

No Greater Joy

"I have no greater joy
than to hear that my children walk in truth." III John 4



Special Edition for Women

- The Jezebel Factor
- Alone

No Greater Joy

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The Church at Cane Creek

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All Scripture taken from the
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(King James) Holy Bible

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On the Cover

Our cover this month, rendered by Clint Cleary, depicts Beka Pearl Anast in the foreground, kneeling with her baby as she greets three of her old friends with their babies. Clint also drew the pictures illustrating the articles. He is now working for our ministry in our graphic arts department. He is also doing the gray scale artistry for our Picture Bible.

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The Jezebel Profile

by Debi Pearl

Every day I read many letters from women who are having trouble in their marriage. I also receive letters from women testifying of the victory they have received and of healing that has occurred. I have developed a lot of insight through reading these testimonies of successes and failures. My husband and I have searched the Scriptures to find answers for the many domestic issues that are presented to us.

The causes of marital failure are many and varied. There is no one cause or single issue. The man is at fault just as much as the woman, but it is nearly always the woman who seeks answers. Men just go to work and learn to live with it—or flee from it. Women ask, “What can I do to heal my marriage?” I am a woman. Men don’t usually ask me for advice—which is as it should be. So I speak to women, and for that I am often accused of being one-sided. Women ask, “Why do you always blame the women; what about the men?” So to the women I say, you cannot change 100% of the marriage, but you can change 50% of it, and that may improve your marriage by 200%.

Our readers are a unique group. They are spiritually minded, church going, Bible believing, mostly homeschooling, and very family centered in perspective. This profile lends itself to several unique sources of irritation to the marriage. Your letters and testimonies have enabled us to identify

one of the most common problem on the woman’s side. It is the Jezebel spirit.

When the name Jezebel comes to mind, most of us see the painted face of a seductively dressed woman gazing into the eyes of a man who lacks good sense. The Bible portrays Jezebel in a different light.

Revelation 2:20 says that Jezebel “*calleth herself a prophetess,*” and men received her as a teacher. This was given as a warning to the church. The one whom you have received as a spirit filled teacher comes to you in the great tradition of Jezebel. We have observed that many wives have stalled their half of the marriage by assuming the spiritual headship of the home. They would teach their husbands. But consider 1 Cor. 14:34-35, “*Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if*

they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.”

I went back to I Kings to see what the Bible had to say about this woman Jezebel. The first thing I noticed was that Jezebel was more religious than her husband. She was spiritually intense. The Bible says in 1 Cor 11:3, “*But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.*” As a woman, our place is under our husband, especially in the spiritual realm. Regardless of our circumstances, when we take the spiritual lead, we have stepped out from under our head. We have tried to rearrange God’s designated place for us. We are no longer in God’s will.

The second thing I observed was that Ahab was emotionally volatile—unstable. Is your husband prone to retreat? Is he bitter, angry, or depressed? When a

woman takes the lead, she is playing the masculine role. Unless her husband fights her for supremacy, he must assume second place. And men who are forced into spiritual subjection to their wives tend to be angry and retreat like Ahab.

The third thing I noticed was that she used his emotional stress to endear herself to him—strange way of lording over the husband. Jezebel manipulated and accused an innocent man, then had him murdered so that Ahab might have the vineyard he wanted. Ahab kept his face to the wall and let her do her dark deeds. Today, if a woman is willing to play her husband's role in directing the family, he will lose his natural drive to bear responsibility.

In the dominant role, a woman quickly becomes emotionally and physically exhausted. God made us the weaker vessels. If you are in this exhausted state, then chances are you're carrying a load not meant for you. It is not for you to press your husband to do his duty to be spiritual. You are to live joyfully in the context he provides.

The fourth thing that jumped out at me was that Ahab could easily be manipulated by his wife to suit her purposes. Jezebel used him to set up images as aids to worship under her own prophets and to kill God's prophets. Often, a man becomes involved in the Church, not because God has called him or because it is in his heart to do so, but because he is

trying to please his wife and at least LOOK spiritual. When a husband steps into a spiritual role at his wife's beckoning, he becomes vulnerable to her guidance in that role. This is against nature, and often brings conflict in the family and in the church.

Ahab chose not to notice when his wife worked behind the scenes. Many men turn their heads when they see their wives stepping out of their God-given role. These men would rather not have to deal with the stone-cold anger they would receive from their wives if they offered any resistance. Have you been there,



done that?

Jezebel knew that she was not the rightful head, so she invoked her husband's name to give her word authority. Did you ever say, "Oh, my husband will not let me do that," when you knew in truth he really would not care? It is a way to maintain control and stop those who would question you. When a woman does this, she stops any ministry God has to her.

Jezebel was deeply concerned about spiritual matters and took steps to help promote her spiritual leaders. In the process, she provoked her husband to destroy those in spiritual authority she did not like. Have you ever influenced your husband to think evil of those in authority because you did not like something about them? When a woman comes to this place she might as well sign her name "Jezebel."

God has a plan for women. He revealed his will in many verses in clear, concise commands. He gives a revealing picture of what he abhors in a woman by introducing us to Jezebel, then reaffirming in the New Testament just what it was about her character that he found so despicable.

He reveals his will in a positive note in the stories of the women whom he honored. The story of Ruth tells of a young girl who had known tragedy, extreme poverty, and hard menial work, yet she maintained a positive, thankful, and submissive attitude. God blessed Ruth

because her own personal success and happiness were not the driving forces in her life.

Esther is the story of a girl who lost all of her family and was taken by force to become the wife of an older, divorced, heathen man. She was put (by her husband's decree) in danger of losing her own life as well as the lives of all her people. Yet, she overcame her circumstances and her fear in

order to honor her husband. The Scripture teaches that when her husband heard her honest appeal, delivered with gracious dignity, she won his heart, and he turned to save her people. God used Esther because God's will was more important to her than her own fulfillment.

Proverbs 31 defines the virtuous woman. She is NOT a mousy, voiceless prude. She is confident, hard working, creative, and resourceful. She uses her time wisely, and contributes to the family income. Her first virtue is that the heart of her husband is safe with her. It says that she will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. That is, he can trust her with his thoughts and feelings, never fearing that she might use the private knowledge she has of him to hurt him in any way. Some men maintain a distance from their wives because if they reveal themselves, their wives will use it against them when they are out of sorts.

