

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

# No Greater Joy



- Great Expectations
- Mama's Excuses

# No Greater Joy

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All Scripture taken from the  
Authorized Version  
(King James) Holy Bible

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## On the Cover

This month's cover features Joseph Courage Anast, 10 months old, the first and only grandchild of Michael and Debi Pearl. Joseph Courage is the son of Gabriel and Rebekah Anast. The family lives in Gallup, NM. Rebekah is the oldest daughter of the Pearls. You can tell by the picture that he thinks he is special. Gabriel operates a home health service which offers a wide variety of natural health care products, herbs and health info. Check out his website at: **[www.herbplenty.com](http://www.herbplenty.com)**.

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# Great Expectations

Between publications we receive hundreds, even thousands of letters and notes from you, our readers. We read all of them, and it leaves us with an overwhelming sense of your needs. When it comes time to write articles for the next publication, our ideas come from that reservoir of concern you have created in us.

In addition to your letters, we are prepped by the real life experiences that confront us daily. Our contacts with families provide us with many examples of parenting. We are alternately blessed and saddened by what we see. For the sake of our own understanding, Deb and I constantly analyze the successes and failures. Why are the children in one family so happy and relaxed while in another they are nervous and irritable? What does this mother do that causes her children to cheerfully obey while another mother produces whining misfits? How did one father generate godly men, while another produced sniveling wimps? Why are some kids lazy and some hard working, some creative and some witless?

We live in an ongoing clinic as we seek to understand your needs and come up with Biblical solutions. From time to time we have these "revelations" of understanding that come to us. We wrestle with issues, discuss and pray until clarity emerges. One of us states it to the other and we both say, "That's it!"

Many times we have tried to

state concepts, only to discover from your letters, or the experience of those around us, that we have failed to communicate. So we state the same concept again in another way. If you have read *To Train Up a Child* and followed it up with the three volumes of *No Greater Joy*, you are aware of concepts that we have repeated—some of them, six or eight different ways.

This past month Deb and I were reflecting on why this family or that family consistently fails to achieve satisfactory results. It is not difficult for certain families; why is it so hard for them? Some families are handicapped by their lack of temperance and stability. They are angry, selfish, petty, disconnected, intemperate, or bitter. Their problem is not a failure to apply proper technique; theirs is a failure of character. This is not the case with all parents. We see some families that are normal, Christian, stable, even cheerful, and yet their children are untrained in so many areas. Why?

The answer: great expectations or the lack thereof. They do not expect a higher level for either

themselves or their children. They have accepted the mediocrity as normal. Until parents have their expectations raised, all our instructions are useless, and any effort they exert will be half-hearted. Like a new diet, they might try our instruction for a few days to see if they will be comfortable with it, only to discard it when the going gets rough.

The other day I watched a mother allow her child to get away with something that would have greatly disturbed Deb and me if it had been one of our children. This mother didn't seem to be bothered. To her it was normal. If it doesn't bother you, you will never fix it. If you don't expect more of your child and yourself, in time you will regret it. You must face the fact that when a two-year-old is allowed to develop a character habit, it is his for life. When you see a two-year-old express anger without adequate cause, and you allow it to pass, be sure you have just created an angry teenager. When a child whines for anything and you give him his request you have started a habit that will not go away. When

he gets older his selfishness may motivate him to develop more socially acceptable ways of expressing his manipulation and intemperance, but it will be part of his character as a teenager and adult.

As we review our memory, comparing those few families that have exemplary children and those that are just average or below, it is clear that the best children come from homes where parents have high expectations and a will to train their children to that end. Now I know that there are dysfunctional families with parents you might characterize as having high expectations. They are angry and swift to bring judgment on their children for the least infraction. The children are whipped dogs. That kind of behavior has nothing to do with the high expectations of which I speak. Such parents actually expect their children to fail, and they do not have a vision for holiness. Anger and criticism is their way of life. I cannot answer all challenges in one article. We have addressed these issues in the three volumes of No Greater Joy. Don't miss my point by seeking what you think is an exception.

The facts remain. There are families whose children would rate at the top of the scale no matter whose scale you are using. The most hostile, liberal, child services agent will praise these children as happy, creative, obedient, hard working, emotionally stable, intellectually bright, socially adapted, and every other good

thing that could be said about a child. I see these children. I have gone into their homes. They have been in my home. They come from parents that have high expectations and a confidence that with God's guidance and some common sense they can train up their children in the way they should go. These parents are distinguished by the fact that they are shocked and alarmed when their children, of any age, exhibit attitudes that are less than Christian. When the beauty and joy of home life is interrupted by something ugly, everything in that family stops until the children are back

**It is clear that the best children come from homes where parents have high expectations and a will to train their children to that end.**

on the path of cheerful holiness.

I am amazed to see parents indifferent to ongoing laziness and anger in their children. The kids whine and pull and complain. Last week while I was waiting to get into the prison, a mother, there to visit her husband, was waiting to be searched. Her little girl ran over to the door and shoved it open, letting in the cold air. Mother said no, but the child continued. When Mother approached her to pull the door shut, the little

girl ran to the seats and began to climb in a defiant way. When mother tried to calm her down, she ran to the x-ray machine and started hammering on it. The mother must have seen me watching, for she turned to explain, "She is just tired; I had to get her up early." The little girl momentarily stopped her reign of terror long enough to put her hands on her hips, which she defiantly cocked to one side, poked out her bottom lip, and said to me, "Yeah, I am upset because I am sleepy." Her cutting words came out sounding like a cheap prostitute standing on a street corner.

Parents with high expectations never make excuses. They see no reason for a child to have a bad attitude.

There were times when my children made my heart hurt. My whole world stopped and nothing else mattered but restoring and training my children. Life could not go on until they were walking in truth and holiness. At such times it was inevitable that I should consider my attitudes and actions just as much as I did the child's—maybe more so. It was a time of repentance and prayer, a time of sobriety and determination. By the set of my brow, my children knew that life would never be the same again. Family court would stay in session until this thing was settled. The very sacredness of the atmosphere demanded the full attention of the children. There was no escape, no reprieve. They would repent and walk in truth, or life would never return to normal.

Spanking was secondary to the force of the moment. The total focus and commitment of their parents is what made the children accept this moment as the first day of the rest of their lives.

Children can read your soul before they can read "Mat the Rat." If your soul is walking in

truth and you expect the same from your children, you will see the results you desire. Be sure you will never get more from your children than you expect. Your return will never exceed your investment. Their character will never exceed your expectations.

