**Concerts in India**

By Steven, Cephas and Anne

Jeremy and the band played for a capacity crowd, which in itself was a miracle as it was a week night. There were about 1,000 people present and the audience responded very positively to the program. The Lord anointed Jeremy and the entire team supernaturally and it by far the best program yet. During the intermission I heard a sophisticated lady say to her husband that she wished that one of her friends would have come because it was such a “complete show.”

The first set was mainly blues numbers. After the first couple of songs in the second set, Jeremy went from acoustic, to dobro, then to electric guitar. This set included a number by the backup girls too. This, along with Jeremy’s Elvis impersonation, made for quite a bit of variety! Before the first set started, a famous MTV India DJ (who introduced Jeremy on stage) asked Jeremy if he was going to do any Elvis numbers, so the whole time everyone was eagerly anticipating Jeremy’s Elvis numbers, “All Shook Up” and “Fools Rush In” (Wise Men Say).

That was one of the highlights of the program, i.e. when Jeremy sang, “Fools Rush In” as a song for Valentine’s Day. When he started singing it, he stopped a few lines into the song and said, “Wait, wait! When I used to sing this song, all the girls would scream,” encouraging the females in the audience to do so! The female audience responded so enthusiastically that it reminded us of when the Beatles used to sing! The entire crowd sang the song with Jeremy till the end of the song.

Jeremy had a good rapport with the audience. He did a few impersonations, including impersonating a British rock star, a British journalist, and of course his impersonation of Elvis. When he was doing the song “Strange Woman,” his power pack for his guitar, (he was using a cordless power pack) fell out and it was sort of dragging behind him, so Anne went out on stage to fix it. He acted like he was mesmerized by her and half followed her off stage, which everyone thought was very funny—especially being that he was singing a song called “Strange Woman” and Anne was dressed in black.

In the beginning Christy SGA brought out some flowers for Kanti to present to Jeremy. Kanti said something along the lines of, “NAB wanted to give this to you as a token of its appreciation.” So instead of taking the flowers, Jeremy went to Christy as though she was the token of appreciation, ha!

The first few front rows were mainly filled by top media and business people, and there were a number of photos and articles printed the following day. Star News aired at least twelve or more times a 30 to 40 second news blurb of the concert, which was very positive, in both English & Hindi.

Planet M, one of the most prestigious and exclusive record shops in Mumbai, eagerly requested that Jeremy do a music workshop at their store. This ended up doubling as a promotional program for us as Times of India (a newspaper which owns Planet M) advertised the workshop for several days prior to it. Three of the main newspapers in the country also covered this event. He will also be doing something similar at The Groove, the other exclusive record store in the city.
URGENT:
Openings in the WS Web department

Our department's mandate is to substantially expand our Web services to both the Family and the general public. In order to meet this goal, we need personnel with specific burdens and talents along these lines:

- Experience or the ability to learn computer/internet programs
- Organizational skills
- Creative side, experience or desire to learn web layout
- Attention to details
- Secretarial skills: typing, message writing, etc.
- Editing experience, love for working with words
- Minimal business managerial experience
- Vision for the Web and its potential

(You don't have to meet every one of these qualifications, but the more the better! You'll likely be working in a number of these areas.)

Pray and ask the Lord if this is really His call for you. We need people who will be focused and dedicated to this tremendous avenue of servicing the Family and reaching the world, not someone who is just bored and looking for a change of Home or country, and thinks that the Internet is a pretty cool thing. This isn't a six-month computer training opportunity. This is a career choice, and we want people that we can train to be top notch in this field—people who will put time and effort into this ministry. We're interested in people who don't need constant oversight, but who take the ball and run with it. In a word, initiative!

If you're serious about joining the Web team, please realize that you'll be joining WS, and while your focus would be the Web department, all other WS requirements would apply to you.

Please be as detailed as possible if you respond. Tell us what gifts and talents you have, what experience you've had, how computer literate you are, how easy it is for you to learn new things, if you're creative, detail-oriented, a plodder, a scatterbrain, etc. Do you have a burden for the MO site, or GP Web work? The more input you give us, the better.

If you're convinced that God is calling you to join the WS Web team, and feel that you can be a blessing to the worldwide Family and the harvest of lost souls out there, write today. Don't delay.

We needed you yesterday, and we have to fill these vacancies within a month or two.

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New Anti-Sect Developments in Europe

BY THE EURCRO MEDIA DESK

We want to share some recent news and excerpts from CENSUR press releases about the French-speaking countries of Europe (France, Belgium, and parts of Switzerland), where they are cracking down ever harder on minority religions. Those who are living in these countries, or are planning to visit for fundraising purposes, should be aware of the following:

(Editors' note: For those who live in these countries, you may also want to ask the Lord what, if anything, you should do as a result of the tightening climate. Is He calling you to move to more fruitful fields?)

FRANCE

In December 1999 the French Senate unanimously approved the draft of a law to greatly restrict the freedom of associations in France. It was introduced as an amendment of a 1936 law which was designed to ban anti-government organizations.

This law, if voted in, would allow the government to dissolve any organization that is found guilty of at least two of a variety of “criminal” offenses. These would fall under the term “a trouble for public order or a major danger for human personality.”

This could affect The Family in various ways. For instance, if we are giving out literature or even personal witnessing and someone complains to the authorities, this could be interpreted as “a trouble for public order.” Our home schooling could also be brought into question should this new law be passed. In addition, if this should happen twice—either to an individual or to the group—then they have legal grounds to forbid the Family to witness or even exist in France!

Special provisions have been made to be able to prosecute people who are doing things which they consider hazardous to public health or not acting in accordance to their Public Health Code. This is aimed at groups practicing faith healing or other alternatives to orthodox medicine.

The proposal of this law is a blatant disregard for recent standards on religious freedom, which were adopted by the Council of Europe’s Assembly.

BELGIUM

According to human rights organizations, the 189 blacklisted “sects” in the Belgium parliamentary report on sects are under police surveillance. (We are included in this list.)

In September last year, 120 members of the Terrorist Cell of the Brussels Police raided homes and business offices of the Church of Scientology in Belgium; at exactly the same time similar raids were being carried out in France.

In a typical raid, the police took over the premises, ordered everyone out of the building, seized and confiscated all computers as well as hundreds of boxes of records, religious artifacts, etc. Several people were detained for questioning.

SWITZERLAND

A commission in Geneva in the French-speaking part of Switzerland also published a report regarding cults. The Geneva commission has accepted the prevailing anti-cult version of the brainwashing argument. The guidelines describe situations common for a number of monks and nuns in different religious traditions (Catholic, Hindu, Buddhist, Jainist, and others), and of covenant communities in the Evangelical, fundamentalist, charismatic Christian, Orthodox Jewish and other religious groups. By incriminating all this as “mind control,” a number of religious traditions could have problems in Switzerland.

Through these developments we see how the Lord’s admonitions to pray about moving on to “Find Fertile Fields” become ever more applicable.

(Mama): Active, vocal and militant anti-cult groups are rampant throughout Europe, as the Antichrist is even now marshaling his forces for the Great Confusion. The anti-cult movement (ACM) is all part of his diabolical plan, which Europe is destined to play a big part in. (See Rev.17:12-14.) The evil tentacles of groups like ADFI, Dialogue Center, Cult Information Center, and their Devil-inspired leaders are taking hold in country after country, spreading their message and doctrine so thoroughly that our simple witnessing missionaries are having a very difficult time overcoming the demonic inoculation which a great majority of the population has received.

For any of those whom the Lord does call to stay in these countries, it’s a good reminder to keep your house in order, legal papers up to date, home schooling records in order, and prepared to withstand an “empty wind” should it blow through! (See ML #367.) May God bless and keep us all in His will—the very safest place to be!
Invader from the Insect World

BY CARINA, INDIA

It all started around dusk one day, while I was walking home. My mind was racing a hundred kilometers an hour—to-do's, yet-undone's, to-pass-on's, pendings, and so on—hoping I could get all of the above out of the way so that I could concentrate on the next big event … Family time!

What in the world can I come up with today? I wondered.

I often indulge in a brain-wracking time such as this—with two active little boys, Family time can be quite a challenge.

Just about when I got through wiping my mental “free space,” I saw something on the ground: a grasshopper. The little creature was an answer to prayer—exactly what I needed. (You know boys?)

Back at home, while Caleb (3½) and Bo Greg (2) finished their dinner, I put our little creature in a jar. After the meal we sat looking at it, and I wondered exactly what the specs on this thing were. By this time I had almost all the kids in the Home in my room, all gathered around our newfound friend.

I ran and got the encyclopedia, and we found out some pretty amazing things. Did you know that a grasshopper has five eyes, four ears, ten nostrils (all over his abdomen!), and a nose that in proportion to his body is longer than an elephant’s? Our little friend’s taste buds are not inside his mouth—no indeed! They are outside. And his ears are located on and near his legs.

