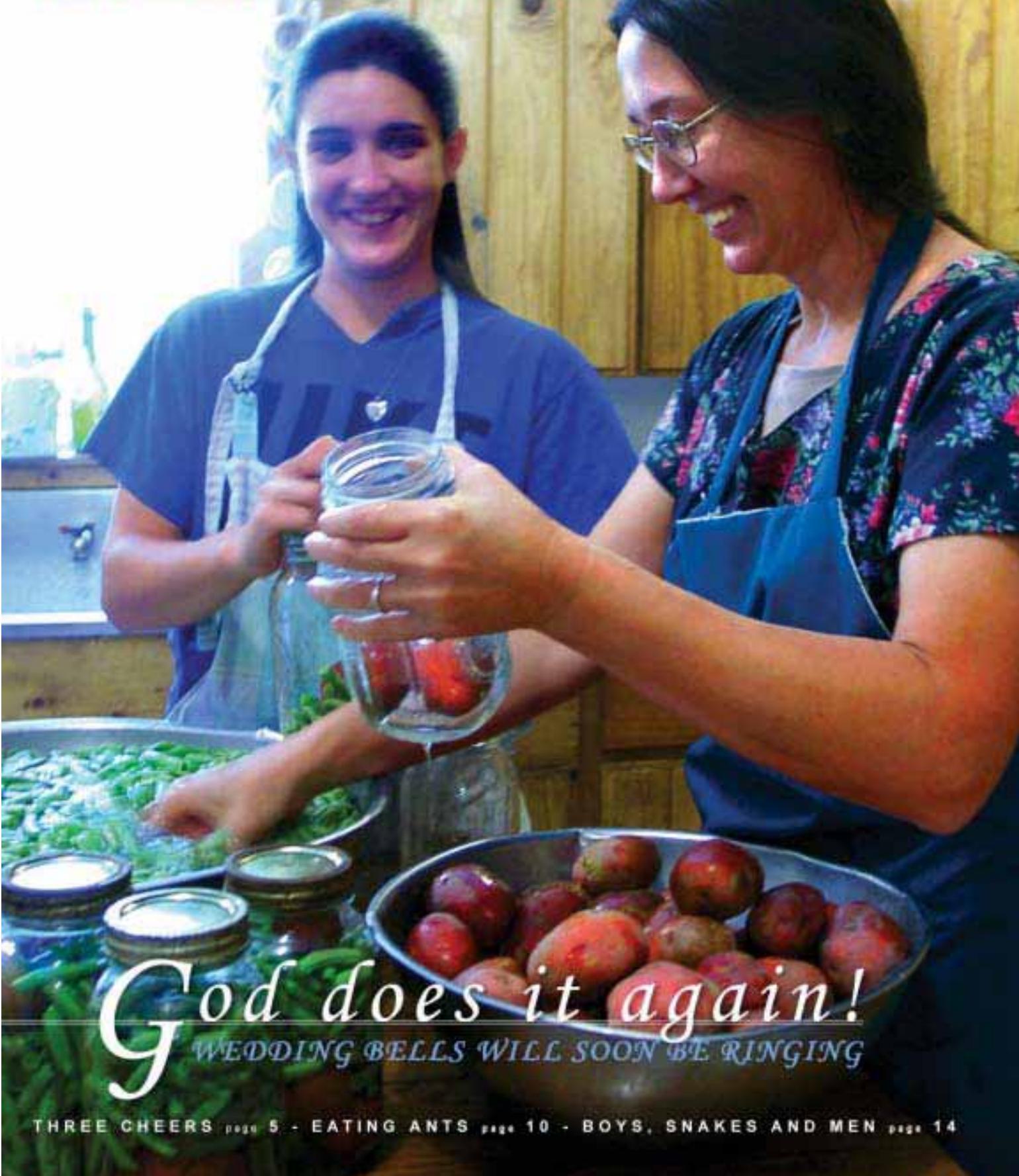


No Greater Joy

"I HAVE NO GREATER JOY THAN TO HEAR THAT MY CHILDREN WALK IN TRUTH." III JOHN 4



God does it again!
WEDDING BELLS WILL SOON BE RINGING

contentsoutline

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

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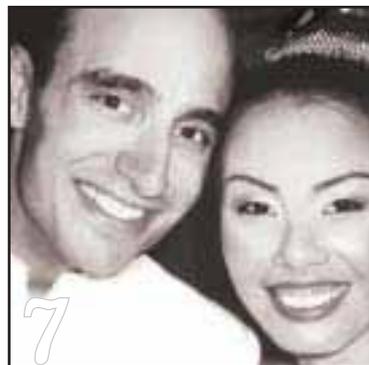
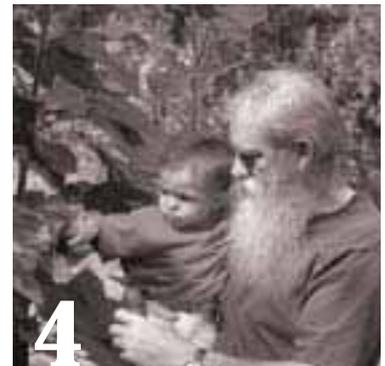
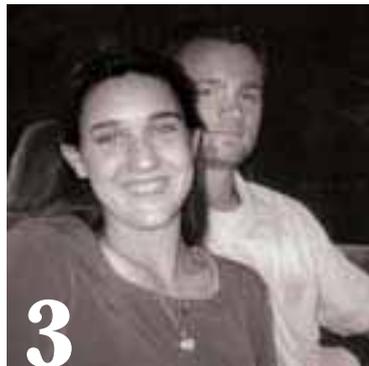
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No Greater Joy Ministries Inc
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Cover photograph and newsletter layout
by Clint Cearley.



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GOD DID IT AGAIN!

BY DEBI PEARL

TODAY SHALOM AND I canned green beans and potatoes. I can't express to you how fun it was. Last year it was work, just a matter of doing a job that needed doing. This Spring I told Mike to plant a

small garden because my basement was full of canned goods, and I did not want to have a big garden to keep up. Habits die hard, and he was sure someone would need the extra, so he planted the usual size. How right he was.

When the cold days of winter come around, Shalom will open these jars and serve her husband. It will be their hands that are united in prayer, thanking God

any of our other children she anxiously watched us when we were tired, sick, hurried, and busy with life. She has carefully observed the interaction between her father and me. I saw her taking pleasure in the many times I raced to the door and threw my arms around her daddy. Every time she saw our eyes meet in love and appreciation, she considered it. She spent her youth matching her steps with mine until she had her bearings and began to walk on her own.

I have always said that Shalom was the hardest of all of my children to raise. She was the meekest, most impressionable, gentlest, kindest, hardest working, and most compliant of all our children. She was everyone's dream child. She wanted to please. She believed all things, hoped all things, and loved in all things. If I had ever expressed rejection towards her, just one time in her whole life, if I had screamed out at her that she was a nobody, she would have believed it was true. It would have left permanent scars on her soul. The other children were tougher; they would fight back if someone tried to put them down, but when Shalom was young, she accepted everyone without evaluation, and needed everyone in her circle to accept her.

The problem lay with the word "everyone." I knew the wrong friend would influence her to evil. Even adults would have manipulated her in directions I did not choose. Without careful supervision, selfish adults would have used her willingness to give and serve to the point of breaking her spirit. I knew her desire to never judge anyone for anything could cause her to become weak instead of



PROVERBS
31:10

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies."

for his abundance and provision. This summer Shalom is busy preparing for her future home. The tomatoes will go into jars tomorrow, and the corn will be taken off the cob next week. It is not *work* this year. As Shalom, Shoshanna, and I prepared the vegetables we laughed and played like little girls playing house, and I guess we were.

