

The Boys Are Visiting

Jumped Ship

Sweet Kids

Miracle Herbal Rub

England

Gummed Up



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

III John 4

May - June 2006

Jumped Ship

by Michael Pearl

Part 5: What to do when you have a child that has jumped ship.

Children are divorcing their parents—leaving home before their time, rejecting authority, and turning their backs on their parent’s culture. We have been calling it “jumping ship.” *Divorce* is more accurate. Divorce produces self-doubt on the one hand, and blame on the other. Blame usually prevails. It’s more comfortable.

You had no idea that it would come to this. When your son was about ten years old, you noticed that he didn’t seem to enjoy your presence. You were a source of irritation. It was as if he wanted to say something but would never come out with it. He turned away in frustration and sought friendship outside the home. Occasionally he would explode in anger, of all things, blaming you. You remember him blurting out, “You don’t understand!” It carried a tone of accusation. It may have gotten to the point where he accused you of not caring. You hoped it was just a stage that he would grow out of, but he sunk deeper into his aloneness. Then one day, when he was old enough and had the resources, he just left. There was anger; words thrown around like bullets; bombs of accusation were dropped; it turned into a word war of vengeance, all the time not believing that it could actually happen. But it did. And you knew failure like you have never known it before. I have known parents who, upon losing their first child, just gave up on the whole family, and they all fragmented and broke up like an airplane that had lost its wings.

We are here to talk about what to do if your kid has jumped ship. How should you respond? Is it too late? Is all lost, or is there still hope, still a way? In every human conflict, two thirds of a correct response amounts

to not doing what you shouldn’t. If we humans could just turn off and shut down—do nothing—we would be two thirds of the way to recovery. Your mouth is what dug the pit in the first place, and it is your mouth that will throw vile dirt into the face of your estranged child. If you don’t bridle your tongue, your religion is vain (James 1:26), for the tongue is a fire that is set on fire by hell itself (James 3:5-6). The same mouth cannot praise God at church and curse your son at home (James 3:10).

There is nothing that more readily induces us to anger than having our failures talk back to us. Let’s face it. It is your own loss that causes you anger—loss of peace, loss of control, loss of prestige and respect, loss of your “perfect” life. “How could you do this TO ME after all I have done for you?” Blame.

As sinners, we tend to respond to criticism and rejection with anger. We take it as an attack upon our undeserving person. Fight back! Stand up for our rights. SMASH! You hurt me, I hurt you more. You will be sorry! You will come back crawling and begging for forgiveness. “I, his majesty, await your humble apology, and then perhaps my wrath will be appeased.” Hell hath enlarged itself. Just knowing we are humans—sons of Adam—ought to humble us. Pride is the fuel of hell’s fire, and each of us is an unlimited source of combustion.

It is the kid’s fault, right? Beware of blame. It is the first refuge of the guilty. Blame is the end of creativity. It is a dead end road, traveled only for the dark and lonely pleasure it gives. When you blame, you surrender hope of changing things, for you lay all the responsibility upon a moral agent over whom you admittedly have no control. Blame affords the opportunity

to play God for a little while—a one sided god who sits to judge without mercy. Satan loves the spirit of blame. It comes in a dark cloud that permits no mercy and refuses insight. Blame is tunnel vision that excludes any positive perspective and magnifies fault to the criminal level. Blame is the way to cook down disappointment until it turns to thick hate. Blame is the solace of devils and their finishing touch on all sin and human failure. To go there is to return with nothing but bitterness and the satisfaction of knowing it was “not your fault.” But the end is the same, no matter whose fault it was.

It happened on your watch. Your kid didn’t come into the world emotionally broken and angry. So far, all I have done is inform you that all your responses have exacerbated the problem. This has not been to punish you, but to make you stop. Your first step to recovery must be to get your own heart right with God. I want you to stop digging the pit deeper. I have been functioning as a prophet, calling you to repentance. It is the only starting place.

You must become what you want your child to become if you would bring him to repentance. You must become a person of joy, peace, and love. You must know God and love him. You must be disciplined and holy in your own personal life. You must tend to your marriage so that it becomes the envy of all who know you well.

Rule One: Accept your son’s decision to divorce you.

It is done. There is no going back. Stop treating him as a child to be intimidated. Never again accuse or blame him. Never mention that you

are hurt. Act as if his leaving was a natural occurrence that had your approval. This will be impossible for you if you are carrying a grudge, a desire to hurt, to punish. When your heart is truly set on the future, on making the best of the present circumstances, you will lay down all of the past and relate to your son as if he were a lonely and needy kid whom you just met and are moved to bring hope and joy to his life. If the issue is your feelings, your justification, you will eventually drop a bitter or accusing word, and he will shake you off like mud between his fingers.