If this passage had been written from our modern perspective, it would have extolled her for having a "quiet time," prayer time, fellowship time, and would have projected an image of a prayer warrior, teacher, or counselor. In all the Scriptural profiles of righteous women, including Proverbs 31, none of those concepts are even mentioned. A Proverbs 31 woman is busy helping her husband become successful. She is too busy being productive to spend time being his conscience. In our culture, we have lost a clear understanding of what constitutes

a virtuous woman. We have accepted the modern concept of the "spiritual" woman, circulating in the realm of religious power, and have forgotten that God does not see them in this same "glori-

**In our culture,
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ous" light. What we think is spiritual, God labels "Jezebel." *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD (Isa 55:8)."*

In order to become a righteous woman, reaping the benefits of having our man adore us, we must follow God's principles of womanhood and totally reject the Jezebel tendency.

God laid down a few simple rules that must be followed because they are consistent with our feminine nature and the nature of men. It was Ruth's virtuous and humble, yet feminine, bold example that caused Boaz to love and admire her. It was Esther's submission to this principle that won the King's love and appreciation for her as a woman and as his queen. These women showed themselves womanly and lovable in the midst of extreme circumstances. God honored them with favor from the men in their lives.

Dominance and control are

always masculine. It is a hormonal thing. It is the way God designed male nature. It is important for a woman to understand that she has to be feminine (devoid of dominance and control) in order for her man to view her as his exact counterpart and thus respond to her protectively, with love and gentleness.

God designed us, so he knows what our husbands need in order to function properly in their roles as men who cherish the woman in their life. By nature, men need honor (this includes not questioning their decisions). They need respect (treated as if they are wise). They need reverence (daily admired as a man who is accomplishing great things). They need to be accepted for who and what they are, just like they are. Men need to feel they are in command and doing a good job.

An important part of man is a God-given, natural instinct to bring his wife pleasure. If a woman is to be greatly treasured she will choose to find pleasure in the way the man presents himself and his care. All these traits are basic masculine needs. We were created as a helpmeet to the man we married, fulfilling who and what he is. This is God's will for us as women. When we as women obey God by responding to the needs of our husband, we are worshipping and honoring God. *"Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man (1 Cor 11:9)."*

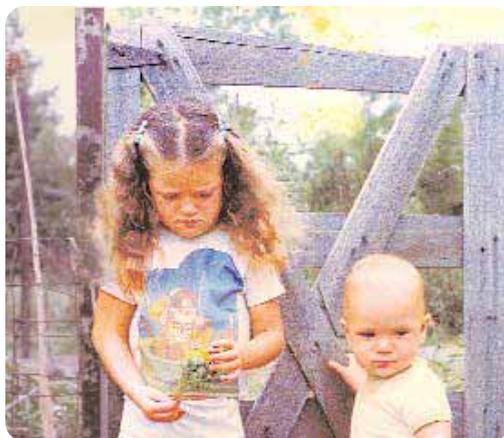
God created you to fulfill

Continued on Page 8

How Training Pays Off

by **Beka Joy (Pearl) Anast**

One of my earliest memories is standing outside in the springtime in a shirt and panties watching Mom and Dad work in a little garden plot with great enthusiasm. I was probably about 3 years old. Gabe was not yet one year. The sun was shining warmly on the part in my frizzy hair (it had just been unbraided) and the wind was a little cool on my legs. That morning I was as sour as a green papaya and couldn't think of a reason why. Of course my foul mood got me a spanking with a spring sapling, and my attitude miraculously disappeared. I remember my folks reminding me of my middle name, Joy, and calling me to the responsibility it carried. That episode was repeated consistently throughout my childhood until all moodiness was thoroughly stamped out of me.



Attitude manipulation worked with my parents about as well as a one legged frog on the interstate.

Now as a wife and mother I find joy to be one of the most useful attributes a woman could have. At church meetings I see a wife turn down the corners of her mouth, make her eyes become despondent, and her shoulders droop when she sees her husband glance at her. And a glance is all it is. Who wants to look at a picture like that? He turns away with a hardened smile, determined to enjoy the meeting in spite of her.

In contrast, I look at my husband and he looks at me. I smile at him with all the joy and gratitude my life is worth as he smiles back at me with lingering pleasure. "You're beautiful today," he whispers. And I know why. 😊

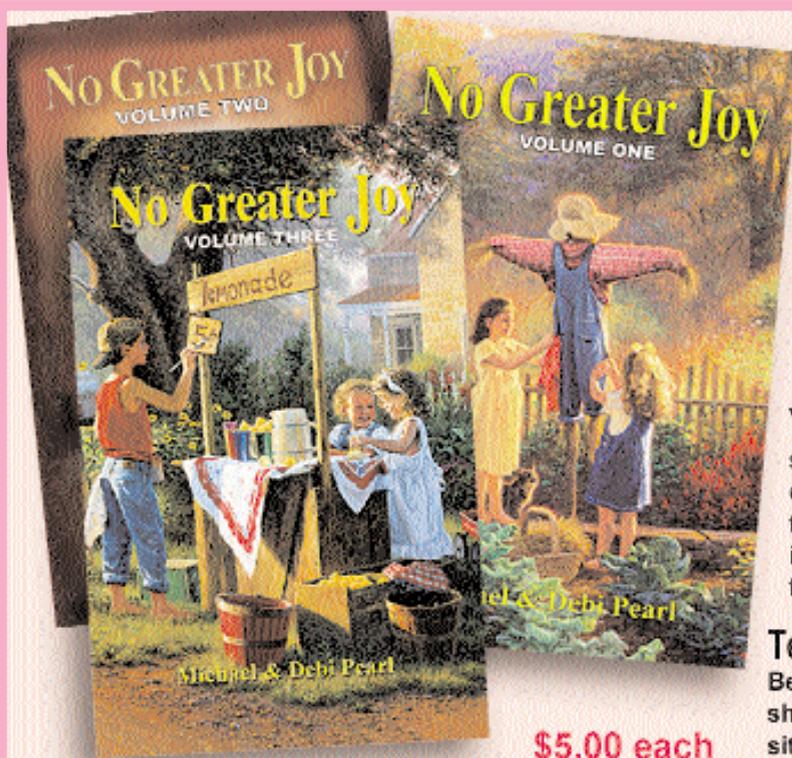
From our mailbag

The Old Man in the Mountain

Dear Michael and Debi,

How we appreciate the encouragement and teaching we get from your books, tapes, and videos! My husband was driving along in his work van with a colleague listening to a Galatians tape and later explained to him how we came about this great support material. He seemed to enjoy it, and asked my husband the next day if they were going to listen to another tape by "the old man in the mountain." ? I later learned that my husband told his associate how you had a long beard and you live in Tennessee.... I just couldn't stop laughing when he told me. We look forward to ordering the Romans tapes and several other things in the future.

Thanks and God bless, The G's



Increase your
Joy

You will develop the insight to:
stop being angry with your children, deal with sibling rivalry, take the frustration out of home schooling, and enjoy your children to the fullest.