Shalom has been preparing for this special moment all her life. More than

sweet, wayward instead of compliant, and broken instead of gentle. More than the other children, I had to make judgements for her until God could work into her a godly judgment. I knew that, of all my children, I would need to be her strength, her conscience, to say "no" to all those who would take away from the beautiful person she was to become.

Many prayers have forged her into what she is. Often I have had to ask her would-be-friends to leave our home, not because they were out for evil, but because she could not yet see shades of evil. To her, everyone's motives were only pure; everyone's thoughts always good; everyone was there to give, not take. She was so vulnerable. In helping her, I can see that my wimpy-self became stronger. What I would not do for myself, because I like people to think nice of me, I was willing to do for her because I cared so much. Do you understand when I say, she has been a hard child to raise?

My other daughters are strong, confident, and aggressive. Bossiness, laziness, and selfishness are easy to spot and easy to switch into line. Although they needed a lot of bringing into line, I saw in them Proverbs 31 women when they were young. No man, woman or child could influence either girl

without them deciding it was for their good. Not so for Shalom. It is amazing how many times well meaning Christian friends have pushed into our lives and tried molding her into what they are. But for this gentle, kind child, I learned that saying a firm, "NO" to all those folks was the most important thing I would ever do for her. Thank God he gave me the guts to stick to what I knew

Proverbs

18:22

**“Whoso findeth
a wife findeth a
good thing, and
obtaineth favour
of the LORD.”**

was right, even when it was uncomfortable and embarrassing.

Shalom will soon be 21 years old. She is still the sweetest creature on earth, but somewhere over the years the Spirit of God started growing backbone into her. She is now a strong, godly woman with resolve and conviction. As I look on her shining face and remember the years of joy she has given us, I know she will be the best wife any man will ever have, because she has been that kind of daughter.

With great rejoicing, we would like to tell everyone that God in his mercy and grace has chosen for Shalom the perfect man to be her husband and protector. His name is Justin Brand. His family lives down the road about an hour from here. He is as gentle and kind as she is, yet strong and resolute.

So now, it is happening yet again at Michael Pearl's house. We are canning green beans, and early tomorrow morning Shalom will be out picking blueberries for the meals she will share with her husband this winter.

Shoshanna, her younger sister, is busy deciding all the wonderful details that come with a joyous wedding. I sit here typing and weeping with thankfulness. God has been so good and continues to bless us more than we could ever ask or think.

Is it worth it—all those years of homeschooling? All the times of living frugally so that Dad could be home more? What about the times of learning to submit and honor? Will what we are today make any difference in what tomorrow will bring? Yes, yes, and a thousand times, yes. You will reap what you sow. When you have sown in the lives of your precious children, you will come forth rejoicing. Believe me, I know. ❖

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.



T H R E E C H E E R S

I am impressed. I am impressed with my Heavenly Father. He has done what he said he would do and a whole lot more!



When Deb and I got married, an old retired missionary, Brother Davidson, read a portion of Scripture from Deuteronomy and suggested that it should become the essence of our life as a married couple.

Deut. 28:2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.

3 Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field.

4 Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

5 Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store.

6 Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

8 The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto;

11 And the LORD shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground...

12 The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand....

When I was a young man, I

believed this passage of Scripture. I knew there was a law of sowing and reaping in effect, but I had never personally tasted the fruit, so it was all religious theory to me. At the time, I preached the well known and popular three-point sermon:

- 1) You reap the same kind of fruit as the seeds that you sow.
- 2) You reap much later than you sow.
- 3) You reap much more than you sow.

I had seen the wages of sin in the lives of broken people, but as a young man I did not really understand their hurt and loss. I knew people carried guilt and shame, but I didn't know that it was like constant mud in their mouths. Yet I preached to the sinner that he must repent lest he reap the bitter fruit of his deeds, but I don't remember ever preaching or even thinking about the fact that the righteous were also promised that they would reap as they had sown—reap the same kind of fruit, reap much later, and reap much more.

I am now 56 years old; our five children are all grown; two of them are married; the second daughter will be married in the fall. We have one grandkid and one or two more on the way. The children all love the Lord and walk

in truth. Their lives are bearing heavenly fruit. Our one grandkid is more obedient than my children were at 14 months.

I have good friends whom I have known since they were young. Some of them, I led to the Lord 20 or 30 years ago. They all walk in truth, and many of them have grown children who follow the Savior in a life of peace and prosperity.

The little church at Cane Creek is filled with love and peace. We care for one another as family.

Little girls are becoming ladies; clumsy boys are looking to the example of their community and becoming men. Some of the young men have gone off to Bible College and returned with lovely wives. Our health is good. Everyone is prospering economically. Life is as sweet as ripe peaches in honey.

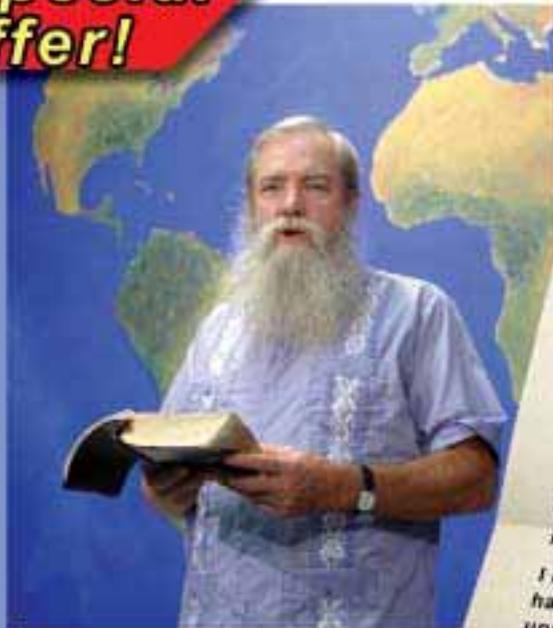
It is not because we live in Pleasantville that life is pleasant. It is not because we have adopted a certain lifestyle. It is God blessing his children as he promised. Some will write and accuse me of brag-

by Michael Pearl

continued on page 11

Michael Pearl Teaches **ROMANS**

Special Offer!



Dear Michael and Debi Pearl,
A friend of mine lent me her tapes on Galatians, Colossians, and Ephesians, plus she loaned me her book on Romans. My whole life has changed from listening to them. Even my husband has remarked how much nicer I am to be around and he looks forward to coming home now.
But more importantly our 10 year old daughter sat beside me listening to them. She went from a little girl who showed no or very little interest in the Bible or in God, but now she has begun to ask questions; not only did she ask questions when we listened to your tapes, but now she is asking when we read the Bible. She is also asking if we can pray.
Our 7 year old has picked up on the difference between the NIV and KJV. I watch her with pure amazement to see how smart she really is. Every time you made a comment about the NIV missing a verse, she would go and get her KJV and her NIV and turn to the verse and compare them. Soon she closes the NIV and follows along with KJV.
I did not realize that the NIV left out so many verses. I have switched to the KJV only and am finding it easier to understand than I remember it being.
Thank you again,
N

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.

Also available-Romans Commentary, a good resource to go with this tape set.

