc., and makes our planning easier with the need to adjust to changes as they come.

We want to testify that after reading the wonderful truth in “Show Me the Money,” we as a Home are changing in our presentation and attitude. While we have a lot of very good CTP photos that are a very big blessing in our presentation, we have seen the need to present ourselves more as missionaries, thus we have included more pictures in our PR albums of holding Bible studies, and our kids being homeschooled and performing for contacts. We have more conviction now to tell people from the start that we’re different, that we specialize in taking care of people’s spiritual needs most of all, and the Lord has blessed that.

The assignment of sharing what makes us feel inferior and stops us from reaching the top, and then having united prayer for each one, was a very big blessing. After that we have stepped out to do things that we may not feel are our personal gifts or talents (like tooling, for example) and the Lord has blessed it, showing us once again that it’s nothing of us but is only Him.

We all have been convinced of the benefits of the Activated program, both spiritually for our sheep and financially for us as well. The counsel about having more conviction when asking for help and not having an “excuse me for living” approach was a big blessing. We have quite a few people who admire our work, but with some of them we’ve been afraid of what they’ll think if we ask them for money on a regular basis. The Word gave us more conviction and initiative along those lines, too.

We use our follow-up day to minister more deeply and personally to our Activated subscribers, answering their questions and letting them share their hearts. We also have Bible classes with different ones in their offices. We have found that the Activated program coupled with our personal time with the sheep—having Bible classes and ministering to them—is propelling them forward faster spiritually.

The Lord showed us that one of our priorities besides getting new subscribers is taking care of the ones that already receive the mags. Those who are reading the mags are getting much deeper and closer, and we give them deeper feedings when we meet them, and those who don’t have time to read, we try to inspire them and motivate them to read the mags more by reading portions of it with them, answering their questions through material in the mags, etc.

After reading the “Show Me the Money” series the Lord showed us to go on a push to ask different ones to pledge to help us monthly. Most of our subscribers help at different times, but hadn’t committed to do so regularly. When we’ve asked people before to help us monthly, they often answered that they’ll help when they can, and as it’s not been easy for people to pledge it was a bit of sensitive issue for us. We had to also check our hearts

We have been on the mission field most of our 30-plus years in the Family. The Lord has never failed to supply for us!
help you, they just sometimes forget their duty.”

Wow! Wasn’t that inspiring for us to hear such conviction on his part! He gave us a good donation and has pledged to help monthly. Another subscriber, a director of a metal company, said when we asked him for monthly help: “I help many with funds who ask for help. But I see that you’re really sincere and doing the job, so I’ll be happy to help you.” Recently, we met a new contact who sponsored 200 kg of fruit to help orphanages. Her son came with us to the orphanages, and we had the opportunity to witness to him. After that we met the lady again, and she said that her son went to other such functions with other churches, but she likes us as we’re very different from everyone else. They want to do regular CTP functions like that, and also help our Home. We’re so privileged to be a part of David’s Endtime army that makes us so different.

Another thing the Lord has showed us to do is try to distribute more of the Activated mag of the month. We give them regularly to provisioning contacts or friends who help us but who don’t subscribe. One of our regular supporters, a director of a computer company, is very busy and didn’t want to subscribe, but every time we meet him we give him the mag of the month, and he has been touched by our concern to feed him spiritually. He is growing spiritually, is very happy to meet us, shares personal things he didn’t before, and is helping us regularly too.

We have seen the Activated program pick up with sheep growing spiritually, taking more of an active role in our work, and helping financially. While we still have a ways to go, and we’re not at the moment totally living off the field, we believe that as we continue to follow up on and feed the sheep, the Lord will supply more and more. We’ve seen it starting to roll and we believe we’ll see many more miracles as we follow our Shepherd’s will and way for today. We’re so challenged and thankful to be part of this era of action.

Activated + “Show Me the Money” + Keys = New Van!
By Simon Simple, India

Don’t ask us to explain this scientifically, but we have seen that whenever we push Activated, the blessings come in—and when we don’t, they don’t!

Remember this beautiful key promise? No matter how unusual or costly or seemingly impossible the need, My special delivery service is able to bring it right to your doorstep through the power of the keys. Well, the “unusual, costly and seemingly impossible need” in our case was a new van, large enough to seat our Home members and carry all the sound equipment we use for our programs.

We had been praying for a new car for nearly a year, as we desperately needed one. But you know how it is after you’ve been praying for something seemingly impossible for a while? I honestly began to wonder how the Lord was going to do the miracle, as the people we had asked for help towards the car weren’t able to help.

It was then that the life-changing, powerful, convicting, and eye-opening “Show Me the Money!” series came out, and we’re so glad it did! Right away we began seeing areas where we were falling short in our Home. Among other things, we realized we were not doing nearly enough as far as asking our friends to pledge! So we drew up a list of potential pledgers and started asking them to pledge.

One of the first people we went to see was a very dear man whom we first met seven years ago at one of our seminars. He really liked our seminar and told us that it had moved him. We kept in touch with him and when the Activated program began, we activated him.

He really liked the magazine, and we were glad he subscribed, because he is an incredibly busy man who travels a lot and we hardly ever got a chance to meet him. The Activated magazine has pretty much been his only regular source of spiritual feeding. Then a couple of years ago, we started having his kids over for Sunday school every Sunday morning, for which he has also been very thankful.

Back to the present: There we were, sitting in front of him in his office, asking him for help. After we had popped the question, he thought for a while (while we held our breath) and finally he said, “It may be a little difficult for me to give you outright cash, but can I buy you anything?” And before we could answer, out of the blue, he said, “Hey, do you need a new car?” My jaw dropped! Was this really happening?