You can raise your expecta-

tions by observing the training techniques of exemplary families. Our writings are designed to raise your expectations, to show you a higher way, and to motivate you to train up a child in the way he should go so that when he is old he will not depart from it. 😊

### JOY BRINGS REMARKABLE CHANGE

Dear Pearls,

We would like to thank you for your ministry. You have been an encouragement to very many people. It has been almost a year and a half since we first read your books. We have also watched your videos and I've read Me? Obey him? All of which have brought help to the raising and training of our 5 children between the ages of 1 ½ and 7.

I have to say, we still felt like something was missing. I was being as consistent as possible, having training sessions at home, being submissive to my husband, praying for the Lord's work to be done in and through us, and yet something wasn't quite right. The kids would still disobey in public but I wasn't seeing the fruit that I thought I should see. I kept thinking, "They said 3 days of consistent training and the kids will be remarkably different." To be honest, we didn't see it. We thought, "It can't really be, because it hasn't worked for us, at least not to the point of seeing big changes."

Then came your last newsletter. You might have already guessed what was missing. The joy in parenting. It brought all of the change in the world. I prayed that the Lord would help me enjoy the children. Last Monday, I purposed to enjoy them. When they wanted me to look at a picture they colored, I came, rather than say, "Wait a minute." When they asked to play a game, I said, "Yes," It's been great. They have helped out more and not complained about it. I have received more spontaneous hugs and "I love yous" than I have received in a month.

We had a great day yesterday. We went to the nursing home and the kids did a great job. They made pictures, and together we made cookies the day before to give to some elderly in the nursing home. Even church on Sunday went well. Usually, we take a back pew in case we needed to exit because of bad behavior. This time, we moved about half way up, and they did remarkably better.

We continue the journey, but the Lord has taught me much about enjoying the blessings he has given us. Thank you very much

One more thing you might find interesting. We had a training session with not touching, much needed when we go into a store. As part of our school, we were doing the 5 senses-touching being one of them. I laid out some candy the kids received for their birthday in a line on the floor. We got down on our hands and knees and played follow the leader. I said, "Don't touch, but look at those M&Ms, and smell those chocolate pieces. Don't they look good." With the rod of correction at hand, we proceeded down the line. They did a great job. It was a good training session. Then I let them hold a few M&Ms, but not eat them. It was great developing of self-control. The 18 month-old needs work on that, but the others really did quite well. And they had fun with it.

Life has been much more enjoyable and my husband thinks so, too.

Thanks again, K

**From Our Mail Box**

## Are you hungry for plain Bible teaching?

So many have written comments like these after listening to these tapes. Here are a few:

### ETERNAL IMPACT

Dear Michael,

Only eternity will reveal the extent of the impact of the Romans and Galatians tape series on our family. We have been blessed by the truth of:

- We are dead to sin (crucified with Christ) and we (by faith) are to reckon ourselves dead.
- We have no more obligation to the LAW...What freedom this truth has given!!!

Thank you for these very helpful messages and preaching the Word of God just as it has been given. God bless you and your bride and your whole family!

Steve

### ROMANS MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Pearl,

We ordered your Romans series a few months ago and have listened to it many times. Understanding it, at least partly, has changed our way of thinking and dealing with sinful flesh drastically. Just knowing that we don't have to sin because of our sinful nature makes a huge difference! We have loaned the series to our pastor who is open to the teaching. We could write volumes on the things we have learned through your teaching. Bless God for you faithfulness.

T&J

Our family listens to 15 minutes of Romans each morning. Then we discuss what we hear. It is great!  
B from CA

The Romans tapes have been water to my dying soul. BD

### **Romans**—17 tapes (foundational)

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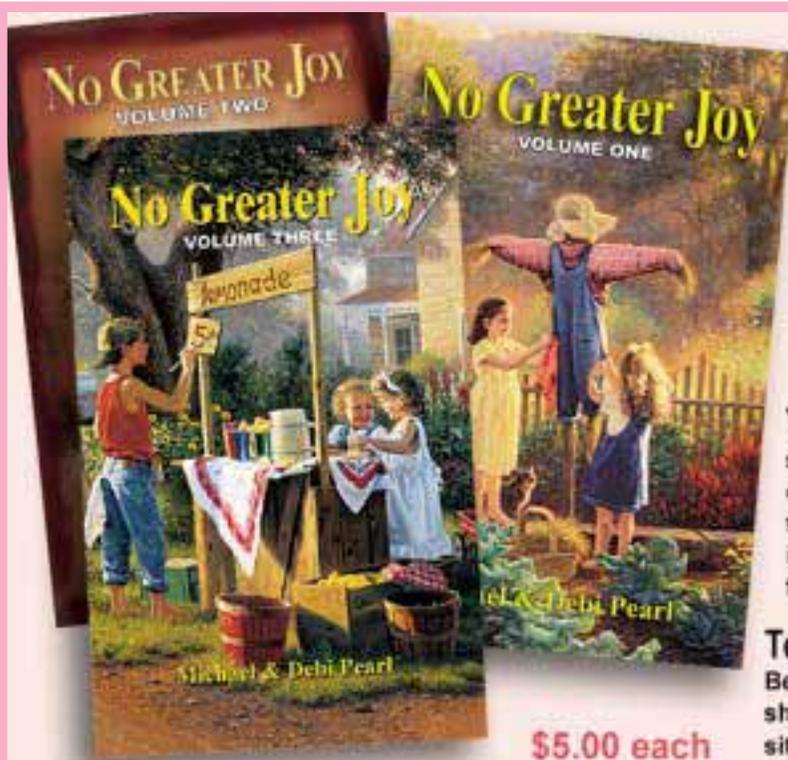
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# Mama's Excuses

by Debi Pearl

My little man missed his nap today and that is the reason he slapped your Johnny. When your Johnny started screaming that he was hurt, it upset my boy so badly that he threw your cup and broke it, but he didn't do it intentionally; besides he was just upset that it was empty and he doesn't yet understand how to ask. This whole thing was just a misunderstanding. He is normally such a sweet child but does not do well around so many new people. He is shy you know, and his way of showing his feelings is pitching a fit. Well, it's not really pitching a fit; it is only that he loses control of his emotions because he is so emotionally high strung. I read about high-strung children being uptight and often explosive, and not knowing how to direct their feelings. I think he must be overly bright. His aunt is, and she has to use medications to help her relax. I do not believe in Ritalin, but I know there are some brain disorders where such drugs are necessary, and my doctor said it might help my sweet child to relax. Being emotional volatile runs in the family, you understand?