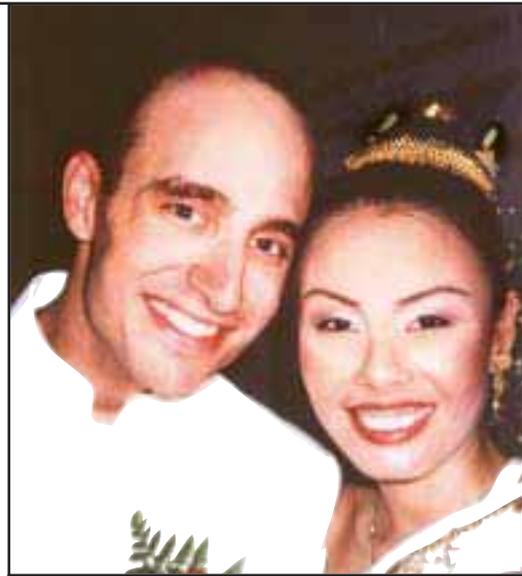


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Male? Female?



Mr. and Mrs. T.J. Slayman.

Or Neuter?

“Wisdom crieth without; SHE uttereth HER voice in the streets: SHE crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city SHE uttereth HER words, saying, How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity?” (Prov 1:20-22).

While translating the book of Proverbs into Lao, questions arose among my co-workers and proofreaders as to why *wisdom* is often referred to in the female gender, and if it is necessary or practical to translate it as such. After some prayerful study, and by comparing Scripture with Scripture, using a concordance, some interesting spiritual truths emerged.

“Happy is the man that findeth wisdom.... For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver.... SHE is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto HER. Length of days is in HER right hand; and in HER left hand riches and honour. HER ways are ways of pleasantness, and all HER paths are peace. SHE is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon HER: and happy is every one that retaineth HER...” (Prov 3:13-18).

“Get wisdom, get understanding.... Forsake HER not, and SHE shall preserve thee: love

HER, and SHE shall keep thee. Wisdom is the principal thing.... Exalt HER, and SHE shall promote thee: SHE shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace HER. SHE shall give to thy head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall SHE deliver to thee.... Take fast hold of instruction; let HER not go: keep HER; for SHE is thy life” (Prov 4:5-9, 13).

“Say unto wisdom, Thou art my SISTER; and call understanding thy KINSWOMAN” (Prov 7:4. “Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth HER voice? SHE standeth in the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths. SHE crieth at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors. Unto you, O men, I call....” (Prov 8:1-4).

“Wisdom hath builded HER house, SHE hath hewn out HER seven pillars: SHE hath killed HER beasts; SHE hath mingled HER wine; SHE hath also furnished HER table. SHE hath sent forth HER maidens: SHE crieth upon the highest places of the city, Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither: as for him that wanteth understanding, SHE saith to him, Come, eat of my bread, and drink of the wine which I have mingled. Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding” (Prov 9:1-6).

The book of Proverbs is written as a father instructing his son, hence it is given

Male? Female? Or Neuter?

primarily to young men (1:4, 8, 10, 15; 2:1; 3:1,11,21; 4:10,20 etc.). Within this written plea to young men God has compared wisdom with the one thing young men desire above all else—a good woman.

Wisdom is not to be sought after and merely meddled with (Prov 18:1), but is to be embraced (4:8), exalted (4:8), and called “my sister” (7:4. Wisdom and understanding are given by God: “That they may keep thee from the strange woman, from the stranger which flattereth with her words” (7:5. Also see 5:1-14.

So, we see that there are in fact TWO women in Proverbs between which men must choose. They are similar; yet they are “polar opposites.” Both are outlined in the ninth chapter of Proverbs. God’s woman (wisdom) is found in verses 1 thru 6, and the foolish woman is found in verses 13 (!) thru 18 (6+6+6). The following is what we call an “opposite parallel.” Compare them!

“Wisdom “crieth upon the highest places of the city....” (v 3) and the foolish woman also “sitteth at the door of her house, on

a seat in the high places of the city.”

The plea from these two competing women are the same. Wisdom cries out in verse 4 “Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither: as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him, (verse 16 records the foolish woman’s identical salute) “Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither: as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him.... Come, eat of my bread, and drink of the wine which I have mingled.” It says of the lure of the foolish woman, “Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant” (v 17.

The final words of wisdom are: “Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding.” The foolish woman’s reward for a young man is that “he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell” (verses 6, 18.

That is a great example of “Opposite parallel” – As different as night and day, yet so similar that most will be fooled.

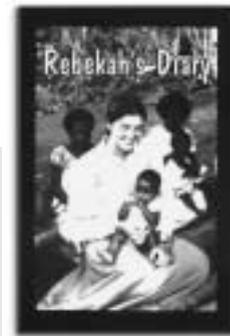
Young men take heed!
There are TWO women competing for your soul. You cannot have both. One will give

life, the other leads to death and hell. One brings health and honour, the other “a wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away.” One will bring riches, the other will cause “strangers to be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger.”

And what is God’s reward to young men who embrace wisdom? It is found throughout the book of Proverbs, but it is best summed up in the last chapter. Even those who are only vaguely familiar with Proverbs know what lies at the end of the book: the virtuous woman. This is God’s desire for young men. What more does any father desire than for his sons to find godly, virtuous wives?

Therefore we conclude that wisdom is correctly referred to in the female gender in the above verses. Again, observe the parallels between a godly wife and wisdom:

Both are valued above rubies, (3:15 & 31:10), and both are a crown unto a man (4:9 & 12:4. ❖



To learn about Beka's adventures and the glorious salvation of the Kumboi people read Rebekah's Diary which is about her 3 years on the mountain in Papua New Guinea, and to listen to the songs she wrote while she was on that mountain, From the Ends of the Earth. Your children will love listening to the Gami Akij Story as told by Rebekah Pearl. They are available through No Greater Joy Ministries, 1000 Pearl Road, Pleasantville, TN 37147

TANSY, THE INSECT REPELLENT

Tanacetum vulgare
TANSY
Compositae



T.v. VAR. crispum
A variety with exquisitely cut leaves.
Height 2 ft (60cm).
Spread 3-6 ft (1-2 m).

Mom and Dad view foreign missions as a mandate from God. After all, God did say,

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature..." Mark 16:15. When my older sister, Rebekah, was just 17, she went to Papua New Guinea on a short-term mission outreach. While there, she saw the need for the translation of Scripture into the Kumboi language. She came back to America to study linguistics and prepare herself to do that job.

Although I was only 7 years old at the time, I remember when my sister returned with her horrid tales of jungle life. She had stories of ants, lice, spiders, bugs, and all sorts of little things that would crawl into your sleeping bag and your clothes. The stories she told sent creeping chills up and down my spine. Imagine trying to sleep with bugs climbing in and out as they please. American bugs are bad enough,

but the thought of foreign bugs! Think about waking and seeing a big, black spider just six inches from your face, staring at you out of unblinking green eyes, with vicious fangs, long hairy legs, and a red dot on its back. As you scream "NOOOOOO," you hope you are just dreaming, but you realize you aren't, worst of all, the night has just begun. Get the picture?

You can see that Rebekah needed a remedy before she went back to the ends of the earth. So Dr. Deb (Mom) was consulted. She searched her books, the library, and the web to find a natural and safe solution. Dr. Deb discovered TANSY!

Mom found out that housewives in the Dark Ages used Tansy in a variety of ways. They would scatter it across the floor to keep the pests away. They also

hung it from the rafters, packed it between bed sheets and mattresses, and rubbed it on meat to

discourage lice, flies, and other varmints. In these modern times, do we still have a use for Tansy?

