

Appreciate people. Nothing gives more joy than appreciation.

Reminder: Pubs and Age Ratings

By WS staff

We recently received a note from a mother, mentioning her concern about certain GNs being accidentally left around where children can see them—particularly those that are inappropriate for younger ages. She asked if such GNs could be electronic documents only, and not printed. Another suggestion she gave was to print a blank page on the cover, in order to prevent little eyes from seeing what they shouldn't.

We appreciated this woman writing in, and wholeheartedly agree that these types of GNs—and other pubs of this nature—should be kept out of the reach and sight of our children. However, in discussing it and praying about the details, the Lord said that these specific suggestions of not printing them on paper at all, or of printing a blank page, would not work across the board. We do need to print the GNs for the entire Family, despite the subject matter sometimes being inappropriate for children, as people rely on receiving hard copies via snail mail. Many Homes don't have enough computers or a printer to print copies for all their members to have adequate access to the Word if it was only on

computer files. It's also very rare that we are able to leave a blank cover on a GN, since that would greatly increase the cost of paper and mailing expenses.

So the Lord said that the best course of action was to send out this notice with a few important reminders:

1) Please check age ratings on all pubs before you make them available to the Home. The age ratings are there for a reason.

2) If there are pubs that are designated for older ages, but you want to share them with a younger age group, the parents/Home should pray about it, and get a confirmation from the Lord before you do so.

3) If there is material in GNs and other pubs that's not appropriate for younger age groups, the Home should determine how to best keep that material away from those age groups. There are many options, such as designating a responsible adult to be steward of the copies, keeping them when they are not being read in a locked closet or suitcase, etc.

4) If you're a parent, it's your responsibility to remind your Home's members to keep GNs that are inappropriate for children out of the children's sight. It might help to give regular reminders to your Home members about being prayerful and careful regarding this.

Thank you, dear Family, for doing your part to protect our children. If you have further questions about your particular situation, please counsel with your area CP board chairperson/s. We love you!

Much love,
Your WS staff

PS.: One small additional reminder is that it's also important for children to have access to a well-organized and nicely kept children's Word library, which is kept separate from the regular Home library.

GN Backtracking...

By the GN department

In "New Spirit World Power" (ML #3522, GN 1113)—which you have probably all read by now, and which we pray was an inspiration to you—there was a little oversight that was brought to Mama's attention. In the section "Exposing Drought and Introducing Almathor," in paragraph 130 the Lord said: "I explained before that Almathor was reserved for the countering of Sphinx, but that her power would come into play in more ways in the future."

Someone mentioned that, although the prophecy refers to

something that was "explained before," it wasn't included in the GN. We're very sorry about this, as it was an oversight to not clarify that. In this paragraph, when the Lord said, "I explained before that Almathor was reserved for the countering of Sphinx," He was referring to another prophecy that hasn't been published, so we're sorry if this might have left some of you wondering if you missed something, or waiting for more of an explanation to be given.

If you're interested in finding out more about the Sphinx, there's quite a bit written about her in the earlier

Letters. See MLs #1369, 1403, 1405, Vol. 14; #1408, GN Book 1.

God bless and keep you as you continue to make our new spirit helpers a part of your life—accessing their power to assist and help you!

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After the Tsunami

By Topaz (18) and Amy (20), Thailand



It all started one day while preparing for our performance at the Krabi Church. Suddenly Amy and Lisa felt a tremor. But as Thailand is not known for having earthquakes, we didn't think much of it. Even when we went to the church for our Christmas performance we heard that there was a storm over

Aftonbladet, where we described everything we were doing to help. The next day, we prayed and asked the Lord for our next step, and He answered through a phone call from our friend, Koon. She informed us that we were needed right away at the local radio station to help with informing the foreigners of where to find accommodations and food, or how to contact their consulates to see about being repatriated, or getting new legal documents, etc.



Aunang. Only upon returning home, did we discover the horrible truth about the tsunami disaster. Phi Phi Island, which we visit weekly, was almost entirely under water, with only two of the big hotels still standing. We were very shocked as to how something like this could happen, and all the times we had spent on the island flashed through our minds.

Later, a team from Bangkok arrived with boxes of food to distribute. We led their team to the place where all the homeless from Phi Phi were staying.

At our New Year's show, we sang songs of comfort and encouragement. We prepared a special prayer for all those who'd lost their lives. Since the tragedy, everyone is much more receptive to the Lord and His message.



We had become very close to the people on Phi Phi, and the kids there who were part of our CTP ministry. All we could do now was just wait and pray that they were all safe. The TV news was showing destruction and death in all the provinces that had been touched by the tsunami. Living near the main road, we could hear helicopters flying overhead, and ambulances constantly driving past. Since Krabi is the closest town to Aunang and Phi Phi, the injured were brought here for medical attention. Early the next morning, we went to the hospital to see how we could be of help. Mom and Dad were put on translating and announcing information on the speakers, and we four girls helped out with translations between the nurses and the foreigners.

We then heard that on Sunday they were going to take volunteers to Phi Phi Island to help with the cleanup, so a team of six of us headed off towards the island, for the first time since the disaster. Arriving there and seeing firsthand the effect of the waves was devastating. Walking along the island, we saw people's personal belongings, IDs, passports, makeup, and clothes, strewn along the roads. On our way to the school, we passed by our friends' shops, and it was a huge contrast from the Phi Phi we remembered.

We arrived at the school we used to visit; it was shocking to see that one whole wall was totally gone, giving us a perfect view of the sea.



The hospital was packed with people, and in total confusion. The day right after the tsunami hit, they weren't able to bring boats to the island because the ocean was still unpredictable. But the next day many people were brought in from Phi Phi, and many others stood on the quays, waiting for news from loved ones. It was hectic. New casualties were brought in every five minutes. We saw things we had never seen before—so much pain, hopelessness, heartbreak, and shock. Listening to stories of how loved ones were lost and torn away made us want to cry.

By the grace of God, the tsunami had taken place on Sunday, and being that there were no kids at this school, the death toll was not as high as it could have been. Thankfully, all the teachers who were there at the time survived, since the water did not reach the second floor where they slept.

We started to help out with the cleaning along the beachfront, which was covered in garbage. While working, we were interviewed by an American news channel, and were able to explain who we were and what we were doing there. On the way back, we had a chance to talk and witness to some of the volunteers. One man from Switzerland, who was working in a diving company in Aunang, had volunteered to help clean up in the ocean.



There were so many different people coming together there to help. It was wonderful to see even the locals who didn't have much, still willing to give wholeheartedly, even out of their own pockets, to help the victims who had lost everything.

The next day, before we went off to the school, we decided to check the back of the island. People had told us that everything was gone, but when we got there we were in total shock. Everything that had stood

While at the hospital, we were interviewed by the Swedish newspaper

on the shoreline had disappeared, as if there'd never been anything there, including a restaurant we'd had dinner at just a few days earlier. We couldn't even find where it had been located.

Prisoners from the local prison even came to help with the cleaning of a local school. They were a very big help, and we couldn't imagine getting anything done without them. As much as we tried, we couldn't budge the heavy cupboards or desks lying around the schoolroom, neither the big palm tree that smashed through the front door. Their help was especially appreciated then.

Mayon, a volunteer teacher from Phi Phi, also offered his help. He told us his story about that fateful day, and how he'd managed to get away. He'd been walking along the street to go have breakfast, when all of a sudden he saw two boats crashing in the ocean. He heard people panicking and screaming. Although he didn't see the waves, he started running and made it out of danger just in time. He grew up in an atheist family, but after this experience, he was sure there had to be Someone looking out for him.

Our earlier activities on Phi Phi had involved teaching and hosting camps, where we'd take the children snorkeling, rock climbing, and interviewing foreigners to learn English conversation. Now, we'll be working a lot with areas hit by the tsunami. A complete recovery will take years, and we appreciate all your prayers for our efforts during this time.