“Yes, sir! We really need a new car!” we said, regaining our power of speech.

“Done!” he said. “I’ll buy you a new car!”

And he did! He bought us a brand-new van that is just perfect for us! Interestingly, he also told us, “Only last month I stopped supporting a church group and I was looking for a new group to support. I’m so glad you came to see me. God must want to bless you!” We were flipped!

We know for a fact that there are many areas we need to improve in, but it was beautiful to see the Lord and the keys go to work when we started taking even tiny little baby steps of obedience! Praise the Lord for His wonderful supply, and thank you, Mama, for giving us His Lord’s tremendous and life-changing counsel in this GN series! The Word works! And nothing is impossible for the keys!

“Show Me the Money” fruits
By Simon and Phoebe, Zach and Hannah, El Paso, USA

Here are a few testimonies of the results of following the Word and the counsel in it, by putting in the hours and having a plan of attack and staying faithful in our follow-up. We still have more areas to grow in, but we are faithful to bring things up in our Home Council to see how we can be more effective. Everyone is involved in witnessing. It doesn’t matter if we are teaching the kids, provisioning, or full time witnessing—you or old, everyone is involved. Our Home consists of four FGAs, two SGAs, two YAs, two senior teens, one junior teen, two JETTs, three OCs, two MCs, one YC, and one preschooler.

Our younger children like to sing to contacts. Our OCs go door-to-door and do postering with an adult, where they mainly concentrate on winning souls. Our teens, JETTs, SGAs, and some adults, do door-to-door, also promoting Activated. We go to restaurants table to table offering CDs. Some of us adults do the follow up, provisioning, classes, etc. We’ve tried many methods and different avenues to distribute the tools, such as convention center expositions for teachers, bookstores, Bible stores, schools and daycare. We’ve had some fruit with that, but our most fruitful thing so far is our follow up, making friends who want to be involved with our ministries. We don’t have many, but with time and faith it’s building up to be quite fruitful.

We don’t have large stats as far as subscriptions go, but we are seeing fruits in following up on the few, who love to help with good donations. We believe this is just the beginning and that the future is as bright as the promises of God. We are determined to obey, and we
Dear wonderful Family,

We want to thank those of you who have been sending in gifts towards sponsorship of the Activated magazine in India! A particular word of thanks to John, Megumi, Pandita, and Ruth, Hilltop Home, Japan; the LIM (Japan); Peter and Peace (Germany); the Hilltop Home (Turkey); and the Harmony Home (Indonesia), who have faithfully sent us a gift every month for many years now!

A big thank-you to Claire, Ginna, Marc (USA), Peter New Creature and Mesha (Mexico), Gabe, Ellie, and Lily (Asia), Colomba (Venezuela), Esther Newlife (USA), Michael (Norway), Santiago and Sherry (Norway), Gideon and Rachel (South Africa), TH846 (Thailand), TW233 (Taiwan), Stephen and Mary (Australia), East Mission Home (Japan), Broad Island Home (Japan), Joel Newman (USA) and Usiah and Christina (Germany) who have periodically sent in larger gifts for sponsorship.

We are entering our fourth year of the sponsor-ship program, and to date we have been able to sponsor over 1,000 subscriptions in India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Cambodia. Many of the subscriptions in India go to deaf people, retired people, students, as well as people in the northeast of India who are very receptive, but who can’t afford the subscription fee as the economy is very bad.

We receive many letters of thanks from these people who are recipients of the sponsorship program. Following is a recent letter we received from Dr. James. He is a pastor who runs a small mission in the state of Andhra Pradesh. We sponsored his first year subscription and he writes in faithfully every month thanking us for the magazine. This letter we received from him is in response to our informing him we would sponsor his renewal. Oftentimes we don’t know these people who write in, but on this particular evening, we were reading his letter to some brethren who were visiting our house and one of them actually knew him and said that he was a very devout man, though his mission is quite poor. Dr. James writes:

> Very loving greetings in Jesus’ Name. I am writing to thank you sincerely from the depths of our heart for being kind to send your published magazine freely for our Christian library. Your magazine has been the right spiritual food—the good wholesome, nourishing, faith-building, uplifting encouraging, and inspiring truth of the Word of God. I cannot find the proper words to express adequately my appreciation and gratefulness.

We also received a word of thanks from a student, Rama, whose subscription we were able to sponsor:

> I received the Activated magazine! Thank you for sponsoring it, as I can’t pay money. Please forgive me, but I am studying for my degree and depend on my mother and father. They are Hindus. I have known the Lord now for 12 years, and one day hope to serve Him. Every day I pray for you and for Activated. Thank you again for sponsoring my subscription. Thanking you, Rama

Some months we receive just a handful of requests and other months we receive quite a few. Over the last four months we received an unusually high amount of requests for sponsorship and hence depleted any of our reserve funds, and every month are just squeaking by to cover the ones that come in. In anticipation that we will be receiving more subscriptions for sponsorship, we want to invite you to be a part of this fruitful program. Please send all contributions via your TRF marked: To IA77 “Sponsorship for the Activated India Desk.” Thanks so, so much! We really appreciate it!

Love,
The Activated India Desk
Clearing the rubble and learning to stand

Katrina (SGA, of Eman, mother of four), Brazil: When I first heard about our six months, it hit me like a ton of bricks. It just seemed like an eternity! I thought we weren’t going to make it! What is amazing to see now, though, is that the Lord knew that it was exactly what we needed in every way, shape, and form—even right down to the amount of time the punishment was in place. At first I thought it was really an exaggeration for this to be happening for six months! But as time went on, I saw that we needed that full amount of time.