Well, we still have bugs. And Tansy is a wonderful bug repellent. When Rebekah finished her training and went back to Papua New Guinea, Mom packed several socks with dried Tansy. Beka put one herbal sock in her sleeping bag, the other in her duffel bag, and made Tansy tea to use on her hair and body.

The tribal people were very "huggy," and they were constantly playing with the white girl's funny long hair. During Beka's three-year stay, Tansy worked so well that she never contracted lice or scabies. And as for those little bugs and ugly spiders that plagued her on that first trip, well, they fled from the Tansy, never to be seen in Beka's bed again. ❖

(For more on Rebekah, read [Rebekah's Diary](#) and her CD From the [Ends of the Earth](#).)



Tansy can be bought from the Bulk Herb Store, 1010 Pearl Road, Pleasantville, TN. 37147 for \$8.00 ½ pound Tansy (price includes S&H) or write for a free catalog. **DO NOT mix NGJ orders with Bulk Herb Store's.**

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EATING

ants



by *Debi Pearl*

Illustration by *Clint Cearley*

spend his money to replace lost clothes, shoes, towels, etc. I explained that the washing machine costs money to run, and that he would have to do everybody's laundry if he wasted water and electricity.

On many occasions I cheerfully described the many things he could buy if his money was not used in paying for his folly. I explained to him that a man accumulates wealth by being frugal. I pointed out that a bicycle left in the driveway would leave him walking. Food left out to spoil would leave him with nothing to eat. If he would ever be rich, he would have to preserve what he had, or he would spend all his money replacing a few meager possessions.

Koyla is a fast learner. When he saw that he had a hole in his pocket and that it was his money running out, he began to act more responsibly. He obviously enjoyed the extra attention he received when we reminded him of his folly. As his bank account (a special hid-

ing place) grew, he began to comb through magazines that advertised guns, bicycles, knives, fishing gear, camping equipment, and even pickup trucks.

We have not forgotten the jar of honey. It became part of his schooling. When Mike found the honey jar and the 4,000 sweet ants, he placed it on the table in front of Koyla and lightly said, "Well, it looks like somebody is going to be eating ants." As Mike walked out the door, we all gathered around to peer into the jar of sweet ants. We talked about how ants are considered a delicacy by some people, and we toyed with the idea that Koyla would have to eat them. Koyla just gave us his oh-well grin and picked up the jar. He was seriously going to eat the ants! I thought "Why not? Other people eat them." This was

Most parents are too uptight. At least half the joy of life is raising kids. So when Big Papa found that one of our Russian boys had returned the jar of honey to the cabinet without replacing the lid, and 4000 ants were floating in it face down, I knew we had some L&L (laughing and learning) on the way.

When Kolya came to stay with us in April, the first thing I noticed was that he did not value money or possessions. He would leave his shoes outside for the dog to carry off. It never occurred to him that an open door wasted heat or cool air. He would put a single garment in the washer and dryer without any thought of the cost. Almost every action reflected his lack of responsibility. It was a challenge I could not resist.

He had one great virtue. He loved to work, even better than fishing and swimming. We believe the workman is worthy of his hire, so when he did work other than the daily, routine, household chores, we paid him by the hour. Amazingly, he did not value his hard-earned money either. He would dump all his earnings into the first bubble-gum machine that came in sight. When I advised him not to spend his money unwisely, but to save it, he would look puzzled and say, "For what?"

So I made it my special project to answer that question for him. Remember, children don't learn anything when placed under stress—other than to avoid the person that burdens them. So as you teach, have a little fun and tie some strings of fellowship.

When the occasion demanded, which was often, I would say, "Kolya, you will never be a rich man." When he would turn his puzzled face to me, I would explain how many hours he would have to work to replace his \$8.00 pair of shoes and what he could have bought if he had been more diligent. He had to

He was seriously going to eat the ants! I thought "Why not? Other people eat them." This was fast developing into one of those L&L occasions.

fast developing into one of those L & L occasions. Still not completely serious, we agreed on the rules, which included finishing the ants off before lunch, and that he could eat bread and milk with the honey and ants.

We all scattered to do our chores. Later that morning we came back into the kitchen area and there was Kolya, standing over the honey jar, with

that silly grin still in place, gagging down the ants. The girls and I laughed and gagged with him. But mostly we just looked on in admiration. Now, there was a man!

When Big Papa came in later and heard the story, he was aghast, "You made him eat the ants?" Shoshanna and I were amused at Big Papa's sensitivity (see article in last newsletter). "No, we did not MAKE him eat the ants." The honey jar lids are so tight now that we have to get Big Papa to open them.

All ants aside, the boys had a summer full of L & L, and so did I. Now, Kolya is not like a lot of other kids; he is totally cool. Some children (and adults like Big Papa) are squeamish, and they simply could not eat ants, and to suggest such might be cruel and unusual treatment. I am not suggesting that this become standard procedure for ants in the honey jar. I would never threaten a child into eating ants, but Kolya wanted to break bad habits, and I knew he was game for a boy-

ish good time. To him this was L & L, and creating a memory he would never forget.

If you try to teach kids in a boring and hostile environment, it will lead to failure. If your learning is accompanied with laughing, whether it be reading, writing, or breaking bad habits, then it will be something a child will always remember. So go share some L & L with your favorite little guy. But keep the lid on the honey. ❖

Three Cheers continued from page 5

ging. I am bragging. I am bragging on a holy God who does what he said he would do. He has blessed us in the city and in the country. He has blessed us with a sound mind, with peace that passes understanding, with love that does not remember evil, and with the ability to forgive and accept forgiveness. He blesses us when we come in the house and when we go out. God has spoken with authority and "commanded" the blessings to come on us. He blesses our tomato plants, our dogs, cats, chickens, horses, and cows. He controls the lightning and the tornadoes, the rain and the sun. He blesses the fruit of our labor and the fruit of our bodies. Everything that we set our hands to is blessed by God. We are "plenteous in goods" and filled with hope for his soon return. We look forward to heaven, not as a release from pain but as a higher experience of the love and joy God has given us pilgrims here on this sin-cursed earth.

It is not because we are more righteous that we are blessed. Remember, you reap much more than you sow. We have sowed a little faithfulness to God and he has multiplied our seeds and returned them one-hundred fold. We have loved him a little, and he has loved us much. We have honored him feebly

and he has honored us royally. We have occasionally gone where he sent us, and he brought us back to great reward. We gave him our children and he gave us back adults who rise up and call their parents blessed. We gave him a little time, and he gave us eternity. We have suffered little to none, when He has borne all the suffering for us. He died that we might live, and he promised life more abundantly. Is it pride to testify that God is faithful in every way and more than we ever dreamed possible?

The goodness of God leads sinners to repentance, and it keeps us saints walking in obedience. If you could experience our joy and peace for just one day, you would put away all sin and religion from your life. If you have questionable habits, you would throw them off like a burning blanket. If you have a sour, unthankful attitude, you would thirst and hunger after righteousness. Jesus invites all to come to the banquet that he has prepared. He wants his house full. He has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness.

I am a fan of Jesus. God gets my vote. Three cheers for our Heavenly Father. God is good—the very best.

❖



Dear Mr. Pearl,

My two sisters and I enjoy listening to your child training tapes. We have also listened to [Athourity Praying](#). Anna, my thirteen year old sister plays a game called [Mr. Pearl](#) with Andrew and Ian and me. She is the emotionally stressed mother. Ian, Andrew and I are the spoiled children. Our Mother (Anna) will have wild screaming and slapping fights with us. (that usually does not happen) It is normally Anna telling us to do something, us not doing it and Anna telling us again and again. Finally she calls Mr. Pearl and sends us to his house and he trains us properly and then sends us back. That is the way the game works.

