

NO GREATER JOY

Vol. 1 Issue 1 NEWSLETTER of THE CHURCH AT CANE CREEK MAY -1995

Getting To Know Us

GREETINGS

You have received this news letter from the little Church At Cane Creek because you purchased one of our books, **TO TRAIN UP A CHILD**. Michael Pearl is a Pastor-Teacher to some of the Saints at Cane Creek.

It's plowing time again and the horses can be seen standing sweaty at the end of a long furrow dividing the ploughed from the yet to be ploughed ground. Or, If you come by my house, you can hear my sixty-year-old tractor protest at being cranked up one more year. For several years now it has tried to become a rusty relic of the past, but I keep dragging it into the future with me. We might just survive this "New Age" and go out together.

This news letter is designed to be an encouragement to you as you 'repioneer' the nearly, lost art of family. In this open line of communication, you will read answers to your questions and hear how others are managing situations similar to your own. We include articles on various subjects that effect the family, education, work, entertainment, worship and health. The articles are not written by psychologist or professionals; they are written by parents who have successfully traveled the road before you. We welcome any questions you may have. We may not be able to answer every letter personally, but we will try. *

Why? But Why?

When a child is told to do something that he doesn't want to do, he will often ask, "Why?" In most cases the question is not prompted by a spirit of cooperative inquiry; it is prompted by a spirit of rebellion. The question is thrown at the parent as a challenge to his or her authority, wisdom, and motive. The child's question is actually a statement of defiance. The wise

parent will know that the character of the child is better served if the question is left unanswered. The child should trust the wisdom and good intentions of the parent. The issue is not a deficit of information but a deficit of character. The child who is perfectly compliant in spirit doesn't need explanations. Yet, in some cases, he may delight in knowing why because he enjoys playing his part in the scheme of things. Be sensitive. *

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go:
and when he is old, he will not depart from it.



Home-Schooled to Bible Translator

Our oldest child is Rebekah Joy. She knew no schooling but home-schooling until the day we took her to Wisconsin and dropped her off at the College entrance. She had never been away from home except on two occasions. The previous winter she spent three weeks in Columbia, South America with New Tribes Mission doing short term missionary work. It was on this trip that she developed a real heart for reaching those who have never heard of Christ Jesus.

That following summer we sold our cow so she could get enough money to go to Papua New Guinea for seven weeks. It was there in the malaria infested jungles that she came to know that her life's work would be to give to a tribe of

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A Whole Way Of Life

The number of homeschoolers is rapidly increasing. Home-schooling is not just an alternative educational procedure; it is one of many expressions of a whole way of life. It is the result of loving parents putting on the brakes and saying no to this stampeding system of child trampling New Agers. Our families will not be devoured and digested to become part of the feces of a carnivorous monster generated by the twisted minds of the moral terminally ill.

You have taken charge of your life that you might let God have his rightful place in the training of your children. To attempt to teach a child mathematics in an environment that denies the Author of all equations is like eating an egg and denying the chicken. Such a process is stupefying -- degrading to the intellect. To teach history devoid of the God of purpose is to degrade a computer to the processes of random chance. To teach children to

read and then outlaw the reading of the only book written by the God called Word is like giving a blind man sight and then outlawing sight.

The public school suspended God from the class room; but when the immorality became a threat to personal satisfaction, they started talking about values. They will not get their values back any more than a man will get peaches from a tree that he has cut down.

We are taking our children to the tree of life growing beside the fountain of knowledge to be refreshed by the Author of life. We will not stoop for anything less. We will not compromise. We will not allow state testing to dictate our curriculum. They have made their position on God and morality clear. We are making our position clear. We will not attend their party, dance to their tune, or employ their fiddler. *

Our Mail Box

The highlight of each day is when we get in the old pickup truck and drive down to the mail box to pick up your letters. We receive too many letters to answer any except those appealing for urgent counsel. But, we read every letter and greatly appreciate your words of encouragement and thanks. In our recent seminars we were overjoyed to meet many of you face to face. Your questions and comments were very enlightening. Here is a most often asked question.

QUESTION: "My two-year-old will not stay in bed when I put him down. It seems like I am whipping him too much. No matter how many times I whip him he still gets up." Another parent asked a similar question: "My little girl will not stay out of the refrigerator. Every time I turn my back she is opening the door. I spank her, but it seems to do no good."