Teach your children to:
Be happy and thankful, stop whining, share and observe the rights of others, sit still in church, obey immediately, and be creative and hard working.

\$5.00 each

The Dynamic Bible Teaching of Michael Pearl

Romans—17 tapes (foundational)

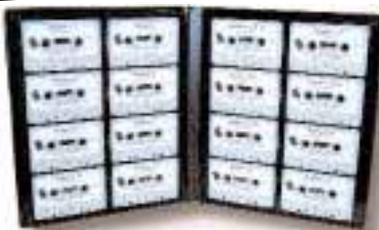
The truths of the book of Romans will change your life. If you have ever doubted your salvation, or been unable to overcome sin, this series is for you. \$48.00

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The beauty of the Deity of Christ. \$59.00

Continued from Page 5

your husband's basic masculine needs. Only in that role will you find peace and cause your man to respond to you in loving adoration. This role of submission is totally feminine. It is the exact counterpart for his masculine needs. *"And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. (Gen 2:18)."*

A woman who criticizes her husband for watching too much TV no longer honors him. When a woman tries to control areas of their life together because she thinks she is right, she is usurping authority over him, and lording over him. A depressed, discontented woman, who feels that her husband does not meet her needs, is dishonoring God.

Hurt feelings are a way to control. Silence and emotional retreat are ugly, destructive ways to control both your husband and your children. Anger, sickness, exhaustion, and even fear are all used to control those you care about. Some women control their husband by having an intense spiritual hunger. Jezebel comes in many disguises.

There are many various and subtle ways to control and direct your husband. One of the ways to take control is to tell your husband that you want him to be the spiritual leader in the home and then let him know that you are waiting to follow. You can lead from behind just by clearing your throat at the right moment. Many nice

homeschooling moms are the spiritual leaders in their homes. They play the masculine role spiritually. How this must grieve the Holy Spirit of God. Often the excuse is that we cannot serve two masters, and since our husband is carnal, we have to take the higher ground. Like Eve, we are so

In our heart of hearts, we all want the same thing. We all want to be loved and cherished.

deceived. *"And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression (1 Tim 2:14)."*

A man cannot cherish a strong woman who has expressed her displeasure with him and is holding out until he fulfills her ideal. You say he should have Christ's love. Is that what you want? Do you want your husband to have to seek supernatural power just to find a way to love you? What most men cherish in their wives is the memory when love was fun and free, with no demands—the time when she smiled at him with a sweet, girlish, "I think you are wonderful" look. She was so feminine then, so much the woman. It was a time when he wanted to hold her just because she was his, a time when he wanted to give her everything. A vague memory keeps him hoping. He is as disappointed in love as you are, maybe more. He is just as lonely. He just

fills up his loneliness doing things that will distract him from the reality of the emptiness he knows is there but does not know how to fix. His helpmeet is not pleased with him. He is a loser.

The very first command God gave to a woman was, *"Thy desire shall be unto thy husband and he shall rule over thee (Gen. 3:16)."* Is your desire toward your husband? Do you desire him as a man? Do you live to please him? Does he rule over you? This is God's will.

Being a Jezebel is an active role—actively controlling, actively doing our own thing. Being a Ruth or an Esther is just as active. It is a decision we make hundreds of times each day as we choose to joyfully honor our husbands.

God's reward is without measure. Men are like clay in the hands of a woman whom they can trust with their hearts. A man, lost or saved, responds to a woman who honors him. When a woman looks to her husband with a face that is full of laughter and delight, he will look forward to being with her. If her voice speaks words of thanksgiving and joyful appreciation of him, he will want to listen to her. If her actions are full of service and creativity, and if she has goodwill towards him, he will be drawn to her as a bee is to honey. This kind of lady is altogether feminine. She is what God created and gave to Adam.

Deep in our heart we all want the same thing. We all want to be loved and cherished. We all cry

out with our utmost being to be treasured in the heart of our husbands. It is the greatest honor on earth to know your husband is thrilled that you are his woman. It passes all of earth's blessings to feel his gaze upon you and know that you are his greatest gift, his most prized possession, his best friend, his favorite pastime, his only chum, and his delight as a lover. It is a great joy to know that he is actually proud you are his. It

is not remembering birthdays, opening the door of a car, or other silly customs that we crave, it is the knowledge that he is totally taken with us. We want him to want us. We simply want to be loved. It is God's perfect will for our husbands to love us. It is God's perfect will for us to honor, obey and reverence our husbands. God's way works. If what you are doing this year has not worked, why not go God's way?

1 Co 11:7 *"For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man."*

1 Co 11:8 *"For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man."*

1 Co 11:9 *"Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man."* ☺

Controlling Spirit As Manifested in the Controller

By Wenda Blankenship (excerpted from her contribution to "A Spirit of Control" by Cathy White)

- Control stops the ministry God has planned for your husband.
- Control castrates your husband and renders him impotent spiritually, emotionally and soulically, maybe even physically.
 - When not cooperated with, the controller drains all energy from the controllee, and renders him incompetent. If the controller cannot be in charge, he cannot function.
 - The controller can operate under the spirit of witchcraft and uses many different forms of manipulation to do so: anger, whining, convincing, bargaining, quick wit, intelligence, challenges, ignores others, uses condescending body language, sarcasm, holding out on love/sex.
 - The controller prevents you from seeing/hearing God's plan for your life.
 - The controller stops children from being creative. Stops children from seeing who Jesus and the Father truly are.
 - The controller can be operating under a perfectionistic spirit even though her life does not evidence it.
 - Unforgiveness is the root of anger, control and mistrust. The controller holds on to past hurts and keeps a record of wrongs.

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Street Preachers Conference

If you are interested in learning to street preach, here are two great opportunities:

- The Beale Street Blast, held in Memphis, TN, May 2-5, 2002. See www.sureword.com/mm, then push Banner's Unfurled.
- Street Preachers Conference will be held at Old Paths Bible Baptist Church in Clarendon, NY, August 14-18, 2002. Contact Pastor Joe Cammilleri 585-964-9351 Oldpaths7@cs.com

I Heard Mama Say

by Debi Pearl

Mama talked bad about Daddy today.
I heard her when she did.
She told grandma my dad was bad,
And I guess he really is.

Grandma doesn't know it,
But I heard my mama say
She dreads to see her mama come,
For she gripes the day away.
Granddad's this and Granddad's that
He's just an old foolish goon.
Spending money left and right,
As if he owned the moon.

Sister came home again this week,
And she was so upset.
Her hubby's out of work again,
A lazy cad at best.
Her and Mama talked and talked,
He's just a silly boy.
Spending sister's hard earned pay
To buy another toy.