Sincerely,

Kate 😊

BOYS, SNAKES AND MEN.

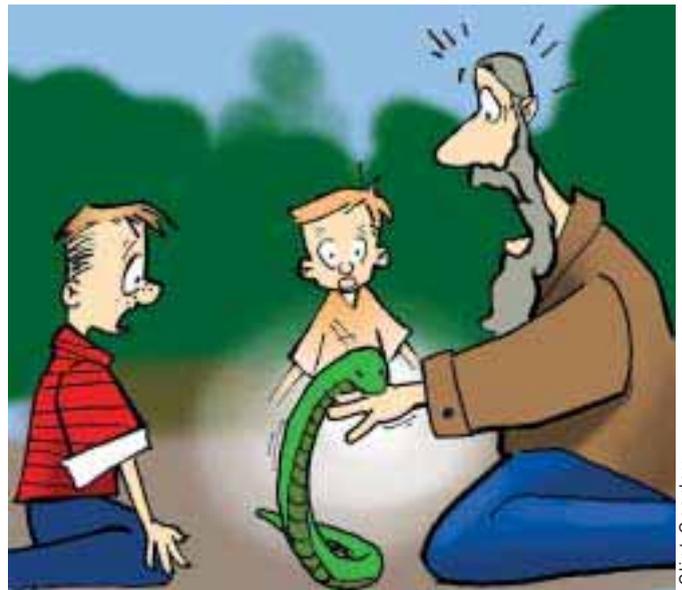
HOW CAN YOU RAISE BOYS WITHOUT SNAKES?

When I was about twelve, I had 26 snakes in captivity and about fifty lizards. The snakes were non-venomous—what we called spreading adders—pronounced “spreadin-adders.” Some people who didn't know better called them hoghead snakes.

When alarmed they would rear up in a threatening manner and spread out like a cobra. It sent a scary thrill through any young boy. Conquering that fear and mastering the snakes must be part of a boy's self-imposed maturation ritual. We found no satisfaction in killing snakes, except when we discovered a poisonous one in the yard. I never had any affection for snakes, but to catch one and hold its cool, dry, wiggling, body in your hands, and then to turn it loose to slither away to its shadowy existence was a mastery of self more than of the serpent.

At the time I had my snake collection, we lived in the middle of a big city. I would go to vacant lots and dig around under boards and bricks until I uncovered a snake or lizard. On several occasions I made my way into the open drainage ditches and located pools of water where I could observe or capture these city-bound wild creatures. One time I built a big box for my collection of snakes, turtles, and lizards and placed it on the screened-in back porch. I would tend to them every morning before catching the city bus to public school.

My mother would shriek and shiver every time she got within sight of my captive creatures, but that made it all the more thrilling. Then one day I came home to find that someone had tampered with the box, and my zoo had escaped. Twenty-six snakes and a tub full of lizards had all gone somewhere. My mama wanted me to assure her that none of them had crawled into the house. When I stood there looking blank, she went into the vibratingest shivers I had ever seen. It made me feel downright superior to the female race. But when she pulled all her pieces together, she laid down the law. I don't remember what she said, but I can still remember the intent. I had no doubt discovered the limits of the female psyche.



Clint Cearley

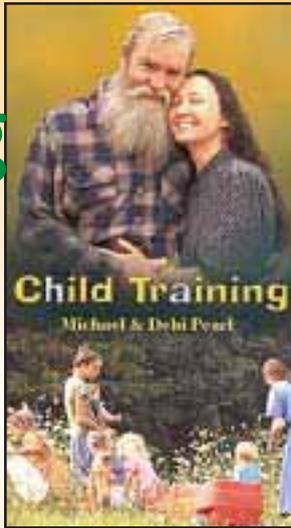
I found several of the snakes on the back porch and around it. I took them to the nearest vacant lot and carefully and ceremoniously placed them under a pile of old carpet and rotten boards. I continued to visit them throughout the summer. Fall came. They disappeared into their hibernation holes, and the next year the lot was cleaned up and paved.

This past week, the boys and I spotted a big chicken snake slithering across the driveway. They eat rats and mice and smaller rattlesnakes and copperheads, so we don't harm them, but I thought it was time I upgraded the boy's respect for Big Papa. We jumped out of the truck and ran over to the snake. It coiled up in a threatening manner and began to strike at my boots. When I was a kid, I would tease non-venomous snakes into striking at my hand, and then when their bodies were fully extended I would grab them by the head. If you are fast with your hands, and your timing is just right, you can do it every time. I told the boys what I was about to do and then

by Michael Pearl
Illustration by Clint Cearley

Child Training

MICHAEL AND DEBI PEARL

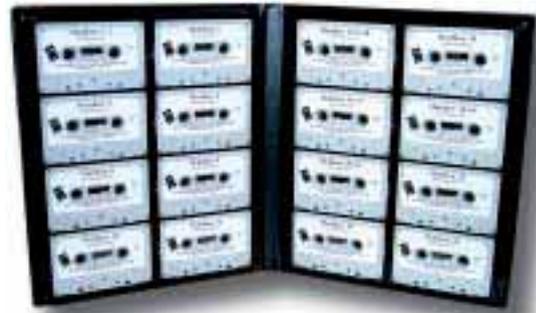


Now, enjoy the teaching of Michael and Debi Pearl on video in this five hour, three tape series. Learn how they successfully trained up their five children with love, humor, the rod, and a King James Bible.

3 Videos
Five hours of teaching
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The Gospel of Matthew

taught by Michael Pearl



Michael Pearl opens new insights as he teaches the Gospel of Matthew, describing it as the last book in the old covenant. A grasp of this unique book is essential to a proper understanding of the New Testament. This new tape series is a must for every serious Bible student.

**NO GREATER
JOY
MINISTRIES**

16 Tapes
Over 27 hours of Bible teaching
Only \$45.00

Dear Mike and Debi,

Thank you so much for all your wisdom from the training up books and tapes. I read them when my son was a newborn and now he is 2, and we are so thankful that we had them, because it WORKS! And we see the results every day.

Sadly, though, we found out that our son is autistic (mildly). And the more research we do, especially regarding behavior, the more we see all the Train Up principles between the lines (only the psychologists give them all sorts of fancy names). We are so thankful, in light of [his] autism, that we have been "training" him all along, because much of the therapy he is receiving now is basically the same thing.

God bless,
N

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Pearl,

We regularly receive compliments on the good behavior of our son, 2, especially in the church nursery. I can tell you it was the result of implementing the consistent training techniques outlined in your book, "To Train Up A Child." At 10 months of age, [he] was sitting on the floor banging his leg in defiant rebellion, completely in control of me, and the flow of our home life. I began to diligently pray for godly wisdom and approximately two weeks later, a person gifted me with a copy of your book. The results have been greater joy and peace.

Thank you,
R

Boys, snakes and men. continued from page 12

talked them through every step. I had their full attention. Several times I teased the snake into striking at my hand so I could gauge the extent of its reach. Then, when the moment was just right, my hand shot out faster than a streak of....Well, there I was trying to gain their respect with this five-foot chicken snake clamped onto my finger. I don't remember snakes being that fast. This one must have been weaned on mama rattlesnakes. He was fast! Or maybe this boy is not as fast as he was 45 years ago.