Well, I was surprised to learn all of this myself—and somewhat pleased that I had managed to keep six different age groups—from ages two to 12—all mesmerized. It was fascinating. We learned how to tell the males from the females, and found out that they become full-grown in only 40-50 days. When I explained that to the kids and asked them to imagine it, they all of a sudden got very excited, wishing it only took that long!

Anyway … enough on insects. But it really was a fun and interesting experience—one of those moments of togetherness that you always remember, and something that brought to Family Time another dimension and learning experience.

kiddbits

Byron Constantin, 2nd child, born to Consuelo and Joshua on November 20.—Canada
Yasmin, born to Claire and Joseph on November 23.—Italy
Angelica Chloe, born to Joan and James Fighter on November 23.—USA
Robin Stuart, 1st child, born to Autumn and Robin on November 27.—Portugal
Ethan Smiles, 2nd child, born to Rebecca Smiles on November 30.—Puerto Rico
Andrea Gabriela, born to Ema and Daniel on December 3.—Romania

Lianna Kaycee, born to Tina and Ben on December 3.—Zimbabwe
Sonia Faith, 4th child, born to Ana and Servant on December 12.—Hungary
Kayla Adriene, 1st child, born to Lauren and David on December 14.—Equatorial Guinea
Ana Lisa Rebekah, 1st child, born to Chiara and Michael on December 14.—Hungary
Ethan Warren, 4th child, born to Joan and Richard on January 7.—Japan

ideas and tips

Is that you, Santa?

This may break your bottle, but Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus went watching this year. A fancy shopping mall contacted us to play the role. Santa (David) sat with the children, greeted them and talked to them about Jesus! He also had an angel puppet with him who talked to the children and prayed with some of them. He gave out his card with his “North Pole address” inviting people to have Christmas everyday with Christ in their hearts. It has been a lot of fun and a case of “whatsoever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”

—DAVID, PHOEBE AND CARMEN, PHILIPPINES

help wanted

ILYSMi! I am Russian Veronica and I’m working in the Ural Mountain area of Russia. I really believe that the Lord is calling me to India. So far I have $150 but I need at least $1,000. I have a Home waiting for me; I just need my ticket. I would be so thankful if someone(s) could help me. I will pray that the Lord will touch your heart and I know that He will give you a big blessing for it!—Love, Veronica (RU002)

kiddbits

New laborers — CM
Pepe Canario (Spanish) joined on October 7, 1999.—Spain

Don’t forget to check out the Members Only site for additional Grapevine material, under the “overflow” section. Newly posted is a newsletter from Grace, Gloria, Matthew, Steve and four little munchkins in Poland!

Christmas cooperation

From Simon Simple, New Delhi, India: The annual Christmas program for all of the Family’s contacts here in New Delhi went beautifully! A dear friend of the Family donated the use of his beautiful party lawns for the occasion and also donated a delicious dinner for 500 people. It was very inspiring to work together as a city (7 Homes) on this program. The Lord spoke beautifully in prophecy and gave some very reassuring promises about the meeting, all of which came to pass!

The teens, YAs and children from three Homes put on the show—singing, dancing and a short drama based on the movie “It’s a Wonderful Life,” and all the Homes worked hard to bring the show to pass. The Lord supplied beautiful lighting for the program as well. We presented a short slide show and annual report about the Family’s projects in New Delhi during 1999. A senior official from the prison where we have been working for the last six years also spoke briefly about the Family’s involvement at the jail. God bless him, he actually quoted Scripture in his speech even though he is not a Christian, and talked about the Family’s contribution to the prison reform program in superlative terms.
Follow-up Fireworks in Bangalore!

From Jonathan, Joy, Mamta, and Samuel. The biggest victory this month was our DF Meeting, which was held just last night! The Lord miraculously supplied free use of a hall in a five-star hotel. A close friend agreed to donate a meal for 500, lovely Indian food with dessert included. The lighting was donated, as well as plenty of Christmas decorations for the huge hall where the meeting was to be hosted.

All the Homes in the city participated and pitched in—some organizing the printing of the cards, some provisioning drinks, others organizing the performance.

The whole show was a tremendous success with over 700 people attending, not including Family members. The response was overwhelming, and many commented that they had had no idea that the Family was so large and could put together such a good show, or that we are doing so many projects in Bangalore.

The show consisted of lots of Christmas songs and dances. There were many local language songs and dances, which touched many people. Andrew (of Esther) gave a rundown of our projects in Bangalore, and the different publications we have here. There was a beautiful skit on Santa Claus, and how his legend came about (based on “The Tailor’s Secret” in Christmas to Remember). All in all, it was a huge success.

A politician friend of ours who came usually only stays at functions for a short time, and certainly not for dinner. He sat for the whole show, and even stood in line for the buffet dinner. He was thrilled with the show, and even commented when standing in line and someone encouraged him to go ahead, “Everyone is equal here!” and continued to wait for his turn.

The food was a total miracle. When we asked the manager who supplied the food for 500 what he thought about feeding all the extra people who came, he said, “Ask your people to pray for the loaves and fishes!” So we did and the Lord did the miracle. There was food left over, even after all the Family members had eaten!

It was amazing to see how many people we are actually ministering to here. We didn’t invite all of our friends, mainly just the ones we are close to, and not all turned up, but it is very encouraging to see this sampling of the collective fruit of our labors here in the city. Many people said that they were coming just for a few minutes, but only eight people left before the end of the 700 who attended! Everyone was riveted throughout the whole show.

We had three stalls—one for videos, one for our local publications (Heart Talk, Essence, KidsBiz, Childcare), and the last one for the Activated products. The Activated was the hottest stand! The stats aren’t in yet, but those that manned the stall said they were busy all the time and two of their boxes were half-empty!

Cheers for the MO Site

From Chloe. We would like to say a big thank you to the people who work on the Members Only Web site, as it saved our Christmas show this year. We had ordered the Christmas BMTs and Minus Ones needed in our show, but the package never reached us (no doubt due to the inefficiency of the postal system in this country, which only gets worse during holidays). We were at a loss as to what to do! Our first show was on November 20th, and the only soundtracks we had were some tapes which had been in use for several years already, and were extremely bad quality. But thank the Lord, someone was checking out the Members Only Web site and discovered the large variety of soundtracks, with almost everything we needed. We were able to download the songs, and as a result have been able to perform all over the city using top quality soundtracks, and winning hundreds of souls as a result!

[Editor’s note: Studios, please send in your BMTs and Minus Ones to the Web team, who will then make them available for all our Family performers via the Members Only site! Thanks!]

S. Africa

From Tino, Mary, Shane and Niki. Danny (13, of Tino and Maria) was on a local TV station and was able to give a witness about the real meaning of Christmas. The TV station also played clips from the Christmas Kiddie Viddie in Romanian. A friend of ours, an interviewer for TERRA SAT, a local TV station in Craiova which runs a daily local program, interviewed Danny about what a traditional Christmas is like for someone from the United States. Danny was able to give a sweet message about the true meaning of Christmas—Jesus, and His birthday! The show also aired several songs from the Christmas videos. The program was shown twice, reaching 40,000.

From Cush (of Zara). Since 1996 we have been hosting a Christmas Banquet for 3000 poor people to whom Christmas is just another day to
scrounge around for enough to eat. We invite them to a park to enjoy a meal of barbequed chicken and meat, beans, rice, tortillas, vegetable salad, bread, and of course, beverages to their full satisfaction, while being entertained by Family clowns and musicians.

Indonesia

Christmas in Bali

From Steven (of Faith), for the Bali Home. We visited orphanages and gave packages of clothing, shoes and other personal needs to each child. We did clown shows, and our children performed songs and acted out a Christmas play for the orphans.

Besides visiting orphanages, our children performed at weddings, restaurants, offices, schools and hotels. They made friends with international visitors to Bali and Indonesians alike. Many thanked them for making Christmas a special and joyous time.

Hilton—Flame, Danny, Paul and Karen (YA Dawn in background)

...a large hotel. The show was in a big banquet room with the stage located to the back and center of the room. They had a few hands on before us that the audience wasn’t tuning in to, but when we got up to sing everyone stopped eating and was quiet.

There was a short break where the singers had to change costumes and since the audience had a lot of children. Art and I got up and said a few words to kill time until the singers got back. We called some of the children up on stage and asked what Christmas meant to each of them. They all replied with the usual things—presents, tons of food, parties with family and friends. Then we asked whose birthday it was at Christmas and no one knew. Finally, a foreign boy piped up with, “It’s Jesus’ birthday!” and then all the Chinese children nodded in agreement. This was one of the most fun shows we did this year. The Lord really came through even though we weren’t so prepared.