One more project we would like to start working on is helping the sea gypsies. They are a minority group here and they live on the landward side of Phi Phi Island. They have gotten even more isolated now than before, as they lost their fishing boats. They have a different language, and the adults cannot read and write.

If you'd like to help with donations you can contact us at: cal_rej@yahoo.com. Thank you.



Captions:

1. Top (L-R): Mia (15), Amy (20), Toby (19), Asaf (14), Lisa (17), Mom, Dad. Bottom (L-R): Topaz (18), Alva (4), Percy (9), Joul (7), Safir (11), Jenny (12)

2. Singing for Christmas at Krabi Resort in Aunang on December 24th

3. Our singing band at the church on December 26th, the day of the tsunami

4. The children from Phi Phi, ready to go caroling

5. Robert, the Deputy Chief of the School

Office, Amy, and Sukdee, the headmaster of Phi Phi school. Here we deliver a new PC, supplied by Roberts foundation, for the Phi Phi school, which lost all of its office equipment.

6. Giving comfort to the victims of the tsunami at Krabi Hospital.

7. Getting interviewed in the school at Phi Phi by Thai TV

8. Singing meaningful songs on New Year's Eve

9. Cleaning up the beachfront

Mother's New Love

By Mimi (of Jason), Hungary

I recently came back from a trip to Australia to visit my family. My mum has been subscribed to *Activated* for the past year, and it's been an amazing experience for me to see the change in her, and how much she's grown spiritually, through receiving and feeding from the mags!

Since receiving *Activated*, she's kept notes on almost every article in every mag (in a systematic way on the outside of the mailing envelope); she's marked off paragraphs that she wanted to read over again regularly; highlighted key points; checked off the Bible readings as they were completed; and recently started picking out comforting quotes that she was going to copy out to give to friends and family who were going through difficult times.

She told me that in order to keep the beautiful feeling she has when reading the Word, she puts little pictures of Jesus in key places around the house, such as her make-up drawer, her desk, inside the kitchen cupboards, on her bedroom table, and in her car.

I spent a total of three weeks with her, and barely a day passed when we didn't spend one to two hours of feeding reading and study time from the *Activated* articles and the Bible. She told me this was one of the things she would miss the most after my departure back to Europe. It was an absolute thrill for me to see the difference in her life through the faithful feeding of the Word!

It was also very new for me to have this firsthand experience of seeing the beauty and simplicity of the *Activated* mags creating such a wellspring of joy, peace, and faith in a new believer's heart! In fact, Mum made this comment very specifically, that at first she didn't know what to expect with the mags, wondering if they would be complicated or too deep to follow. However, once she started reading them, she was so pleasantly delighted that they were so easy to understand, and written as if for her personally. From that point on she really didn't want to miss one single day without the Word.

I was able to leave her with some *Activated* books, and she was so grateful for the fact that she'd have some more in-depth reading through these books.

It brings tears to my eyes, and joy to my heart, knowing that my mum is daily, weekly, and monthly able to partake of a much enriched life with the Lord in His Spirit!

The Fruits of Persecution

By the Tommy Home, Japan

The Lord has been blessing us since we've stepped out to feed our Active members and friends with the more meaty doctrines. The Word said that persecution would bring forth more good fruit, and we have found this to be so true! We had been planning a retreat since late November of last year, but when this situation came up, we changed the classes of the retreat from the *12 Foundation Stones* to ones on more meaty doctrines, in preparation for possible persecution in Japan. In the class about spiritual battles, we emphasized how persecution is an attack of the Devil to try to stop our work for the Lord, and how we had to fight the good fight during times like these. We also shared about recent persecution.

Our friends' reactions were very good, and they let us know that they appreciated our honesty. One person said that normal churches would generally try to hide such things, so she really admired us for being open about it. Soon afterwards, she brought her friends to our Bible class. One single mother who attends our class asked if she could bring her teenaged children to attend Bible classes by our young people. And then soon after, another Active member brought her teenager to our young people's Bible class as well!

The end result of all this is that those main Bible class attendees who attended our persecution classes became more on fire, more hungry for the Word, and more convinced that we are the ones who have the spiritual truths they need.

Another exciting fruit of this persecution is that we were able to win our landlord and landlady to the Lord through this. When praying about the threat of persecution, and what we could do to prepare, the Lord spoke to us that we should be honest and prepare their hearts. The Lord confirmed that we should invite them to dinner, have fellowship, and just get to know them more. He then said that He would give us a check when we should go ahead and share with them about the persecution.

After a warm fellowship with them and a simple children's performance, the landlord brought up about how nowadays there is so much child abuse, and how they were convinced that our children were receiving the best care and education possible. We all got a check that now was our time to tell them about our lifestyle, beliefs, how the mass media operates, and then also about the recent persecution. After sharing all of this, the landlord commented that as he had seen our good sample, there was no way that he could believe any accusations made against us. They then opened their hearts to receive Jesus!

Another wonderful thing that has happened as a result of this is that we were able to improve the overall sample of our house. Though some parts of our house had been newly renovated, other parts were not so nice and we had gotten used to seeing them old and stained. But the Lord gave us checks, so we desperately prayed for the improvements that needed to be made, and the Lord did it! We got a whole new living room—new sofa set, tables,

flooring, and lights. This wouldn't have happened, or would have been very delayed, if the threat of persecution had not made us desperately pray for home improvements.

Of course, we can't mention enough how the Lord tightened up our spirits to prepare for possible persecution and all the spiritual progress that has been made. So we are totally convinced and agree that the Lord is using the recent publicity for our benefit and to make us stronger. Thank the Lord for Mama and Peter and our shepherds who quickly instructed us to go on the offensive to reach our friends and contacts with the truth. We are so thankful for all the victories that we have gained in this very short time. If we had the attitude of "wait and see how things will turn out," then we would definitely have missed gaining all this territory and victories!

So thank you Mama and Peter for sounding the trumpet and helping us to obey. We are so happy and thankful to have such true, uncompromising prophets as our leaders.

Reaching the Stars

By Frankie, Taiwan

Have you ever tried to start something new, either reaching the top, getting out *Activated*, training an Active member, starting your own Church of Love, etc., and yet it just seems that no matter how hard you work at it, nothing happens?

I have been in Taiwan for some time now. I go out witnessing five days a week. Witnessing includes tooling, activating, follow-up, and Bible classes. Personally, four out of five days are tough. A tough day is generally witnessing for five to six hours and only getting out two CDs—or nothing at all! I've had a lot of those days. While it's not easy and I may feel like getting discouraged, I don't allow myself to. I know that as long as I follow Jesus and do what He says, He will do the miracles I need—and He has! Here's one of the miracles the Lord did for me.

After I joined the Family, the Lord called me to Taiwan. [Editor's note: See *FSM #401* for Frankie's testimony.] Before I moved there I went to Hong Kong to take care of visa business. The GN "Reach the Rich" (ML #3400, GN 992) came out shortly thereafter. So in order to present myself more professionally in my personal witnessing, I began referring to myself as a soul doctor.

I witnessed to my cousin and told her that my job is to help people build a relationship with Jesus so that they too can experience miracles in their lives. She was very excited about this and told all her friends (most of whom are celebrities in China) about her "soul doctor cousin."

Because of this I had a chance to meet Abel (alias), who is a very famous singer and movie star. He is in his early 40s and spoke good English. We had lunch together and he shared his heart with me and told me what he was going through and how he felt too bad for God. I encouraged him that Jesus really loves him and wants to be his Friend. Before leaving I prayed for him and later sent him a prophecy I'd received for him. I was very inspired by this encounter, but I thought I would probably

never see him again, and even if I did I wasn't sure if he'd want to meet me again.