Rule Two: Give up all perceived parental rights and authority.

Don't demand that he come back and meet you on a parent-son foundation. Accept the fact that you must now earn the right to have even a small part in his life, and that by his invitation only. Just as you would carefully approach a co-worker at the office whom you perceive has been wounded and hurt by life, exercising all respect and patience, so you must approach your son. Don't think in terms of him breaking down and coming back as your little boy, admitting his guilt and inadequacies, begging your advice, and putting his messed-up life in your hands. It will never happen.

Rule Three: Pray for your son.

Your prayers will be wasted if you are thinking in terms of recovering your personal loss—of fixing your life. Pray for him until your heart breaks from God's perspective. When you see him as potential glory to God, so that your prayers are not about you, then God can "download" them and turn them over to one of his spirit workers to begin his ministry.

Rule Four: Maintain contact on a level that is not smothering to your son.

Be sensitive to his signals. It may

take a cooling off period before he will admit you into his circle. If he has been hurt very badly he may seek to cut off all contact. If so, you must somehow communicate that you are not blaming him and you are not going to ride his back; you are going to respect his decision to divorce the family. Once he spends one hour around you and discovers that things are different, that you are relaxed, that you have given up your high horse, he will lose some of his fear. When the time is right, invite him to a family outing, or to dinner. Don't badger him about "going to church." It didn't make any difference in seventeen years. Why would it matter now?

Rule Five: Offer assistance as it is appropriate.

You must pray for divine wisdom. You do not want to support a decadent lifestyle and facilitate irresponsibility, but you will want to offer any assistance that leads to his assuming responsibility. Initially, when you have little to no contact at all, when mistrust is still in the air, you may offer to do his laundry or help with the shopping, or loan him some pots and pans, or help him secure second-hand furniture. The whole family could go over and paint his apartment. Any gesture that indicates your good-will will cover a multitude of sins and ill-will. You don't want to shield him from the realities of independence, but neither do you want him to be overpowered with responsibility to the point that he crashes and fails. You might think that the hard circumstances will force him to come home begging. Beware! He will see through your attitude. If he is forced to come home as a failure, nothing will be accomplished in the way of building relationships. If you can help him to succeed, the fellowship of accomplishment may so heal the relationship that he wants to come back home in a few weeks or months. But keep in mind that your goal is not to get him back home and thereby prove that you were right and

“ Blame is the solace of devils and their finishing touch on all sin and human failure. To go there is to return with nothing but bitterness and the satisfaction of knowing it was “not your fault”. But the end is the same, no matter whose fault it was. ”



“ It was lack of fellowship that caused your son to leave in the first place. If you disagree with that assessment, you have not yet repented. You are still blaming. Your son is not going to like you anymore than he did the day he fled the ugliness of your relationship. ”

Dietrich The Hunter

Dear NGJ Servants,

I have been enjoying the series “Jumping Ship.” It has been an education to me, and I have found it pertinent.



Dietrich killed a coon after bagging the squirrel.

Some of its commentary has helped to gel in my mind some of the things I see in my own family. If you would allow me I will relate our experience with my ten-year-old son's maturation.

Your piece on taking dominion hit home. This past Spring a squirrel was trying to take dominion of our bird feeders. It would not take the hint when we tried to discourage it. My son wanted to aid the situation with his air rifle. My husband allowed it and my son went to work.

He positioned himself next to the window with his school books. Vigilant was his watch. He reaped the reward of his preparation and perseverance. He skinned the squirrel and stretched the hide on a tree CLOSE to our front door.

Friends would come to visit and see the dried up skin, asking what it was. I would give a brief explanation and see my son's eyes glow with pride.

To be honest, at another time in my life I would have wasted no time pulling the offending thing off the tree to save my reputation. Who wants a scraggly rodent fur in a prominent place where you receive guests? I would have been mortified because of its distasteful inappropriateness. But that time has passed. What is important now is my relationship with my son. It is growing better every day.

You see in January, five months earlier, my son took an unannounced hike. About two hours later he showed up at a friend's home down the road. It was about an hour and forty-five minutes of prayer, tears and soul searching. It was my wake-up call that I was losing him.

I learned to laugh a bit more with him and loosen my grasp on the unimportant. You have helped this mother many times. I hope this brings a smile to your face.

From A Smart Mother

he was wrong. Your goal is to see a young man become a happy, successful man of God. You will probably find that you get along better with him out of the house.