The hotel management was so impressed (amazingly enough!) that they asked to sign us up for next year’s holidays. The host of the banquet asked for our cards to pass out to the other major companies in the city. And of course, the Lord didn’t forget to feed us. Seeing as it was a banquet...we did eat!

China

Chinese Christmas Banquet

From Anais, for the Candles Home. We performed six Christmas performances this year, for a collective audience of approximately 2,200 people. We performed our first Christmas show for 250 people at a private function in an upscale restaurant in the city. And of course, the Lord didn’t forget to feed us. Seeing as it was a banquet...we did eat!

Singing at the Marriott

From Mary (14), Islamabad. We performed at the Marriott on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The show (performed for 500 people) went very smoothly. After the show, they provided us with delicious snacks while some of the adults were talking or getting tools out to people curious about our work. The second night went very well too and we managed to encourage a lot of people who were apprehensive about the New Year.

The local English paper, writing about our show said: “The Marriott was one of the few places that you could feel the warmth of Christmas due to the lively performance by ‘The Family Singers!’”

Costa Rica

Better than Federal Express

From Promise and David. This year has been incredible! One TV channel did a three-minute spot all about our ministry, the real meaning of Christmas and message of salvation.

A man from Panama who heard the children sing bought 400 cassette tapes and is hosting an all-expenses-paid trip to the capital for us to do our Christmas singing in his restaurants and various businesses. It is a first-time opportunity for us to get out the message in the heart of Panama!

Before hitting the road for the Christmas push, we needed to pay about $300 in bills, buy tapes and get bus tickets. We were desperate, and didn’t see how we could get the funds. The next day a check for $300 arrived from a friend! When we phoned him he said while praying the Lord told him to send that amount, urgently. God’s service is better than Federal Express, ha!

Spain

Carols for inner city kids

From John and Rose. For lack of personnel, time, funds and a vehicle, we didn’t think we’d be able to do much in the way of a big Christmas outreach push, but the Lord dropped a golden opportunity into our laps. A sweet lady who has a local project of distributing food to needy inner-city families came to visit and begged us to do a show when they gave out gifts. We didn’t have more than two days to get the small kids from two Homes (ours and Luna, Eman and Marie’s) practiced up, but it went really well. They were even filmed by a local TV station! Their Santa Claus was giving out our tracts to each child.
China

300 Chinese old folks

From Sher for the Candle Home. On December 15th, we did a CTP show that our Chinese teacher had arranged for us to do at home for 300 old folks. This is an uncommon occurrence in China, and was a first for us, but after getting the Lord’s go-ahead we all had a peace about going for it.

Our performance was very simple, with just four of us singing. As we went from room to room, Jay asked the audience to join us in a Christmas prayer. Over 100 old folks and staff prayed with us to ask Jesus in their hearts. The old folks had a great time, and the directors and staff were happy and appreciative.

Brazil

The Lord’s plan overrides ours

From Paulo and Nina. We had our plans for the Christmas push this year, but the Lord had His, and that’s exactly what’s been happening!

We had plans to do “big” shows, so we sent our press release to many big shopping malls where we personally knew the people in charge—We got no answers from them. When we saw that the season was approaching and we had nothing scheduled, we prayed and decided to start busking with our troupe: Paulo, Nina, Maria Dutch (16), Leila Dutch (13), Lua (12), Terra (10) and Estrela (7).

The Lord opened so many doors! We didn’t have decent costumes, so He supplied a fancy store in Barra that lent matching costumes for all the girls for our first weekend performance at the New York City Center (a contact which Ezequiel and Sunny’s Home graciously shared with us, even though they had already “signed” with them! GBT!).

The following week, the owner of the Metropolitan (theatre) asked if we could sing at a charity event taking place in front of the Candelaria church in downtown Rio, where gifts were going to be distributed to orphans and street kids. When we told her we didn’t have costumes, she right away offered to pay for the material and a seamstress to make nice costumes for all six girls.

The event was covered by a couple of cable TV stations, and the lady then asked if we could play at a Christmas mass that is held every year at an orphanage she sponsors. During the mass, the priest, who is very “dropped-out” in his behavior, asked if different people would like to give a message to all present, and passed the microphone to our seven-year-old Estrela who, upon encouragement from Mommy, proceeded to say the Salvation prayer with all present! Later, the priest called me (Paulo) to give a message. The Lord showed me then that I should give the testimony of the love of God for us and sing “The Weaver.”

After that, Rio’s minors’ Judge, Giro Darlan, (whom we had met before) came and thanked us for our performance at the mass and mentioned how much he had enjoyed our CD (Nosso Amor—which includes some Loving Jesus songs!). He said that he’d like to work closer with us in some of his charity endeavors.

The lady who had us sing also owns a restaurant in Lagoa, and she told us that the doors there were open for our team to go busking whenever we wanted, and so we did. Last night we sang there, passed out several CDs and witnessed to a famous actor, Tiago Lacerda. He was sweet, gave autographs and took photos with all the children.

Taiwan

Gifts in the wake of the 921 quake

From Tim and Hannah, Garden Home. “Give a Christmas present from Me to the children of the 921 disaster and present it in love and joy!” This was the answer we received in prayer as we gathered in our Home on November 15th, 1999, when asking the Lord what we should do for the upcoming Christmas season.

No sooner had we stepped out to seek sponsors for the various “gifts” that were to be given to the children of the 921 quake in the central towns of Puli and Ji Ji, than God did miracle after miracle to give His gifts! Over 2,400 color Christmas books containing six stories of protection in regular Chinese characters were sponsored. Over 4,500 color posters of the real meaning of Christmas, and 160 Bilingual audio tapes and CDs were also distributed and contributed to nearly 3,000 students in the quake area.

Over 50 Family members from around Taiwan joined in on the 1999 Christmas 921 mission- ary project called, “A Christmas Present From Jesus!” We arranged several performances for the children and school authorities in various schools. The show consisted of an energetic teen dance troupe performing Christmas melodies, a fun and cute dog show “The Amazing Patch” (courtesy of the PPC Home and Anne, of Steven, a dog trainer), doing various tricks, which brought a smile, woof and giggle to all the children. There were also two clown show troupes called “The Happy Clowns” and “The Happy Smile Brothers.” The shows ended with the gift giving.

Six major newspapers also ran articles on the many shows that we were able to perform for the kids affected by the earthquake.

Philippines

Instead of cartoons

From Peter, Tender, and Priscilla. Treasure Attic is being shown on TV here, on GMA Channel 7, the second largest and most popular network here in the country. “Christmas Friends” was on last Friday, Dec. 17 and “Forever Friend” was on today, Dec. 20. They were shown at prime time for children.
fLOURISHING WORK? AND HOW WILL A GROUP OF YOUNG, REVOLUTIONARY CHILDREN OF DAVID DO WHEN THEY ARE CALLED TO SPEND “CHRISTMAS IN A CLOSED COUNTRY”—WITH ONLY THEIR FAITH AND THEIR LINK WITH HEAVEN TO LEAD AND GUIDE THEM? CHECK IT OUT!

MEXICO

CHRISTMAS TRACT ON ROCK RADIO STATION...

FROM SEEK IN MORELIA. THIS CHRISTMAS OUR HOME DECIDED TO PASS OUT 25,000 CHRISTMAS TRACTS. THIS WAS A FUN PROJECT FOR THE ADULTS, SGAS, TEENS AND CHILDREN, ASWHENEVER THERE WAS SPARE TIME, WE COULD GRAB TRACTS AND BE OUT THE DOOR WITH SOMETHING VERY WORTHWHILE TO DO.

I TOOK A CAB ONE DAY AND IMMEDIATELY TOLD THE CAB DRIVER THAT I WAS A MISSIONARY AND WORKED WITH CORAZONES UNIDOS, AS THEN THEY GENERALLY HELP US WITH A LOWER RATE. HE TOLD ME THAT HE HAD BEEN LISTENING TO A LOCAL ROCK RADIO STATION ON SATURDAY, WHICH IS PRIME TIME FOR YOUNG PEOPLE. HE SAID THE DJ STARTED TO TELL HOW WHEN EVERYONE ELSE IS RUSHING AROUND BUYING PRESENTS, A GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE WERE BUSY PASSING OUT A MESSAGE TO SHARE THE REAL MEANING OF CHRISTMAS. THE TAXI DRIVER TOLD ME HOW THE DJ SAID HE HAD RECEIVED A TRACT AT THE LIGHT FROM CORAZONES UNIDOS AND THEN HE PROCEEDED TO READ THE ENTIRE TRACT ON THE RADIO, INCLUDING THE SALVATION PRAYER AT THE END!

THE PEOPLE WERE PUSHING AND SHOVING SO MUCH THAT WE HAD TO HAVE THE RED CROSS, POLICE, AND A SECURITY COMPANY SEND MEN TO HELP CONTROL THE CROWD.