Are you having peas for dinner? I am so sorry, but could you fix something for my little man. He is so sensitive to textures and just can't swallow peas. No, really, he will choke to death before he can swallow them. Poor little guy. He gets so scared when he chokes that he screams for hours, and I never like to upset him.

Please don't shut the door; he likes to always be able to see his mommy. We are so close. Oh, here is mama's boy now. He is hungry now and can't wait for dinner. I think maybe he has a touch of low blood sugar, and he just gets frantic when hungry. No, he does not like applesauce, it is mushy. I told you about that, how he gets choked, remember? He wants a peanut butter cookie. I know you planed on having the cookies later, but one little cookie will not make any difference, and his sugar level seems to know what he needs.

Please forgive him, he did not hear you tell him to pick up his cup off the floor, or maybe he did not understand. He is only 3 years old, and when a request is made out of context he can not understand, besides he is easily distracted and simply forgets what you told him to do.

I would put him down for a nap, but he can't go to sleep unless I am lying beside him, and it is noisy in here. Noise upsets him. My mother was like that, she is dead now, but she would stay awake for days if there was any noise. I told you he missed his nap, and I think there is a good possibility he is cutting a new tooth. It bothers him. He bit one of the babies at Church this week. I tried to tell the mother he did not mean hurt the little thing, it is only that his mouth was hurting him, and he was distracted with all those children. As you know, he

does not do well with big crowds.

Oh honey, don't hit. It hurts mama's heart to see you hit someone. I am so sorry, he hit your Johnny. He thinks it's unfair that Johnny gets the best toys. At MY house I try to let the youngest visiting children have the best toys, but I guess YOU do not have that rule-the golden rule, you know. Yes, I know I did not do it last time you were there, because my boy was just too young to understand, but I have decided to do it from now on. Anyway, he is so young he can't understand why Johnny's toys are not his. He is not capable of understand sharing, yet. He is too young. He gets so stressed, not mad, just stressed when he thinks the other child unfairly has the best toys. He has such a high sense of right and wrong. I really hate to explain to him about the toys being Johnny's, because he gets so depressed when he realizes that he is wrong and has to give up his toy. I know it is just a stage he is going through.

You know, I have heard, really smart people tend to be moody, and he is given to depression. I have that problem as well. When he is tired or hungry, sometimes I can tell he has a headache and it makes him irritable. I bet he has a headache right now. If he really gets disappointed about something he holds his breath. I am afraid he will die right there just because some child was too selfish to share with him.

That lady at Church that leads the little boys' class avoids my son, and I can tell she does not like him. He is so sensitive and he knows when someone thinks he is bad. It is not fair. He told me she did not give him a cookie last week, and she gave one to all the other boys. I ask the other little boy and he said that only the boys that picked up their books got a cookie, but I knew she did it just to hurt him and make him feel rejected. In fact, he plays by himself more and more because people seem to pick on him.

Kids are so cruel these days. My son feels like no one likes him, and I believe he is right. And the other lady would not let him go with the 5 year-old boys' class last week. He told me how the other children are mean to him and it just breaks his heart. When it is my turn to keep the younger boys, I make them play the games my son likes. The only time there is true justice is when I am in charge and see to it that the other boys play nicely. He loves it when I am there. We are so close.

He has such a strong will, like his daddy; he finds it very hard to give in. Most children with average IQ's just blindly do what they are told. With his good mind, he has to think things out before he decides to obey. That is the reason he shut the door when you told him not too. And you heard him; he does not obey anyone but his mama. I thought about teaching him to obey others, but I am so afraid some stranger might take advantage of him. Of course, he might not have understood that you meant right then. He is too young to understand the now and later thing. He did not mean to

disobey or shut it on your baby's hand. It was an accident. He is so easily frustrated because he expects so much of himself and he being so sensitive he can tell others are displeased with him. He needs people, especially ladies like you, to really like him so he can feel good about himself. His daddy does not take time with him like he should. I try to make up for his daddy's lack of interest, but no one can take the place of a good father, even a mother who is as closely bonded as we are.

No, please do not think he lied to you. He would never intentionally lie. He misunderstood what the children were doing. You can see by the intense, earnest way he is looking at you that he could not be lying. No child could look you in the face so innocently and be lying. He is not old enough to understand such duplicity. I can always tell if he is guilty. I know most mothers cannot because they are not as attuned to their children as I am to him. He tells me everything, and I mean, everything. He tries to not say bad things about the other boys, but you should hear some of the awful things the other children do or say, and he says they make ugly faces behind my back. It is disgusting. I cannot go to the other mothers and tell them what my son told me that their children do. They would not believe it. But he does tell me everything and that is the reason I know he is telling you the truth now. I can tell. Trust me.

I have to go. My husband is home and he will wonder where we are. No, darling those are Johnny's toys. Put them down. Do not pitch a fit. He's not really pitching a fit, he is just expressing

his disappointment, and he is so high strung emotionally that this kind of upset makes him lose control. The other day he was embarrassed because a lady talked to him and he had a fit, well, not really a fit, but lost control. People need to understand that raising one of these highly intelligent, emotionally volatile children is totally different from raising regular children. Would you mind so much if we just took one little toy home, well, maybe 2 little toys...OK honey, 3 toys home with us. I will be glad to bring them back in a day or two. There is no sense in upsetting him. Asthma runs in the family and stress often brings on asthma. If he gets the toys, he will settle down at home. He does better play by himself. Oh, by the way, he wants to take the applesauce to eat on the way home. He thinks he likes it now.

No thank you. I know you set great store in that book, but I read it and so did my pastor, and he says it is too harsh. Yes, I know that the Pastor's children have gone to the devil, but that is just it. The Pastor says the reason his grown children are in such sin is because he was too harsh on them. Yes I know his younger children are little terrors; everyone knows that. But he says when you lose one you lose them all. He says the Pearls try to train children like they were animals. We all know that our children have sinful natures, so what good does it do to try to train them before they can understand? A child so small should not be put under the emotional stress of having to obey. I tried it for a few days and it just made my son mad. I love my child and want to nurture him. If I spanked him for every disobedi-

ence, I would be spanking him all day long. I know your children are gentle and obedient, but your children do not have the same temperament as mine. I want my child to be close to me, to bond with me.

Anyway, I am sorry, but I must really be going. My husband will already be at church, and our pastor is having a meeting for all the parents with small children. We are going to have to make some changes in the chil-

dren's church. You know how it is when you get a bunch of children together. I think we should spend the money to get better videos, something that will hold their interest. What do you think? ☺

## DO YOUR CHILD A FAVOR

Dear Mike and Debi,

My husband and I are proud parents of 4 boys, a girl, and another (?) on the way in January. Unfortunately, when we first had children, I convinced my husband that spanking and punishment, training, etc., were all part of an "authoritarian" parenting style. Well, needless to say, my two oldest children were turning into brats. Then one night, by the grace of God, I came across your web site and ordered your books.