Sometime after moving to Taiwan my cousin informed me that Abel was shooting a movie here and she gave me his phone number. Although I really wanted to follow up on him, because of my pride and fear of what he would think of me, I procrastinated. I was afraid to reach the top.

Soon a GN issue of "Activate the World" came out and that inspired me to get Abel activated. I finally called him and found out that he was in the very same city as I. He invited me out for lunch, so Joyce (YA) and I went to meet him. To my surprise he was so happy to see me again. He subscribed to *Activated* and gave a donation as well. He kept letting us know how thankful he was for a chance to see us again. He commented that we're like angels sent to him and then told me that if I ever received new messages from Jesus for him, to be sure to let him know!

I was so inspired to see all that the Lord is doing in the era of action. One thing that I have learned is that if you are faithful with the little things, the Lord will do big things for you. If we believe we truly are professional disciples and are trained for this ministry, then we will be more confident in our witness to others.

Spiritual Revolution in the Ukraine

By Daniel Mountain, Ukraine

During the past few months the situation in the Ukraine came dangerously close to actual conflict between the army and the hundreds of thousands of Orange Revolution protesters on the streets of Kiev. But God has spared the country such horror, and since Yushchenko's election on December 26th and inauguration on January 23rd, there is a new sense of optimism, and even joy, here in the capital. One wealthy Ukrainian/American said of Yushchenko and his destiny, "Being just another Kennedy is not enough. He has no other option than to become a Thomas Jefferson or George Washington for the Ukraine." An article of January 23rd posted on the Internet asked the following question: "Will this political revolution pave the way for a spiritual revolution in the Ukraine?"

A spiritual revolution in the Ukraine? Yes, I do believe this *is* what the Lord wants, and by God's grace, and through our united prayers and efforts, it will be so. These are excerpts from a prophecy we received before our family came to Kiev:

(Jesus:) Turn your eyes toward Kiev. Not only am I doing something in the Ukraine, but I will make



(L-R): Valerie, 12 FS class attendee, Sven, Pedro, another 12 FS class attendee, Cheryl, and Phil



Cheryl and Sven at Yushchenko's inauguration

happenings

They can be reached

By Francesca (of Elia), Central Asia

Some time ago I was invited to tutor two 11-year-old children for a week. They are both actors who were playing in a British movie filmed in this former Russian republic. The Lord confirmed that this offer was His will, so I accepted. Tutoring is not exactly something that I am crazy about doing and it turned out to be more difficult than I expected!

But I was desperate to witness to the people around me, all of whom were snobbish British actors. I also wanted to be a positive influence in the children's lives. I was very desperate because I only had one week with them and it seemed like I was getting nowhere as the kids were especially hard to handle. But the Lord promised that if I kept up the good sample and used any opportunity to witness, it would pay off.

Different world events caused many people to become fearful of what might happen to them. Through this, I was able to personally witness to quite a few of them and comfort them with the Lord's Word. I also had the *Activated/Motivated* magazines with me and I shared some of these articles with them. One lady was especially fearful and could not sleep at night. So I prayed for her and sang her the song "I Will Lift Up My Eyes unto the Hills," which she loved. Another lady has a son who is suffering schizophrenia. I witnessed to her about the Lord's healing power and how I was healed through prayer from a serious infection. I offered to pray for her son and she hugged me with tears in her eyes.

The young girl I was tutoring surprised me by asking very deep questions about God and Heaven and why God allows sin and suffering. I was amazed at how hungry she was, especially since up to that point I had a rather difficult time handling her. Even the cleaning lady at the hotel where we were staying got saved and received an *Activated* mag.

I was also able to get many addresses and e-mails of these actors and the filming crew so that I can keep in touch with them and follow up on those who are hungry for the Word.

New-day provisioning

By Michael, Romania

The Lord clearly showed us to not revert to our old way of provisioning any more. Now when we provision, instead of presenting our work, with the main emphasis on our CTP/humanitarian ministries, we tell them that we are the Family, a fellowship of Christian believers and immediately go on the attack about

Jesus and our evangelism ministries. We tell them of the many lives changed from alcoholism, drugs, etc., through reaching them with the Gospel.

We have seen that people respect us and our work even more. This also helps us to get to the point quicker in telling them about the Lord and enables us to use the Word more on the spot. It's so much better to have the 100%-missionaries-for-Jesus approach than the humanitarian-social-workers approach. Definitely far more powerful in the Spirit!

Expecting nothing in return

By Paolo Alleluia, Croatia

Mira was helping us with fruit and veggies. She was never very friendly, and I felt that sooner or later she would stop helping us. Sure enough, she eventually told us she couldn't help anymore. A few days later, I decided to go and see her to give her a little note of appreciation for all that she had done for us in the past, and to thank her for being such a blessing to the work.

When I met her in her office, she was so embarrassed, and started apologizing for not being able to help us any more, explaining to me that business was going bad, etc. I told her that it was okay, and that I'd actually come to thank her, and to give her a little present for all she had done for us. She really felt badly for not being able to help us anymore, and at the end of my visit she asked me to call her at the beginning of summer to see if she could help us out again.

I was so surprised; I hadn't been expecting that at all. I realized that a little touch of unconditional love and care does make a big difference.

Jesus renews heart

By the Tshwane Home, South Africa

A 28-year-old woman who was soured on relationships was changed miraculously after she read *From Jesus with Love for Women*. "I could feel the layers of pain, hate, and mistrust, peeling away from my heart as I read the words in this wonderful book," she said. Her first marriage had failed miserably, and its effects had left her with a heart full of bitterness and hurt and five years as a single mother. However, sometime later this young woman got together with a very sweet man whom her mother thinks is the perfect match for her. Her mother, who is an *Activated* subscriber, had actually purchased this book and given it to her as a gift. She was awed at the change she saw in her daughter after reading Jesus' words.

Kiev a showcase of what I can do. Now, it is My plan to build upon the foundation that is already there, bringing in even more laborers, ones who have not lived there before and are fresh to the field, and others who know the field and language. Truly Kiev is an important field in itself. It is My timing. Timing is so important.

I have purposely kept the Ukraine open so that My Russian-speaking children could still minister to the multitudes and have a field to burn free in. Also, it is to give the field a full opportunity to hear the Words of David, and to reap a final harvest there before the night sets in.

My witness will continue on in the important field of Russia, but I have been calling My children from all over that great land and from elsewhere to now give the Ukraine its due, for the people there are in need and there is the vacuum. I give this call to many, and because My children of David hear from Me and desire to obey My Words, I am putting together a labor force to make a final offensive to reach My Ukrainian sheep as never before, since the door to the former Soviet areas opened up. (End of excerpts.)

In *Grapevine* #178, you read of the Homes in Kiev working together to reach the multitudes who congregated in the center during the "Orange Revolution." Inauguration Day was no different! Our family had arrived just three days before and we were thrilled to be a part of the push that was going on. Armed with a variety of posters, tracts, and other literature, we all met at one prearranged place in the center. Many of us arrived in a large van, and were able to get free parking reserved for VIPs. There were hundreds of foreign observers who had come, to verify that the elections were being held fairly. We were foreign "participants," definitely God's ambassadors.

Our literature went out even faster than proverbial "hot cakes." We also spent a lot of time personal witnessing, winning souls, and inviting them to our city's united English club and 12 *Foundation Stones* Bible classes. In fact, the location we use for these classes is right on this square, so all we had to do was point to the building.

Just one week before the election, an interview with Yushchenko was published in *Time* magazine, in which he said, "On religion, let's keep the State out of this—it's each individual's personal right to choose a church." Please pray along with us for President Yushchenko, and that his policies will allow our Family to have full religious liberty, including the freedom to reach the Ukraine as never before!