THIS YEAR WE PLANNED TO GO AHEAD WITH THE SAME THING WE HAVE DONE THE TWO PREVIOUS YEARS...IT JUST SEEMED LIKE THE THING TO DO! BUT AS CHRISTMAS APPROACHED THE LORD TOLD US THAT HE WANTED THE PEOPLE AND US TO EXPERIENCE THE REAL MEANING OF CHRISTMAS, AND TO DO SO WE COULD MAKE FAMILY-SIZED FOOD BOXES TO DELIVER PERSONALLY TO THE HOUSES IN POOR AREAS. HE ALSO SAID THAT THIS WOULD GIVE US AN OPPORTUNITY TO SING A CAROL AND WITNESS TO THE FAMILIES.

THE CONTACTS WHO HELP WITH OUR CTP PROJECTS WHOLEHEARTEDLY AGREED TO THE NEW IDEA. AFTER SIX WEEKS MAKING ALL THE ARRANGEMENTS (GOD BLESS MANANTIAL!) WE WERE ABLE TO DISTRIBUTE 350 BOXES, EACH PACKED FOR A FAMILY OF FIVE WITH A ROASTED CHICKEN, BEANS, RICE, CAKE, TOYS AND NEW SWEATERS. TEAMS FROM THE THREE HOMES IN OUR AREA WENT OUT TO DELIVER THE BOXES AND RETURNED WITH TOUCHING STORIES OF THE PEOPLE'S RESPONSES.

IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL LESSON IN NOT TAKING THINGS FOR GRANTED JUST BECAUSE YOU ALWAYS DO SOMETHING IN A CERTAIN WAY!

INDIA

THIS “TO DO” LIST LOOK FAMILIAR?

FROM PRAISE. DECEMBER TO DO LIST: TAKE CARE OF NEWBORN BABY AND QUITE A FEW YOUNG CHILDREN, SET UP NEW HOUSE, STUDY FOR AND TAKE A SYSTEM EXAMINATION, Y2K PREP, CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS (INCLUDING MAKING COSTUMES FROM HEAD TO TOE, PRACTICING, BOOKING PROGRAMS, WRITING SCRIPTS, ETC.), CHRISTMAS MAIL, DECORATING THE HOUSE AND ALL THAT GOES INTO PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS. AND THEN THERE ARE THE USUAL THINGS: FUNDRAISING, FOLLOW-UP, MARKET PROVISIONING, CELEBRATING CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS, ETC.

ON TOP OF THAT, WE LOST OUR LOCAL LANGUAGE SPEAKERS SO WE HAD TO LOOK FOR A HINDI TEACHER AND SOMEONE TO HELP TRANSLATE AT OUR CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS. OUR PLATES FULL AND OVERFLOWING, I STARTED WONDERING WHAT WAS TO BECOME OF OUR CHRISTMAS OUTREACH.

LO AND BEHOLD, AS WE WENT ABOUT OUR BUSINESS AND DID WHAT LITTLE WE COULD DO, THE LORD DID WHAT WE COULDN'T DO. HE RAISED UP PEOPLE TO HELP US. HE LED US TO HUNGRY SHEEP. HE OPENED DOORS FOR NEW CTPS. HE HELPED US TO PRETTY MUCH GET EVERYTHING DONE WE SET OUT TO DO. EVERY DAY HAS BEEN A STRING OF MIRACLES. OUR CHRISTMAS OUTREACH TOOK OFF THROUGH THE CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS SHOWS, AND HE IS GETTING OUT THE MESSAGE IN WAYS THAT WE HADN’T EVEN ANTICIPATED OR PLANNED!

ALBANIA

REACHING 3 MILLION

FROM FRANCESCO, SARA AND MARCO. WE WERE ABLE TO ORGANIZE AND PERFORM A CHRISTMAS SHOW ON NATIONAL TV. THIS TV SHOW WAS BROADCAST ON CHRISTMAS DAY ON THE MAIN ALBANIAN STATION WHICH HAS AN AUDIENCE OF 3 MILLION PEOPLE.—AND WE WERE ABLE TO INCLUDE THE SALVATION PRAYER!
The check that paid off

From Diamond, Romania: One night Martina grabbed the guitar and started singing Christmas songs to her baby. Miracle walked in, and joined in on the singing. Pavel and I were joking in the kitchen that maybe the girls should try some restaurant singing, and then we said: “Hey, maybe we should pray about it!”

That night the Lord gave us beautiful prophecies that He would use us to meet city fathers and reach people that we couldn’t meet any other way. We practiced a little bit, had desperate prayer, then went out to see what was going to happen. I must confess that I had butterflies in my stomach, because I’m not a singer. Many times I can’t even carry a tune. But having the Lord’s prophecies gave me the faith to try.

We decided to first go to some smaller restaurants, and once we had gained confidence, we’d try some of the fancier places. The first place we walked into was a hotel and (being unaware that there was a big party going on) we asked permission to sing. Within the next half an hour we found ourselves on stage with bright lights and miles. Yikes! That didn’t help my butterflies at all. There were also famous singers and about 300 people. Not exactly a “small place”!

When our turn came we sang three Christmas songs. I was counting the minutes till I could get off stage, but the people clapped and the man who organized the party gave us $100. He has the third biggest printing company in the country, and wants to see us again.

At the party we met two top officials who we had been planning to approach about our visas. They said it was no problem to sign our papers (which they did in the next couple of days), and they invited us to another party where many top officials and probably the mayor will be guests. We are very thankful that we stopped to ask the Lord about the little check that He gave us!

Mama jewels on . . . mysterious prophecy

If you have questions about something the Lord has said in prophecy, just ask Him about it again! The Lord doesn’t mind us coming back to Him. Prophecy is mysterious, and as most of you have now learned, the Lord does take us step by step. And if you haven’t found that out yet, please do quickly!

The Lord doesn’t usually tell you what’s going to happen in the end, what your final destination is, or the conclusion of the matter. He almost always stays in the present, within what the circumstances are today, though tomorrow they might be different. You have to stay real close to the Lord so that you’ll get the right answer, and in order to get the right answer, you have to keep asking Him questions, because according to circumstances things may change. Sometimes the Lord even changes His mind according to circumstances or even according to your faith and burdens, so that’s why it’s so important to keep asking Him and going back to Him for further information or confirmations of His will.

But we learn so many things through the step-by-step process. The Lord might tell you to do this and then when something comes up that raises a question about the Lord’s instruction, when you go back to Him and ask, “Lord, why did You say to do this?” the Lord can then tell you, “I told you to do this because of this reason. But now I want you to do something else.”

You learn through that process. The Lord’s very interested, not just in giving us the answers we need through prophecy, but also in helping us to learn through the ask-and-keep-on-asking process.—Not just learning by rote, but He wants you to understand what you’re doing as you go along. That’s why He wants you to keep coming back and asking Him whenever you or someone else has a question, or whenever something changes or comes up that you feel might affect His previous instruction to you.

XPY computer security

Question: I heard from a couple of guys that they could easily make or use a program that could “steal a password” from XPY. They say that XPY is old hat and we’re just fooling ourselves thinking that it’s secure to encrypt information with it. I don’t know how true it is, but it would be nice to know how reliable XPY is, and if it’s not, for the Family to switch to a different file encryption program and thus update the Charter, where it suggests using XPY. (As I understand CPY isn’t an easy tool to use to encrypt and store your own information.)

—DANIEL JEREMIAH, UKRAINE

Answer: (From WS Programming Team) We hear reports similar to this from time to time, but so far we have not been able to substantiate any of the claims. If anyone can “crack” XPY we’d certainly like to hear from them about the details of exactly how they “crack” it.

We feel that XPY is as good or better than any encryption that is currently available for the job that it is intended for, and that is for keeping your own personal files individually encrypted on your computer. We have made available at different times several programs that can XPY encrypt files: the DOS XPY program version 2.0 or higher, the HomeArc program, and Wpxy that is included with Menu Extension. All of these programs use the same basic encryption algorithm (method of encryption), which is also one of the algorithms that PGP uses. We feel that all of these versions of XPY provide a good level of encryption protection if used properly.

Please keep in mind that there are a number of ways to “crack” encryption. Some encryption algorithms have inherent weaknesses that people very knowledgeable in cryptography can exploit, and thus they are able to “crack” fairly easily any file that has been encrypted with that method of encryption. As far as we know, the encryption algorithm that XPY uses has no known weaknesses of this type.

If an encryption algorithm doesn’t have any inherent weaknesses then it is necessary to either “guess” or “steal” the password to be able to “crack” it. We feel that the claims of “cracking” XPY probably are of this type. It doesn’t really matter what method of encryption you are using, if you do not choose a good password, or if someone is able to steal your password.