ANSWER: Such questions have a thousand variations, but the principal is the same. The child is exerting his own will to self-gratification. On the one side there is your displeasure, and even the pain of



Don't Give Up

Do you sometime (maybe all the time) feel like you are in over your head? You are not alone. Anyone who takes responsibility will feel the weight of responsibility. The home-schooling mom and dad are psychologically handicapped before they start. They are given caused to feel inadequate.

Concerning public education, as in any trade, the tradesman must create the illusion that he alone has the skill or knowledge to meet your need. Only in the last century has the education of children been turned over to the professional. As a result, the parent's natural skills are dormant.

I am reminded of the child reared by a deranged spinster who didn't want her baby to grow up. She lived to be needed. She never let him feed himself. At six years old, he had never placed food in his own mouth. When she suddenly died and left him locked in a remote old house, he nearly starved to death before someone found him. There was plenty of food, but he did not feel adequate to put food in his own mouth. The professionals have made them-

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Bible Translator

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primitive people a copy of the Scripture in their own language. For the last four years, she has single mindedly prepared to that end. This May, she will receive her BA in linguistics.

As The Lord provides, July 15, she and her 18 year old brother, Gabriel, will board a plane to Australia where they will then proceed by small plane to the heart land of Papua New Guinea. They will hike into the interior to locate the Aoime tribe with whom she hopes to work. They will spend time getting to know the people and establishing relationships that will help determine how receptive the tribe will be. If the people are friendly and it appears that Rebekah will be safe and well received, she will know that she can return later to learn the language. This trip will also enable them to determine the kind of supplies and equipment that will be needed. They will return in the fall to secure the equipment in preparation for Rebekah's final departure.

Papua New Guinea is the eastern half of the second largest island in the world. It is just north of Australia at the south-east end of the Indonesian islands. The 463,000 sq. km. of New Guinea is topographically diverse ranging from lowland swamps with 400 inches of annual rainfall to high mountains covered with dense forest.

Its forbidding landscape conceals some 800 language groups yet to be reached. If Rebekah can reach one tribe, that leaves just

799 tribes yet unreached. Maybe your son or daughter will dedicate their life to the highest human calling -- to take the 2000 year old good news to those who have never heard.

Rebekah is not going out under a denominational or organization. She is sent by her home church. We are six families strong in prayer and giving. We have been able to support her and one other missionary candidate throughout their college training, but the money needed to sustain them on the field will be more than we can collectively contribute. If you and your children would like to be a part of sending a fellow home-schooler to the mission field, be assured, your donations will be tax deductible when funneled through The Church At Cane Creek.

"Pray the Lord of
the Harvest..."

If you believe God answers prayer, and your heart is so burdened, do pray for these two as they make preparation to go. It is just eight weeks until they board the plane. Also pray that God will raise up someone to go back with Rebekah. An older, retired widow with nursing skills, who would be willing to spend two years treating the sick, would free Rebekah to learn the language and commence translating the Scripture. Or, maybe you know of a doctor who would take his family for two years. Pray that God would send forth laborers into the harvest. *

Don't Give Up

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selves indispensable by their spoon feeding of high tech formula. They would have us believe that only university graduates can provide proper educational nourishment. Children grow best at their own mother's breast.

If you listen to the professionals when they are called upon to explain their failure you will hear them blame overcrowded class rooms. Do any of you have overcrowded class rooms? They will tell us that if they could only spend more time one-on-one.... Do you have twenty-five students to prevent you from spending time with one who needs extra attention? They will excuse their lack of control by pointing to the laws that prevent them from exercising discipline in the class room. For the present, we home-school parents are still free to discipline.

Of all things! I have heard the public teachers explain their student's failure by complaining that there is not enough parental involvement. We don't have any problem there. They also tell us that a breakdown in the family structure is to blame. Home-school never broke any family structure. I can't say as much for the N.E.A.

Then we are told that many children have special needs that require special care. Home-school moms and dads are the most astute specialists in the world, prompted by the fact that they are working with someone who is very special to them.

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What Age?