Rule Six: Cultivate fellowship with your prodigal.

Read the parable of the Prodigal Son found in Luke 17. It so beautifully portrays the kind of heart you must have toward your son. If you find you are more like the older brother, don't expect the prodigal to come home. We fellowship with people we can trust with knowledge of us. To fellowship is to be vulnerable. When you care and caring leads to giving, to bearing one another's burdens, there is fellowship.

It was lack of fellowship that caused your son to leave in the first place. If you disagree with that assessment, you have not yet repented. You are still blaming. Your son is not going to like you anymore than he did the day he fled the ugliness of your relationship. If you are as I described, I don't like you either. Your wife probably doesn't like you. What about the rest of the children? You lost this one. What has changed to keep you from losing the rest? So, you have changed churches to get rid of the bad influence. You have gotten rid of the television and the video games. You have tightened up and are making sure the other children understand responsibility. I hope you are not berating your departed son to the younger children in a belief that they will fear to take the path he has taken. I hope you are not storming around the house, locking doors like a man who just discovered that he has been burglarized, passing new rules and ranting your anger. If so, say good-bye to the other children. Your departed son will want to "save" them from you as soon as he can.

This may still be a mystery to you, a big, tangled, unfathomable mess, but to me it is predictable. I see right through you, and I am not that smart. You need to love God to the point that you break out in singing praises to Him. You need to walk after the Spirit so that you do not fulfill the lust of the flesh. You must become an attractive human being. Everyone is attracted to joy and creativity. You must be kindly affectionate, tenderhearted, forgiving one another. You must be merciful and longsuffering. You must be known to be disciplined and temperate.

You cannot have the sweet fruit of life if you don't plant the right seeds. Christian fruit comes from a Christian tree. Only the Holy Spirit can bear Spirit fruit. I am not being religious. I am not throwing these things in just to flavor my exhortation with the pious and spiritual. A Spirit filled life is the ONLY hedge against jumping ship and divorce.

You can download Bible teaching free on our web sight. You must listen to the entire Romans series. I am not selling you anything. It's Free! We have received thousands of letters expressing joy and victory through the Word of God. Just thinking about you rejoicing in Christ Jesus makes me start liking you already. It will do the same for your prodigal son. ❖

Miracle Herbal Rub

There are muscle rubs, and again, there are muscle rubs. Through the combined knowledge of several people, we were able to come up with this amazingly effective combination. Every ache and pain you ever had will often just melt away. So, if you are one of the thousands of ladies who have back pain or are married to some hard working HE-man who needs a good back rub every once in a while, this is your rub. It beats Icy Hot or any other rub on the market. It's easy to make, inexpensive, and will keep on the shelf until you need it. It smells so good and feels so smooth as it is rubbed in, and it causes deep relief.

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup Arnica flowers - whole
- 1/2 cup St. John's Wart - cut
- 1 tsp. Cayenne pepper - powder
- 16 oz. wintergreen rubbing alcohol
- 1/4 - 1/2 cup olive oil

Directions:

Simply combine a cup of the premixed herbs with 16 oz. of wintergreen rubbing alcohol (available in most pharmacies). Store the mixture in a dark, dry and cool place for 2 weeks (shaking daily). After the 2

weeks, strain, and discard the herbs. Add 1/4 - 1/2 cup of olive oil, then bottle and label. Shake the mixture before each use. When finished, I store my Miracle Herbal Rub in hot sauce bottles because we always have several empty ones and they have tiny holes so I can shake the rub unto the skin. I usually make several bottles at a time, so they will be available to give to a friend in need.

Joint Pain

We have recently learned that a number of people have successfully used a variation of this remedy to deal with their rheumatism, tendonitis, arthritis, etc. Simply follow the same directions listed above, but do not add the oil. For temporary relief of any joint pain, apply the herbal rubbing alcohol all over the affected area. In just minutes, you'll start to feel the pain disappear.

Bruises or Muscle Injury

Another variation of this remedy is used to dissolve bruises and alleviate muscle pains (inflammation) resulting from heavy physical training or an injury such as a torn or pulled muscle. It requires no rubbing alcohol and

can be prepared in a matter of hours rather than a few weeks. In a saucepan, heat (slow simmer) equal parts of the premixed herbs with olive oil or lard for several hours or longer. Allow to cool, then strain and bottle the oil for use as needed. Many athletes prefer this variation after training or a workout. For more information on Oil Infusions, reference the books *Herbal Antibiotics* and *Practical Herbalism*.