I glanced up to see the fellows looking horrified. I explained to them that it was not poisonous and that it would not hurt me, and I let the undisputed champ slither off the driveway and into the grass. I showed them the teeth marks and the small amount

of blood coming from the bite and then went into the house to wash out the wound. Don't write and warn me of the danger of infection from a non-venomous snake bite. It has been a concern to me the last 40 times I have been bitten—no infection yet. The thirty-ninth bite must have been fifteen years ago when my boys were young. There is not going to be a forty-first bite. I am going to have to find some other way to impress the grandkids that are coming on.

But all was not lost. The boys were still impressed that I did not cry or panic when I got snakebit. When they get back to the orphanage they will have another story to tell, and what is life without some good tales? ❖



Dear Pearl Family,

I tried to write just a little note, but the joy I am experiencing deserves more than a note. Now that I am a grandmother, you might think it would be too late to gain from predominately child rearing literature, but I am learning so much about being a wife. [One] issue emphasized joy, and I realized that for years I have

robbed my family of joy by resenting my husband because he is unsaved. Then reading the "Jezebel Profile" I was so humbled and saddened because my self-righteous ways must have been so discouraging to him. This man loves me so much, and has been trying to win my favor for 22 years. I am now trying to bring joy into my home, smile, and show my approval of all the things my husband does. What a difference when I come home from work; jobs around the house that have been left undone for 20 years are being finished. He has even been traveling the 30 miles to my office to take me out to lunch. It is a joy to come home.

The Lord bless you and give you peace.

M

Dear Mrs. Pearl,

The article on the Jezebel spirit truly touched my heart. I was the wife who said, "Honey, you lead the house. I'll submit totally if you take the lead." "Oh, you want to do it that way? Well, I think you should do this." "You know, dear, you really need to have your quiet time with the Lord today. You need to do family devotions with the children every night if you're going to be the spiritual head." That's just to name a few. I'm sure I didn't sound quite that critical. I would disguise my comments with sweetness. I was also the kind that would "submit," but get quiet or withdraw from my dear husband when I wouldn't get my way. What a blow when I heard I had the Jezebel spirit! After receiving your newsletter, the preacher that Sunday spoke on submission. Whoa, Lord, are you talking to me??? Thanks to our gracious God, lots of prayer and forgiveness, and your precious ministry I have changed my ways. This last month has been awesome! I feel such a deeper intimacy with my husband. And such a burden was lifted off that I, the weaker vessel, was not meant to carry!

In Him,

A

Copies of the Jezebel Profile are available and free upon request



Tom and Kathy Slayman, Prison

MINISTRY IN BANGKOK

We are Tom & Kathy Slayman from the Church at Cane Creek, and we are missionaries in Bangkok, Thailand. There are about 12 million people in the greater Bangkok area. We witness in the two main prisons and at the Immigration Detention Center to the English speaking prisoners. We want to reach these nearly forgotten people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. What an opportunity! There are about 3000 English speaking foreign prisoners. We were told by one of the prisoners that we are the only missionaries in his 13 years in prison to teach salvation by grace. All other organizations and cults teach a “works” doctrine. We are still not able to get into the prison freely. We can only call out one prisoner at a time. The need to reach these guys became greater than our

physical capabilities, which led us to develop a Bible correspondence course. Because many have already completed an elementary correspondence course through other organizations, they need to grow more in the word of God and eat some real “meat” from the Scriptures before they are released back to their homelands. They are mostly very messed up people, do not have light on things, and need a whole lot of instruction in the word. The courses will teach them basic Bible doctrines and principles, and how to plant an autonomous, self-supporting, self-propagating New Testament church. The first year, they will be reading at least 19 books, and listening to 16 tapes/tape sets of Scripture study. We are Bible believers and teach from the Bible, not what some organized

religion or organization teaches.

Our day starts very early in the morning. Between organizing everything for the courses, visiting prisoners, reading, writing, re-writing, editing, and re-editing, our days fly by. We finally sent in the first lesson in the Bible correspondence course.

We have 108 prisoner students from all parts of the world. Only 4 of them are saved. We gave a preview of the first lesson to our designated building leaders at one of the prisons, and they seemed to really enjoy and understand it; understand being the key word here. Many of our students are not well educated and their English reading skills are below average. We hope and pray that the messages in the lessons reach their hearts and minds. We expect a spiritual battle soon. (In fact, we think it's started already...our computer is really on the verge of total meltdown!) We are sending in lessons that are totally Bible based, and it's going to be a slam against the two main cults in the prison. We don't know if it's going to cause a revival or an uproar. These two cults have a very strong influence in the prisons, so PRAY THAT WE DON'T GET BLOCKED OUT. If someone complains against another individual's religion, the prisons have a right to block you from visiting, either for a designated time or permanently. That is why we have made the Bible correspondence courses by mail.

The prison work has many rewards and some frustrations. We know that there are a lot

more prisoners that need help that we are unable to reach, but we are gradually getting more and more names of those in dire need. When we visit the Christians, we share the gospel with them, and Tom teaches. Sometimes there is a controversy among them, or sometimes there is a false gospel that is being taught, so he has to deal with that as well. That's one of the greatest parts about this ministry...it's not boring! You never know who you are going to see at the visiting area or what you are going to talk about.

Often while visiting an inmate, other

prisoners will stop and talk to us or ask Tom questions before they go and speak to the one who called them out. We visit the men's prisons 5 times a week and the Immigration Detention Center twice a week. We have also started a Bible study with some Death Row inmates. They are kept completely isolated from the rest of the prison population, so they really enjoy our visits. Some are saved, but some are not, so they are "top priority" with us. We also talk with people who come to visit a prisoner. Some are here on a holiday to visit a fellow countryman, and others are here to visit a friend or relative. Many have come to Tom after visitation is over and asked him, "What do you mean you must be born again? I've never heard that term." And this question comes from professing Christians! Tom takes advan-

tage of every opportunity to give the gospel "in season, out of season."

We need help! Please pray that God sends someone over here that can take over the correspondence courses so that Tom can get back to witnessing. He wants to keep focusing on those who have never heard or who may have a different belief.

We have had the privilege of bringing some Muslim inmates to the throne of grace and them accepting Jesus Christ as their Saviour. Working with

the Muslims here has been a great learning lesson for us. Most of the Muslims have never even read

the Koran, and some don't even own one. They just go by what they've been taught and exposed to, and they also find security in this "brotherhood." To many it's more of a culture than a religion. Since the tragedy of September 11, tensions have been running a little high between the Christians and the Muslims inside the walls, and especially among the Nigerian tribes. Their country is split by Christian/Muslim tribal disputes and wars that have been on-going for decades.

Pray that God will provide an avenue for Tom to be able to get inside the walls and move about more freely. ❖

TOM WANTS TO KEEP FOCUSING ON THOSE WHO NEVER HEARD

TOM GAUDET

Tom Gaudet is a veteran missionary specializing in translating, printing, and distributing Gospel literature into other languages and countries. His #1 task is translating and distributing Scripture aids into other countries, especially closed countries. This involves translation, typesetting, printing, and making arrangements for shipments of these materials into the targeted countries. It is a busy, ongoing, complex job, but he does it well.

He is heading an intense and focused effort to saturate the 14th Asian Olympic Games in South Korea with the Gospel through the distribution of good Gospel tracts, Scripture aids, and witnessing. The Games will be held in Busan (formerly spelled Pusan) Korea, September 29 –October 14, 2002. For those of you who will not be traveling to Korea, you stand to make the MOST difference: through intercession. Here is a portion of the update we received from him on the ongoing preparations for the Games.