Everyone got shaken up real good, of course, at the time the punishment was administered. We all got down on our hands and knees, cried out to the Lord for forgiveness, and started making steps in our personal lives in regards to the changes the Lord had made clear we needed to make.

When three months of our punishment had passed, a few of us honestly thought, Hey, we’re doing pretty good! I heard there’s going to be Peter videos again. I bet this time he’s going to commiss us and tell us that we did so well that we don’t have to “do” the rest of the time! But boy, were we wrong!—Peter’s videos showed us clearly that although we had begun a great movement in the spirit of change and cleansing ourselves personally of the many long-standing sins and compromises that stood in the way of our 100% discipleship, that wasn’t enough!—Why? Because we had to change as a Home in both spiritual and practical matters as well!

After we’d gotten everything right individually (and believe me, that took a long time of forcibly, through prayer and yieldedness, changing long-standing mindsets and habits), we then had to turn towards our Home as a whole and really dig in and fulfill all the requirements that a Family Discipleship Home should: being activated, having true unity amongst Home members and other Homes, changing Home devotions into inspiring quality times, cleansing the kids of all the addictions and vices that had taken hold of them through our bad samples, changing a large part of the way those in the Home looked at training the children and fulfilling what’s required in regards to their moral, spiritual and physical training, learning to spend quality times together loving Jesus and having “healthy” fun activities, being faithful with our Charter required meetings, and the list goes on and on.

As we got into putting into action all that the Lord had made clear through the Word and His shepherds, there was an excitement in the spirit that I’ve never felt before! The “things of earth grew strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace” as we turned our eyes towards Jesus and away from our addictions, vices, compromises and worldly appetites.

All in all, we needed that full six months without outside distractions or pulls in order to make the complete turnaround the Lord was asking of us.

It was a complete work of His grace and wisdom and something that I know couldn’t have borne such incredible fruit in our lives and Home had it been any other way. I feel like a naughty little kid whose father knew exactly what his child needed, and who, through discipline, training and being held by His hand, was guided through step by step and now, thanks to Him, can stand!

Giving the controls over

Pérola (26), Brazil: I believe that the biggest testimony that I can share concerning the fast is that of being shepherded more by the Lord and Dad via the Letters. Since the discipline started right after my training as a new disciple, I read the reading list as if it were New Wine. Because of this my faith and trust in the Lord were strengthened and the battles, though difficult, were seen in a more positive light, and I felt the Lord was caring for me.

I feel within me a fighting spirit and liberty, and I know that I can only keep this spirit with the power of the keys, being a prayer warrior, and by having quality time in the Word.

On the Home level, I have noticed that we have become more of our “brother’s keeper,” and have caught the vision that we are all married to each other. The Friday night activities, which substituted our video nights, were a blessing and promoted unity. I am personally much closer to my brothers and sisters now than before the fast.

Most important of all, I know the Lord is in control of My life, even when I feel like giving up, because I see that His corrections are to teach us to love others with unselfishness, submission, and impartiality.

“We’re here to progress”

Cris (20), Brazil: More than anything I understood that we are not here to play games; the Family is here to make a difference. For me it was actually somewhat of a relief because I went through a time when this was not my goal. I felt we were just here to survive and maybe win a few souls. After first coming to Brazil I was inspired to do my best, but shortly thereafter, I started getting used to the way things were. The fast period woke me up to the fact that we are here to progress and that by staying still we would only go backwards.

The fast woke me up to the reality that we are a Family. I always used to say that I would like to know what a real Family Home is like, but I know that this won’t happen if I don’t do my part. I have won victories in some areas of my life and am fighting to win others, but I know that this is what keeps me alive and fighting. I have also learned to be shepherded by the Word more, rather than waiting for the shepherds to talk to me before making the changes I need to. I have received many blessings and learned many lessons during these six months. I pray that the Lord helps me keep these lessons alive every day of my life and never let this revolution in me die.

Joining the revolution

Flor (24), Brazil: When the punishment started I was in the middle of my months of training (as a new disciple). Initially, I didn’t understand

—Reactions to the six-month fast in Brazil
much of what the Family was going through; after all, my knowledge of the Family was mostly limited to the Home I had joined in. I felt that I was joining a revolution, a movement that was alive, where Jesus didn’t want anything to just “pass us by,” much less a movement of the past or a lukewarm church that stagnated.

As time went by the Lord allowed me to see a lot more things that were happening around me and I began to work more intensely in my life, raising the standard. I confess that many times I felt I couldn’t reach such a high level of discipleship. But at the same time I saw those around me working in a spirit of unity and love, determined to reach the FD standard.

A lot of negative inroads had to be forsaken, like TV, computers, etc. We have always gone out witnessing with the young people, so for me the biggest change was the activities with the Home members on Friday night, which used to be our video night. Every week a couple of people were responsible for the activity and there was no shortage of ideas. These nights were a lot of fun with dances, dress-up, charades, Word and Bible games, Loving Jesus, and showing appreciation for each other. It has been very inspiring!

Actually, I think that the Lord blessed us so much and He wanted to bless us even more. When the six months were up our video machine broke, so we continue to have inspiring activities!

We can all feel a significant difference and we are certainly happier. Speaking for myself, it was wonderful to receive the FD classification. I don’t feel worthy but am honored to be able to work to keep my place as Jesus’ full-time disciple.