In the past, we've always thought that in order to get good support we'd need to have some very good CTP projects going, otherwise people would not be interested in helping us. This is simply not so. We can personally testify that you do not need to have a CTP going in order for people to give to you. Not that we're against CTPs, but it just so happens that for the last three years the Lord hasn't led us to do any whatsoever; nevertheless we've experienced the best support since we both joined the Family.

We've recently learned that the Lord wants us to live in plenty—not just with what we need, but with some of our wants as well. He wants to see us happy and lacking for nothing.

We're not exceptionally good at anything in particular. We aren't good at raising funds; we aren't good public speakers. We're just "normal" people trying to serve and obey the Lord to the best of our ability. These are some of the fundraising pointers we've learnt, and some ideas that have worked for us.

Is what you're raising funds for His highest will?

The most important thing is to find out if whatever you need to raise funds or support for is His highest will, because if it is, He will foot the bill. That's the first step. For instance, if He starts giving us an idea about changing apartments, or fields, or visiting our relatives, etc., we ask Him if these ideas are from Him before we try to pursue any fundraising for them whatsoever.

Ask Him for a plan:

Once we receive His approval, we ask Him for a plan to follow, and the "how to" in order to obtain the funds we need to accomplish what He's shown us. We ask Him exactly what we should do to obtain the cash we need. I could give many examples of how that simple "formula" has worked for us. Asking the Lord what specific steps we need to take, then obeying and doing

exactly what He says definitely works and brings in the money.

Feed your sheep and supporters faithfully:

Our newsletters are very simple—no CTPs included, since we haven't done any of those here yet. We just include some Word to read, verses, key promises, testimonies of people getting saved, and updates on people we are following up on.

Whenever our supporters began sending in fewer gifts than usual, we asked the Lord what to do about it. He often reminded us that we needed to be more faithful with our sheep in this field, as well as our sheep in Taiwan. And as soon as we obeyed and did better with our witnessing and follow up, He never failed to cause our supporters to give again. Sometimes it happened just within a few days after we made a new commitment to do better with our witnessing—some-

times the very next day! I think these two things are connected, because if we don't do what our Boss wants us to do, then why should He pay us and foot our bills? It makes a lot of sense.

Be specific when asking for finances:

It's important to tell your friends or supporters what you need exactly, giving them specific figures. Of course, you need to word it right and in a humble manner, but you have to clearly explain your need, otherwise they may just send you peanuts. They don't have any idea of how much we need to be able to continue serving the Lord, so we have to tell them, so that when they do help they are encouraged to give larger amounts. Of course, not everyone will send huge donations, but some will if you continue to pray for them to give. And if you ask a number of people, some of them are bound to give substantially.

Obey Him, even if it seems crazy:

We received two very large donations from people whom we almost didn't ask, due to our pride and fear of offending them. One is a supporter who we are not that close to yet, but who helps us with quite a nice donation monthly. We have never asked him for any extra help since we didn't want to blow him away. But one day the Lord showed us to ask him for extra support. We did, and this man very gladly helped with the largest donation we've

ever received—about US\$3,000!

The other donation was sent from someone whom we've never asked for financial help. He'd been our sponsor while on our previous field, and we didn't think he'd like to continue to help us when we moved. But the Lord laid him on our hearts, so we took it to Him in prayer and I had a vision of this dear man saying "yes" very gladly and giving us a large donation. And that's exactly what happened! No one got offended and we got what we needed, plus I'm sure the Lord has given them both a wonderful blessing in return.

Prayer and the keys:

Of course, none of this would have been possible if we hadn't been praying like a house on fire. Every single day, we bring our finances to the Lord in prayer. We also send a number of prayer requests to others when we need extra funds for whatever reason. We also keep our dear friends and supporters in our prayers, so that the Lord continues to bless them for their giving, and so that they continue to support us!

Spirit helpers:

Asking some specific spirit helpers for their help actually does the trick. For example, since we're about to adopt a baby from an orphanage run by the Sisters of Charity, Mother Teresa and George Mueller have helped us to get two of the biggest donations we've ever received. From the very begin-

ning, we asked these two dear saints of God to help us with the fundraising of the adoption costs, and so far they've been totally covered by supporters and friends!

In September, on Mother Teresa's birthday, the Lord told me that He had a surprise for us. All day long, I wondered what it could be and thought perhaps the Lord had given us a new spirit helper for our work here. At the end of the day, it seemed nothing had really happened, but the Lord told me, "The day is not yet over!" I went to bed telling myself, "Well, maybe He meant something abstract, and I somehow missed it." But the next day we received a letter from a friend (which he'd written and sent *the day before*), telling us that he had put a donation in our account—about US\$1,500!

A few weeks later (around George Mueller's birthday, believe it or not!), we received another letter from a supporter saying that he had put a large donation in our account.

These two dear spirit helpers have been helping us for months now, ever since we decided to adopt a baby, so it's not that we suddenly decided to ask them for help. We've been teamworking with them for months now, so the miracles with finances were the proof of how real and tangible their help can be.

Tithe faithfully and give to others:

Tithing is something that we've always felt

you speak

we couldn't afford not to do. It's the Lord's money and we do not touch the tithe under any circumstances. When the funds come in, we put the tithe aside right away. Besides the tithe, common pot, etc., a few years ago we decided to give another 6% of our income in missionary gifts to other needy Homes. We can wholeheartedly testify that giving works, even if it hurts. Not that giving the tithe hurt, but giving that extra 6% does once in a while.

The funny thing is that the few times we didn't give that 6%, our income suffered. Then, when we'd start to give it again, our income would go up! Of course, it's not like everyone should give that specific percentage, but I think that if people would ask the Lord how much they should give, aside from their tithe, He would show them and bless them for their giving.

Thank your supporters and the Lord:

This is just common sense, but the more you thank the Lord, the more He gives to you. And the more you thank your supporters, even for small donations, the more they'll give you. Being appreciative is very important. We always try to send them an e-mail card or a little thank-you note.

The main key is to find out if your need is something He wants to supply. Ask Him how He wants to supply it, and last but definitely not least, obey what He says. It works!

Reading over the key promises

By Lydia Dove (of Josh), Ukraine

I'm very thankful for all the key memorization tips Mama shared in *Grapevine* #153. I like the key promises very much and I want to use them as much as possible. Often I will pick one topic and read all the key promises on it, and then I feel energized with fresh power! I liked the suggestion Mama gave about memorizing. I believe that listing the first few words of each key promise really does help when memorizing and reviewing them.

I also appreciate the tip on how to use the keys at every opportunity. It's very helpful!

Personal tips for memory and review

By Samuel Thankful (of Abby), USA

Mama's tips for memorizing the keys were very good. I personally don't find them that difficult to memorize, but I've seen others really struggle with this. So I wanted to share a few personal tips and ideas in case it could be a help to someone else:

1) One very useful method I use is a seven-day review system. If you faithfully review a new verse or key promise for seven days, along with memorizing a new one each day if you are able, you'll definitely get that verse down pat. I personally don't worry if I'm memorizing a longer quote and am not able to complete it on the first day. At least I'm working on memorizing it and I'm sure that by the seventh day I will have it down.

2) I also use a pocket notebook for my latest memory work. I can carry it around in my shirt pocket and have it available at a moment's notice. On the inside of the front cover I keep a scratch pad where I jot down the references of keys or quotes that stand out to me. This way, I have a running list of quotes or verses that I can use as potential memory work in the future.

In the back of this same notebook, I also keep a list of just the first few words of the new verse, quote, or key I'm memorizing (in much the same way that Mama shared in *Grapevine* #153). I divide this list up into seven verses per week. My list looks something like this:

- (1.1: stands for group 1, verse 1)
- 1.1 Create an instant protective...
- 1.2 The power of the keys will...
- 1.3 It is My pleasure to grant...
- 1.4 Fight in desperate prayer...
- 1.5 Children and parents will...
- 1.6 There is great power in the...
- 1.7 As you pray for others...
- 2.1 The keys have the power to...