I pondered this, then went to church,
And heard the Scripture view,
Of a good wife's heart towards her man,
Honoring, reverent, obedient, and true.

I will learn to keep my big mouth shut,
And seek to bless my man.
I can rise above my circumstance
To see God's holy plan.
I can seek out those who encourage me,
To think on all things pure,
To always have a good report,
"Amen, Dear God, that's good."

Honor is a thing you do,
It is the things you say,
It is a way you choose to feel
When things don't go your way.

.....

1 Tim. 2:16-17 *"But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. And their word will eat as doth a canker:"*

Phil. 4:8 *"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."*

Titus 1:15 *"Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled ."*

From Our Mail Bag



Dear Pearls,

Your new book No Greater Joy Volume 3 is great! It's my favorite out of the four. I needed the reminders on joyful parenting and also how true on the wives tearing down their homes by not completely obeying their husbands, and in ways I never thought of before! You have helped us lots!

Thanks again

ALONE

I am 50 years old and have essentially been alone for 21 years. I never thought this would be my life. At no time did it cross my mind that my husband would ever leave me. Although I had been in church all of my life and had been taught out of the Bible, I was not saved and did not know anything about being a wife. As I look back, I now know that I made many mistakes in my relationship with my husband.

Today, I see and hear young wives, and older wives as well, thoughtlessly making those very same mistakes with their husbands. They take for granted that he would never leave and file for divorce. After all, aren't they both in church and share the lifetime commitment of marriage? This sense of security seems to give them the feeling that they have the liberty to take a spiritually superior, adversarial stand in myriad ways against the wrongs, failures, and inadequacies of their husbands. I see it as either ignorance or a refusal to obey God's injunction to wives, or a combination of both. This is why I write my story—lest you follow me down the same path.

I cannot answer for my husband's failures. Who was most to blame doesn't matter now. If I had known then what I do now about God's commands to wives, what a man needs, and what I could do to

fill those needs, it may have made all the difference. Older women have failed to teach younger women how to love their husbands.

An important point I want you to know is that much of the time, these things I did or failed to do were not everyday, not always overt, in-your-face actions. They were subtle, ebbed and flowed, but were there nevertheless, just enough to be a constant reminder to him that his wife wasn't entirely pleased with him.

When my husband acted selfishly at home, allowed his temper to flare, and then went to church and acted spiritual, I gently withdrew from him emotionally, letting him see my cynicism and lack of confidence. I wish I had prayed positively for him, trusted God, openly showed love and acceptance of him, and not waited until he acted right.

When he failed our child, failed to have devotions, failed to be spiritual, failed to lead like he should, I was 'privately' disappointed, but he knew it. I wish I had completely trusted God and maintained unity, honor, reverence, and submission with a glad and trusting heart.

When he made a statement about someone or something, I often countered, putting his opinion down, letting him know he was wrong. I wish I had under-



stood about "chaste conversation" as described in 1 Peter. When he acted like a jerk, instead of letting him know what I thought about him and his actions, I wish I had remained quiet, prayed for him, and loved him anyway. When he tried to make up to me for some failure, I wish I had not been so cool, waiting for him to be more intense and sincere about it. When he spent money I thought we didn't have, it caused me anxiety, and he knew it. I wish I had shown continued confidence in him, regardless of his decisions.

When he wanted me to do something, and I didn't want to do it, I wish I had cheerfully complied instead of making him sorry he asked. Hardheadedness is not a trait to endear any woman to a man.

When he needed someone to believe in him, admire him, approve of him, and accept him,

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HONORING DAD

by **Deanna Noel**

Here is an enjoyable way to teach your children to honor their father. My children were 7, 5, and 4 when we did the following project. We were living in a remote village in the mountains of Papua New Guinea. We couldn't just walk down to the craft store or go to Wal-Mart to buy Daddy a gift for Father's Day. We had to use our imaginations and come up with something that we could make out of paper and tape!

Every day, I gave the kids a piece of paper, and they drew pictures of things they liked to do with Daddy, or things they liked about him. We used card-stock paper, which is heavier than normal printer paper and will last a lot longer. We went through old photos and pulled out any that had Daddy and one or more of the children in it. Some were pictures of Daddy giving a horseback ride to a toddler, a walk in the woods, putting a ponytail in his 3 year-old's hair, setting up a train track for the boys, reading a bedtime story, or simply holding a newborn baby. It didn't matter what they were doing,

as long as they were together.

We cut some of the pictures so we could fit more than one on a page. We didn't have any glue, so we taped the pictures onto the paper. Then we alternated a page of photos with a page of drawing, and put them in a three ring binder. There were twenty pages in all, each of the kids drawing about three pictures each. My oldest son drew a picture of himself and Daddy splitting wood together. He put his name on it and wrote, "I like my Daddy splitting wood with me" across the top.

My other son drew a picture of himself watching Daddy climb onto the roof to fix something. He wrote, "I like when my Daddy climbs on the roof." It was such a simple thing, yet it showed Daddy that he is being watched by his little ones every moment. They learn something from every thing that Daddy does and says. My little girl wrote, "I like being my Daddy's Pookie Bear" and drew a picture of her and her Daddy holding hands.

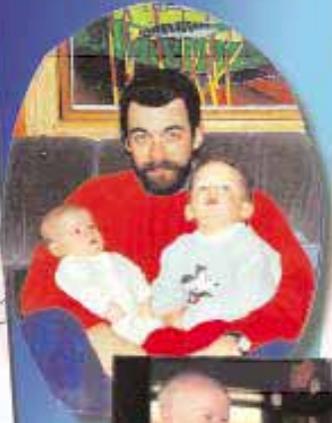
Another one of my favorites was also done by my little girl. She drew a picture of herself watching Daddy give Momma a kiss. She wrote, "I like my Daddy kissing my Momma!" There were some things that they said they liked about Daddy, but we didn't know how to draw them. So we made a back page and wrote, "Other things I like about my Daddy are: "He is smart. He believes in God. He doesn't lie." Then one of the children wrote, "I like my Daddy" and we taped it on the front of the binder.

Daddy appreciated this gift much more than he would have appreciated a new tie. It is something he can cherish forever, and it brings back good memories. The children look through it from time to time, and they are reminded of times that Daddy spent with them. It was simple and fun. ☺

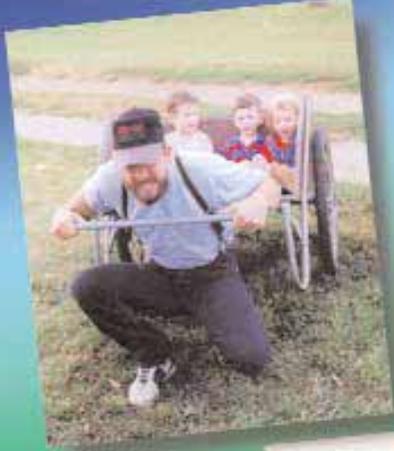
Dewayne and Deanna Noel have seven children. They spent two years on top of a mountain in PNG finishing the mission work Beka started.