“The best thing”

Levi (24), Brazil: What I have to say about this discipline is that it was the best thing that could have happened in my life. The Family was in desperate need of a lifeline to be able to start over.

Healthier in spirit

Rafael (25), Brazil: During this period I was able to better understand the spiritual plane, and I woke up to the reality that it has to be the Lord, His mind, His power—only Him in me. The Lord performed a major [spiritual] operation on me, exposing some sicknesses and they were removed. I’m not perfect and could never be, but I feel happy that I am “healthier,” and can detect other sicknesses to fight against.

After the six months we were allowed contact with videos, sports, TV, alcohol, etc., but I can see that the Lord has really cleansed me, because today none of these things have a place in my heart.

Striving for discipleship

Miguel Phoenix (20), Brazil: I have just returned to the Family after ten years out, and I am happy to see that we are still a revolution striving for a high discipleship standard.

An explosion in spirit

João Luz (21), Brazil: It was very clear that the Lord hasn’t retired, and that we always need a shake-up. It was very clear that we had stepped out of line and our faithful Shepherd lowered the rod, like a father who loves and wants the best for his children.

Another important aspect was that we cannot progress or go to war (the Great Tribulation) with a part of our body sick. We will not win with half-hearts in the army.

In my personal life, the fast brought me closer to our Husband and Savior. Without worldly influences I felt more sensitive to His touch and voice. My conviction to be a fighter for Jesus grew, to be in this world but not part of it, to be inspired by spiritual things and to gain a healthy fear of the Lord. I realized more and more that as a Home we were more united and becoming our brother’s keeper.

As Home members we are more on guard against the sins that brought on this punishment like gossip, division, familiarity, lack of fear of the Lord, disobedience, pride, etc., and we are striving for a higher standard. This has brought about a metanoia, an explosion with Activated, fighting to have more uniting times together and enjoying the Word and things of the spirit more. It has caused us to not be satisfied with “good,” but to fight for the “best” and maintain it.

I can see the love and dedication in each one growing because of the fruits of the punishment. It definitely bore the fruits of righteousness in our lives.

United, fighting … winning!

Ester, Brazil: The challenge that has been set before the Family is very inspiring. For our Home the future is very motivating. With all that we in Brazil have been through and learned, we do not want to ever go back to the way things were. It’s imperative that we live a high standard of discipleship. It’s not easy, but the blessings are marvelous.

Seeing that the Homes will be evaluated by their fruits and overall discipleship has helped us not judge things on an individual basis but rather as a team. When problems arise everyone wants to help solve them, rather than just worrying about ourselves. This helps the whole Home run better because everyone is helping things move forward. The vision of being “winners” as a team and disciples is a very positive challenge. I am using this challenge with the kids’ schooling, to motivate them to be winners in this area and not be satisfied with less, and it’s having good results.

We are very thankful for all of these changes and we can all testify that the fruit, blessings, and happiness are great. Instead of seeing but not acting when we see someone with a low standard or who has an attitude that is affecting them and the Home, we help them. It’s wonderful to see how these people change and become happy in their service for the Lord.

In reality, we all help to shepherd each other at different times, and this gives us the chance to change, ask for prayer, and activate the keys of discipleship. It also helps us to live in greater unity, because we win and lose together. We are all in the same boat.

In writing this I don’t want to give the impression that our Home has arrived, because we still have a lot of ground to gain. But in our situation the implementation of the various points on which we will be evaluated has helped us a lot. I feel that at every level we will work together more unitedly because we all need to be winning teams, fighting towards the same goal, to win!
entertainment

Movies Rated for Senior Teens and Up

**ETERNAL SUNSHINE OF THE SPOTLESS MIND (2004)**
Jim Carrey, Kate Winslet

After a relationship ends badly, both partners attempt to have their memories erased in order to get over it.

*(Jesus:)* This is a pretty unusual movie, and unique in its presentation. It’s deep and complex, and not a movie for those who want to just enjoy a sweet, simple, uncomplicated love story. It is a love story, but one with some very unusual twists.

It doesn’t have a particularly clear message, though it does have interesting insight into love, and it portrays a Romans 8:28 concept in a way. It’s also a pretty good portrayal of how unstable and insecure people can be, especially when in a relationship without Me and My love and stability. The people in the film are not mentally unstable by any means, but they are led by their emotions, and don’t have that foundation of security and stability that I can give.

It shows how love is something that I put within people’s hearts. At times some may consider love a curse, and something that causes more pain than it does good, especially when a relationship ends. Nevertheless, love is a beautiful thing, a thing that does the soul and spirit good; a thing through which a person grows and develops, and which brings out character that would otherwise be left hidden away.

That’s why it can be so hard to let go and move on. Sometimes you have to do so, but the old saying is still true: “It’s better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all.” You always gain things through love relationships that you wouldn’t find in life otherwise.

There are a lot of sides to a love relationship: There’s the good and the bad, the beautiful memories, and the unpleasant things you’d rather forget. All of this together is what makes up a couple and their relationship, and they have to be willing to accept each other, overlook the bad, and concentrate on the good and all the beautiful things they have together.

Everyone must deal with their lives and take responsibility for their actions. If you treat others the way you want to be treated, then you may not have as many bad memories to deal with and to overcome. Even if you do your best, you will always make mistakes—but you can learn and grow from these things. You don’t have to be lost in the hopeless cycle that those without the knowledge of true love have to confront. There are many who have the desire to erase their bad memories, and who long for a better understanding of why things happen. You have a significant advantage in this, because you can always learn from all that comes your way when you come to Me for the answers.