These premixed herbs can also be made into an ointment or salve. As you can see, there are many ways to prepare this remedy for a number of different uses. There are books available from the Bulk Herb Store that will give you more information - might even make an herbalist out of you. The Bulk Herb Store is in no way connected to No Greater Joy Ministries or to Mike & Debi, so do not mix your correspondence.

For this herbal mixture or more information on herbs check out: BulkHerbStore.com or write to 1010 Pearl Road, Pleasantville, TN 37033

A Word of Warning

- This is for external use ONLY. DO NOT use it internally.
- DO NOT use on broken skin. ❖

To Sleep or Not To Sleep

Dear Pearls,

Our four-year-old daughter began getting up extremely early in the morning or frequently coming to our bedside during the night, informing us that she needed to go potty or was scared or just wanted to sleep with us. After weeks of this, we were all weary. My husband purchased an alarm clock and explained to our daughter that the alarm would go off when it was time to get up. If she needed to go potty, the bathroom light would be on, thus she could go by herself. If she did get up other than that, then we would take her back to her room and shut her door for the rest of the night. She loves turning off her alarm and getting herself up in the morning, and we love sleeping through the night! – *The Sgambato family*

Dear Pearls,

Every morning, getting the children up and out of the sack was a chore. We had a difficult time getting the day started. Sunday mornings were a real challenge, so I devised a system. Monday morning, I sat the children down and showed them my timer and how it worked. I told them that from now on when I called for them to get up, I would be setting the timer for 15 minutes. I expected them to roll up their sleeping bags and be dressed when the timer went off. We practiced a few "trial runs" with them getting into their sleeping bags and out in record time. Swats would be given for the tardy. It seemed to work great all week, but the real test would be Sunday morning. Saturday night everyone's clothes were laid out ready. Sure enough, I set the timer and said, "Ready, set, GO." It was great and fun too! What a great, laughing, cheerful bunch we are now when we hop into the van (with plenty of time to spare) heading off to Church. – *Keeton Family*





the folks in **England** *are talking about us!*

The good folks from **The Old School House** magazine planned a speaking tour to England this spring. **No Greater Joy** signed up to have our literature distributed on their tour. We had no idea it would cause any problem.

We are told that in England it is a crime to spank your children. Therefore Christians are not able to openly obey God in regard to Biblical chastisement. They are in danger of having the state steal their children. Christian parents do not want to be seen at an event that might be distributing literature advocating spanking. I remember how scared I was when we first started homeschooling. Because it was rare and unknown to the authorities, most were against it, suspecting us guilty of all manner of dark and evil deeds. It had not yet come to the public's attention and the legislators had never heard of anything so "unorthodox." Surely it was "depriving the children of a good education." We received scary visits from the child protective agency, and they had us in court threatening to take our children away from us if we continued to homeschool. While we fought it legally, we were forced to make contingency plans to move to Central America, fleeing ignorance and oppression. But we joined with many others and fought it in the legislature of Tennessee. Parents prevailed and homeschooling was recognized to be our parental right. There was nothing on earth as important to us as our children. There was no fear greater than that of losing them. I can completely understand WHY the parents of England would be so concerned. Anyway, the blogs of England have been buzzing with all manner of misinformation concerning the Pearls.

Of course, us two old Pearls were unaware that we had become internationally infamous. Furthermore, we have been too preoccupied to give it any thought or energy. Both sets of our aged parents have been in health crisis, plus we continue to run an ever expanding ministry (18 employees and growing) besides trying to

squeeze time in with our children and grandchildren. But then we started getting letters from England, informing us that Rebekah Joy's (our eldest daughter) blogged response to the criticism was widely and favorably received. I called Beka and told her to send us a copy. Here it is.

Are Michael & Debi Pearl "Guilty as Charged?"

My name is Rebekah Anast, I am the firstborn daughter of Michael and Debi Pearl, the authors of the best-selling book *To Train Up a Child*.

A handful of angry people have begun an outcry against Michael and Debi Pearl for the child-training principles in this book. These nay-sayers have also struck out against The Old Schoolhouse Magazine for refusing to reject the teaching of "the Pearls." Along with quoting out of context, verbalized anger, and false assumptions, they have attacked those associated with the Pearl family, and threatened to shake the fragile platform of homeschooling in the UK by going to the media with the sensational story that certain UK homeschool groups are hosting the infamous Michael and Debi Pearl.