Dewayne Noel and kids

I LIKE MY DADDY
CLIMBS ON THE ROOF!
Josee
WHER

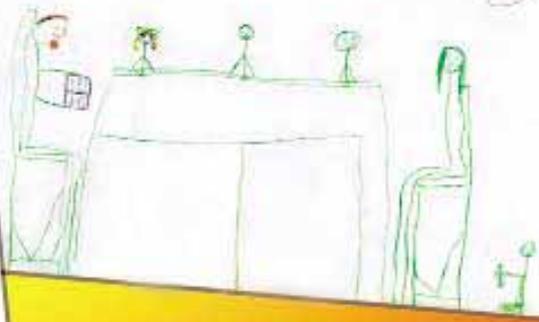


I like going picnics
With my DADDY!
Ben



I like my DADDY
KISSING MY
MOMMY
Hollie

I like my DADDY
Reading the books to me!
Ben



Continued from Page 11

regardless of his failures, I wish I had been the one to give him those things. Maybe he wouldn't have left and found another woman to take my place.

When I thought that keeping his faults before him—just small things he did and said—and keeping myself a little standoffish in my approval of him, was the only way he would change, I wish someone would have taken me aside and told me how badly mistaken I was to think that it was my place to apply and keep the pressure on.

When he did not know how to show love, and I felt emotionally void, I gave up, turning to friends and family for my emotional support and needs. I wish I had borne all things and hoped all things, loved him steadily and fully, unconditionally. I never saw the need to endear myself to him. I took for granted that he would fulfill the husband's moral obligation to love me. I wish I had gone to "God's Beauty School" for the whole woman, spirit, soul, and body.

Time passed. I never knew my marriage was being strangled to death. Separation and divorce came. I was shocked, terribly scared, and ashamed. I was one of those women who thought that it would never happen to me. I felt like a failure. As someone so aptly stated, "Divorce is like a death,

except that no one comes to bring food or comfort you."

When my husband left, we were plunged into near poverty. He no longer felt the natural desire to protect and support his family. I received the minimum child support. At the beginning, once in awhile, he would stop by to see what we were doing—I think out of guilt. One morning,



not long after he left us, I tried to start the car to go to work, but it would not start. I didn't know whom to call and had no money for a mechanic. I went back into the house, sat on the sofa, scared of losing my job, ready to cry, when my ex-husband drove up. When I told him about the car, he said—completely at ease and unmoved—"That's too bad. I feel sorry for you," and casually drove off. It really hit me then. I was alone, so alone.

When the house and car needed repairs, there was little or no money to have the work done. So

things slowly fell apart.

I dreaded the summertime. As I drove away to work in the mornings, I agonized over my child having to stay in the house, behind locked doors, alone for 10 hours a day. I couldn't afford a babysitter or find someone willing and trustworthy. She was too old for childcare centers, but still too young to be left alone all day.

Even in her younger-teen years, it was hard for her to be alone all day. At the beginning, when my child was sick, there was no one to stay with her unless I took off from work. And then there were the week-long bouts of colds, flu, ear infections, and other normal sicknesses. No job allows enough sick time to cover the worker and her child.

I became ill with a long-term, debilitating condition, made worse by always having to be alert, day and night, as a single mother, living on the edge, always tired, always stressed. But, I had to continue to go to work every day, no matter how bad I felt. I had no choice.

God was faithful to us. He was with us and intervened many times. We never went hungry or cold. In good time, God gave me a family in the church that stepped in and were there when I needed them, for the long-term. They will never know what an enormous impact that had on our lives. They

were a gift from God. But the loneliness at home, the feelings of rejection and abandonment, the financial struggle, were all still there, every day.

The stress and loneliness I experienced over the years was a combination of many things, but if I had I known and obeyed God's plan for wives early in my marriage, my life could well have turned out very differently than it has.

Today, as I finish typing my story, I will go home to a little house trailer which I rent. I will eat alone. I will count the hours before bedtime. I call my daughter and the grandchildren, but they have their lives, and I want it to be so. God has been very gracious to

me, but I am aware that I have missed the best he had to offer. *"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap (Gal 6:7)."*

As the Pearl's personal secretary, I read the letters you send to this ministry. I see many of you doing the same things I did, but you don't believe that this could happen to you. In fact, you may well be thinking that it would be a relief if you could get your husband out of the house. You think, "Well, I'm healthy and strong. I'm emotionally secure. I can handle it. I would get a good job. I have family around that will help. I have a good church that would support me. I would go get coun-

seling, etc. At least I would have peace in the house, and could then live as I wanted to. I wouldn't have all the problems to contend with." These are all things that wives may think. But I know better. The facts of history have proven this outlook to be empty lies.

I hope this will be a wakeup call to those wives who are deluded into thinking that they have liberty to be the Holy Spirit and judge to their husbands. It will never, never work, and you may end up like me.

Isa 48:18 *"O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! Then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea."* ☺

TRANSFORMATION TAKING PLACE

From our mail box



Dear Michael and Debi Pearl,

I was recently given a copy of your book "To Train Up A Child" by my sister in law, who is also my pastor's wife, and I was amazed at what I was reading. My husband and I have been saved for three years and we have two daughters (seven and four.) When we first got saved my children were little heathens and I was a terrible mother. One day my pastor sat down and told me that I had to start disciplining my children or they were going to be more rebellious later on. At that time we were not consistent in spankings and were full of idle threats. I didn't have a clue on how to raise godly children, but I began to notice my nephews and how respectful and obedient they were, and I knew that I wanted my children to be the same way. So I began to watch more closely, and I began to put into practice in my own home the things that I was seeing done at my sister in law's home. To my amazement there was a transformation in them and in myself and my husband as well. So, when she gave me your book to read I eagerly began to read it. I began to read and I began to cry. I realized that there was so much that I was NOT doing as a mother and that made me weep. I was becoming a dictator instead of a loving, godly mother. I thought I had to be hard on them all the time or else they would grow to be ungodly women. I was using the rod, but I was using it with anger instead of love. My house was becoming unglued. Then I began to read more of your book. I began to do the things that you instructed us to do and I am already seeing and feeling a difference. My children are happier and more obedient. And I am happier and more able to love them. I saw that much of what I was doing was right on the nose, but there was a lot that I was doing wrong. I am so glad that this book was given to me.

Sincerely, R

Generational Sins

Michael Pearl addresses the faddish teaching on generational sins, sins of the fathers visited on the children, family curses, satanic footholds, etc. Allow the Word of God to free you from the curse of pop theology.