They have changed our lives! I am so thankful to have discovered them while my children were small. Our children are truly a joy to us. Whenever we go somewhere, we are always complimented on their excellent manners and behavior. I feel so joyful, knowing that my children's happiness is a fruit of God's timeless principles. When I was a "non-spanking, permissive parent," I spent the day scowling and nagging (really disliking) my children. Now, I don't even desire to go places without them. Parents who think they are doing their children a favor by not training and disciplining them are sadly mistaken.

Sincerely, E

## ONE RESPONSE TO "IN DEFENSE"

Kim's top 10 reasons for use of the rod:

1. God commands it.
2. The rod squashes rebellion.
3. The rod teaches respect for authority.
4. The rod provides outer control to teach inner control.
5. The rod builds character in my children.
6. The rod brings order to my home.
7. The rod enables me to keep my sanity.
8. Our children are a joy to others.
9. Our children would run the house instead of us parents.
10. Our children would be spoiled brats without it.

Thank you for your ministry in upholding the Truth.

Sincerely, Kim

Mailbag

Dear Pearls,

I would like to comment on Biblical chastisement. The use of the rod is taught in Scripture. God's Word is truth. It's really the only thing we can have confidence in. Folks that claim to be Christian and will not train their children according to "the Book" (including the use of the rod) are simply not being honest with themselves or God. You are right on target. Keep up the good work. This is so needed as you said. Thanks for publishing *No Greater Joy*. Such a blessing!

Sincerely, SR

A small boy is sent to bed by his father. Five minutes later... "Da-ad..." "What?" "I'm thirsty. Can you bring me a drink of water?" "No. You had your chance. Lights out."

Five minutes later: "Da-aaaad..." "WHAT?" "I'm THIRSTY. Can I have a drink of water?" "I told you NO! If you ask again, I'll have to spank you!!"

Five minutes later... "Daaaa-aaaad..." "What!" "When you come in to spank me, can you bring a drink of water?"



# Missionary News From Around the World

T. J. Slayman

Greetings in Jesus' name. It has been a while since some of you have heard from me and I have some interesting things I wish to report to you.

## Thai Outreach

The beginning of November saw 12 men come from the States to help distribute 110,000 Chick tracts in Thai language. For almost three weeks we put out the word in train stations, bus stops, overcrosses and in front of some shopping complexes here in Bangkok. All in all we felt as if God was blessing and we were all surprised and thankful to God for the receptivity of the gracious Thai people.

As a team, we also went to a couple of large festivals up-country, looking for big crowds of people who, hopefully, had come from all over the country. The largest festival was the Annual Elephant Roundup held in the province of Surin. Although it sounds corny, this is a very important event here, and we distributed all of the literature that we brought in half of the time I thought it would take. It was a very profitable trip, and next year we will probably take three times as much literature. We almost had one of our teammates die in Surin, and I will get to this story in a minute.

As most of you know, we had cards inserted into all the tracts, inviting folks to enroll in Bible Correspondence courses. Praise God, we have had over 150 people write to me from 18 provinces asking for these correspondence courses. Surprisingly, the majority of these responses are from men in their late twenties. We feel it was a worthwhile and profitable project, even though I was hit with an unexpected customs charge of \$3000 to get the tracts in.

I ask you all to pray that God will lead me to a good job that will afford me a visa and legitimate reason to be in the country. I will also need a place to live, as I have closed out my old apartment and will not be returning to that neighborhood.

## Death's Door in Surin

One of our young men, Thomas Shepherd, came down with intestinal problems and severe abdominal pain while we were in Surin. Since the symptoms were akin to appendicitis, we put him in the best hospital the town had to offer.

At 11:15pm, Thomas was given a shot of morphine for the pain he was in. Five minutes after the shot, he asked me to tell the nurses that his abdominal pain

was now gone but that his heart muscle was hurting. Shortly after this, he was experiencing difficulty breathing. His condition kept getting worse and worse until he was in such pain that he was scared and crying. I was pretty scared as well.

Since it was nearly midnight, it seemed to take forever for me to get the doctor to help him out. Finally, we had him moved into the intensive care room and had him taking oxygen. His blood pressure and heart rate seemed OK according to the EKG, but by this time, Thomas was slipping into delirium. He wouldn't respond to voice or touch. He was sweating profusely with tears running down his face. Once in a while he would call out "T.J." but wouldn't respond when I answered. He would also cry out for Jesus and say, "Why, Lord?" He just laid there shaking and sweating with his eyes rolled all the way back in his head while he was gripping his chest.

By now I had Paul Warner and Don Madill on the scene. It was getting more and more intense. Allergic reaction to morphine. The doctor gave him a shot of something to counter the morphine but it didn't seem to be working. By now there was nothing we could do but trust God and

pray.

I've been in some pretty hairy situations over the past 5 years, but this was the first time I can actually say I was scared.

Paul and Don had their hands on Thomas and were praying when a nurse came in and gave him a shot of something straight into his IV unit. Within 5 seconds he stopped shaking, sat up straight in bed looked around and said just as calm as a cucumber, "Hi Paul. Hi Donnie."

Breathless, we all started asking, "Thomas! Can you breathe? Are you ok? How does your heart feel?" "Fine as usual. Is there a problem?" he politely answered. "No! No problem at all. Just asking," we cheerfully answered.

I couldn't believe it. The kid wakes up in a different room than he went to sleep in, is hooked up to an EKG machine, is breathing oxygen, and has the attention of 6

pale nurses, not to mention Paul, Don and me standing around his bed at 1:30 in the morning. "Is there a problem?" If he only knew!

The next day he asked me if anything happened last night. I said, "You had a little bit of a rough night." He said, "Man, I had a weird dream" "Really?" I said, "Tell me about it."

Thomas said he dreamed that he was walking thru a beautiful forest towards a spectacular light. As he was approaching the light (I know this sounds funny, but please bear with me) there were two men that stood in his path not letting him go further. He couldn't see their faces, but they told Thomas he still had things to do and that he must go back and find T.J. Thomas said he turned around and was looking for me but couldn't find me. He said he became so frustrated that he start-

ed to cry and was calling for me.