“Our focus will be twofold: the foreign athletic teams and the Korean spectators. Many athletes from closed countries will be in Busan for those days. It may be that this will be the first opportunity for many of them to hear the Gospel. Pray!! We will be teaming up with several Korean churches in this outreach. We will be using the facilities of a fundamental Baptist church in Busan. Via public transportation, it is a short ride from the main Games site. The

u p c o m i n g **ASIAN** Olympic Games outreach in South **KOREA**



facilities are limited and therefore our team will be kept small. Workers will be paired up with a team each day and will be under the authority of a team leader. This will be a TEAM MINISTRY. This will be a strenuous outreach and the physical cost will be high. The hours on our feet will be demanding. A 40,000-pound shipment of materials is being prepared now and should be shipped in plenty of time to clear customs. The largest batch of printed material is 20,000 pounds of Gospels of John/Romans, which has just been shipped from Ohio to El Paso, TX where they will assemble them. Tracts, cards, and correspondence courses are being printed in sev-

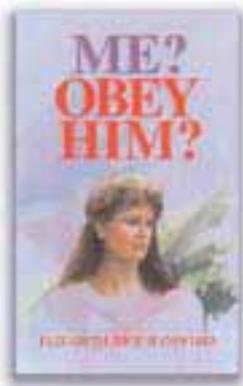
eral other places in Indiana, Ohio, Louisiana, Texas, and California. Amazing!!”

“Much has already gone into this effort. Please pray for the assembly of the team that the Lord wants in Busan. Continue to pray for the production, shipment and arrival of the materials. Most of the literature has been provided at no cost. Printing ministries have sacrificed dearly for this effort. Please pray God’s blessing and provision for them. Pray also for the shipping. We are still trying to get quotes and so do not know the cost yet.”

Let’s trust the Lord together, that He will use this effort greatly.

For Souls Still Waiting,
Bro. Tom Gaudet

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT



ME? OBEY HIM?

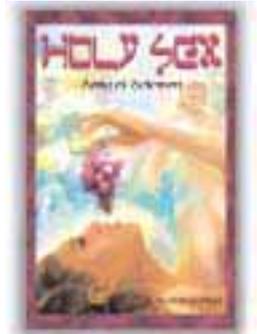
by Mrs. Elizabeth Rice Handford

Debi Pearl says, "When I was a young bride I read *Me? Obey Him?* by Mrs. Elizabeth Rice Handford. 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."

Book Only \$3.00

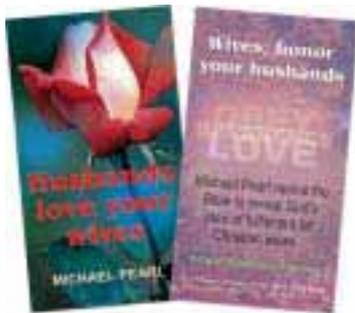
HOLY SEX

by Michael Pearl



God created his children as sexual opposites and designed marriage to be the context of erotic pleasure. While the church has been mostly silent on the subject of sex, the world and the devil have attempted to make it their domain. The church has rightly proclaimed Biblical prohibitions on the misuse of sex, but it has failed to speak out on the godliness of erotic pleasure in the context of marriage. Out of 66 books composing the Bible, one whole book is dedicated to promoting erotic pleasure—the Song of Solomon. Michael Pearl takes his readers through a refreshing journey of Biblical texts. This sanctifying look at the most powerful passion God ever created will free the reader from false guilt and inhibition. Michael Pearl says, "It is time for Christian couples to take back this sacred ground and enjoy the holy gift of sexual pleasure."

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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 ministrering to your man. You can help him become all that God intended him to be.

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

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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.

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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 man.

Only \$4.00

Dear Michael (Mr. Pearl),

We recently ordered the book "Holy Sex." It took only a short time to read and we completed it last night. We appreciate your frankness, but more than anything else, your love for your wife shows throughout the pages. Your "personal moment" on pages 78-79 are just about the most beautiful words we've ever read. You had just written about smells and aroma, and then you closed with "inhaling" your wife's spirit. It brought tears to both our eyes and we have reread it over and over. Your wife could receive no greater declaration of your love than those two paragraphs. Even now the tears are flowing.

Thank you for being "personal." It was a blessing to this couple.

W & R (married 21 ½ years)

CHILDREN'S FAVORITES

BEDTIME TAPES THAT CHILDREN ENJOY TO LISTENING TO

No Greater Joy Vol. 2

Great bedtime stories for young adventurers.

Alabama Seminar

Mike retells wild adventures of him and his sons. Boys love it!

Testimony of Darlene Rose

One of the most stirring missionary stories of all times, gives recount of a young woman's horrors and triumphs with WWII.

Gami Akij

The exiting and miraculous story of how God used a young girl to open the hearts of a primitive tribe. As told by Rebekah Pearl in 1999.

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. Several children's songs are included.



Dear Pearls,

Last week, I ordered Rebekah's tape and her diary. My oldest boy, listening to the tape, said Rebekah "didn't sound human." Thinking that he was insulting her, I said, "What do you mean?" He said, "Well, she sounds like an angel." It brought tears to my eyes. I told my husband what he said. My husband said, "There was something in her singing that was soothing." We listen to the tape at night after our prayers and all tucked in.

Still serving our risen Savior,
R

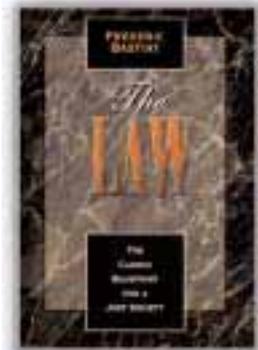
CD only \$8.00

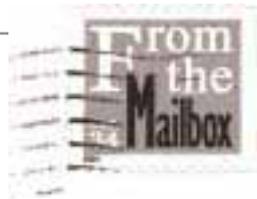
The LAW by FREDERIC BASTIAT

I read many books in the course of a year. Occasionally I discover one that I would recommend to others, but rarely do I find a book that I would place among the top 25 that I would treasure for the remainder of my life. Many years ago I read the book by Frederick Bastiat called The Law. It was written 150 years ago in France. I recently dug it out and reread it. I was more impressed than I was the first time I read it 35 years ago. This book could have been written today-it is so up-to-date politically. This book is an outstanding example of logical thinking and beautiful writing. It is not about the law of Moses. It is a discussion of forms of government. This is a classic. It is a must for homeschoolers.

-Michael Pearl

Only \$5.00





"COME REJOICING BRINGING IN THE SHEAVES"

Dear Pearls,

My husband was on third shift for eleven years, and has worked a second job occasionally. I have had to "teach" my children that their father is a godly man. Their childish perceptions might not see it if I didn't point many things out to them.

I have had two choices: I could have given in to bitterness. It was hard and lonely taking care of little ones all that time, with NO girlfriends to visit me or call. I realized later that God isolated me on purpose, and it probably saved our marriage! The only times I had female input, it was the "I wouldn't take that!" kind. Anyway...I read that verse in the course of reading a chapter in Proverbs each day: "Every wise woman buildeth her house, but the foolish plucketh it down with her hands." And from then on I seemed to weigh my actions against that verse. Was this building up or plucking down?

The children were homeschooling during the day, and their father slept. I'd talk about how many miles their daddy walked at work last night. (Usually six!) Otherwise they might get the mistaken idea that "Daddy always sleeps." One time at morning devotions, I passed around their father's New Testament. It was one of those free Gideon ones, and it was very worn from much use, and duct-taped together. I asked the kids "What do you think of that?" I got all kinds of observations, and the exciting idea that we should buy him a new one as a surprise. I explained that their daddy read that New Testament every chance he got during breaks at work. I asked if anyone else had a Bible as worn as that – from reading it???