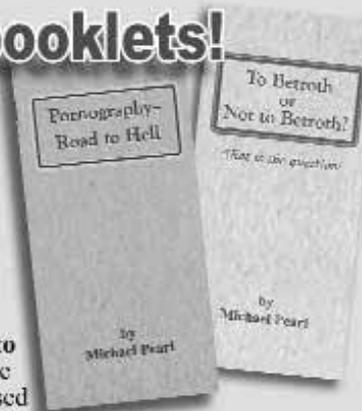
Powerful booklets!

Michael and Debi Pearl receive a great deal of mail regarding both pornography and betrothal. In **Pornography—Road to Hell**, Michael addresses the issue head on, calling sinners to repentance.

In **To Betroth or Not to Betroth**, the dangers of the betrothal system are exposed with the light of Biblical truth, bringing objectivity back to an often misunderstood subject.

Now, both of these subjects are made available in handy, pocket size booklets so that you can distribute them freely.

Only \$1.00 each
60 cents each in quantities of 25 or more



ONLY MEN

Michael Pearl speaks directly and frankly to men about their responsibilities as husbands. Wives should not listen to this tape. We don't want you taking advantage of your husband.



Authority Praying

Michael Pearl preaches on the believer's position in Christ and how prayer is based on authority that is ours in Christ.



You Can Minister:

We have thousands of our “new” sample newsletters—a generic, 8 page version. We will ship you as many as you can give away. You just need to request them. If you are having a homeschool fair, we will provide enough for everyone. In addition, we discount many of our books when purchased in quantities of eight or more. Now you can have something to give to that poor mother in front of you in the checkout line whose kid is screaming and throwing a fit. Or give them to your family and friends as gifts, or for that new mother.

Note: Bulk sample newsletter requests cannot be added to your name/account for regular bi-monthly mailings.

From our Mailbag

OUR FOUR TEENAGERS READ EVERY ISSUE

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Pearl,

Our 19 year-old son asked us to be sure to reply and ask that we remain on your mailing list. Our four teenagers read every issue of "No Greater Joy." This has led to interesting discussions about our home. Our son is studying to be a nurse. When his Developmental Psychology professor assigned a project on discipline, [our son] pulled "To Train Up A Child" off the shelf. We are enjoying our teenagers, but we still need the encouragement from your newsletter to keep training our four younger children.

Sincerely, L & G

SOMETHING WAS MISSING – PURE JOY!

Michael and Debi,

"Joy brings remarkable change" what an awesome challenge. I too was missing out on that precious part of being a mommy, and wife, for that matter. Yes, our children are on the road to recovery, and they are obedient. But there was definitely something missing. I don't get many hugs from my older girls, 12 and 8, and why is that, I ask myself—because I don't give them like I should. I don't show them that they give me pure JOY, which they do. But they don't know it. I praise the Lord that my eyes have been opened, and I look forward to our time tonight after supper, and tomorrow, and the next day, and the rest of their time at home with us. For I do not want them to go searching for it elsewhere, which is what that old serpent the devil wants.

Please tell Rebekah that her muse was a true ruby! I have made a copy and stuck in on my fridge to remind me daily of how I need to be playing the game.

Could you send me about a dozen of your generic newsletters? I would love to have some on hand for that poor mom in the grocery line. For I was once like her, until someone took it upon themselves to give me No Greater Joy.

Thank you, C

FROM A KID

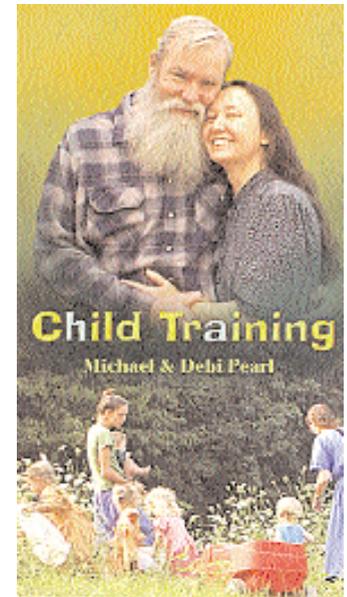
Dear Pearls,

My mother and father read your book and thought it was wonderful. One day mom said things are going to change. We thought, "Oh no!" Now we are going to have to do the work ourselves. We thought it would be very bad, but it was the best thing they have ever done for us. We see our neighbors kids doing whatever they what to, and they are very unhappy. We thank the Lord every day that we have a caring Mother and Father.

WISE WOMAN REAPS FRUITS OF TRUE SUBMISSION

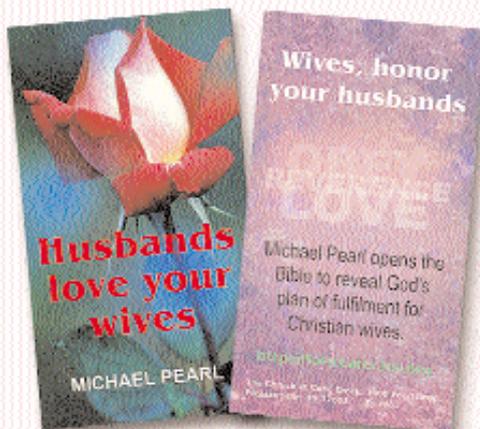
Found your website, what a blessing. I enjoyed so much the submissive wife tape comments. I am learning about being a submissive wife and it is amazing to see my husband absolutely bloom before my eyes. An interesting book that I read is called Fascinating Womanhood, it goes a few steps further in this venue. It is every bit worth the \$8 it costs to buy. I have been married going on 14 years, and this last year has been such a blessing, and I have kept my tongue quiet. Any requests that I have I tell God about and He provides through my husband. It is soo coool! Things have changed very quickly. If you only knew what life was like before. I won't go into detail, but lets just say I have beauty for ashes. And it is absolutely God's doing... I know that I had nothing to do with it and I am glad for that. God is so jealous for my husband, that He will not allow me to change him. I can almost hear God tell me, "See daughter, you finally gave him to me, and now I am fixing him up, better than you would have even thought! He is my son and I pleasure in working with him. Keep having faith that I will work in your husband's life. I am not done with him yet, and I am not done with you either. Lift up your head and praise Me with joy, as I complete this work. That is your job, daughter, praise me with joy always for the work that I am doing."