In every society there are "movers and shakers," those people who call the media, make the stories (or the stink, as the case may be) and bring about changes that effect the thousands of ambivalent and, often clueless, masses. Some of these movers and shakers have the good of the masses in mind, others are simply angry, irrational people that need attention and like to

make a scene. Unfortunately, the media thrives on these sensation-makers, and is quick to poison the waters of truth if the poison is offered on the silver platter of a “hot story.”

How do we combat the irrational and unfounded sensationalism that would poison the waters of our communities? With truth. If the media wants a story, give them the truth. Let them know that we are very aware of the lies and sensation being spread - but that we’re not afraid of it, because we know the truth.

These sensational storytellers say that Michael and Debi Pearl teach child abuse, the subjection of women, and general injustice.

I would know (I am their daughter) whether their techniques are violent and unjust, or loving and temperate. I would know if the result is an emotionally damaged and fearful child, or a creative, successful, happy adult. I would know, yes, better than any one of these angry people, whether Michael and Debi Pearl are barbaric child abusers, or loving, successful parents.

Every type of abuse leaves evidence to prove its occurrence, whether it be a mark on the spirit or the body. Let me give you the evidence that is me:

I am 32 years old, married and the mother of three children. I am the happiest person I know, and my life is full of fruit; my own three very happy, balanced children are completely sound in body and mind.

I have written articles, books, screenplays, and traveled the world for 4 years, meeting new people, eating new food, ministering to those in need, and loving life. I always returned to my favorite place and my favorite people... my family.

I married a wonderful man who is worth every moment of reverence and honor I give him; he is my best friend and only lover.

I have very few bad memories of childhood, all of which I can recall clearly; my dog dying, my hand getting cut on a fresh pine board, my brother being stung by bees, and my father’s grief over a friend’s suffering. That’s all that I can recall.

I remember only one spanking. I remember it because I laughed all the way through it, and so did my Dad. I had played a prank that was dangerous, but funny, and fully deserved a spanking for it, but my parents were unable to spank me without laughing. That is the only spanking I clearly remember. The others were so well-deserved my

conscience was able to write off the memory once the deed was paid for.

I was never injured in body or spirit by the training I received. I was never “struck” in anger.

I did receive non-injurious spankings on my fully clothed backside with a willow switch when I had clearly transgressed a known “law” of the house. These spankings did not leave bruises or abrasions, or emotional distress.

I learned by the gentlest way possible that foolishness has consequences and wise choices make life comfortable. This training has literally saved my life and I am eternally grateful to both my parents for using a literal rod to train my flesh to make wise choices.

My brothers and sisters were my best friends growing up. We did everything together; swimming, playing, working. We usually got in trouble together too, and when spankings were due, they were due all around. However, trouble was hard to find, as either Mom or Dad was almost always with us, joining in the fun, the projects, and the learning. From dancing in the rain, to building forts, to learning to ride a bike; they were there, so much a part of my life.

A person is innocent until proven guilty. I have proof that Michael and Debi Pearl are wise and loving parents: I am the proof, and every one of my siblings would agree with me.

Almost everything we (my parents) have ever written is available online for FREE on nogreaterjoy.org; and everything else is as inexpensive as possible while still allowing No Greater Joy to operate as a non-profit ministry, geared toward helping thousands of parents and children.

A lot of information about the Pearl’s on the internet is simply taken out of context or completely misquoted. Look up the quotes on nogreaterjoy.org for yourself and make sure your source isn’t lying or misconstruing the truth. It’s important to the homeschool movement that we be accountable for our views, instead of blindly following the loudest sensationalist, or giving them credibility of any kind. ❖ **Rebekah (Pearl) Anast**



“Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.” 1 TIMOTHY 4:12

Mailbox

Your Testimonies

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Pearl:

I found out about your ministry through homeschooling research. My husband bought "To Train Up a Child", your three-volume book set, and some of your homeschooling CDs/tapes for me for Christmas about 2-3 years ago when my daughter was around 2 years old and my son was around 3 years old. Before reading your books, I would make suggestions about the behavior that I expected from my children and give them warnings when they fell short. When they didn't comply, I would get frustrated and warn them again. Then after several temper tantrums (from me), I would be so furious with their disobedience that I would discipline my children in anger. How I regret not knowing the correct way to train and discipline my children from the beginning.