When we practiced music, I taught them songs like "The Glory of Children is Father, He is the strength of the home!" girls part "Father we need you and love you." all: "Walk by our side, counsel and guide, show us the way of the Lord!"

We would learn songs, and save him one part at the end: "As for me and my house – We will serve the Lord!" something he could learn easily. (He never had weekends off :- (But he came home Sunday morning, showered, and took us all to Sunday School and church. He often dozed off in the 11:00 sermon, but if I didn't remind them, they might get the mistaken idea that pastor meant their daddy, when he preached about folks sleeping in church!

Now the boys are young men, and Dad has a day job with weekends off. He doesn't have to forge a relationship with them now, because they already have one!

We have been preparing them for this time all along. We knew God would eventually provide for them to be together more.

One major blessing is that he and I discovered was praying "together." Folks might lie to one another...but before God...when your husband thanks God for you...well, you know he's not just buttering you up! So there the both of you are, pouring out your worries to God in front of each other, thanking God for each other...CLEAVING to one another. Aahh –what memories. Thank you for letting me share that, reminding me of the years God has been faithful.

Your sister in Christ,

K

Mr. Pearl

I was exhausted from chasing my 20-month-old everywhere. I had totally slacked off on child #3 and was paying the price. Within ONE DAY of listening to you, I had her trained to stay out of the no-no areas, leaving the doors wide open and doing away with my gate. I worked with her once or twice to sit on my lap, then we went to an awards program for the older kids, where she sat pretty contentedly on my lap for over an hour while the other parents were chasing their toddlers up and down the church aisle. My husband noticed my joy and peace returning. I am falling in love with my little girl all over again, and interestingly, she has just begun racing toward me with arms outstretched for hugs. I think she likes me more, too. Thank you so much.

Dear Pearl Family,

This book [Me? Obey him?] has been very influential in my own life. Applying Biblical principles to the wife's role in marriage has given me a marriage happier than I ever thought possible. I feel that I have a wonderful secret I need to share within my circle of influence. (Unfortunately, in so many churches, Biblical principles regarding marriage and family are often a well-kept secret; but that's another topic!) Thanks so much for your help

Sincerely,
LW

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Pearl,

I picked up "To Train Up A Child" at a recent home-school book sale and began reading it before even leaving the parking lot. I was completely clueless about how to train children CORRECTLY in the first place! But with your book, He lay into my hands the careful explanations and guidance I've needed...WE'VE NEEDED!

My husband began reading the book, curious of the brokenness I was experiencing. He said he saw himself on the back cover...and he opened the book. A few days later, the US military sent him overseas for temporary duty. But he told me to keep reading and update him via email. I first informed the children (13, 8, 6, 4 ½, 22 months) that we were entering a retraining time that Dad and I had missed (or messed!), that it might hurt or surprise them at first, but in the end, it would be great! They all seem tentatively excited.

Now, a mere 12 days later, we have such awesome praise reports!

In the first DAY, our 22 month-old boy responded

best! Our 13 year old quickly adjusted. Less than a week later, he and his younger brother worked together to empty the entire garage, and it was done in complete peace and harmony. Our 6 year old daughter has whined and manipulated much less. Our 4 ½ year old daughter is obeying, not in her own time, but real obedience and is much more cheerful. The biggest work is our 8 year old boy. There is bitterness there that is softening as I change and our training improves. Your articles on Rowdy Boys and boys in general [in No Greater Joy Volume 2 book] have also changed me with him. He's adjusting! And I'm relaxing!

The real testimony is that the 5 children and I just finished a two day drive in complete peace, NOT ONE SIBLING FIGHT OR ARGUMENT, and LAUGHING when we arrived!!! Yes, training was done along the way...the rod stayed close by my side the whole drive. And it was good!!

Thank you,
M

Dear Michael and Debi,

I just want to thank you for making a difference in our home. We happened to be at my brother's home, and I saw your book, To Train Up A Child. I devoured it because at the time I was searching for answers to our dilemma with our three-year-old, a very moody, snappy, disgruntled, and rebellious character. He was usually fine when my husband was around, but because I was the one who spent the bulk of the time with him, I needed answers because obviously I wasn't doing something right. He has turned into one of our sweetest-natured, most loveable to all child and I want to thank you again and may God bless you richly.

One my most favorite subjects is the Christian home and I love learning more. We'll look forward to receiving the tapes and book.

Thanks much,
C

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.

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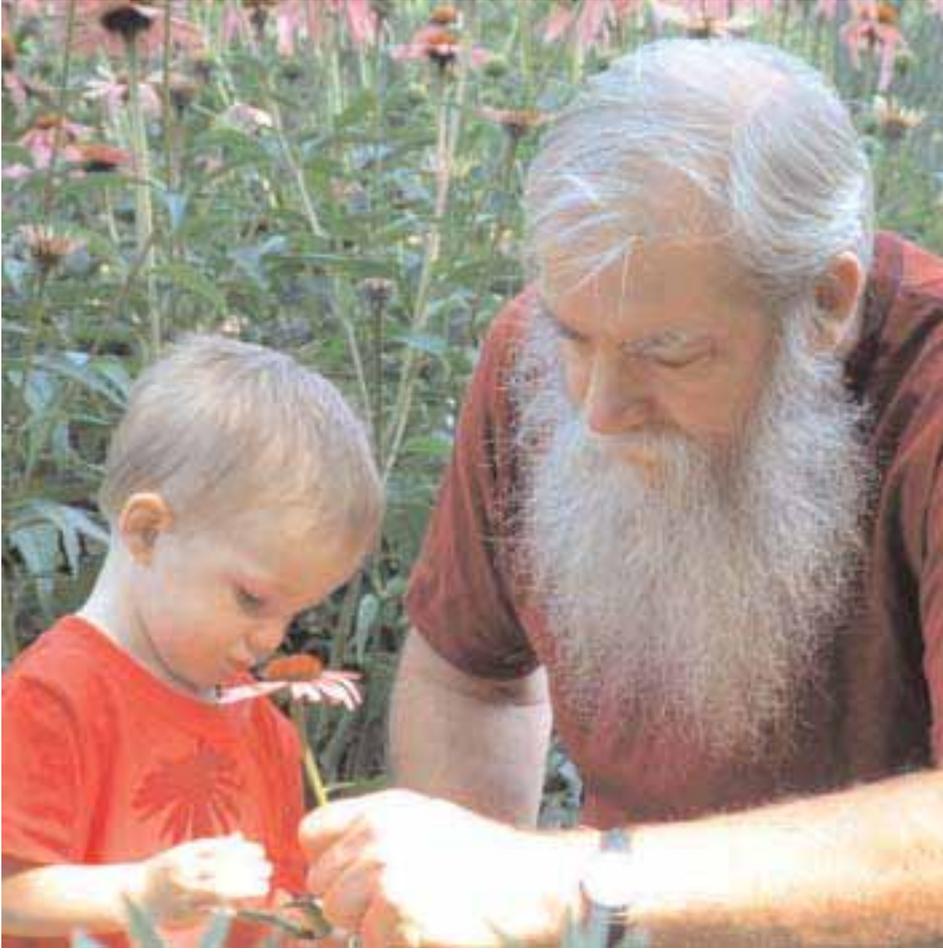
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Big Papa takes his fourteen month-old grandson, Joseph Courage, on an exploration of the herb garden. Joseph is contemplating the medicinal properties of echinacea.

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