When things go hard, I praise God, and give the circumstances to him. Our prayers will not be answered if we harbor bitterness. Deb, my house is changing from week to week! I can see the work before my eyes, and quite honestly, I stand amazed. The more I forgive in my heart, the more changes. Please let your people know that forgiveness is a key, and yes, continual forgiveness, so our prayers will be answered. When I stopped dictating the answers to God, then some of the questions got answers, better than I had ever hoped. If you only knew where I was a few years ago. God is so good! Thanks, J



Now, enjoy the teaching of Michael and Debi Pearl on video in this five hour, three tape series. Learn how they successfully trained up their five children with love, humor, the rod, and a King James Bible. \$24.00

Husbands, Love Your Wives



Husbands, learn how to sanctify your wife and cleanse her of spots, wrinkles and blemishes. You have the power to bring your wife into the fullness of all that God intended her to be.

Wives, Honor Your Husbands

Wives, learn the freedom of honoring and ministering to your man. You can help him become all that God intended him to be.

Sold only as a set - \$18.00

Michael Pearl teaches from the Word of God on husband and wife relationships.

The Criminal

From our mail box

Dear Pearls

We are the parents of 7 children, four are adopted. Once I was suspicious my husband was handling one of the girls, but when I confronted them, they both denied it. Finally the 13-year-old daughter told me they had been doing things together, not intercourse, but almost. As soon as I found out, I took the girls, (ages 12, 13, 14 and 17 years old) and left. My girls are now telling all, they are angry. My husband is counseling with our pastor. Should I take them back into the home with him? How do I as a mother and wife respond to this? Do I protect my daughters or honor my husband? How can the kids ever respect their dad again? He was so strict and careful not to expose them to the world, teaching them to keep themselves pure and all the while he was doing this evil thing. There is a lot of hurt and anger in all of us. Please help.

Michael Answers

We receive too many letters like this. It begins with pornography, now piped into the home by the computer, and ends in tragedy.

You husband has committed a crime against humanity. You are legally obligated to report this crime to the law. He will be jailed and stand trial; you and the girls will testify against him; he will be sentenced to about 20 years.

I go to prisons every week and preach to men, many incarcerated for the same crime as your husband's. Some of them are now old men, having been there for 15 to 20 years. Their children are grown. But they have been forgiven by the blood of Christ. Prisons are great places for a man to contemplate his sin and prepare for eternity.

Counseling won't do. He needs a good case of old fashioned weeping, begging repentance. If he truly repents and gets saved, and you should choose to forgive him, the girls should never be forced to be in subjection to him again. He forfeited the right to be their father when he committed a crime worthy of death against them. If they choose to forgive and accept him as their father, that would be a blessed thing for them. They have been hurt enough; they shouldn't have to live with the hate and anger. That would mean that his sin is continuing to follow them.

I am so sorry for all of you. Sin is a terrible thing. It is death. May you and the girls find the grace to go on and live in the peace and love of God, and may your husband repent in bitter tears and discover the mercy of God that is available to all. ☹



If you would like a set of A Wise Woman cards please write: **Bible Memory Challenge**
8107 Green Forest
Adnm Antonio, Tx 78239

LITTLE PLANTS

Life awaits in wintered plant,
Irrepressible, for its cue
From sun and rain, who lend their aid,
To burst forth all anew.

It cannot bear the searing heat
Nor withholding of the rain;
'Twill die in not too long a time,
What might have been...in vain.

So it is a little child
Has promise full and bright,
To flower forth, a lovely soul,
With water and sunlight.

But all too oft the winds of anger
Sear his little soul,
That greening plant, so tender, true,
Draws up, withered, short its goal.

His thirsty heart is rarely washed
With water fresh and pure—
Those words of kindness, love, and joy
That nourish and renew.

Dear Father and dear Mother,
What weather besets your child?
Winds of anger, joyless drought? Or sun,
Sweet rain, and breezes mild?

Would you be glad for God to come
And sit Himself by you
If all you got were frowns and gripes
And kind words, very few?

If you've been so, it need not be.
Let joy light brow and tone,
And see that little face bloom bright,
A reflection of your own.

Carolyn Chambers

ARTICLES AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING ON OUR WEBSITE

As an easy reference guide to where our main articles can be found, we have made a Subject Index on our website. The Index directs you to the publication or tape in which the subject matter can be found. If the title is highlighted and underlined, you may open that article for viewing on-line. Here are a few examples:

HUSBAND/WIFE RELATIONSHIP

Affecting Children	Mail Bag tapes #4
Bound	NGJ Vol 1, pg 99
Carnal Husbands, Cranky Wives	NGJ Vol 1, pg 87
Man and Wife	NGJ Vol 2, pg 60
Abusive Husband	NGJ Vol 3, pg 74
Questions a wife can ask to tear down her house	Mar-April 2001 newsletter (online only)
A Wise Woman Builds Her House	May-July 2001 newsletter (online only)
Children of Parents with Differing Doctrines	Mail Bag tape #6
The Parental Root	NGJ Vol 3, pg 44

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Editing may be permissible if it is approved in writing by Michael or Debi Pearl.

This permission is in force until further notice.

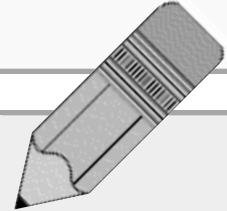
Attention!

We would like to advertise our books and tapes in your local homeschool publication. If you would be so kind as to send us information on how we could do this, we would be most appreciative. Please do us a favor and mark your envelope:

ATTN: Advertising.

You can also email us at:

nogreaterjoy@netease.net.



To The Pearls,

I know I have sinned against my husband by not treating him with the honor that should be his. Even though I am a christian and have been for many years I lack the wisdom to be the wife God wants me to be. Just recently I have begun to cry out to God to help me to be a Godly wife for the sake of my husband and children. I have always been so self-righteous that I have somehow turned my husband off to the Word. I think I am beginning to see his faults in a new light: meaning this, my reactions and responses to him have driven him further into selfish desires rather than away from the things of the flesh. I hope, that by God's grace I can turn myself around before it is too late.

L. A.

WONDERFUL CHANGES IN HOME



Dear Pearls,

I have been thinking the past few days about the impact you have had on my family since I first read *To Train Up A Child* 3 or 4 years ago. I wanted to share with you some of the changes the Lord has worked in us. We have a pleasant, obedient 4 year-old who is a joy to me each day. I happily mop/sweep around the latest Lego creation on the floor. I used to go into a rage if toys were left out, even a masterpiece-in-progress.

There was a time when I wanted total obedience from my young son, but I didn't enjoy him or have fun with him. He is so obedient and tries so hard to please me now that he sees joy in my face. How much I love being around him.

I have also learned to be submissive and respectful to my husband. At one point, he left church because he felt he couldn't please me or be spiritual enough. I was one of those fools who tore her house down. Once I learned to live in total submission, things quickly turned around. He is still learning how to lead—he was raised by a dominant mother and married a dominant wife. He has learned that he can lead and that I support him no matter what. He is such a great Dad, and our son thinks he's the greatest pal! We've also decided to keep him home and homeschool. Your homeschool tape is wonderful. Our family has gone from a typical worldly family on the road to hell to a home-centered, God-fearing family.