Once I start memorizing my 8th verse, I cross out the very first verse (1.1) from my seven-day review system. So on the 8th day I'll only review verses 1.2 through to 2.1. On the 9th day I'll review 1.3 through 2.2. The system continues in this manner. This way I am only reviewing seven verses per week.

Aside from the scratch pad list in the front and my new memory work in the back of the notebook, I also include the entire key promise

or quote in the middle of the notebook. Once this notebook is filled up, I'll just start a new one!

I hope these ideas can be a help to someone else!

Making new habits

By Jenny Greenshirt, Ghana

I am the type of person who can often be a bit slow to get on-board with the new moves of the Spirit. Sometimes I'm tempted to think that as I have been in the Family for "so long" (25 years) that I know it all already. So I had a hard time breaking out of my rut in order to memorize the key promises. However, Mama's article in the *Grapevine* explaining how she memorizes key promises was very convicting for me. If Mama is taking her time to memorize them, then I certainly don't have an excuse not to!

Since reading that, I've been trying to be more faithful to hide the keys in my heart. I wanted to share a couple of tips, which helped me with memorizing them:

I read through one page of key promises every morning—a different page each day, this helps me to not get stuck on the first page! Then I write down one of the promises that really stood out to me, usually one of the shortest ones, to memorize! I've also started writing down all the different specific keys that have come out, such as the keys of obedience, the keys of faith, etc. It's fascinating what a variety there are—and I'm finding new ones every day!

Devotions ideas

By Diamond (of Dust), Romania

One morning I brought out all the *Daily Breads* and spread them on the table before devotions. Then we each took turns rolling dice. The number on the dice stood for the number of a *Daily Bread*. We would then choose a Letter for the rest of us to guess, and the one who guessed the title correctly could finish reading a portion of the Letter aloud. It was fun and feeding, and kept the devotions alive.

Re: What Counts as Beautiful? (GV #171)

By Margie, China

This article grabbed my attention, as I think that many Family members are beautiful! Even when they aren't what is typically considered "beautiful," they have something special about them that makes them extremely attractive and different from everyone else. I've noticed that whenever Family girls go out into the System, people stare at them; there's something special about them and people notice it. After all, it's the Lord's Spirit, and who can resist that?

I also agree that the most attractive kind of beauty is the beauty of simplicity. It's so pure and truly unique—I think it embodies the spirit of the Family. It's not different or unique to try so hard to look cool or sexy or just plain outrageous—what's cool is when you're just natural, simple, yourself. The ones who are the most attractive are those who aren't trying so hard, who aren't trying to be someone they're not; they're secure with who they are.



To be touched by another human being is a declaration of trust, it's an act that says, 'I like you, and I am here when you need me.'



Sharing the victories

By Gideon Servant, Italy

There are parents in different situations who have had to help their young people who had decided to follow a different path than the Family, get adjusted to a new way of life. For some parents, it was an easy transition, as they had the help of grandparents or other relatives. However, other parents have had to get more involved, in some occasions even leave the mission field in order to do so. This is naturally very difficult and heartbreaking for the parents. I was wondering if some parents who have gone through such ordeals and still won beautiful victories in the end would have some lessons, counsel, and encouragement to share with those who find themselves in such situations. I'm sure it will benefit a lot of people, and if nothing else, it will encourage us to pray for one another!

Tool fund reminder

By Joanna, Japan

We went through a tight spot one month, so we decided to gather our tool funds. However, two of our Home members didn't have their tool fund, so we contacted their previous Homes about it, but they didn't have their tool fund either!

I've noticed this happens quite often and it seems some Homes forget to return the tool fund when a member leaves the Home. It's sad as then the next Home they move to has to take responsibility for it, as they're supposed to have it.

Sometimes, those who don't have their tool fund don't want to ask their previous Home about it as it takes so much communication, and they're not even sure they'll eventually get it. It shouldn't be like that. It's the responsibility of the Home to return the tool fund when a member leaves. I think it may be worth reminding people of this.

A little love

By an FGA woman, Europe

After a long hard day of work, I felt discouraged and out of it. I sat down away from everyone else, when to my surprise one of the young people came over, put his arms around me, and gave me a big hug! I was shocked, but oh so happy! It was just what I needed.

Many were the times through the years that a hug helped me through some particularly difficult period. Whether I was hugged by a child or a young person or an adult, that hug made my day easier to get through. To be touched by another human being is a declaration of trust, it's

an act that says, "I like you, and I am here when you need me." Maybe this is not the conscious thought, but this is what is felt when received. There's often a barrier when it comes to giving or receiving a hug, especially if the other person is not from your immediate family. So when receiving a hug from someone, don't take it lightly, instead show your appreciation.

Everyone knows the feeling of well-being that comes from being hugged. In the vast majority of cases, it is not a sexual expression, simply an act of human love. We should be sensitive to people and situations around us, willing to give a hug when it is needed—like the young man who gave me a hug that day.

What Jesus stood for 2,000 years ago and still stands for today is love. Even the Romans knew how "dangerous" love could be. It has been said that one of the emperors was asked by one of his counselors, "Why on earth do we have to kill these Christians? They are no threat to the mighty Roman Empire. They are simple, and for the most part, poor people who preach that you are to love this God and each other. What's so dangerous about that?"

The emperor answered, "That is exactly why this doctrine is so dangerous to the Roman Empire. Our empire is built on war and killing and greed and dictatorship, which is the opposite of what they preach. And that's why this doctrine is so dangerous—it will be the bane of the Roman Empire if we don't eradicate it!"

So let's be a little more generous and give more hugs!

Family lingo?

By Samantha (of Sam), China

I wanted to comment on an observation that I (and I'm sure others) have noticed in our Family testimonies over the years. I've noticed we use the phrase "to be able to" a lot when sharing a testimony. For example, "we *were able to* meet the company manager." Personally, it would be very inspiring and refreshing to come up with new ways and words to express ourselves. It's similar to our overuse of the phrase "Thank You, Jesus. Praise You, Lord" in our prayer and praise times.

When coaching our children in their Creative Writing courses, we require them to use different words and expressions in their vocabulary, and the same would be good for us older folks. Also, it would be a better sample to our new disciples, whose first language isn't English, as they have the habit of copying our ruts.

No Daily Breads

By an FGA woman, Africa

I have been a bit surprised to find that most young people don't carry the Bible or the *Daily Breads* with them while traveling. Their answer was that they didn't have space in their suitcase.

In the past, Dad said that one of the most important things you can take with you, aside from your passport and money, is the Word. Not everybody has a personal copy of all the *Daily Bread* books, and the Lord is pouring out so much New Wine these days; nevertheless, I think all our basic beliefs are in those *Daily Bread* volumes, and it is well worth it to have them handy.

Q&As

By the Grapevine

Info on Halloween?

Q: The last few years have seen a wave of Americanism wash over Germany, and now most everyone here celebrates Halloween, whereas ten years ago, most people didn't even know what it was. Is there anything published about Halloween, or even a Halloween-related tract, that we could use for such occasions? Naturally, I would prefer to use a Family-created tract than any others. And if we don't have anything for the GP on this topic, would it be a good idea to come up with something?—*Conny, Germany*

A: Last year, the CGO board put together a tract covering this subject. You can download the tract, called, "Having a

Helluva Time? You Could Have Heaven!" from the MO site. It's tract #63, and found on MOv.2 under Pubs / Tracts. We pray it's a blessing to you.