That was one weird night and one strange dream. I don't know if it was a vision, a "near death experience" or a drug induced dream. And I don't know if his problem was food poisoning upon a weakened system (we found out later it wasn't appendicitis), a reaction to strong morphine, or spiritual oppression. Maybe it was a combination of all three. I'm glad God answers prayer and that he is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble Ps 46:1. I'm so glad Thomas was allowed to see another day and that I didn't have to call his parents and inform them that their only son had died.

Please Pray for Me.

Thank you for your prayers,  
T.J. Slayman  
Acts 26:15-18

### **Tom Gaudet: Missionary at Large**

Dear Praying Friends,

We trust this finds you enjoying the blessings of the Lord in this new year. His return is closer today than ever!

Please consider making the following trip a matter of serious intercession. I will fly out of Amarillo, TX this coming Monday, January 14. At DFW, I will meet up with Terrell Knight, a young man from Marion, TX who has been preparing for ministry in missions. We will then fly on to Seoul, Korea for 5 days. The purpose of this leg of the trip is to

make some key preparations for an outreach during the Asian Games, September 2002. Much needs to be done in those few days. Several items need to be printed for this outreach and Lord willing we will be able to finalize the details before printing starts back in the USA.

On the 20th of Jan, we will meet up with Jeff Lange in Bangkok, Thailand. Jeff is a missionary just starting deputation and this trip will be his survey trip to Thailand. He will be arriving in Thailand on the 16th, so will have already been there for four days.

For the next 10 days the three of us will be traveling throughout



### **Tom & Krinny Gaudet**

Thailand and some of the surrounding countries. We are taking this opportunity to work with some nationals and missionaries to develop effective materials in several of the regional languages. I will share with you later concerning brethren in the USA who

are desiring to produce significant amounts of materials for this region. We have contacts for some of these languages and for others we must depend wholly on the Lord to put us in touch with the right people. Only He will be able to work this out. Please pray! Much hangs in the balance. The schedule and travel will be hard.

These two men will depart Thailand at the end of January and I hope to take a day or so to recoup some energy!! Then, plans call for me to rendezvous Feb 2 with my Pastor, Ken Black, and another man, Travis Jones from Fort Worth. We will meet up in Islamabad, Pakistan, Lord willing!

We want to take the next ten days or so to see if ministry in that region is possible. Please look at a map of the region and be discerning as how to pray. We want to learn all we can while there. God oftentimes prepares hearts of people to hear the Gospel through

national tragedy. That entire region, including Afghanistan and Pakistan has suffered much in recent days.

To be very honest, I feel vulnerable at the moment as I recount these situations to you. I have spent the past several weeks working out details but now that I am telling you about it, I realize how dependent we will be on the Lord and you, our faithful intercessors. Please pray for safety for each of the guys mentioned. Pray for divine appointments that we can successfully accomplish the things we set out to do while in each place. Many of the contacts we have are simply addresses of nationals and there was not time to make contact beforehand. They do not know us and it is possible to travel halfway around the world and not find them home. Only the Lord could work this out but I have seen Him do it faithfully many times. Please pray!

God has already worked out

so much. A lot of money has already been spent on airline tickets, etc. Only today did I get my passport back in the mail from the Pakistan consulate. They granted a visa for travel there on Feb 2, but I am departing the USA on Jan 14. It just made it in time!! I was concerned. Pray also for the families of these who are traveling. Krinny and Myra Noel will be staying in Amarillo. Work continues on with typesetting and publishing of several projects in different languages. We are currently working on materials in Thai, Chinese, Bahasa Indonesian, Spanish, Korean, etc. The work does not stop when we are state-side. In fact it is much harder to do while here.

Again, we are dependent upon you. Please hold the ropes while we go!

For Souls Still Waiting,  
Tom Gaudet



**Steve Schnell and family**

You can contact the Schnells at: [schnell\\_family@hotmail.com](mailto:schnell_family@hotmail.com)

### Home on Furlough

Steve and Margaret Schnell, missionaries to Cambodia, have labored in the work of teaching, witnessing, discipling, and the never-ending work of language study for four years. They are now in the process of returning to the US for a one year furlough, and should arrive shortly.

The purpose of their return is to share their ministry with other people. To do this they will be traveling extensively during this time.

### Permission to reprint

We receive many requests to reprint our articles in other publications. All of our material is copyrighted so that we can maintain control. However, we do hereby grant permission to any publication to reprint our articles in their entirety, without editing, on the conditions that: with each reprint clear recognition be given as to the source and that the article must include our address and an offer to receive our free newsletter.

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

This permission is in force until further notice.

From our mail box

# REBUILDING AFTER PORN



Dear Mr. and Mrs. Pearl,

About a month ago I "accidentally" (we know it was not an accident, but by the Lord's hand) discovered my husband had been regularly viewing pornography on the internet. In the history, it displayed half a dozen websites with saucy names, and naked women clad in "bodystockings" and various and sundry other little nothing items. My initial reaction was stunned. It really didn't sink in for a few hours. It felt like a dream. I called him on his cell phone at work and asked him in our 'code' language (to disguise whatever sensitive topic we might be discussing which may be overheard by eavesdropping scanners,) if he knew what I might find on the computer that we might need to talk about. His voice dropped immediately and he replied with a trembly 'yes.' And he said he'd be home as soon as he could get there so we could talk. He did. He cried and asked for forgiveness. I found out the next day that he had lied to cover up how long he'd been doing it. The day before he told me he'd been doing it two weeks, and it had actually been eight months. Like I said, it took me totally by surprise. In fact, when we received your newsletter in June/July 2000, with your article on pornography, I felt so blessed to have such a husband who guarded the doors of his heart. We got our first computer a few months later. At that time, I thought only of training our children to avoid sinful influences on the internet. They developed discerning attitudes. I gave them cautions and things to look for, monitored them, and soon they became quick to recognize what to avoid, and obeyed. In the end, it was my husband that eventually succumbed.