A point in this movie’s favor is also the fact that it doesn’t include a lot of foul language or bad attitudes, so it can provide a time of entertainment without filling yourself with things that you’ll have to be cleansed from later.

Wes Bentley, Milla Jovovich, Natassia Kinski

A wealthy prospector who owns much of the old Wild West town of Kingdom Come, finds his past coming back to haunt him. Meanwhile, a young surveyor and his crew scout the town as a location for a new railroad line.

*(Jesus:)* The Claim is a touching story—at times happy, and at others sad. It presents a pretty strong message and an important lesson. What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his own soul? In the end, only what’s done in love and for love will remain. All the rest is like the chaff which the wind carries away. The movie is also a pretty good depiction of the impact the railroads had on people and communities, and the kind of people who pioneered and established the Western U.S. in the late 1800s.

**JERSEY GIRL (2004)**
Ben Affleck, Liv Tyler

A top-of-his-game New York publicist has a “perfect life” with a beautiful wife and a baby on the way, when suddenly everything changes and his life is turned upside-down.

*(Jesus:)* This is a movie with a simple plot about a man who learns deeper values in life and love—of the importance of family and friends as opposed to fame and fortune. I like stories and testimonies where adversity teaches people lessons, matures them, and changes their values from shallowness to depth of character. Although the plot is predictable and it can tend to be a bit schmaltzy in places, it is laced with a sense of humor, and an openness concerning sex, which make it enjoyable. There’s no violence or crime in the film, which is a plus.

As is usual with Hollywood, there are a couple of scenes to be cautious of. The delivery scene towards the beginning of the movie may be difficult for some to watch. It’s traumatic, and young viewers should know that what happens at the birth is a rare occurrence, and one that is not to be expected. Another scene that is unfortunate is the enactment of parts of the Sweeney Todd play, which has a very gory element as the punch line at the end, and which is shown twice. But in spite of these elements, overall the movie is heartwarming.

The relationship between the dad and daughter is sweet. The dad lacks conviction when he gives in to his daughter’s desire by giving her something that wouldn’t morally or spiritually lead her in the right direction. The dad’s instinct is right, but his lack of conviction overrules. This is a true portrayal of so many parents in the world today; because they have no true values in their own lives, they are at a loss in how to direct their children, and so they end up succumbing to pressures all around them.

Movies Rated for Junior Teens and Up

**MOSTLY MARTHA (2001)**
Martina Gedeck, Maxime Foerste, Sergio Castellitto

When a headstrong chef takes charge of her equally stubborn eight-year-old niece, the tensions between them mount, until an Italian sous-chef arrives to lighten the mood. (German, with English subtitles)

*(Dad:)* This isn’t the typical American or Hollywood movie, but that’s part of its appeal. It’s about people—very different kinds of people, from different backgrounds and cultures, with different personalities and mindsets, but all needing the same thing. It’s about love in real terms.—Not about love and romance, but rather love in a world that is so preoccupied with success, that it hardly has room for love and personal relationships.

In this movie a lonely and somewhat self-centered woman has to learn how to love others, to enjoy life, and to lighten up. It’s wonderful to see how she slowly changes and comes around. The Lord had to use some extreme and uncomfortable circumstances to get her to open up, but eventually she does, and learns how to love, and is much happier as a result.

The movie would also be a lot of fun for those who enjoy food and cooking. There’s a lot of dialogue, and artistic filming involving food, and it’s enjoyable to see it.—It’ll probably make you hungry, ha!

So enjoy this little film. There’s not much negative to it, and there’s a good
What Everybody Needs Is Love!

By Paolo Alleluia, Angela, and Paco, Croatia

(Paolo Alleluia:) We worked on a mural three weeks ago in a town near Verona, Italy, and we had an incredible experience. This came about after four people from that town came here to Croatia to visit us with their kids a year ago. We have since been following up on them regularly. A couple of years ago we painted a mural in another city in Italy (plus one was done in Mostar in 1996). The idea came up to do the same in the youth center of their parish. They took care of all the preparation of the wall and drawing the picture outline on the wall before we came.

We started working there Friday afternoon and continued until Sunday morning. We ate and slept in the center, and had a chance to do tons of personal witnessing plus hold different meetings for parents, teachers and teens. Many of our supporters and contacts from the area came around to see us and the mural, and participated in different meetings. It was very intense, from 8 AM until 1–2 AM in the night. Full-time witnessing!—Exhausting, but really, really fun.

People were attracted by our spirits and open to receiving a deeper feeding from the Word. We improvised mini Bible classes here and there quite a few times. We also received very generous donations from the people there and the priest of the community.

One couple brought us a donation (the fourth in six months) saying that since they met us their lives and their children’s lives have changed so much, and they’ve decided to work some extra hours every month to be able to support our work.

(Angela:) It was the second time we did something like this, and both times the same miracle happened. In a short space of two or three days we were all melded together, young and old, as if some magical force had drawn us together while we were painting the mural and throughout the other activities.

Another miracle was that the weather miraculously changed. The day before we were scheduled to start, it snowed, and everyone who we told that we were going to start working on a mural the following day thought we were crazy. We also had to battle our share of doubts and claimed the weather-changing power of the keys continually.

The town that hosted the mural stayed untouched and completely free from rain and snow, whereas all around in the vicinity people were hit with some of the worst weather conditions in years.

Personally I didn’t even touch a paintbrush (even though I would have liked to), but was kept busy full time witnessing to the flocks of people who came to see what we were doing. Thank You, Jesus, for such a unique witnessing opportunity!