When I received your books, my husband and I sat down and discussed whether or not we wanted to embark on the journey your books laid out for us. You see, we understood that the changes that were going to have to take place were ones that my husband and I had to make. We weren't sure if we could make the changes necessary. We had to retrain ourselves. But, we knew in our hearts that what we were reading in your books was the right thing – the right way. So, we began making those changes about two or three years ago, and we are so glad that we did! I am so happy that I no longer get to the point where I'm furious with my children. We are not 100% consistent, which is a constant battle for us. When things are going smoothly and my children are respectful and well behaved I tend to ignore little attitude problems. I understand that consistency is of utmost importance, but I fail. Nevertheless, I wanted to tell you that there is another family (one of many) that has been blessed by you, Mike and Debi! Thank you so much for all that you do for mommies and daddies and children!

Also, my husband and I have recently become leaders in the children's ministry at our church and I would be interested in receiving a handful of the cards that you encourage people to hand out to families that appear to be in need of training. Thank you so much!

With love and deep gratitude for helping us to change our family!

Lori

Dear Debi,

May I share an observation regarding my 8-year-old son? On Monday afternoons my 4 kids and I get together with other mom/kids for a time of play/art/music. There are several girls my son's age whom he plays with, but there's one girl he thinks is the most fun to be around. "Meagan" is somewhat different. . .perhaps a little slow if you will.

She talks loud, loves babies, and laughs. My son has come home talking about "Meagan" how she laughs and sings and how fun she is to be around. He also notices the other "cool girls" who are masters of the pout and who are not much fun to be around, though visibly they are much "prettier" on the outside than "Meagan". This reminds me of your observation in the Wal-Mart parking lot in "Created To Be His Help Meet". Glad to see my son already values joy over outward appearance. Thanks for who you are and for sharing it with us.

Love, **Amity**

Homeschooling

Mrs. Pearl,

I just received your homeschooling tape and WOW! I have been such a bully! We have been using ABEKA and when it moves too fast, I push. What you said I have taken to heart and it is like a breath of fresh air. I am refocusing on having fun while learning.

Cunningham family

Conditioned to Participation

We train our children to be obedient. They think it is fun to obey. We have a training "game" where out of the blue I suddenly call out, "Silas, put your hand on your head; Joshua, rub your belly; Jed, pinch your nose; and Hazel, put your hands in the air. We play our game everywhere: in the airport, dentist office, car and restaurant. We train our children in front of people and they talk about what happy, obedient children we have. Our game translates over to everyday obedience. So, yes, we train our children and they love it.

Platte family

GLUE

My husband and I read online about the mom who had her girl with the attitude to stick to her like glue! What an inspiration!!! Also, the concept of requiring a negative behavior with something the child does not want. Our girls just could not get along, so we moved them into the smallest room in the house. They were told they had to do everything together. If one went to the bathroom the other had to stand outside until the other came out, and all toys were off limits unless they played with them together. By the end of the day there was nothing but laughter. They took a 5-foot ribbon and tied an end to each one's wrist for fun! Tell glue mom, THANKS!

Whitaker family

Bible Study Testimonies

Why, Why, Why didn't I buy them before. I have been listening to your SIN NO MORE and I am in AWE. I just did not know this. Everyone is missing it. I know training children is the main theme of your web site, but I don't see how training can even take place without this truth in a person's life. I know I was not able to do it. It has changed me! I'm not perfect but the guilt is gone. I'm free. I'm free. I know you said that when God showed you this truth you couldn't even preach for weeping. I can relate to that. I cannot stop weeping with thanksgiving, because I am free, and whom the SON sets free is free indeed. It is right there in plain English in the Bible, yet I never saw it. I have struggled so long. I'm now free. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Kala

Mr. Pearl, I just wanted to write and tell you how much God is blessing me through the Bible messages online. I listened to Romans and the weekly messages. I attend church and have been taught the dos and don'ts. I took pride in the commandments I did keep, but more often failed miserably. My life was a roller coaster ride. Praise God he has taken away my confusion and is showing me truth. I wanted to thank you for making the messages available at no cost over the web.

Gauvreau family

Thank you for clarifying salvation!!! Thank you for helping me find Jesus.

Ruthie



I am listening to the Roman series on-line. I was raised Reformed Baptist and attended regularly. But through God's mercy I am hearing and understanding God's character and my sinfulness in ways I never have. Thank you for your faithfulness to Him.

M.Cearley

Hi, I am listening to and thoroughly enjoying the teaching on Romans. It is without question revolutionary when compared with the bulk of what passes for proper exegesis on the book today. Here's a little poem I heard years ago. "Do this and live," the law commands, But gives me neither feet nor hands. A better note the gospel brings, It bids me fly and gives me wings.

Help Meet

Dear Mrs. Pearl,

I just want to thank you for your book "Created To Be His Help Meet". Three areas stood out to me. I am so grateful you wrote about joy and gratefulness. And I love the part you wrote about being his water, referred to in Proverbs 5. I desire to live a virtuous life and glorify God.