Four-Part Story in Grapevine

Q: Between *Grapevines* #105–110 there was a series of diary articles from a woman who visited Mama and Peter's Home ("One Month in Mama and Peter's Home—Diary of a Female SGA"). There were four parts to the article; however, I never saw part four printed. Could you let me know if part four was ever printed, and if so in which *Grapevine*?—*Anna, England*

A: You can find parts one through four of "One Month in Mama and Peter's Home" in *Grapevines* #105–108. The last part is included in *GV* #108, each part covers one of four weeks.

mama's mailbox

Dearest Mama and Peter,

Thank you for loving us and having faith in us! It's really your faith that has kept us going forward. The renewal definitely changed things here in our Home, as well as in our area. It's so encouraging, so uplifting, and so magical!

I'm on the JT board, and over the past two years, I have often reached a breaking point, feeling that in spite of our prayers, effort, and desire to pour into our teens it just didn't buck the tide of all they were taking in from the world. I knew in my heart the Lord had a solution for us, but I wondered if I would even be around to witness it.

What a blessing, privilege, and miracle to stand here today and exclaim, "Wow, this is how the Lord meant to do it!" It's like it's no longer in our hands. We still do what we can, but I feel we're just being carried forward with the winds of renewal! Where before we were struggling to take just a step or two, we're now taking giant steps with ease. I know it'll still be a struggle and I don't belittle the struggles we're up against now, but honestly, I feel I can fly by comparison. I'm so happy I could cry! I just wanted you to know that whatever you've gone through, the doubts, the sorrow, the uncertainty—thank you for seeing past all of that, so that we can experience this moving of the Spirit today.

I know things will never be the same for us. I know it, because I see it in the faces of our upcoming generation. I sense their happiness; I can see how relieved

they are deep inside. I know they were waiting for something, and they are reveling in it—it's beautiful. I look into the eyes of some of our teens, and I see the glow of destiny in them, as if they've come in touch with the spirit of the Family and who they truly are and they recognize it!

One teen in our Home asked me with tears in her eyes, "What if after the renewal everything goes back to the way it used to be? I won't be strong enough. Please tell me it won't!" And this was coming from a teen who was once well entrenched in System music, fashion, and defiance of the Family standard. Another teen wrote me from another country saying: "The renewal is the greatest, we're doing so many fun things, I'm just so happy!" I couldn't believe I was hearing that from her.

I love you deeply, and wish you could see into my heart and know how thankful I am for your love. Thank you Jesus for change! Thank you Jesus for the Family of the future!

—Anonymous (23), South America

Is this about God?

By Paolo Alleluia, Croatia

While doing a show at an old folks' home, I gave a tract to an old lady. "Is this about God?" She asked. I replied that it was and she broke into a big smile and asked if I had other books on God to give her. I wasn't sure if it would be appropriate to sell in such a place or if patients were allowed to give money to outsiders, so I simply explained that I had several books on the subject (as we have eight *Get Activated* books in Croatian). She immediately got up, walked to her room, and came back with 30 Kunas (about €4) in her hand. She chose *Prayer Power*, and held the book in her hands, kissing it and lifting it up high, thanking God for it.

"Reading these books on God is the only thing that keeps me going," she exclaimed. "Thank you so much! Sometimes at night I cannot sleep, but now I know what I'll be doing when that happens."

Layout Advice

By Mary Newheart, Canada

I have lots of good ideas, but no ability to do layout, design business cards, etc. I was wondering if there was someone(s) to contact in the Family who has these talents and would be willing to help with things like this. I need help with designing a new letterhead for my flyers to explain my work. If there is anyone who could help me with this, I'd be willing to pay for their services.

You can contact me through the ABM, my Home # is CA6997.

in My arms...

(Written by Chellie [Trusty's daughter]:)

Thank you for your prayers for my mom and for supporting us here in your prayers. We have really appreciated it.

My mom, Trusty, passed away on February 18, 2005, at 9:30 AM. I was with her when she passed away and she looked very peaceful, as if she was asleep. We heard from the Lord together and also got a prophecy from Mom that she was happy and that she had gone quickly. She also said that she'd wanted to go on Grandpa's birthday, and enjoy the party that was going on up there. It was really nice.

I am just so thankful that my mom didn't have to suffer very long. She was only not able to get around for 10 days. I am so thankful for that. The Lord knows how much each one can take, and He always makes a way of escape, so that we may be able to bear it. He is so sweet.

(Dad:) Great has been the rejoicing here in Heaven at the arrival of our dear

Trusty! I was so excited to meet her, I ran to her, and she to me. I had the privilege of introducing her to some of the joys and delights of Heaven, and to her personal spirit helpers, as well as to the saints and angels who had helped her during her time of sickness. It was a very special moment for her, to be able to actually meet—I can't say "in the flesh," but still in a tangible form—all those who were very close to her in spirit those last months she was with you there on Earth. They ministered to her, they comforted her, they helped keep the Enemy's attacks at bay, and they had all grown very close because of it.

One of my greatest thrills is to be able to meet Family members when they arrive here. I'm not the first one, the Lord always is, but then He turns them over to me, and it's just a joy for me to meet each one, for you all are my children, you all are a fruit of my labors there on Earth, and because of that, there is a spiritual bond between us that is for eternity. It is one of my rewards in Heaven, and one which I cherish and greatly delight in. So, I've been getting to know dear Trusty and we've had some very special times together. (End of excerpts.)

(Jesus:) My loves, My cherished ones, My brides, I gather each one of you in My arms now and wish to give you a special key of comfort. I have one for each of you—your own special key that will help you through this time of transition, of getting used to life there on Earth without your beloved mother, wife, and friend. I also have given you each your own special angel of comfort and encouragement, who is with you at all times. Each one carries with them the Balm of Gilead, which helps heal all things, including your minds and spirits and souls and hearts, and can give you new hope, encouragement, and faith.

You will look back at this time and you will come to understand why I took dear Trusty when I did. You will soon feel her presence and her spiritual ministrations, especially in time of trial and battle. In time of heartache, she will be there for you, just as she was on Earth, only you will feel her presence closer and more one with you. You will hear her words of comfort and encouragement when your spirit is down, and you will hear her praises and commendations when you have done well. (End of excerpts.)

Pray!



Healing key:

Desperate prayer in the power of the keys can overcome all odds, reverse damage, and bring complete victory in even the most seemingly impossible situations. ("Healing and healing," *Key Promises*)

Testimonies of Answered Prayer:

Jennifer (12, of Luna, Chile): She recently underwent surgery due to peritonitis (inflammation of abdominal lining). The Lord came through and she is out of danger. Her appendix didn't rupture, but she had stage three peritonitis. The doctors said that if she had come to the hospital one day later she probably would not have made it. The surgery was successful and we are very grateful for all of your prayers.

WS

Chloe: Against pneumonia and Sjogrin's syndrome (a dryness condition that causes arthritis, dry mouth, and in my case extreme weight loss).

Terry (of Paul Theophilus): She urgently needs a miracle of healing for her kidneys and for various blood components and levels to return to normal. Thanks for continuing to claim the power of the keys for her health.

Asia:

Abigail (of Happy and Charity): Underwent reconstructive surgery for a tendon in her hand; healing of the tendon; against rupturing; to regain full use of hand.

Angel (of Joe) and **baby boy:** Full recovery from HELLP syndrome and high blood pressure, which she has to take medication for. That her blood pressure will normalize to the point that she will not need to continue to take this medication to keep her blood pressure down.

Angel has been able to partially breastfeed the baby, even though she is still on quite a bit of medication. Please pray that the medication, a small dose of which may be in the breast milk, will not adversely affect the baby. Angel still experiences

some blurriness of vision, which may be a result of the extremely high blood pressure, the medication, or both. Please pray her eyesight will return to normal as soon as possible, and that there won't be any lingering effects.