(Paco:) Painting the mural was a great way to get to know the young people of the community. The kids and teens were eager to help out, and the work was light and fun. The wall had been prepared with a base coat of paint, and the basic design was already drawn, enlarged onto the wall with a projector. There was opportunity for all to use their artistic talents. Those with more skill set to the finer parts, and there was plenty to do even for those without much art skill. Everyone put their hearts into it, doing their best to see it come out just right. The locals were also greatly involved, and took pride in their work. I’m glad that this mural is not just a nice picture, but that it will be a reminder to the observer of what the most important thing in this world is—love!
hurting even when I run, and since then I haven’t had any pain anymore! I didn’t get any treatment other than prayer. Thanks to everyone who prayed for me!

Salomon, Belen, and Cristal, Mexico: We prayed for a friend who had a problem with her sciatic nerve, making it almost impossible to walk due to the pain. We laid hands on her and prayed. She said when we prayed for her she felt the pain very strongly in her leg, and started to tremble, but immediately after the prayer the pain disappeared, and she began to feel much better. Now she is walking almost normally and has totally recuperated!

Europe and Africa

Bogdan (1, of Vova and Valia): He was diagnosed with a secondary kidney infection. Please pray that the infection will be healed, and that his kidneys will be healthy and undamaged.

David Newheart: Against heavy influenza and stomach problems.

Joy: Has been able to get a few professional opinions on her eye that has been blinded from an accident when her violin string flung in her eye. As a result of the injury, a cataract formed, and the doctor said that the liquid inside her eye would have to be replaced so she can see properly again. Please pray that everything goes smoothly with the operation, that it will not be painful, and that it will be a success so she can see again. She’s gleaned many beautiful lessons from this sickness. Her body already suffers, and it’s difficult for her sometimes with pain in her joints, so please pray the pain isn’t compounded by the operation.

Lily: Scoliosis causing pains in neck and where the spine curves; osteoarthritis in top leg joints, which cause pain when walking for a longer period of time activated responses

I’m very happy that you publish the mag ContactS (Activated). Congratulations! What I would like from you, please, oh please, is to also send me other publications and books that you have. I would like to keep close touch with you. Your publication is professional.

—G.V., Romania

I received the books that you sent me (Glimpses of Heaven and Future Foretold), and I really liked them. These kinds of books are worth reading over and over, and I learn a lot from them. I hope that our correspondence will get more frequent.

—A.M., Romania

I think Jesus was looking for me and He found me, like the sheep that was lost.

I thank you for the mags that you sent me. May the Lord Jesus bless you and I thank you that you are praying for me and that you encourage me, and that you comfort me through the Lord’s Words that warm my heart and put me on the narrow road that leads to Heaven.

—D.P., Romania

I want to express my gratitude toward an article [from Activated] that impressed me a lot. I started crying when I read it. Please continue to write about these kinds of Christians who, even though facing death, still kept their faith in God. By reading these kinds of articles we strengthen our faith.

—D.G., Romania

Testimonies of Answered Prayer

Brook (of Clay), Brazil: Recently, I was on the prayer list for my white blood cell count to go back up to normal, as it was down to half of normal. I just returned from the doctor and the count is back up to normal! Thank you so much for your prayers! Also, thank you for praying against arthritis in my shoulders, which I have had for the last year and a half. I now have complete movement and use of my right arm and shoulder with no pain whatsoever! It was totally frozen (dried up) in the joint, immovable, with no pain whatsoever! It was totally frozen which I have had for the last year and a half. I now have complete movement and use of my right arm and shoulder.

Margie Peruvian, Mexico: Our sweet Lover has answered in the most marvelous way! It hasn’t been easy, but He has fulfilled His promises in every way, thanks to you, my dear Family. I feel so much better! My operation was successful and the growth non-cancerous. I still experience some back pain, but not as much as before! This has been a beautiful time for me personally, as I saw His hand move not only in fulfilling His promises, but in the way He worked in my personal life and heart. My life has a new meaning and I count this experience as another chance at life.

Lily and Peter, England: We’d like to thank everyone who prayed for Anna Belle and Katrina, who used to have serious chest colds with lingering serious coughs every winter. After your prayers and calling on the keys, they have had no chest colds this winter. Power to the healing and the power of the keys.

Jemima, Finland: Dear Family, thank you so much for your love and prayers. I’m starting to feel much stronger and healthier, and even my hand and arm are doing so much better. I appreciate your love and prayers very much and I’m so thankful for the Lord’s healing and the power of the keys.

Rachel, Guinea: My knees were hurting me whenever I was tired or doing sports. A few months ago, they stopped hurting even when I run, and since then I haven’t had any pain anymore! I didn’t get any treatment other than prayer. Thanks to everyone who prayed for me!

Nadia (of Steven): Adenoma (benign tumor in thyroid).

Nikki (SGA, of Mark): Three months pregnant with her first child. Because she is diabetic, the pregnancy is considered high risk, and unless the blood sugar level of a diabetic mother is kept under good control, the baby has a tendency to become larger by the time of birth, necessitating a cesarean. Please claim the keys for Nikki to have good blood sugar control throughout the entire pregnancy. Also, in order to maintain good control it is necessary to test the blood frequently, up to seven or more times daily. The blood strips to do this testing are quite expensive. Please pray that we can continue to find help with the supply of these blood strips. Also, that our present donor of insulin will be able to continue to keep giving the insulin that she needs.

Peter: After a check up they found a nodule which is a little larger than usual causing the thyroid to swell a little. Please pray for the thyroid to become normal and for the blood test to be okay so I don’t have to take any treatments.