Lindy

Dear Mrs. Pearl,

I received your "Created" book at a motherhood retreat as a door price. It has been such a blessing.

Becca

Dear Pearls,

Thank you for saving my family's life with the awesome Help Meet book. My husband suggested that I buy the book. This is the same man who despised me for reading literature when we first got married. I have been a very commanding wife for 13 years. I don't have to tell you how miserable that made me. All of that has changed now because of the book. It is the very best thing that has ever happened to me. Now my vision is clear. I am his BEAUTIFUL WIFE.

Fenya

Dear Mrs. Pearl,

Just want to say thank you for your Created book. The chapters on "faith" and "good" especially spoke to my heart.

The section on "Crazy Lady", and how "Practice Make Perfectly Awful" were very true. I am blessed beyond expression that God has allowed me to learn all of this at such a young age. Your book has also encouraged me to be productive. I have started my own business, working out of my home. God is really blessing it.

Your little sister,

Samantha

Trainer of the Month



Congratulations to Hillary Crandall from Denver, CO!

“I could make your bed for you,” my two-and-a-half year old offered. “You can!” I answered. “What am I going to do then?”

“You could just sit around and nurse babies,” she replied heading off to conquer our king-sized bed.



The Joys of Teaching Young Children to Work

This playful exchange began a few weeks prior as we were sitting on the floor mashing pinto beans together. “Someday you’ll be able to do this by yourself. I’ll just say, ‘Gracie, go mash the beans,’ and you’ll do it yourself.”

“Say it now!” she said, beaming with pride holding up her masher.

These conversations continued as we did other jobs together: “You’re getting so good at doing housework, someday you’ll do all my jobs, and I’ll just sit around and nurse babies.”

My goal is to work myself out of the job and for my children to be able to run the household. This training began when baby Gracie rode

along in the sling watching me do housework and listening to me chatter about what I was doing. Then as a one-year-old she would reach from the sling to help scrub dishes or place silverware on the table. I wanted her to see work as fun; so we would take a break from folding diapers and have a wild diaper throwing fight.

There were times I felt discouraged. It takes far longer to fold laundry or do other jobs with a one-year-old helping. Many times I wanted to just send her off to play so I could get my job done faster. But I am so glad I took the time to work together and train her, for now my three-year-old and I can get more done together than I can by myself!

While I’m in the kitchen making dinner, Gracie is setting the table. When Gracie was two, she learned to set the table. (I bought white vinyl placemats and traced our silverware in place with a craft paint pen. (See picture.) I would set the placemats and a set of silverware on the table and she would stand on a chair and match the spoons to the spoon outline, the fork to the fork outline and so on.

Now at age three she can carry placemats and silverware to the table herself. My silverware is in a low drawer so she and her little brother Theo can access it. This is the best math time of the day: “Get out three spoons and one little one for Theo” I say, as I watch her count out silverware.

I expect work to be done to three standards.

1. Immediately: Stop what you are doing, say “Yes, Mama, or Yes, Ma’am,” and start working. I had to train *myself* to only ask my children once. I don’t want them to get in the habit of ignoring my first request. We

talked about Bible characters who displayed obedience:

“God told Noah to build an ark, and Noah said ‘yes!’”

2. Cheerfully: No whining or complaining. Sometimes we turn on music and race to pick up toys before the song is done. Or we sing or whistle while we work.

Encouragement helps cultivate hard workers: “You worked hard picking up your toys. The Bible says, “And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men” (Colossians 3:23). Or: “You did these dishes so well. Are you a Mama now?” Grace beams with pride and looks for other ways to look big.

Theo (16 months) loves to copy Grace and is eager to get in on the act of working. The other day I came into the kitchen and found him unloading the dishwasher (see picture) and stacking them just like he sees his sister doing.

3. Quickly: Do you pick up a toy and then drop it right in the toy basket or do you piiiick up a tooooyy and examine every side and then sloooowllly droop it in the toy basket after playing with it?

We have discussed the verses in Proverbs about sluggards. One day I was sitting and nursing Theo when Gracie came out from making her bed. “It looks great,” she said. “I didn’t work like a sluggard.”

And work fast we do. One day my husband called to say he would be home in ten minutes. We had just finished setting the table and making dinner, but had one load of laundry to finish handing up. No problem!