That’s why we suggest that you are careful in choosing your password, and that it really should be a “pass phrase” that contains at least several words plus some other characters such as numbers and punctuation. If you use a good pass phrase then it will be virtually impossible for someone to “guess” it. However, it may still be possible for them to “steal” it.

Someone would need to have some sort of “physical” access to your computer to be able to “steal” your password. The simplest way of course would be to just look over your shoulder and watch as you type your password. Also, there are programs that can be installed on computers that will log anything that is typed on the keyboard or just log things that are typed into certain programs. But it would require physical access to your computer to install the program and then physical access again at a later time to retrieve what you have typed.

Again, we want to emphasize that these types of methods can apply to any encryption program. If your password isn’t good or your computer isn’t physically secure then your password may not be secure either. It’s up to you to ensure that only trusted people have physical access to your computer.

One specific precaution that you should take when using any of the various versions of XPY is to clear your password from memory when you aren’t using your computer. XPY has the “feature” of storing your password in memory so that you don’t have to keep typing your password over and over again. However, if you leave your computer running and don’t clear the password once you are done with it then it would be possible for someone else who has “physical” access to your computer to “steal” the password. Clear your password whenever you leave your computer. If you use the Internet, it would be safest to clear your password from memory while online also. It’s unlikely that someone could “steal” your password while online, but clearing it will guarantee that it’s not available.

We hope this has been a help. It’s difficult to cover every aspect. The most important thing of course is to be prayerful and ask the Lord to lead, guide and protect you in those security matters. Make sure that you have a security plan for your computer, and that you follow your plan.
[Casting a love net]
Mark (of Kelita), Japan: A couple weeks ago I woke up with an inspiration from the Lord: How about a Web site for the Somebody Loves You tract? There has been such a great response to it worldwide! So I drafted my son Chris (14) into helping since he knows HTML language (he was a willing draftee, and actually, the Lord inspired him to do it all!). In a couple of weeks we had the site up and running.

We have posted the tract in English, Japanese, Russian, Tamil, Spanish, Chinese and simple Chinese. (Thanks to the Members Only site for some of these. There is a link to the Family Web site as well.

We would like to include this tract on our site in every language available, so if you have either SLY or TYYWL (To you, with Love) in another language as a computer file, you can e-mail it to us at: lovetract@reborn.com.

(Love notes from old and friends also welcomed!)
If you would like to have a look at the site it can be found at www.geocities.com/lovetract.

[King’s Day]
Cush (of Zara), Guadalajara, Mexico: On January 6th, King’s day, when toys are given to children in Mexico, our Santa Rosa Project gave out over 300 toys to poor children who hardly ever get a toy for either their birthdays or Christmas. It is a joy like none other to see their expectant little faces light up with a smile of sincere appreciation and happiness, when they grasp that toy firmly with their two hands, like they don’t want it to escape.

[Family “Eid” cards are the best!]
From Islamabad Home: (Eid is the biggest and most important holidays in the Muslim world, and sending Eid cards to each other is like sending Christmas cards in the West.)

Just two days after mailing out approximately 500 Eid cards, we visited some of our friends and contacts and saw that though the office furniture was covered with Eid cards from other companies or acquaintances, our card took priority on their desks.

This year we selected the quote: “It’s easy to have peace when all is going well. It’s harder when life is raging about you, but God can give you peace in the midst of a storm, perfect peace that comes from knowing that He is in control and He loves you!” We made the card into a fold-up calendar so they can use it throughout the year. People often xerox and pass on our quote sheets to their friends, relatives and office staff.

[Rare stats]
Francesco, Sara and Marco, Albania: The Lord opened the door for us to participate in one of the biggest fairs held in Albania this year. Our stand displayed all our outreach materials and distributed 56 videos, 10 CDs and 87 tapes—very rare stats for the Albanian field.

[International children’s film festival]
Mark and Faithy, India: From November 14-20, the 11th International Film Festival was held in our city. It was quite a high profile event. During five of those days in the evenings a one-hour cultural program was held, where different school children were able to participate and perform a song. There was a very strict committee who screened all the proposed performances before anyone was chosen.

By a miracle the Lord opened the door for our Home’s deaf and hearing children to perform there. We were the only ones chosen who were not from a school nor were we auditioned. A few of the organizers were a bit nervous about how our show was going to be received as they had not seen it before, especially since there were going to be about 3,400 people watching it. But the crowd loved it and we got such a good response.

The organizers came to us right after the show to congratulate us, telling us how our show was the best of all. TY! The next day two of the leading local papers wrote articles about our show with photos of our team.

[Supply from a sample]
Simon (of Mary), USA: We stopped in a campground to rest for a day [after some meetings in Texas], and we met a man and his wife who were in their sixties. They were both dear Christians and during our conversation he mentioned that his wife had just been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease. They were both devastated about it, and I asked them if I could pray for her. I laid my hands on her and prayed a healing prayer for her, which touched them both. An hour later he came with a check in his hand for $200. Thank the Lord!

The day after arriving here in Atlanta at a large trailer park, one of the workers came up to my wife and said, “You’re the missionary family, aren’t you? Everybody in the park is talking about you and what a good sample you are. I want to do something for you. I’m not a very good Christian, but this is the least I can do!”—He proceeded to hand her his entire paycheck of $440 that he made that week!

[Loy Krathong Festival]
Steven, Thailand: We performed during Loy Krathong, a very famous Thai Holiday. It is the Thai Buddhist equivalent, in a way, of Christmas.

The entire four-day festival took place at Bangsi, which is about an hour and a half outside of Bangkok. It is an incredibly beautiful place right on the river near Ayutthaya, the old capital of Thailand. The festival was a big production of parades, lots of different performances and exhibitions.

Our team’s show was meant to be a portion of a very big program on the last night, which was to be partially broadcast live on Channel 7. The program included a big beauty contest for Loy Krathong, several famous Thai and jazz band performances, as well as a performance by the best saxophone player in Thailand.

Channel 7 was there and we noticed that they had brought the most sophisticated television setup we’ve ever seen. It was something like they use at the Super Bowl or World Cup or something—enormous cameras, not at all like the Betacam cameras that we’ve normally seen them use. Some of the program was going to be filmed and broadcast later and some was going to be aired in a late live broadcast.

This particular program was a gala event. There were two famous movie stars doing the MCing and after things settled down they started the beauty pageant. All of a sudden they stopped and said that we were not supposed to go on. The singing team sang three songs—two lukthoong songs and our new pop song. That went very, very well and most people loved the lukthoongnumbers. Jonas sang one and then Jonas and Angelina sang another. Then there was a little bit of a break, and they asked the kids to come on. The kids did their five-minute Loy Krathong medley, which went well and was followed by two more songs by the singing team.

The five songs as well as the Loy Krathong medley were all filmed and broadcast on TV last night, and apparently will be re-broadcast several times. (Originally we thought we were just going to perform the children’s song and two singing team numbers for TV.) From what we can tell, it will be some of the biggest television exposure we’ve ever had.

The second set was “Ding Nang”—the number that Jonas did on TV, which people loved—and then ”Miracles,” which was in English. I heard from a number of people that it came out beautifully. Considering it’s a very popular song (from the cartoon “Prince of Egypt”), I’m not like we were preaching, but apparently the way it came across was unbelievably beautiful. It ended with Angelina holding up her hand to the country, singing the last lines of the song, “There can be miracles if you believe.”

[Food for body and soul]
Cush (of Zara), Guadalajara, Mexico: We have adopted 59 poor families to whom we are committed to give a regular Bible class, after which they receive their bi-weekly supply of staple foods and other personal needs, enough to keep them from going hungry year round. We are now looking for a suitable house to have a daycare/kindergarten for poor kids ages 3-6 years old, Monday through Friday, giving them breakfast, midmorning snack and lunch.
An Orthodox Jew Converts!

From a team in the States

OUR FIRST MEETING

We met with Matthew this week, an Orthodox Jew who is the marketing director for a very large company. He contacted us via the Web site, and was interested in knowing more about us. This proved to be a very inspiring spiritual experience.

We spent three or four hours with Matthew, with him speaking and pouring out his heart and life for the first half, and us listening. He converted to Orthodox Judaism because he liked their strong family ties and unity, their separation from the world, and their dedication to God.

Many of the aspects he described of their lifestyle were similar to our own, because of their spirit of dropping out of the System and being separate. We could see that the Lord used this as a preparation for him to meet us.

He told us that he had read through our Web site, but had also read through all the negative anti-Family literature on the Web. He explained that because of his work he has learned to be a good researcher, and feels confident he has read all the anti-Family material. We were happy to hear this, as with a person in his position we felt it would be much better that he knew everything before getting involved any further. We ourselves brought up the Jewish issue later in the conversation, and explained briefly to him what Dad has written about this topic, particularly Zionism and how we have been accused of anti-Semitism. He handled this well, and pointed out that factions of the Orthodox are also against Zionism, because they don’t believe that Israel should be a state again until the Messiah has come. Since—according to them—the Messiah has not returned, present-day Israel is not the true state of Israel.