Thank you, K

Conversation In A 'Bible' Bookstore

by David Daniels

"Hello. May I help you?"

"Yes. I'm looking for a Bible I can use in my church. Could you help me?"

"I'd be happy to. I would recommend the NIV. It is our most popular seller."

"Do you know the story of the Ethiopian eunuch?"

"Sure."

"Well, the only verse that tells us what we need to do before baptism is in Acts 8:37. It's really important that my Bible states this clearly. Would you read it to me?"

"Certainly..." (The helpful employee looks and looks.) "Uh, it's not there."

"What's not there?"

"I'm sorry, but there is no verse 37..."

"Well, I don't want a Bible that is missing something that important. Let's try another Bible."

"Well, we have another popular one, the Revised Standard Version."

"My Bible has to be clear about the virgin birth of Christ. Would you please check Isaiah 7:14?"

"Hmm. It says 'a young woman shall conceive...'"

"Then forget the Revised Standard! What other Bibles have you?"

"Well, we are very proud of the New American Standard. It's called 'the most literal' version."

"Alright, then let's look up John 6:47. It's the one place where Jesus tells us to believe in Him to have eternal life."

"Wait! It only says 'he who believes has eternal life.' It doesn't say who to believe in."

"My old occultic friends would love that. They believe, but not in Jesus Christ. So much for the NASV."

"Let's try again. When I witness to Jehovah's Witnesses, I like to use Revelation 1:11, where Jesus says, 'I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last.' What do you have left?"

"Here's our New Living Translation. Let me see. Huh? It says, 'Write down what you see...' No 'Alpha and Omega' here.

"All I see left is an old American Standard. Would you look up 1 John 5:7? It tells us the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost are one God."

"I'm very sorry. It says, 'And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is the truth.' There's no Trinity here."

"Well, then, I'll just stay with my Bible. It has everything I mentioned to you."

"What Bible is that?"

"God's preserved words in English: The King James Bible."

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Item#	Books by Michael Pearl	Qty	Cost	Total
8610-10	To Train Up A Child - Book			
	1 - 7 Copies - each		\$5.00	
	8 - 99 Copies - each		\$3.00	
	100 or more - each		\$2.50	
8230-10	No Greater Joy Vol. 1			
	1 - 7 Copies - each		\$5.00	
	8 - 99 Copies - each		\$3.00	
	100 or more - each		\$2.50	
8235-10	No Greater Joy Vol. 2			
	1 - 7 Copies - each		\$5.00	
	8 - 99 Copies - each		\$3.00	
	100 or more - each		\$2.50	
8240-10	No Greater Joy Vol. 3			
	1 - 7 Copies - each		\$5.00	
	8 - 99 Copies - each		\$3.00	
	100 or more - each		\$2.50	
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	1 - 7 Copies - each		\$5.00	
	8 - 99 Copies - each		\$3.00	
	100 or more - each		\$2.50	
1420-10	Betroth or Not to Betroth - Booklet			
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	25 or more - each		\$.60	
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4530-10	Biblical Chastisement - Booklet			
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8130-10	Revelation Poster and Chart		\$12.00	
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Other Authors				
5820-10	Me? Obey Him?		\$3.00	
9510-10	Which Version is the Bible?		\$10.00	
4115-15	Holy Bible Software (PC only)		\$21.00	
Single tapes on Child Training				
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1410-40	My Favorite Homeschooling Ideas		\$4.00	
5810-40	Mail Bag Special - 6 tape album		\$20.00	
5810-41	Mail Bag-tape #1		\$4.00	
5810-42	Mail Bag-tape #2		\$4.00	
5810-43	Mail Bag-tape #3		\$4.00	
5810-44	Mail Bag-tape #4		\$4.00	
5810-45	Mail Bag-tape #5		\$4.00	
5810-46	Mail Bag-tape #6		\$4.00	

6810-40	No Greater Joy Vol. 1 - 3 tapes		\$9.00
6820-40	No Greater Joy Vol. 2 - 3 tapes		\$9.00
6830-40	No Greater Joy Vol. 3 - 3 tapes		\$9.00
8340-40	No Greater Joy Vol. 1 - 3 tapes		\$9.00
1330-40	Authority Preying		\$4.00
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6830-40	Man City		\$4.00
8310-40	Rebirth Rest		\$4.00
5730-40	Conventional Sin		\$4.00
8320-40	Multitask - 18 tapes		\$46.00
4910-40	John - 24 tapes, 2 albums		\$58.00
8140-41	Romans Chapters 1 - 8 - 17 tapes		\$48.00
8150-40	Romans Chapters 9 - 16 - 8 tapes		\$30.00
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2380-40	Colossians - 3 tapes		\$9.00
2830-40	By Divine Design - 3 tapes		\$9.00
8325-71	Child Training Material - 3 tapes		\$21.00
4140-70	11 Habitudes and Values - 2 tapes		\$8.00
9520-40	From the End of the Earth - Tape		\$6.00
9520-41	From the End of the Earth - CD		\$8.00
8810-40	Testimony of Debra Rose - 2 tapes		\$7.00
2810-71	EE Now - The Holy Spirit - video		\$20.00
2810-73	EE Now - The Holy Spirit - video		\$20.00
5820-40	Child Training - 1 tape		\$4.00

Sub-Total

Tennessee residents add 8.5% Tax

Shipping

Check # _____ Total

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 1000 Pearl Road
 Pleasantville, TN 37147

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Sign up at our website for email notification of the release of our latest newsletter.

www.NoGreaterJoy.org

From a reader...

Your wonderful article, 'Mama's Excuses' inspired me to write [this] poem.

MUM/TEEN EXCUSES

I can't imagine where my Johnny gets his attitude.
I've whined and whined and whined again about his sour mood.

He wasn't raised to have such a rebellious disposition.
"I" made sure his father led the home while I modeled submission.

It hurts my heart to see him treating others with disrespect.
But with leaders in the church like ours, what else can we expect.

His time is spent so selfishly, he never thinks of others.
He knows how much I need my space to be a better mother.

He tunes me out completely; he's a little know it all.
I've spent hours preaching to him; it's my duty after all.

His music and his clothing really drive me up a tree.
He looks just like the stuff we watch together on TV.

I suppose he's just a teenager, they say it's just a phase.
Someday he'll be a lot like me, more righteous in his ways.

By Kim Williams (mother of 5, including two teens)

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Website Address:

www.NoGreaterJoy.org

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