South America

Jazmin (3, of Daniel and Caro), Argentina: For her adenoids, and to not need an operation to remove her tonsils; for her chest and improved breathing.

Josué (of Salomé), Brazil: Hydrocele that will require surgery.
Dear Ones,

God bless you. We are a Thai national family with four children. Recently, Josh had an unusual problem with his heart that makes him feel tired and unable to eat, and he has lost almost 10 kg due to his poorer health during this time.

Josh goes for checkups every month and the doctor has been prescribing medicine, as well as an ultrasound and blood testing. It seems like Josh’s heart is working twice as hard as usual. There are also some leaks in his heart that cause him to get tired easily, and make him unable to work as normal. So he needs to rest, which means he can’t go on outreach, which affects our finances.

Because of this unexpected situation, we are in need of finances for the next few months. We would like to ask you for your help through donations, big or small. Your help would be a real blessing!

We know the Lord has a plan for us, and He’s using this to help us stay close to Him and learn from Him, and we do trust that He will take care of the rest. Please pray that Jesus will continue healing Josh.

You can contact us at jffamily@ksc.th.com. Or send your gift to ASCRO via the TRF to TH831.

Love you all, our precious family,
Josh and Faith

Dear Family,

God bless you and keep you with His peace. We are Abel and Marie Claire (formerly Jonathan and Mirth Melody) and Feliz, our SGA son. We joined in England and U.S. respectively in early 1972, and have been mainly in the Indian subcontinent countries of Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, and Bangladesh with some time also in Indonesia and Singapore, but mainly India (where we are now), Marie Claire for 27 ½ years and Abel for 26 years. The Lord has shown us the need for us to have a change and we have clearance to go to Romania and to open a Home there. However, we need assistance towards the plane fare, which comes to $1,451 to London, and from there we will head to Romania overland.

Since we will be opening our own Home we will need an initial lump sum in landing funds towards housing, etc., and to get us off the ground. If you can please pray for the Lord’s supply for this pioneering venture, and if you are able to help in any way, small, medium or large, it will be appreciated immensely with heartfelt gratitude.

You can send any love gifts via your TRF to: Abel, Marie Claire, and Feliz (IA10) or can send a check directly to our bank account which we can send to you if you e-mail us at: abelmarieclaire@hotmail.com.

Thank you so much for considering our request. We love you!

Much love and praise in key-power prayer,
Abel, Marie Claire, and Feliz

Dear Family,

The Lord gave me a burden to go to one of the countries in the South Asian area. I already have clearance. Most of the people in Ukraine (where I am from) are very poor, and most of the time I have to teach and train my kids. If you feel led to help a single mom with two boys toward this trip financially, you can send your donation through ABM to UI013. I need more than €3,000 for that, and presently have a fifth of the sum.

I would really appreciate all and any help. You can write me at MilaDreams@SAFe-mail.net

Lots of love and prayer,
Mila Dreams

Dear Brethren,

GBY! WLYSM! We are Ilia Piper and Christina Trusting (formerly Stacey) and six of our children, all Russian nationals. We are writing on behalf of our Home in Russia. We are looking for a sister Home who would be interested to help with our work here and be a part of the projects we are involved in.

Our main ministry is running a teen club, where we arrange activities for teens and young people from all walks of life. We’ve been involved in this ministry for quite a few years already, and over a year ago the local administration offered us a facility for that purpose, where we’ve been operating since then. There is literally no limit to the amount of teens that would like to come to the club, the only limit is our ability to handle as many as over 100 of them in one week.

They are teens from all walks of life, from the naughty-but-searching kids of wealthy parents to skinheads, punks, and rappers from the poorest families. We are very dedicated to this work, as it gives us a chance to reach the teens, their parents, teachers, and volunteers who help us in the club as well as many friends and contacts who the Lord leads us to reach through this project. We also participate in arranging summer camps for teenagers, where we arrange meaningful activities for them, and teach them interactive English and computer classes and involve them in participating in our shows.

We are in real need of finding a sister Home, that would like to help us in contributing to supporting of this project and in cooperating in whatever way you feel led. On the GP level this project is very appealing to potential sponsors and donors, but our efforts in the area of raising support are limited, since most of us are mainly involved in the work of the club itself, and ministering to the many people who come to the club.
Shine On—March 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEAMWORK</th>
<th>Per Adult</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SOUL SHINERS FOR MARCH 2004</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josue/Maria Fiat, Mexico</td>
<td>2,219</td>
<td>11,097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charity/Gideon/Happy/Joshua, India</td>
<td>1,360</td>
<td>12,236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosita H.L., Mexico</td>
<td>1,250</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabriel/Chelcie/David, Philippines</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>2,120</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel/Lyly/Melanie/Pawl, Brazil</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>1,282</td>
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<tr>
<td>COCOP, Colombia</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>596</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth/Marcio/Marco/Sasa, South Africa</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>1,451</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter/Kristia/John, Piplan, Thailand</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>922</td>
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<tr>
<td>M0010, Mexico</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>366</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Cold/Any/Faithy/Mark/Prem/Tamara, India</em></td>
<td>144</td>
<td>1,971</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **TRACT SHINERS FOR MARCH 2004** | | |
| Alcides/Emmanuel/Heber/Steph, Peru | 5,400 | 32,400 |
| Emanuel/Maria, Peru | 3,850 | 15,400 |
| Ana/Regina/Robinison, Brazil | 3,000 | 21,000 |
| Josue/Maria Fiat, Mexico | 2,918 | 15,991 |
| Peter/P驸arte, Philippines | 1,667 | 3,334 |
| Abraham/Amada/Dominique/Victoria, Mexico | 1,625 | 13,000 |
| Alissa/Jenny/Jonathan/Joyful, Brazil | 1,619 | 12,948 |
| James/Louie/Our U.S.A | 1,500 | 6,000 |
| Angela/Anthony/Talitha, So. Africa | 1,386 | 9,700 |
| Jose/MaYi/Talitha, So. Africa | 1,217 | 9,735 |