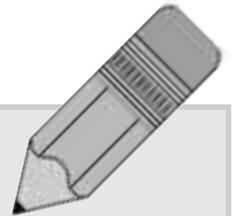
I've had a lot of anger, and I made sure he knew about it, and then I would feel such tremendous remorse afterward. After I found out about the porn, I'd get angry-I mean, really get after him with the demands, and go for a couple of days trying to rebuild and get a handle on my feelings. It wasn't until we got a set of your two videos instructing husbands and wives that I was finally able to understand what I should be doing-honoring my husband and letting God take care of the problem. I mean-really let go. No more turmoil, no more stirring up the pot. I mean, when Michael said, "You want a spiritual husband? How's he going to get that way when you've been a nag, you've been a DRAG?" His words hit me. Right then I UNDERSTOOD, in a way I had not been able to before, and I felt an incredible peace. I went into a period of mourning for my own sins after that, although God had already been doing that to me, but Michael's words had given me the framework for the rebuilding process. I began to pray for my husband that he would truly repent and get release from bondage to that sin, and I began confessing my sins regularly to the Lord. I am happy to say, one month later, that I can truly and sincerely tell my husband I love him-and often. He is pure joy to be around. He is anxious for us to be together, and better yet, I can't wait for the plans that he has for us. We are rediscovering a closeness we previously only had memories of. We have been "joining together" often, initially out of comfort and a need to be close, and now it's for the joy of it, although at times afterward there are tears and sadness, followed by hugs and "cuddle time" afterwards as we recognize we're still healing. He is happy, and his face has a radiance to it. We can talk openly, but more importantly, for him I can be content just to be quiet. He is a quiet fellow, one of the things I've always loved about him. But from time to time, I see pain in his eyes, and regret in them and on occasion, he will tell me what's in his heart. But I don't need to dissect these. The

attitude I have is, he was overtaken by this sin, but now we are both grateful for it, because it has brought us a closeness that I thought had been there, but once he started the porn, eluded us. I look back on some things that, unbeknownst to me, betrayed and revealed a guilty conscience. My husband wanted the internet plug pulled, and I called the company to have it removed. They told me it would take two hours to become effective. I was homeschooling that morning and it suddenly hit me we needed to have your article on porn copied off your website. So I booted up the computer and our computer's last visit to a website was yours. Our computer ink was low, but, praise God, it printed the entire article up until it got to the place where it addressed the wives, and then the printer stopped. The Lord knew what we needed, and I felt so thankful. Within thirty minutes, the internet service was cut off, and what a peace has followed. The children never complained once. Their dad explained that we needed to get rid of it because he could not have it because of his sin, but he did not go into particulars. They accepted it readily. I have missed it from time to time, but mostly felt an incredible sense of relief and peace without it in the home. My husband has sought counsel a few times from another Christian man and he encourages him to call him back and talk again. I want you to know I am truly thankful to you for all your help-the porn article, and the videos I mentioned earlier. Please know I am grateful beyond words.

Yours sincerely, A wife

## Internet Porn

From our mail box



Dear Mr. Pearl,

Thank you for your ministry and for the way it has helped to make me aware of just how low I have sunk. I have been viewing pornography on the Internet, knowing all the time that what I was doing was a sin and it was wrong. My wife discovered this a week ago and confronted me. I admitted to this, but I added to my sin and her hurt by lying about how long I had been at this. I've since confessed to all of it. Mr. Pearl, I married a gem. She is the dearest and most wonderful person I know, and I put a beautiful relationship with her in jeopardy because I thought no one would ever know. I've cried many tears and suffered through some sleepless nights. The hardest part for me is knowing I have caused my wife, whom I love dearly, an indescribable amount of pain. I teach Bible lessons [to my children]. I think through all this time what a hypocrite I've been. I read the story of the Prodigal Son—that's what I feel like. I've been down in the slop, and now the Lord is lifting me out. I've asked my wife for forgiveness, and I know that she has. How truly blessed I am to have her as my wife.

A friend

## Introducing Generational Sins

Michael Pearl addresses the fadish 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.





## 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](http://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](mailto:Oldpaths7@cs.com)

## GOOD BOOKS FOR YOUNG ONES

By Debi Pearl

When our kids were young, every day at naptime, they sat on their beds and went through a Bible story book/tape set made by Arch Books that were distributed by Concordia Publishers. Many of these books (which are now sold without the tapes, as far as we can tell) are still available. These are Bible stories retold in rhyme form, which is excellent for instilling rhythm. These books make for interesting reading and listening, and is a very effective learning tool. One of my sons never had schooling in reading, but learned to read by following along in the book as the tape played. If a book did not have an accompanying tape, I made one by taping myself reading the book. Then I marked the tape clearly and put it and the book into a Zip-lock bag, making book-bags. They provided a great activity for a nap/quiet time. Find them at: Christian Book Distributors on [www.christianbook.com](http://www.christianbook.com).

### A good homesteading resource



For subscription information see: [www.chmagazine.com](http://www.chmagazine.com) or call 309.347.1392

### Before you write

seeking answers for your own unique issues, read the three books: **No Greater Joy Volume One, Volume Two and Volume Three.** In them you will find over 300 pages of answers to questions we have received in the mail between 1994 and 2000.

## You Can Minister:

We have thousands of 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

### NO GREATER REST

Dear Friends

Greetings in our Lord Jesus Christ. It has taken us a while to get back in touch and you all might not even recollect my last letter. Well, I wrote for some tracts and noted our belief on the Sabbath. Along with the tracts was the gift of the Galatians tapes from you all. What more to say? We are Sabbath keepers no longer, that is, not the weekly, monthly, or yearly Sabbath, but we have no greater rest in this life to partake of other than the Lord Jesus Christ. What a joy! My husband, head of our small church, loves to preach and witness on this topic. He preaches with such conviction and joy. Countless number of times he has told me how he can see the whole new testament "just come together in complete harmony" and how he understands the scriptures better now and has confidence in his preaching. He has done a wonderful thing with the information we received from these tapes, and I could brag on him forever...but we both want to thank you for giving them to our family.

I read your latest issue of the newsletter, and I found myself indulged in the recipe for Angel Food Cake (Oct-Dec 2001). Beautiful! I haven't read an article with such touching description and application.

If you don't mind, I am going to close this letter now and get in the kitchen. I have two wonderful angel food cakes I am working on and I wouldn't want to let all that work go to waste!

Sincerely, SY

### JUST ENJOY YOUR KIDS

I've just read your newsletter concerning Russian orphans (Aug-Sept 2001). Your comments about enjoying our children struck a kindred note. We have one daughter, age 14. She has had severe illnesses. Through God's mercy, she is well now. She is a wonderful daughter. Just recently, I was looking at her. She was smiling, and had just finished telling me of some incident. I was struck by the need to just enjoy her. Not to be so caught up in what I haven't taught her yet, or what character qualities we're all still so deficient in, etc., that I can't enjoy every smile and every step of spiritual, emotional, and physical maturity. Thank you for reminding me again. MF

I just wanted to let you know how incredibly awesome I think your article, "Recipe for Angel Food Cake" is. I just finished reading it at midnight, and I couldn't go to bed without letting you know how excited I feel to try again tomorrow.