Faithy: Bronchospasm (spasmodic contraction of the smooth muscle of the bronchi).

Europe and Africa:

Adam and Angel: Ulcerous colitis (a disease that causes ulcers in the lining of the large intestine).

Ania (of Andrew and Nadia): Gastroduodenitis (inflammation of the stomach and duodenum).

Carla (9, of John and Marianne): Black spots in her eyes; to clear up without an operation.

Clare (of Stephen): Breast and kidney infections.

Dave (of Sparkles): Kidney trouble (presumably kidney stones).

Elizabeth (8, of Abel and Mary): May have cerebral palsy; for correct diagnosis.

Katia (of Andrew and Nadia): Ear infection; against any permanent damage to her ears.

Katya (of Tim and Dove): Deteriorating eyesight; recurring sties in her eyes.

Leo: Liver problems; wisdom in considering a liver transplant.

Marianne: Enlarged uterus.

Mary (of Jonathan): Against osteoporosis in spine.

Mercedes (15): Chronic ear infection and partially deaf in one ear.

Michael (of Ana Maria): Muscular dysfunction in colon causing diarrhoea, constant pain, bloating, weakness, and sleep loss.

Mike (of Sylvie): Hernia; will need to undergo an operation.

Misha (of Philip and Praise): Flat feet; against developing scoliosis.

Nadia (of Steven): Thyroid adenoma.

Naomi (Hungarian): Kidney stones.

Peter (of Lily): Double pneumonia.

Phil (of Shiloh): Severe case of varicose veins and eczema.

Praise: Endometriosis (lining of the uterus is found in locations outside the uterus); against pain and fatigue.

Rufina: Sinusitis, blood circulation disorder, ovary inflammation, and headaches

Sparrow: Hyperthyroid; to find the right medication; complete recovery from surgery; against side effects.

Sylvie (of Mike): Urinary tract infection.

North America:

Christina Marie (17, of Rose Smiles): Scoliosis; that only a back brace will be required and not an operation.

Joe: Severe recurring heart pain, which could be a heart murmur.

MarieAnne (SGA, of Mike): Crohn's disease (inflammation of intestines); complete healing of large intestines; against stomach pains and nausea; to regain appetite and strength.

Mikey (of Rose): Heart murmur.

Richie (4, of Caleb and Sylvia): Chronic bronchitis, sinus infections, allergy, and asthma; for proper diagnosis.

Valorie Nicole (4, of Tim and Maya): Cystic Fibrosis; for continued growth and good health.

Pacific:

Claire: Diagnosed with pre-cancer symptoms and underwent an operation to remove the possibly infected cells; complete and speedy healing.

Iona: Chronic inflammation of the ovaries causing sharp pains; tendonitis in right knee.

Marc: Ulcer; for dissolving of a benign tumor in stomach.

Mia (18): Sharp pains and small lump in lower stomach;

doctors think it's a cyst, intestine problem, or tumor; for correct diagnosis and complete healing.

Nana (13, of Micah and Jewel): Broken collarbone due to a fall.

Rachel (of Willing): Hit by a motorcycle and thrown several meters; dislocated collarbone, swelling at the back of her head, and an injured leg. For her complete healing and against any possible future complications from the head injury.

Sunny: Cyst which causes extensive bleeding during each period.

South America:

Desi (21): Ovarian cysts; against painful cramps.

Birgitta (of Luis): For her nose to heal after an operation to remove a tumor; against any trace of cancer and that it won't reappear; For the Lord to restore the shape of her nose; against ugly scars or deformation.

Adriana: Small cyst in her thyroid gland; anemia.

Joy: Gall bladder stones.

Chiara (5, of Filippo and Fe): Stomach infection causing weight loss.

Santiago: Recuperation from knee surgery on both knees.

I Dream of Jesus—Irma's Testimony

By Paolo Alleluia, Croatia

Irma once had a very vivid dream. She met Jesus and fell in love with Him. Through the whole dream, she felt His unconditional love. At the time she was a Muslim and didn't know anything about Jesus.

Wanting to know more information about this incredible Guy she'd discovered in her dreams, she walked the streets and started stopping Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons, asking them for an explanation of what had just happened to her. They all told her that according to their religious beliefs, it is not possible to meet Jesus in a dream, but that she could start attending their Bible courses, etc.

Shortly after, she had a car accident, and almost died. She was in a coma for four days. She shared a room with many other

coma patients, and while in her unconscious state, she saw a Spirit gently taking the spirits of the others in the room. She recognized this Spirit as Jesus, the Man from her dream, and she couldn't wait for her turn to meet Him. But it never came!

She was so disappointed! After a few days, she woke up; however, she was completely paralyzed. After eight months at the hospital, Irma returned home and began telling others about her experience. Nobody understood what she experienced, so she started thinking that she had a personal God, One Who nobody else knew about.

Then one day, we met her while we were visiting a mutual friend at their place. She couldn't believe she'd finally found other people who believed in the same God she does. We started having the *12 Foundation Stones* classes with her, and

miracles and help needed

By Lilia, Middle East

Angel and Joe would like to thank everyone who has been praying for them for the past weeks and let those who were aware of the situation know that the Lord answered wonderfully! Thank you so much for your desperate prayers, which turned the tide in the life-threatening complications that developed so suddenly in Angel's pregnancy.

To give you a little idea of how serious the situation has been, and how wonderful and miraculous the victory is, our doctor was very straight in telling us that we might lose both mother and baby when we brought Angel to the emergency section of the hospital on the 16th of February. Angel was incoherent and suffered a seizure shortly after we arrived, and her blood pressure was "off the charts." The doctor feared she had suffered a stroke and other internal damage and proceeded to make arrangements to de-

she's a great student and is growing in the Word.

Although she is still partially paralyzed and walks with much difficulty, she doesn't care about it anymore. All she wants to do is witness and win the world for Jesus. After the accident, she got pregnant and now has a three-year-old boy, which is a miracle in itself. She spends a lot of time at home, which enables her to read a lot of Word. Her husband is slowly getting to know us more, and we pray that he will come around too.

Since she comes from a Muslim background, she has a special burden to reach her own people with the Gospel. After having a few classes on how to relate to them, and how to become one and not blow them away, she started bearing wonderful fruit.

liver the baby by C-section immediately. Their little boy was delivered at 6:35 PM on Wednesday, February 16th. The baby, whose heartbeat was very slow prior to the delivery, was born healthy and strong at 2.4 kilos. We watched with tears of thankfulness as the nurse carried him past us to the nursery, where he was closely observed for the first few hours of his life. He was the first answer to our desperate prayers.

Angel was kept under heavy sedation and "asleep" on life support for 60 hours after the C-section, as our Family around the world fought for her in prayer, and the doctors fought for her life as they tried to reverse the process of her bodily functions breaking down, caused by what the doctors diagnosed as a combination of HELLP syndrome (a syndrome characterized by hemolysis [premature breakdown of red blood cells], elevated liver enzyme levels, and a low platelet count) and eclampsia (toxemia). Joe and I were allowed to be close by her side in the ICU unit throughout this time.

Until Friday the 18th, the doctors were not sure if Angel would come out unscathed from the heavy sedation they had to keep her under in order to treat her. They feared she could have suffered a stroke or heavy liver damage. We prayed desperately by her side, claiming the keys, spirit help, and Elixor to flow through her veins to restore her to complete health, as the doctors decreased the sedation very slowly and cautiously.

By Friday evening, just before Becky, Angel's mom, arrived from India, it became clear to us all just what a miracle the Lord had done, as Angel awoke without any memory loss and without any physical damage. The recovery and functioning of her vital organs has been so dramatic in fact, that doctors who heard of her case came to "see for themselves." Sitting on the couch in the private room she

was moved to afterwards, and looking at Angel holding the baby, made us feel as if we were in a dream, and like, "Did all that really happen?!"