He told us that when he read Dad’s writings (he insisted on calling him Dad), he knew that Dad was not only a prophet, but the greatest prophet of God that has been on the Earth in the past thousand years! He is convinced of this. He has studied Jewish mysticism and particularly the Kabala, and felt that Dad’s writings confirm everything he has ever read. For this reason, he wanted to meet the people that follow Dad.

You must lift Me up. You must speak of the great love that I have for him and for the world, and that this is what motivates you in all that you do. He is looking for sincere love, for he is caught up in a dog-eat-dog rat race of this world and he does so long for succor from the corruption and politics that he is surrounded with, day in and day out. Handle this man with love. Answer his questions with conviction and boldness. Love him with My Words, for I have brought you to the Kingdom for such a time as this—to give to these who will find My love and no other. They need Me and I need you as vessels of My love to pour forth unto these. (End of message from Jesus.)

We used the story of Nicodemus when sharing with Matthew about Salvation and he seemed somewhat familiar with the story. During this time, the conviction of the Spirit was so strong that Matthew changed the subject and we moved on to other topics, but he definitely wants to take up the issue at a later date.

He has some bad feelings about church Christians because of their hypocrisy and their attacking each other, and he was quite relieved to hear Dad’s take on salvation in the spirit world and God’s system of justice (as opposed to the black-and-white attitude of most church Christians). He had a hard time understanding how Christians such as our enemies who have hurt and damaged us could still be saved. We had just read in the car the Letter “Everlasting Shame and Contempt” where Dad goes over that in such detail, so we were able to discuss this with him (DB 11—#2842).

He is still grappling with salvation, so we promised to send him more of Dad’s writings that discuss this in greater detail than the Treasures (which he has). As he knows Dad is a prophet, we feel that the more he can receive from Dad the better. This is, of course, a huge step for such an orthodox Jew. Besides that, we feel he is grappling so much because he knows the price. Matthew is not the kind who would get saved and just continue on his normal life. He is an all-or-nothing-at-all person, and he knows that becoming a born-again

This man is a seeker, one who is on a spiritual journey and whom My heart goes out to, one whom I long for to know My truth, to be touched by My Spirit, to know Me, his Savior and King, and to accept Me as such.
Christian would be a giant step for him in his position.

We also discussed prophecy at length, which he said they also believe in and practice. He was curious to know how we went about it, what “training” we had, etc. He is very open to it and eager to understand our take on prophecy. Throughout our conversations, he kept reminding us that he too believes Dad’s words and knows that he is a prophet.

We left him agreeing that we would send him letters on salvation (we also left him Glimpses of Heaven and The Future Foretold), and that we would work out for him to visit the Home. He was also going to think about how he could best help us. He was so turned on by our posters, insisting that we needed to market them. He asked us if we realized just how incredible the posters are. He wants to pray and think about ways to bring our message and posters more into the public eye.

MATTHEW’S SALVATION EXPERIENCE

We just received the following e-mail note from Matthew, in which he tells us that he has received Jesus! An incredible testimony, to say the least, and such wonderful fruit from the witness of the Web site. One of the most touching things about the note is his appreciation for dear Dad and Mama, in leading him to the truth. He knows that Dad has passed on, but because in their tradition they never refer to someone as dead but only passed on, they refer to them in the present as if they are still with us. Which of course Dad is, PTL!

We’ve been sending him quite a bit of Dad’s Letters and trying to help him build a good foundation in the Word for his newfound faith.

Matthew has received the counsel we have given him wholeheartedly. He is now reading through the book of John and has memorized four verses from the Memory Book. He is a hungry babe and has certainly kept us desperate in prayer in regards to our counsel and feeding of him. Following is an excerpt of one of his notes:

(In reaction to “Flesh vs. Spirit”)

“‘Heavy Hitter’? Whatever do you mean? Do you mean that with each sentence Dad takes a solid whack at some of my most precious and foundational beliefs? Do they deserve to be whacked at? Yes. Do I like all of what he is saying? Nope, but why should I? The key here for me is not to be defensive, which is not easy. I’ve read it over a few times, and am responding upward and inward—questioning, growing, learning, praying for clarity of mind and purity of heart. Also, thanks for the guidance on the Bible. I’ll take it. I really love and thank you guys.

“Dear Jesus, I know that I need help and that I can’t save myself. I have heard that You are the Son of God, and that through You I can personally find and know the God of Love. Jesus, I need Your Love to cleanse me from all fear and hate. I need Your Light to drive away all darkness. And I need Your Peace to fill and satisfy my heart. So I now open the door of my heart and I ask You, Jesus, to please come in and give me Your free gift of Eternal Life! Thank You, Jesus, for suffering for all of the wrong I have done and for forgiving me and hearing my prayer! In Jesus’ name, amen.”

“I said it. At that moment (and at this moment) I meant it. Having been on the planet for quite a few days, I knew that in saying it nothing material would change immediately, but that everything—materially and spiritually—would change eventually.

“Trying to locate the source of simple faith deep within me, I am laboring to neither intellectualize nor emotionalize the experience. As you know, this simple act has created an intense desire to learn more about what God expects of me now, and to experience the fellowship of kindred minds and spirits and to reach upward, outward and inward, with others and by myself. But I will deal with that slowly and patiently. I am determined and required to do all in my power to try to make this decision acceptable to everyone who loves me. As I mentioned at our meeting, I’ve experienced this before, and have advised those making similar transitions. So I know that I cannot do it alone. For this more than anything, I will need your prayers and experienced counsel.

“Please accept my most sincere thanks and blessings. And please convey them to Mama and Dad, without whom none of this would have been remotely possible.

Looking forward,

Matthew

MATTHEW VISITS HOME; PERSONAL LETTER TO MAMA AND PETER

We had a beautiful visit with Matthew to the Home. We were able to minister more deeply to him, and give him a sample of Family life.

TTL, he is taking things slow and is aware of the tremendous impact that his conversion will have. In telling us how aware he is of the full dimensions this impact will have, he told us (as Dad has said in the Letters) how to even say the name of Jesus among Orthodox Jews is absolutely anathema. He said that they never use the name of Jesus even in scholarly discussion, but have given Jesus another name. Please continue to keep this in your prayers, as it is certainly an unusual situation. Matthew is really an all-out sort of person, so we know he will want to go further with his faith, but we are just praying and hearing from the Lord one step at a time.

The Lord showed us during his visit that we should show Matthew Dad on video, and this turned out to be a real key! He loved Dad and knows who he is in the spirit. He said that it would be so nice if everyone could have their own personal video copy of Dad, as watching him was so feeding and comforting. After the visit, he sent us the following note, highlighting what seeing Dad meant to him, which moved us to tears:

“There is a profound teaching in Jewish mysticism of a “neshama k’lali” or an “encompassing soul.” There are certain great souls, of which thousands, or tens of thousands, or even millions of smaller souls are really only a part. When I saw the video of Dad yesterday I knew that I have discovered the root and source of my own soul. For the first time, I truly understand the connectedness of a teacher and a disciple. I am, in fact, only a part of his soul. My desire, my pleasure, my faith, is to lose my illusion of “selfness” and become truly at one with his desire, his pleasure, his faith . . . and connected to those souls which are within, and connected to his soul—to you, to Mama, to Peter, and to all who are within you. This is my goal; the rest is commentary.

Send my deepest love to everyone who touched me yesterday, which means everyone I met in your beautiful Home.

They need Me and I need you as vessels of My love to pour forth unto these.”
Matthew is growing a lot in spirit. We send him Letters every couple of days, and he told us that he spends half his day reading the Letters, and memorizing his verses from the Memory Book as well as studying his Bible! GBH! He takes his study of the Word very seriously and commented that he has studied many, many Torah scholars, but none of them ever had the insight to the Old Testament that Dad has. He also pointed out that it amazes him how Dad can express such deep truths so simply that even a child can understand them.

Two days after his visit, he sent us a letter for Mama and Peter, which is so heart-touching. Following is the letter:

Matthew sent us the following note in response to prophecies we sent him from Jesus and Dad as well as the different response to prophecies we sent him from them. He also pointed out that it amazes him how Dad can express such deep truths so simply that even a child can understand them.

Dear Mama,

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you, and Peter, and everyone in World Services and in your beautiful Family everywhere for helping to bring me closer to God, to the Holy Spirit, to Jesus, to Dad, and to each and every one of you.

Your strength, courage and steadfastness are awe-inspiring. I send you my love and my prayers, and offer you my service. Words cannot express the degree to which I would be honored and joyous to meet with or communicate with you in any way. But I do understand how the demands of service, time and security may not make that possible for a very long time.

So at this point I just want to say hi, and thanks, and that I'll be there for you, just as you've been there for me. And that's a sworn promise, before God.