Because some children are ready to begin learning to read at the age of four to six, it has been accepted as the time to start all children. Children are put in class rooms where they are continually bombarded with information and tested as to their progress. It takes twelve long hard years to drive the information into them. The system has been arranged so that as soon as a child's mental development will allow comprehension of even a small amount of the material, he is made responsible for it. The early maturing children have set the pace for the average. The later maturing children who are just as bright -- a year or two behind the others -- are always under a pile trying to keep up. In this competitive environment, they develop feelings of inadequacy. If he is not crushed by the sense of failure, the late maturing child may prove to be the brightest when he is grown. What they are doing is like moving into a house before it is finished. If you wait until the child's mental faculties are amply developed, in the fertile environment, there will come a craving to learn. At such a time, teaching is easy.

For the sake of understanding, observe with me an imaginary experiment with two children of equal mental comprehension who will mature at the same time. The one in a traditional class room will be continually pushed to his limit. Before he is ready he will be made responsible for the information. Some of it he will comprehend right away; much of it will just swim around his head until he matures to the point of compre-

hension. For the teacher it is sometimes like pilling dry sand. It is a constant process of hammering it in -- drill and test, drill and test. As he develops new mental rooms, the teacher waits outside to fill them with information. Most of what is thrown at him, he is not ready for; but they just keep slinging it in his direction until it sticks. The poor child is a professional student at six. He is filled with responsibilities and worries, with no mother to comfort him.

The other child in our experiment is at home at his mother's feet feeling secure and protected. He is mentally developing at the same pace, but his

information rooms are not being challenged or filled before they are complete. He will appear to be two or three years behind the other child in our experiment. At seven or eight this child will begin to learn the school material that our other child was learning at six. The difference is that where it only takes an hour a day to teach the eight-year-old, it took eight hours a day to teach the six-year-old. And, our eight-year-old home-schooler is loving every minute of it. He is not being burnt-out by pressure and competition. He is not struggling

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You may ask, "If I have all these advantages, why do I feel so inadequate?" Has it ever occurred to you that the beginning public school teachers also feel inadequate? Have you ever felt inadequate in other areas where you have launched out into something new? The more something matters to us the more we demand of ourselves and the greater our self criticism. If you add to that the criticism of relatives, the suspicion of neighbors, and the threat of the state, it is a wonder any of us persist.

Remember, your feelings are just your feelings. They are not a true reflection of how well you are actually doing. You can't control involuntary feelings; but you can continue on because you know that nearly every successful home-school parent has felt the same as you.

Don't push too hard, or too

soon. That which takes months to teach a six-year-old can be taught to an eight-year-old in a few days. Some children mature in cognitive skills several years ahead of their peers. Others mature several years behind the average. The ones who mature earlier are not necessarily brighter than the late bloomers.

Don't let your pride create an anxiousness about your child's public performance. Your knowledge that the grandparents are going to put your seven or eight-year-old up on their lap and open a book that the child can't read can cause you to be impatient. Resist being controlled by the opinions of others. It is one thing to be concerned that your child is not developing as he should. It is quite another to be concerned for what others think about your child's development. The former can motivate you. The latter will depress you and cause you to exert undue and unnatural pressure on your children -- thus retarding their learning. *

"Yu Misiunady, eh?"

By Rebekah Pearl

As I stood looking at the tribal, Awar instruments inside the Papua New Guinea Museum, I heard a voice ask, "Yu Misiunady, eh?" I turned to see the anxious black eyes of the native museum attendant. How should I answer him? I was just a 17 year-old home-schooler visiting missionaries overseas. Yes, someday, I wanted to be a missionary, but was I yet? Unable to explain this in the Pidgin trade language, I just nodded at him. He turned and pointed out the open doorway to the vast and unexplored jungle mountains of Papua New Guinea. "My people," he said in the trade language, "My people live 2 days walk out there—we have no missionary. Old men, women, children—all die and go to place that burns with fire. We need God's talk (the Bible); we need the light in our eyes. You come be our missionary."

This man was a representative of just one of literally thousands of villages in Papua New Guinea. Around 800 languages in P.N.G. have no Bible or missionary witness, and the door is wide open with people like this native asking for missionaries. As you read this, may God touch the heart of 800 homeschoolers, that you might be willing to go and tell a tribe about Jesus.