Well, it certainly did, and we can only praise the Lord for the power of prayer and the power of the keys which became so very real and tangible to us during those four days! The whole hospital was abuzz about the miracle that happened, and many lives have been and continue to be touched and changed.

Angel and the baby are home now, and they are doing well. Thank you so, so much for praying for them! *[Editor's note: Please see "Pray" section, pg. 10, for updated prayer request for Angel and the baby.]*

We also would appreciate your prayers as we minister to the doctors and nurses, as well as the people we have met and become close to during the four days in ICU, who have all been touched in a very special way.

Urgent Help Needed

The hospital where Angel was treated has been a long-time contact of the Family, and through the years has helped with free deliveries of our babies. The director, who personally represented us before the board of directors, has always made sure of this by telling them that "The Family International are here to serve our country, so we need to serve them." GBH!

However, in this case, because Angel needed so much treatment, as well as very expensive medication, he shared with us that it will be difficult for him to get the board to agree to pay 100% of the expenses. He cut the bill down to the bare minimum, and asked us if there would be any way for us to raise half of that amount, approximately \$3,500. We also will need to cover the ongoing expense of the medication Angel still needs to take over the next little while, which is not very cheap.

Aside from approaching relatives to help towards the remainder of the bill and ongoing medical expenses, we also wanted to ask if it would be possible for any of our Family to help with a donation towards these expenses. We still need approximately US\$1,500 more. Thanks so much for praying about it and considering this request. We love you so much and thank you in advance for helping, as well as for your continued prayers for dear Angel. We love you.

Your Family of the Paradise Home in the Middle East

P.S: Donations can be sent via your TRF, to the Paradise Home in the Middle East, but if you are able to send a note and let us know right away if you are able to help with something, so we have an idea what we can count on, we would be so very thankful.

help wanted

Hello, dear Family! I love you and I'm so thankful and proud to be a part of such a loving and sacrificial Family as you are! I'm writing with a request for financial help. I need to have quite a lot of dental work done as soon as possible. I was able to have some of it done recently (thanks to all of you who helped, great is your reward!) However, because my dental condition requires some complicated work, I will still need about US\$500 to get the most urgent work done. I live in a sensitive country, our Home is a Service Center, and my main ministry is childcare. We try to fundraise here locally, but it goes rather slow, so I wanted to humbly ask for your help, dear ones. Any help will be greatly appreciated and will go a long way! Thank you for reading through this. I love you! You can forward your gifts to **RU001 for Praise (dental work)**.

reactions from subscribers

I am so happy to inform you that the *Activated* magazines I received before were very important in my spiritual life. It helped me to understand the everlasting love of God which is revealed to me through Christ Jesus. And it taught me how to walk before Him according to His will. Moreover it enabled me to be more aware about the second coming of Jesus Christ.

I would like to give thanks for the sponsorship for the *Activated* subscription I am going to receive. Finally, would you please pray with us for our nation? The border conflict with Ethiopia is not yet resolved, and the Church in the country is persecuted and most people are under great difficulty due to consecutive droughts. God is Almighty and can change our condition. May God's will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

—Michael, Eritrea

Thanks a lot for the friendship I have enjoyed throughout the year through the

Activated magazine. I have been blessed indeed with the inspiring messages. I sent a prayer request to you, and I must say my request has been answered—I got a promotion! May the Lord bless you! I have come to confirm that whatever you ask the Lord, He will always give it to you if you trust in Him. I also want to let you know that I received the copy of the Bible you sent. I look forward to sharing more with you in the coming year.

—Dorcas, South Africa

This is my sincere request to you to kindly send me your magazine, *Activated*, which is worth reading. I was attracted to the articles and materials produced in the magazine.

—Mrs. Rosa, India

I have been reading *Activated* for over a year now and I must say that it really does make a difference in one's life. The section "From Jesus with Love" is particularly touching. Whenever I read it, I can really feel Jesus talking to me. And sometimes the

backtracking...

Priscilla Joy, Middle East: I just read my want ad in *Grapevine* #178 and I wanted to send a clarification on it. It hasn't been 33 years since I've last seen my mother, only three years. That was a typo on my part. Thanks to those who responded! I'll send you a personal thank-you note soon.

personals

Hi, **John Paone!** I am Abigail from India. You don't know me and I don't know you, but I am very interested in contacting you after watching you play drums at WORDstock. I am interested in learning to play drums. Please contact me at: maleeka86@yahoo.com.

topic that it talks about is so closely linked to my life that it feels uncanny.

—Sukanya, India

Needs for MPC Home

By the MPC Home, Russia

Though we do not have as much freedom as we'd like to saturate this vast land with the Gospel, we can still do a lot to reach the needy and spiritually starving people. Our land is the land of bright contrasts and there are extreme needs, possibilities, and opportunities here, (as well as severe weather and multiple time zones). Our Home is one of the few that are still here, and we have a vision to continue reaching others and providing services and tools to the Homes in the NEAT area. Where there is darkness, even the tiniest light is seen far and wide! And even a little help will go a long, long way!

Since we contribute most of our time to servicing other Homes, we need help with covering different parts of our budget. We fundraise as much as we can, but we also want to concentrate our efforts on producing new tools and mass marketing, so that we can reach as many as possible before it's too late.

These are some of the projects our Home has that we desperately need your help with:

Producing *Beyond Armageddon* in the local language

We've scripted the narrations and started working on the video editing. To record the narration, we need a good

mike. If anyone has one that they're not using, or could provision one for us, we'd be forever grateful.

Here is a list of the type of mike we need:

- Neumann M (147, 149, 150) Tube
- Neumann TLM (170R, 170R mt, 193, 50-S)
- Neumann U (87Ai, 87Ai mt, 89i, 89i mt)
- Neumann USM 69i
- Neumann USM 69i m
- Blue Bottle
- Blue Cactus
- Studio Projects (C4, T3, LSD2)
- RODE NT1000
- RODE NTK
- TL AUDIO 5000 IVORY 2
- Nady TCM 1050
- AKG 12 VR
- AKG C4000B
- AKG SOLIDTUBE
- AKG C414B-TLII
- AKG C426B-CB
- Sennheiser MD 421-II
- Shure SM-58

If you have any of those or something else of studio quality, please contact us at: vision@safe-mail.net.

We'd also greatly appreciate any gifts toward the studio work on this video, so that we could finish it as soon as possible.

Children's schoolbooks, materials, and funds for summer SWIFTs

This is a substantial part of our budget (we have five kids), and we desperately need help so that we can ensure a good FD standard in caring for our children.

We need US\$400 for their school materials and around \$500 for the summer SWIFTs we'd like to take them on.

Trips to other cities to find local distributors for our tools

Last year, we started a program of building a national network of tool distributors in cities without Homes. Thank you very much for helping with donations toward it. We've already found a few people, and we want to continue to visit new cities and build the network for tool distribution. To do that, though, we need to travel long distances, so any donations towards this project are very needed and welcome.

This is the list of the most essential and pressing needs of our Home. We believe that it's the Lord's will for us to continue on here, and in His abundant supply and blessings, by the power of the keys! Please send your donation to RU001 (MPC Home) via your TRF, and mark what project you are designating your donation to. Thank you.

The news and views from Family members published in the *Grapevine* do not necessarily reflect WS policy. Suggested reading age for this publication is 14 years and up. Selected portions may be read by or with those younger at parents' or shepherds' discretion. All Family members in China use pen names for their contributions to the *Grapevine*. The Grapevine Family, c/o TRIAG, Aussergrütstrasse 2, CH – 6319 Allenwinden, Switzerland. E-mail: gv@wsfamily.com Copyright © 2005 by The Family International — FD/MM/FM