Looking forward, in love
Matthew

(from Matthew:) Reading Jesus' and Dad's Words to me has been filling me with the greatest sense of peace. And thanks for being such role models yourselves. I do realize just how lucky I am that God has seen fit to deliver me into your hands as teachers and mentors.

I have not ever properly achieved it, but I can imagine how hard-fought yieldedness can be to attain. It is only through your own self-effacement that Jesus and Dad could speak to me. Thank you and please feel my hugs! All the advice and Godly counsel is being taken to heart, so let me give you a little “progress report,” and ask for your feedback on direction, etc.:

1) Memorization: I've memorized verses 1-24 of the first set. I find that I can comfortably memorize about three new verses a day on the bus ride in, while reviewing all that I've memorized on the bus ride home. It's getting the thee's and the ye's just right that's the biggest challenge! When I finish the first set, I'll have to go back and memorize the actual chapter and verse numbers. Putting a new set of mnemonics to each verse will help me retain them all, I think. If there are any memorization strategies that you or others have developed, let me know.

2) The Word: I've gotten the Thompson Chain Reference. It's wonderful! You had mentioned John and Hebrews in an earlier note. I've read John (it is SO beautiful) and Hebrews (2000 years and so little has changed, alas!). What do you suggest next? My instinct is to read the entire New Testament, with the Thompson Chain background material, and then go back to sections that you will suggest. Is that right? Is there a particular book (Matthew, Luke?) that I should read in-depth while I'm going at higher speed through all the Gospels?

3) Dad's Letters: One a day would be about right for me (I so enjoy reading them aloud). And I do reread the ones you've sent.

4) Fellowship: This is the hardest part. Keep writing, and I'd love to hear from others too, if just with a hi. I'm sure you understand. And one confession: My worst habit is with forgetting names. Can you remind me of the names of everybody I was introduced to? Believe me, their faces and souls are imprinted on my soul. I hope I am in their thoughts and prayers, as they are in mine.

(Note: We're going to have some of the young people in our Home start corresponding with Matthew via e-mail so he can feel that he has a Home away from Home.)

He's really growing, PTL!

We visited with Matthew two days in a row, and he was very thankful for the visits, and for the letter and prophecies from Mama! When we got together, he immediately wanted to talk about what the Lord has for his life, and what he's supposed to do to be the disciple he wants to be. We told him that is something the Lord will show him and cautioned him about being patient and not moving too quickly.

This is quite a test for Matthew, as he is used to being in charge and is a highly efficient man, which is doubtless why he holds the position he does. Having to let go and just trust in the Lord and move in His time is a real test for him. The prophecies the Lord gave for him really got him to thinking and praying about what the Lord’s will is for his life.

The next day we visited again, and he started off by telling us that he had heard from Dad in prophecy, and wanted to know how he could be sure that it wasn’t himself, etc. We will be sending him more Word on this subject. He told us that Dad encouraged him to be a “behind the lines” soldier, continuing on where he is now for the time being. It was so precious to see him reaching out by faith, asking Dad for help and guidance, GBH! He even typed up the prophecies as he received them!

He shared his heart about how hard it is for him to not be able to witness, as he doesn’t feel that in his present situation he can go out openly and witness. He is thinking about the possibility of traveling at some point to do a witnessing trip. We encouraged him in this, with the idea of doing a faith trip to be able to witness openly. This is one of the trials he has with the “behind the scenes” vision. The other trial is the lack of fellowship and not being able to have classes. We told him we were praying about these issues, and that the Lord will work this all out somehow in His time.

After this, we went through a long list of questions he had, all of which we discussed with him and will be sending him pertinent pub's about. The issues he wanted to discuss were Loving Jesus, the Law of Love, and the Holy Spirit as a woman, amongst others. He loves our radical doctrines, and it's almost like he's afraid that it's too good to be true and that we might not really live all these things. We explained to him that we aren't perfect and that we have many weaknesses as individuals in the Family, but that we do strive to live these doctrines. We also explained to him the emphasis the Lord has recently placed on the Law of Love, as he was concerned that maybe it's not lived as much as it was in the past.

We're not sure we're able to aptly share with you how unusual, inspiring, and simply "out of this world" this experience is with Matthew, ha! We find ourselves sitting in the middle of an almost entirely Jewish company, with an Orthodox Jew wearing his yarmulke and his long beard, talking about Jesus, Loving Jesus and the Law of Love, ha! It's definitely only the Lord, that's for sure! GB Matthew, this is such an enormous step of faith for him; we can't help but admire him.

His last question was how he can be a disciple even though he can't be dropped out, since the Lord through Dad indicated that he is to be behind the lines. We talked to him about the different possibilities, and will be sending him the different classifications given in the Charter. We will be praying and hearing
from the Lord about what we should encourage him to do along these lines. It is very important to him that we and Mama and Peter understand that he considers himself a disciple even if he can’t drop out at this time.

We sent him a letter explaining the different possibilities of discipleship as far as being a live-out, catacomber, etc. He responded by saying that he seemed to fit in under the catacomber category for now, and wanted to know if that meant he will get a membership pin or something of the sort, ha! We told him that we would add him to our monthly report and that of course we consider him a member of the Family and our Home. He’s very serious about his commitment.

We sent him a series of Letters on the Law of Love and the Holy Spirit as a woman—which are issues he wanted to understand more about—as well as the statement on Loving Jesus. He was thrilled with the Loving Jesus statement, and said that he had been on that track for a long time and it was so wonderful to see that it was the Lord leading him in that direction. He’s such a new bottle; it’s so refreshing! He is receiving prophecies for himself from the Lord and Dad almost daily, and has sent a few of them to the Lord about what we should encourage him to do along these lines. It is very important to him that we and Mama and Peter understand that he considers himself a disciple even if he can’t drop out at this time.

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Christmas packages

From Joan, Vietnam: We took time, as the Lord asked in “My Christmas Hymnry,” to hear from Him about how to get out His message of love this Christmas in our (unofficially) sensitive field. Although some of us have been here for nearly four years, we’ve had to go slow in our approach and in witnessing in general. Needless to say, we don’t get out large quantities of lit, tapes or videos.

A couple of us got the idea to make packs of Christmas and Y2K lit for our friends to give out. We also got the idea to decorate the packs (in large white envelopes) with Christmas wrapping paper cutouts and “Merry Christmas” written in large red marker lettering. They turned out very nice and made the lit special. So, mainly through our friends, we were able to distribute more lit in this Christmas season than we had the rest of the year.

We aren’t really proud of ourselves for that because we realize that if we ask the Lord during other times of the year, He is just as able to tell us nifty ideas to help us reach those we never personally meet! But just the same, our sheep had the faith to give the Christmas message to so many and we will challenge them to continue to feed as many of them as they can.

Spotlight on the Children

From Seek in Morelia, Mexico: Every year that I can remember we put together a YA/teen song and dance show. Last year was a big event with the DC Band coming to Morelia, and the Morelia Homes provided the dance team. This year the Lord told us that the children are eager to serve the Lord and that we needed to include them more when they are young and let them be a big part of what we were planning for Christmas!

Renee (from Jason and Cedar’s Home) worked for weeks with the 13 or so children (CONT. ON PAGE 11)

TIP OF THE DAY

Quake tip for house hunters

A friend of ours a regular supporter for four years) who lives near the quake fault line, had his entire large apartment on the fifth floor almost completely caved in, yet not one of his family sustained even a scratch. They managed to escape through a “hidden fire escape” that was behind one of the living room walls that collapsed—amazing!

It seems that most of the damage done to various tall apartment compounds were centered around the fourth to sixth floor as the main pressure of the swaying and grinding fell on these floors. Special note for any of you apartment house-hunters!

—Tim and Hannah, Garden Home in Taiwan

We were planning for Christmas!

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—Tim and Hannah, Garden Home in Taiwan

Bicentennial Man

(Dad speaking:) Praise the Lord, this is a beautiful movie!—Reminds me of the movies I used to love when I was a boy. A robot with a soul—ha! Who ever comes up with these ideas! Of course it’s pure fiction and fantasy, but it’s got a lot of heart, and it’s a fable, really, about man and his search for love and for the Lord—for a meaning and purpose to life, the thing for which he was created. This robot is trying as hard as he can to become human; he feels that’s his destiny. Well, in the same way, we are put on this earth to find our purpose and calling, the job for which the Lord has designed and destined us. And until we find that specific niche, we’ll be a futile rest and unhappyness, but when we find it we’ll explode in a blaze of glory, and we’ll know that our lives have meaning.

You can find meaning from so many different things—not just big and glorious activities and purposes, but serving the Lord is a fulfillment like no other. There are a lot of lessons and spiritual parallels that can be gathered from this movie, and I think it will be a blessing to those who watch it.