It has been four years now since I spent the summer in the jungles of P.N.G.; and I have spent them



in preparation with the goal of returning for good. After 3 years of Bible school, I began my linguistic training at Baptist Bible Translators Institute in Bowie, Texas. I will graduate in May with a BA. My training, and planning are about over. The last step a missionary takes before leaving for the field is called deputation. Deputation involves raising prayer and financial support from various churches or individuals. Because I was a home-schooler, I thought it would be neat to have other home-schoolers support me and pray for me. Missions is the very heart of God; and home-schoolers ought to be involved. This newsletter and my own prayer letters will keep you posted on what I'm doing—or what God is doing with me in P.N.G. It has been said that, "You must give so your missionaries can live—but you must pray so your missionaries will stay!" Both are equally important. I will pray that you will join hands with me as a laborer in the harvest and pray for

me that I will have courage and health to endure until I can place the Bible in the hands of people who can read it.

If you would like to promise a certain amount each month—write and let me know. The sooner my support is raised, the sooner I can get started translating the Scripture and teaching the tribal children to read. If you would like me to come and show slides and speak about P.N.G. to your church or home-school group, get in touch! It is so exciting to be a part of the eternal plan. "Only one life, twill soon be past—only what's done for Christ will last."

There are some of you out there that God wants on the mission field -- maybe in the next tribe over from mine. If you're interested in being a missionary and have questions, write me. I'll do anything to get more labors on the Harvest Field. Study hard and prepare yourself for the work of the Lord—He will use you—He's using me!

What Age?

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to learn. His hunger is just being fed. The home-school parent who is willing to wait for the mental and emotional development to occur will experience far less frustration and anxiety. And, the child will have fun learning.

I have observed that by the time the Home-schooled children are fourteen or fifteen they have far surpassed their traditionally schooled counterpart, and that with one-tenth the effort. *

Our Mail Box

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disobedience; on the other side is his consuming passion to be gratified in his "lust." Where he or she disobeys, they are simply expressing that they would rather live with your displeasure and the spankings than to deny their lust.

I do not recommend it, but you could increase the severity of the spankings. If the child deemed the pain to be worse than the gratification, he would grudgingly stop. However, you have not trained him to get control of his passions; you have simply "outgunned" him. This power play has its limitations in the nature of the fleshly passions and the immaturity of the child's cognitive skills. That is, when the child is possessed of the strength of passion (getting out of bed, opening the refrigerator, etc.), he can not remember the severe consequences. He is acting on immediate impulse -- just like an undisciplined adult dominated by his lust. Think of an alcoholic, a dope head or a glutinous person. I have observed diabetics go to a church dinner and gorge themselves on sweets, oblivious to the wife standing behind them warning of the consequences. The diabetic is able to rationalize because there has been those rare occasions when he has indulged without dire consequences. If he can get away with the sweets one time out of ten then he will eat hoping that this will be the rare exception. It is not smart, but it is human. (I say *human* derogatorily.)

Where you have not been absolutely consistent with your child, by occasionally rewarding his disobedience, he will focus his lust on that one time when it paid off, and will barge

ahead hoping that this will be another permissive exception. If once ever two weeks, his getting out of bed is rewarded by being allowed to join the adults in that cozy time of late evening, he will keep facing the switch until he is again rewarded or until his memory of the fruitfulness of such an act grows dull. When it is never a pleasurable experience to get out of bed, his own self-love will cause him to stay there.

By your consistency, you will eventually condition the child to always submit to authority. If there is even one area where a child is consistently rebellious, you have a child totally self-willed at heart. If he is allowed to choose the areas of obedience, he is in fact never submitted to any authority but his own.

Rather than harder spankings, I would suggest that you determine to be absolutely consistent. Make sure that he is sleepy, and then put him to bed with a Bible story, a little hugging and a prayer. Be sure that he knows that he is to stay in bed. Then do as you would want done for you -- keep the house quiet so he can sleep. Meanwhile, be very attentive. If he gets up, when his feet hit the floor, spring into the room with your little switch and pop him on the bare leg one or two times. No anger on your part -- no raised voice -- just make it more pleasant to stay in bed.

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Mama's String of Pearls

By Rebekah Pearl

Mama's string of Pearls began
When Mama met that big Pearl man.
He smiled at her and Mama knew
No other Pearl would ever do.

The string was tied and soon twas' clear
Another Pearl would soon be here.
A Rebekah Pearl—so small and sweet
With great big eyes and great big feet.

A few years seemed but like a day
Gabriel Pearl was on his way.
A playmate for their little girl
On Mama's string -- another Pearl

One year, two years, passed away,
Another brother joined our play.
Nathan Pearl was his name,
But Gabe and I just called him, Nate.

The boys outnumbered us two girls
So Mama had another Pearl.
Shalom was added to her string
And peace to our family she did bring.