Thanks for pumping me up! C

### THE ROD WORKS IN OTHER COUNTRIES, TOO!

From a German family:

Dear Brother Pearl,

We have read with interest your book, "How to train up a child." In a way, raising up children is logical; but can we compare the training of our children with those of dogs? The surprising thing is that what you have written, has functioned in our family.

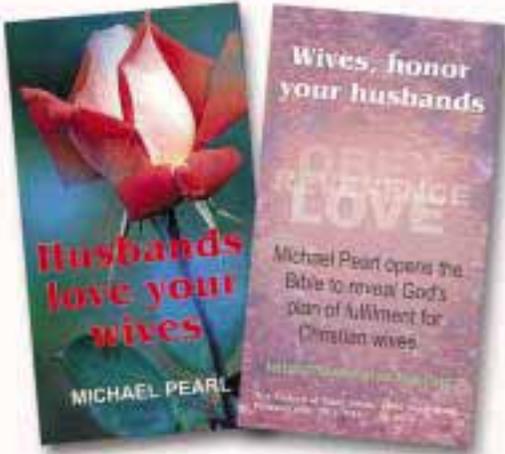
It was fascinating to see, that a quiet NO, with the

help of a 30cm long stick, actually worked. We can raise our one-year-old as described in your book. Interesting is that we [had] raised our three-year-old, as we read later in your book. It is our full conviction that our children love us more when they know their borders. When we make our children used to these borders, it takes much less nerves and we can meet our children with much more tenderness and ease. We believe that your book will help many parents to raise their kids right.

In the bonds of our Lord Jesus Christ, W

Marriage can be **Heaven on Earth** if you do it God's way. We have some great resources to help you.

*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.**



**Me? Obey Him?**

Debi Pearl says, "When I was a young bride I read *Me? Obey Him?* by Mrs. Elizabeth Rice Hanford. I can still remember the surprise and joy I experienced in 'trying out' what I had read. I know God used this book to help make my marriage, thus my ministry, what it is today. May God bless you also as you read it." *Only \$3.00 as a ministry to you!*

**HELPS FOR WOMEN**

*A Panel of Five*

Five wives of five men who have far reaching ministries speak out on what a woman can do to be a helper for her husband.



**\$4.00**

## Authority Praying



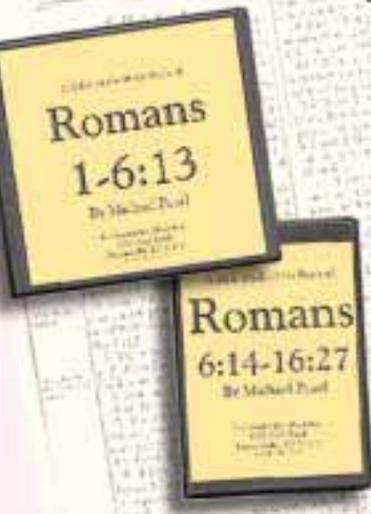
Michael Pearl preaches on the believer's position in Christ and how prayer is based on authority that is ours in Christ.

**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.

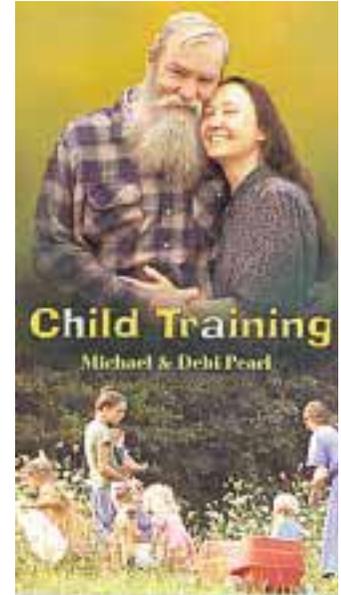


Audio Teaching  
**Romans**  
 Chapters 1 - 16  
 by Michael Pearl

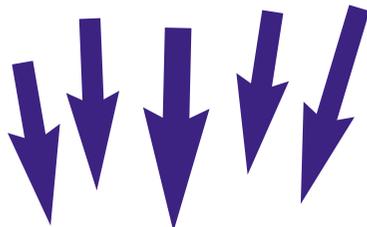


Michael Pearl has been studying and teaching the book of Romans for over 40 years. This verse by verse teaching is not devotional in tone. Instead, it addresses all of the hard theological issues that have been the foundation of the Christian faith down through the centuries. It is original in many ways; not a restatement of other writers. Though controversial interpretations are supported by analysis of the Greek language, it is taught for the layman from the unique perspective of a student that believes the Bible rather than a scholar that critiques it. 17 tapes, \$48.00

**Note:** if you purchased Romans, chapters 1-8, you may now purchase Romans chapters 9-16 in a 3 tape set. \$10.00



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

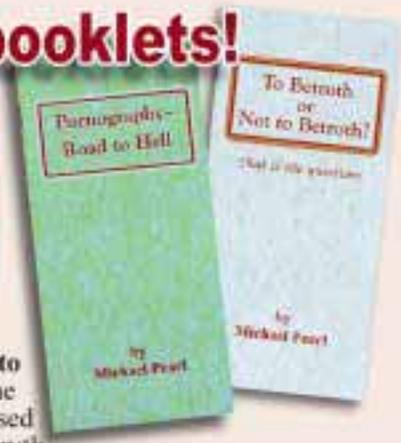


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We would like to advertise our books and tapes in your local homeschool publication. If you would be so kind as to send us information on how we could do this, we would be most appreciative. Please do us a favor and mark your envelope:

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 You can also email us at:  
**[nogreaterjoy@netease.net](mailto:nogreaterjoy@netease.net)**

**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**

## A WISE MAN

- A wise man knows how unreliable his wisdom is.
- A wise man knows that his flesh has a negative pull.
- A wise man knows that pride can lead to either honor or shame.
- A wise man steers his ambition, as it were a dozer through a schoolyard.
- A wise man is conscious that each moment is a passing gift from God.
- A wise man is ready to stand alone, yet acts in counsel.
- A wise man is angered by injustice and evil, but submits his anger to the rule of law.
- A wise man trusts a wounded bear more than his appetites.
- A wise man values character above success.
- A wise man will guard his mind as if it were his daughters.
- A wise man knows how fickle fame is, how vain is notoriety.
- A wise man labors and builds knowing that it will return to dust.
- A wise man is ever conscious of the presence of God.
- A wise man will pray as a first resort.
- A wise man loves one woman as if it were his sole appointment for eternity.
- A wise man will father children and then train them as if they were God's.
- A wise man will alleviate the suffering of others but never mention his own.
- A wise man will utilize his past mistakes as signposts for the future.
- A wise man will live and love each day as if it were his last.