The message and subjects are pretty deep, but I think if kids watch it with a mature older person who can explain anything they have questions about, then they will be able to benefit from and get all the good there is. (End of message from Dad.)

Rush Hour

(Dad speaking:) This is not a movie for everybody, and it will not be to everybody’s liking. It’s a light entertainment and comedy action movie. I think it goes without saying that not every sample in the movie is good, and I think in the main character [Chris Tucker] you’ll see very clearly the ways that he is off and the things that he needs to learn. But even in this there are good parallels—the need to become one, unity and teamwork in order to accomplish your mission, and so on.

You can get a good message out of a lot of things if you just look. The System thinks that we’re pretty pipsqueak, don’t they? They think we don’t amount to anything and they try to shut us up and lock us out, but we just break out and keep right on going with the mission we have, because it’s our goal and job and we know we’re destined to win. We know we cannot lose.

So if you can look beyond the fights and the big bangs, I think you’ll find an entertaining movie, without all the blood and guts and gore that so many thrillers have nowadays. Okay? So that’s my two cents on it. I love you all! (End of message from Dad.)

Galaxy Quest

(Dad speaking:) This movie was really funny! I was always a sci-fi fan when I was there on Earth, and enjoyed these type of TV shows and movies. This is a spoof on those shows and the characters and the fans as well, but woven throughout are some good lessons about taking the glory, teamwork, and working together. There are a lot of laughs and funny parts that I think the Family will get a kick out of. It’s light entertainment, so just sit back and enjoy yourself and have a good laugh. ILY! (End of message from Dad.)

 Movies Rated for Adults and YAs

RUSH HOUR (1998)

Chris Tucker, Jackie Chan
Action-comedy. When the young daughter of the Chinese consul living in New York is kidnapped, a big-mouthed, work-alone cop and a Chinese detective and friend of the family are teamed up for an unusual assignment. Light entertainment.

Movies Rated for JETTs and Up

GALAXY QUEST (1999)
Tim Allen, Sigourney Weaver
Sci-fi comedy spoof about a group of actors from a sci-fi TV series who are mistaken by aliens as being real space explorers.

BICENTENNIAL MAN (1999)
Robin Williams, Sam Neill, Embeth Davidtz, Oliver Platt
Future sci-fi drama about a robot programmed to perform household chores, that begins to experience emotions and creative thought. Please read prophecy before viewing movie.

Movies Rated for All

KIDS IN MOTION
Scott Bai
Half-hour indoor exercise program for kids of all ages, consisting of a variety of dance and stretching segments such as freeze dance, acting out different animals, and so on.

Non-recommended Movies

SWAN PRINCESS III, THE (Animated; 1998)
[Young people who leave the Family]

C. (mother), New Zealand: Family members need to be more aware of the hardship people face when one of their children leaves the Family. Though my Home was very supportive toward me, my daughter left from the Family in Australia. We hadn’t heard from her for a few months and then received an e-mail from a precious brother, Sol (in Sydney), telling us that she made the decision to leave. He suggested I come and help her as soon as possible as she had nowhere to live and no money, and was staying for a few nights here and a few nights there with System friends. We immediately stopped everything and prayed for my daughter and the Lord confirmed that it was His will that I go. I was on my way within the next few days.

The thing that I found most difficult was finding someone to pray with and counsel with. People were sympathetic but weren’t offering to help in a practical way or so willing to get involved. It made me feel for all parents in similar circumstances. You’re already going through it emotionally and it’s a time that you really need the love and support of your brothers and sisters, and that sometimes includes being helped physically in some way (for instance, I spent almost a week and a half trying to find a place for my daughter to live, mostly on foot by myself in an unfamiliar city). I don’t mean to be critical at all, but as caused me to do some soul-searching myself. It made me think, had the circumstances been different, would I have gone out of my way to help a brother or sister in need?

It’s also very important when our young people choose to leave, and they are still pretty positive in their attitude towards the Family, that people be loving and supportive toward them. In this way, we are leaving a bridge back to the Family for them; on the other hand, if we are not this way it can have the opposite effect. I think this should apply to all Family members, not just the parents of the kids involved.

[Passing on affiliations]

Anonymous: Recently my seven-year-old contracted oral herpes (cold sores). My husband and I do not have this affliction, neither did any of our children. We do live with another family who all get outbreaks often. Although we have tried very hard to encourage precautions (like keeping cups, towels and such separate during an outbreak), we have not been met with much cooperation. We have a drinking water cooler where children suffering cold sores often leave their cups for the baby to come along and have a drink!

When we brought up the problem we were told, “Oh, they’re just fever blisters, everyone gets them sometimes. It’s always there in your blood!” This doesn’t seem to make sense because now according to the Charter we have to inform people if we’ve ever had oral herpes before we have a date with them. TTL Jesus will probably be back before our seven-year-old has to do that, but it seems pretty sad to us that now our child has an “incurable” disease that could have been prevented with a little forethought on the behalf of the couple we live with.

If parents have children who regularly suffer these cold sores, they should take responsibility to ensure proper precautions are taken to stop this affliction from spreading. After all, that’s love!

[S2K for OCS/JETS]

Home in Africa: We wanted to include our boys (11 and 8) in the recent moves of the spirit as shared in the Shake-Up 2000 Letter, and wanted them to be as inspired and excited about it as we were. We first told them that the Teamwork wanted to get together with them for a meeting. They were thrilled and stopped what they were doing and came right away (normally it takes them at least five minutes to come when we ask them to). We started by asking them how they were doing, if they had any needs, anything that they wanted to share with us, any particular problems, etc. They responded by simply and sincerely sharing their hearts about some of the difficulties they were having.

We prayed together and then went on to tell them a little about the Shake-Up and how all of us were trying to be more committed and closer to the Lord. We pointed out some areas that they could work on—for example, bad language and arguing, and explained that we would be correcting them for these things more consistently in the future. We then closed in prayer. They received it very well and seemed to appreciate being included and challenged as disciples along with the rest of us.

[Principal at one of the schools]

From Mark and Faithy Free, India: We have been having a very exciting Christmas witnessing season. The Lord opened many doors for our Hearing and Deaf performing team to do about 10 shows in the last ten days, and they have many more lined up. The principal at one of the schools commented after the show, “Our school also has quite a lively performing team and they do a lot of fancy steps, but they don’t have anywhere near the lovely smiles that your performers have all through the show.” Another principal said, “You have brought the love and joy of Christmas to our school.”

Winning the Prize

From Francisco, Margarita and Vessel, Mexico: The Lord led us to the cultural center of the city of Queretaro where we presented our Christmas play to an audience of over 1,000 people, as part of a contest. Right afterward we were able to invite the audience to accept Jesus into their hearts. —And we won the prize! The judge came over to personally congratulate us for the show and to invite us to do another one for the city.

We also presented our Christmas play to almost 10,000 students of Queretaro in 21 different primary schools and one orphanage. We distributed over 2,000 posters to the students and many tapes to the teachers. Most of these students also accepted Jesus in their heart by repeating the prayer with “Joseph” (from our Christmas play).

Those lovely smiles

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**New Spanish Members Only site up!**

**BY SPALIM**

A while ago you read a very inspiring Reflections article. Now you have a Bible class coming up and this Reflections pops into your mind. It’s right on the subject you’ll read about in your upcoming class. So you go to the lit library and, after quite a search, you finally find it. What a victory! Now the Bible class is about to start, but before going to the appointed place you stop by the kitchen to grab some coffee and unfortunately you have a small spill. There goes your precious Reflections! “Oh my! What am I going to do? My class is starting in five minutes!”

For all those who can relate to this tragic situation, read on! We have the solution to your problem, the thing that can rescue you at this crucial moment—the newly-opened Members Only Site in Spanish presently featuring GP and DFO pubs! Problem solved! Just turn on your computer, strike a few keys and there you have it. Log on to www.familymembers.com/sacred and use the same password as the English Members Only site. Enjoy!

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**How you can contact the CLE Department**

**BY NACRO**

The new CLE e-mail address is: famcle@aol.com

The snail mail address is:
CLE / Family
PO Box 141-871
Irving, TX 75014

The CLE key is: CLEFAM
[Home can obtain a copy of the key from their ABM or CRO office.]

(please note that this is not an IAC level key or address but is to be used from the Home directly with the Family CLE Department)

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[From the Three Homes (ages 3-10). They put together a beautiful pastorela with all the children dressed as parts from the manger scene, including the donkey and lamb, while they sang “Come and See Jesus.” They also did several other cute little song/dance routines, performing for local orphanages and institutions. Since then the Lord has spoken more about getting the children involved in their own CTP project.]}
The wise way...

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered; Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives; Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies; Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you; Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight; Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, some people may be jealous; Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow; Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough; Give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God; It was never between you and them anyway.

But you knew that.

—MOTHER THERESA

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