Then last of all, but never least
Shoshanna joined our Mama's string.
Dad's quiver full (the house was too)
And Mama had so much to do.

But I know somehow, she wouldn't trade
Or give one single Pearl away.
For all the jewels in the world
Aren't like our Mama's string of Pearls.

Herbs

Echinacea

The key to being able to use herbs effectively, is keeping it simple. It is easy to be overwhelmed with all the different herbs and their usage. In this article each month we will learn about the few basic herbs and how to use them.

The first one, Echinacea, is a big, strange word for a 3 foot tall, pretty, purple flower. The common name for Echinacea is "Cone flower."

Echinacea is very effective in enhancing the immune system. It is slower than antibiotics but very effective in fighting infection.

The seed is easily found in flower seed catalogs. It is a perennial, which means once you plant it, you can expect to see it every year thereafter. Its roots multiply each year and will need to be divide every year or so—which is a blessing since the root is the most useful part. It will take a couple of years to get a substantial enough root system to not be damaged when you harvest the roots. But, the investment in good health is worth the wait.

The Cone flower contains a chemical called hyaluronic acid that strengthens tissues against assault by invading micro-

organisms. It is also effective against herpes and influenza. It is a wonderful help to a mother whose child has chronic ear ache or colds. It has proven so effective it is currently being used with AIDS patients to boost their immune system. It should not be used as a regular, daily supplement. Use it only when there is a reason to boost the immune system.

You can dry and grind the root, then put it into capsules -- which you can buy. Or, a simple tea can be simmered for immediate use. Tinctures are made by soaking the diced root in a rum base or apple vinegar.

Before you use herbs, you need to study and know what you are



doing, Herbs should be treated with respect. Herb books from your local library are your best source of information on how to grow and use herbs. In the back of most herb books you will find a list of herb compan-

ies. Your local librarian can order books from any library in the U.S. Every library has a book that list all the books currently in print. This is a convenient way to find herb books you might be interested in reading.

Here are a few: Rodales's Illustrated Encyclopedia of Herbs (teaches how to make tinctures, soaps, etc.); The Healing Herbs by Michael Castleman (teaches medical uses).

For purchasing seed: Nichol's Garden Nursery, 1190 North Pacific Hy. Albany, Or. 97321-4598; and, Seeds Blum, Hc 33, Idaho City, Stage Boise, ID, 83706. For buying dried herbs: Clarks Natural Herbs, Box 12-B, Chaffee, N.Y., 14030; and, Penn Herb Co., 603 N. 2nd St., Phil., PA, 19123-3098.

Our Mail Box

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Never allow him to get his way. One week of consistency on your part will convince him that the business is under new management.

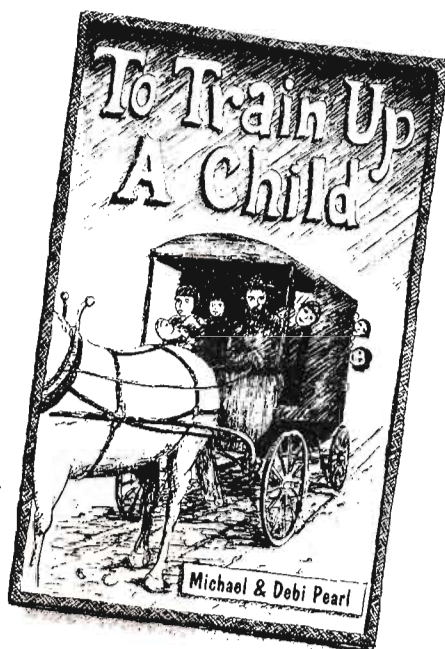
Be creative. The child who is opening the refrigerator is obviously wanting something to eat. If you never, NEVER, I SAY NEVER allow it to be a rewarding experience he will stop. If he gets less to eat rather than more, he will deem it to be to the benefit of his appetite if he ignores the refrigerator. For example, if the child is getting into the cheese, tell him that he can not have cheese even at meal times if he opens the refrigerator. And then stand by your word. When the other children eat cheese, he can eat dry bread for a week. He is not stupid. His appetite will keep the door closed. You must be consistent if he is to be consistent. Don't try to whip your failure out of your child. Train them right and they will always obey.

If you have question concerning child training, or if you have an interesting story of success, write and let us know. It can be a help to others.

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NO GREATER JOY

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

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