*Introducing*

# Colossians Audio commentary

The book of Colossians taught verse by verse by Michael Pearl. If you enjoyed Romans, you need to hear Colossians. Learn about your spiritual circumcision. Three tapes \$10.00

## A MUSE FROM BEKA

Two round blue eyes gazed out from under the lifted padding while a tiny voice experimented with different sounds in hope of attracting some attention. He reminded me of a funny little hobbit from the Shire, or a tiny creature from the woods. Playful, interested, and at my mercy. "Is there a baby in there?" I said in a happy, hopeful voice. "Is there a baby peeking out at me?" A tiny fist waved in frantic, excited expectation and a delighted gurgle issued forth. I had seen him! I was coming to get him! Life was wonderful. He became entangled under the bumper as I lifted the covers away from the top of his crib and was impatiently trying to beat the padding away from himself so he could be ready and unencumbered to meet me when I at last reached down for him. Finally, he was free, and he rolled over on his back, hands outstretched but unsteady in terrible excitement. A smile of pure delight wreathed the little face that had cried only an hour ago to let me know he was ready for a nap.

As my hands slid under his shoulders, he arched his back and stiffened his muscles to aid the process; little hands reaching for the tresses of hair that hung down around him like a veil. Back to the warm body he came from, back to the smell he knew best, close to the voice that he had heard first. My own expectation was hardly less. I had played this happy drama two hundred times since he was born; lifted those same covers and gathered that warm, wriggly body long before he had developed enough to join me in the game of hide and seek. But I had played it in anticipation; I had spoken words of love to ignorantly deaf ears so that the first words comprehended would be mine. I knew he would love this game, so I instituted it even before he could play. We both always won.

This was the first game I had learned. This was a game I played with God; hoping and anticipating with delight the moment He would reach down for me and lift me up yet again. This was a game I played subtly with everyone I cared for. Oh, it's you! I see you. I hear you. I'm coming to lift you up out of your darkness. I love your company. I love your smile. You're my favorite person. You're my friend. Come, be where I am. Be like me and with me. Be happy and free.

Once he awoke whining. He cried and complained. He cried louder. I wanted to play the game, but I couldn't. Not when his heart was bad. I had to wait. I had to wait until he wore out and slept again and forgot he was miserable. When he awoke the second time I flung the covers off with great cries of, "Hurray! It's you! You're awake! I'm so glad!!!" It made me think of the times I had wanted God's attention, but couldn't get it. No matter how much I cried and complained, the Heavens were silent. Ah. Now I see. Play the game right. With unity. With joy. With love. Leave my complaints behind me and look forward to His coming. He's looking forward to that time as well. He's anticipating with equal delight. ☺

# Audio Tapes and CDs



## Mail Box Tapes

Michael and Debi offer candid answers as they open their mail and discuss your questions. Many of our readers says, "This is the most interesting and helpful information on child training the Pearls have." Available in a 6 tape album or sold separately.

## Alabama Child Training Seminar

Michael Pearl teaching on child training. Great stories. Daddy's and Boy's favorite!



For you homeschoolers

## My Favorite Homeschooling Ideas

Debi Pearl discusses her best homeschooling ideas. Twenty plus years of accumulated wisdom. This tape can remove your burden. It is our best selling tape!



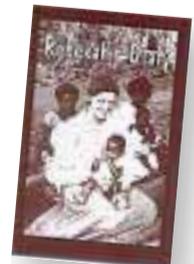
Rebekah Pearl thrills children and adults alike with songs and her diary written while on the mountain in Papua New Guinea.



From the ***End of the Earth*** come songs by Rebekah Pearl. All alone in a bamboo hut on the top of a mountain, the first white person ever seen by this Kumboi village, Rebekah writes and sings songs about her God. Rebekah accompanies herself on a classical guitar. This is not contemporary music. It was inspired by her walk of faith. Includes several children's songs.

## Rebekah's Diary

By Rebekah Pearl, the daughter of Michael and Debi Pearl. This 112 page book, containing photographs, tells the awesome story of God's guidance and protection as a 22-year-old girl, all alone, where no white person had ever been, adapted to a primitive culture, learning two languages, and communicated God's message.



# Sorry

We are sorry, but it couldn't be helped. We have gone up on our prices. When this ministry started seven years ago, we determined to sell our books and tapes for as little as possible and still keep operating. We continue with this policy. But the cost of operation has gone up. When we first started, we used volunteer labor. Today our mailing list is above 50,000. Our publication has gone from a four-page newsletter to a 24-page magazine-still free. We now have nine employees. To keep pace with the business end of a ministry this size, we have had to hire more professional workers and pay larger salaries (still far below their value in the market-place). But the bottom line is that the price of printing and mailing has risen. With increasing sales, and some gifts, we have been able to absorb the additional costs of operation. But during the last half of this past year, with sales increasing, we saw our black line slowly eroded. As we evaluated the past year, we found that shipping and handling alone cost us about \$38,000.00 more than we charged.

As a ministry to you, we purchase some carefully selected books and resell them. We have been paying \$8.50 for a book that we sell for \$9.00. The most popular book that we purchase for resale is marked up just \$1.00. We also distribute a lot of books and tapes without charge. This continues to be a non-profit ministry, but we must break even. Therefore, we have completely reviewed every item and adjusted our prices to reflect the realities of cost. When ordering, please ignore old order forms and observe the new prices as found in this current publication.

For those of you who purchased our Romans Chapters 1-8 album, you can now complete your Romans audio series with the purchase Chapters 9-16 in a 3 tape album.

Item#	Books by Michael Pearl	Qty	Cost	Total
8810-10	To Train Up A Child - Book			
	1 - 7 Copies - each		\$5.00	
	8 - 99 Copies - each		\$3.00	
	100 or more - each		\$2.50	
6230-10	No Greater Joy Vol. 1			
	1 - 7 Copies - each		\$5.00	
	8 - 99 Copies - each		\$3.00	
	100 or more - each		\$2.50	
6235-10	No Greater Joy Vol. 2			
	1 - 7 Copies - each		\$5.00	
	8 - 99 Copies - each		\$3.00	
	100 or more - each		\$2.50	
6240-10	No Greater Joy Vol. 3			
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	8 - 99 Copies - each		\$3.00	
	100 or more - each		\$2.50	
7810-10	Rebekah's Diary - Rebekah Pearl			
	1 - 7 Copies - each		\$5.00	
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