| **ACTIVATED DISTRIBUTION SHINERS FOR MARCH 2004** | | |
| Aneta/Be/Christy, Botswana | 1,001 | 5,005 |
| Anak/Joy/Mike/Tiago, Brazil | 943 | 6,600 |
| Rose/Shine/Timothy, USA | 384 | 3,935 |
| Mary/Charlott/Park, Africa | 400 | 360 |
| Jorge/Maria/PAulina, Colombia | 200 | 2,000 |
| Celeste/Chris/Michal, Mexico | 186 | 1,300 |
| Angelia/Isaiah, SEA | 163 | 913 |
| Eric/Ester, USA | 150 | 600 |
| David/Shannon/Tiago, So. Africa | 133 | 1,458 |
| Byron/Jenny/Maria/Simon, Philippines | 115 | 1,154 |

| **ACTIVATED SUBSCRIPTION SHINERS FOR MARCH 2004** | | |
| Andrew/Ange/Deepa/Mary/Ann/Steven, India | 71 | 71 |
| Andrew/Cielo/Josue/Mariana/Pandy, Chile | 48 | 48 |
| Carina/Crystal/John/Jonathan/Samuel, India | 44 | 44 |
| Bianca/Sara, Chile | 30 | 30 |
| Charitha/Clair/Joy/Marta, India | 30 | 30 |
| Andrew/Ju/Reyn/Spain, Indonesia | 29 | 29 |
| Hannah/Mary/Mark/Sara, India | 28 | 28 |
| Joy/Sara/Simon, United Kingdom | 26 | 26 |
| Prem/Ruth/Sharon/Simon, India | 26 | 26 |
| Juan/Maria/Pablo/Rut, Chile | 25 | 25 |

| **POSTER SHINERS FOR MARCH 2004** | | |
| Rosita H.L., Mexico | 975 | 1,950 |
| Charity/Gideon/Happy/Joshua, India | 852 | 7,664 |
| Dusty/Joy/Na/Nathan/Rejoice, Japan | 845 | 4,224 |
| Rafael/Victor, Mexico | 802 | 2,005 |
| Christian/Maria/Michael, Japan | 613 | 2,450 |
| Matthew, Taiwan | 600 | 1,800 |
| Anna/David/Dan/Peter, USA | 573 | 4,000 |
| Philip/Simon/Stephen/Sunny, Philippines | 564 | 4,510 |
| Clare/Jeremiah/Mary/Peter, Japan | 542 | 2,712 |
| Meeke/Phil, Namibia | 525 | 1,050 |

**TEAMWORK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Per Adult</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TAPE/CD SHINERS FOR MARCH 2004</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aneta/Gen/Christy, Botswana</td>
<td>500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hannah/Peter/Shephane, Reunion Is.</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela/Mea/Stefan, Brazil</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **BOOK SHINERS FOR MARCH 2004** | | |
| Aneta/Gen/Christy, Botswana | 1,000 | 5,000 |
| Jan/Maria/Paul, Nigeria | 601 | 3,006 |
| Hannah/Peter/Shephane, Reunion Is. | 156 | 624 |

| **VIDEO SHINERS FOR MARCH 2004** | | |
| Amber/Christ/Stephen, Mexico | 75 | 600 |
| David/Ono/Marina, Russia | 63 | 250 |
| Lin/Simeon, Indonesia | 38 | 75 |
| Angela/Eli, Spain | 36 | 74 |
| Pilar/Victor, Spain | 30 | 69 |
| Daniel/Rejoice/Shelly/Spring, Indonesia | 26 | 206 |
| Daniel/Maria, Colombia | 23 | 116 |
| Esther/Gideon, Venezuela | 23 | 90 |
| Alex/Ama/Dove, Philippines | 22 | 414 |
| Peter/Kristia/John Piplan, Thailand | 22 | 108 |

**QUARTERLY SUBSCRIPTIONS BY STATS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activated Desk</th>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>226</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
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<td>51</td>
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<tr>
<td>EE and Russia</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>775</td>
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<tr>
<td>Europe/Africa</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>185</td>
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<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>307</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
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<td>Mexico</td>
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<td>Philippines</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>50</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Total | 1,285 | 1,381 | 2,226 |

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**Personalis**

Hi, this is the Activated India Desk looking for David and Angel and also Michelle about your subscriptions. Would you please contact Penny at activatedindia@activated.org ASAP? Thank you so much!

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Hi! My name is Alex.

I am in need of funds for my dental work. A sweet dentist has agreed to do the work for a major discount. However, I still need about US$250 to be able to finish my dental work.

My need is different, and it’s not like I’m moving to a far-away field. I’m already on the field!—A beautiful and amazing place in the ME! And to add to my happiness I need strong health and strong teeth (ha!) to serve the Lord!

Dear Family, if you are able to help me with funds, I’ll be very grateful for any help. I pray the Lord will increase your finances, and bless you for your giving! Please contact me through ME ABM at the Sun City Home.

With much love,
Alex

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