Gracie, Theo, and I are a fast team. While Gracie hangs up all the

shirts, I hang up pants and skirts and fold clothes. Theo, anxious to get in on the act, sits on the bed and fumbles with one shirt and hanger. He finally gets a sock onto the end of a hanger and beams with pride! I help him hang the shirt and praise him for his good work. We finish just as the car pulls up and run to hug Daddy.

Work not done immediately, cheerfully, and quickly begets more work to practice a good working attitude. When work is done quickly and cheerfully my children are free to go play.

We're motivated by a tangible incentive for finishing work: "Let's get this laundry hung up and then we can go outside and have a snack picnic." Rewards can be as simple as watering plants together, going outside to swing for five minutes, or turning on a CD and dancing for awhile.

Structure and routine help everyone work quickly and cheerfully. Gracie has a list posted by her bedroom door (pictures and words) with the things she needs to get done in the morning; Get dressed, put nightgown under pillow, make bed, pick up room. She checks her list and knows that when those things are done she is free to look at books or play. Gone is the

nagging mother, and we are all so much happier.

Work times are fun times together. We are in fellowship and enjoying each other. We get our work done quickly and have more time to play and sit in the swinging bench eating popsicles.

We get work done so quickly that I have time on my hands. What a weird feeling. I guess I need to have another baby so I can sit around and nurse while my children keep house.

Hillary Crandall

NOTE: We want to read your experiences of training your children. Each publication we choose one as our "Trainer of the Month." We send a certificate suitable for framing and you receive a \$50.00 gift certificate from NGJ. In time, we intend to publish a book of the best 200 child training ideas and experiences. If your entry is selected we will print your name unless you tell us not to. We want to hear your success stories. They will be a blessing to others, and you will be in print. Just because you are not chosen as Trainer of the Month does not indicate that your story will not be used later in our book of examples. ❖

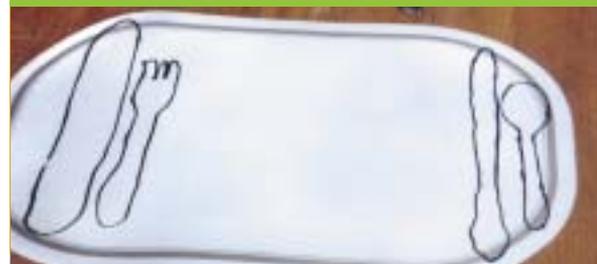
Task Easy

Ryshoni Joy (2 years) has been begging me to let her rinse the dishes three times a day. She likes to play in the bubbles and make a mess while I wash. The other day I was in a hurry and told her that I needed to get it done, and she wasn't really washing the dishes, just making a mess that I had to clean up. She looked at me like I was a dunce and then, "I can rinse, not play. How?"

I had to give her a chance. Standing on the chair next to me, with her sleeves rolled up for business, she chuckled low in her throat while I demonstrated the technique. I showed her how to run water over each dish, turn the dish over and let the water rinse all the bubbles off, and then place the dish in the drainer so that the water drips off instead of puddling. To my absolute surprise she did it perfectly, even stacking the heavy dishes. By the time I was finished washing, she was rinsing the last dish and had done a great job. She gave me her pragmatic green-eyed glance that said it all: "just show me how, and I'll do it - I'm pretty smart, you know." ❖

Rebekah (Pearl) Anast

“You could just sit around and nurse babies...”



“Work times are fun times together. We are in fellowship and enjoying each other.”

Sweet Kids

by Rebekah Joy Anast

How do you make your children get along?

Dear Rebekah,

I enjoy the articles you write and look forward to my copy of No Greater Joy every other month. I have a question though: how do you make your children get along? My son is 5 years old; my daughters are 3 and 1. They fight and squabble about everything. It's not really violent or hateful, just irritating. I feel like I have to supervise all the time. We are very consistent with the "rights" issue, but the kids are always looking for something, anything that isn't specifically assigned to one of them, to fight over. They're so competitive! Ruby, AZ

Dear Ruby,

Assuming you do train consistently (which should include plenty of kid-work to keep your toddlers busy) and assuming you have a good (non-competitive) relationship with your husband as an example to your children, I would say the answer lies in your focus.

Being kind, loving, and sharing gets more "hero points" in our home than any other achievement. Gabe and I offer our highest praise for loving actions, and bestow titles of elevation upon the child that is "going to be a sweet, beautiful mama someday" or "just like Daddy, taking care of his little sisters like Daddy takes care of mama." Work and school skills are part of the whole picture, but if the tasks aren't done with consideration and care for one another, they are just "sounding brass and tinkling symbol." *1 Cor. 13:1* I recommend reading **Love is Like God** in the nogreaterjoy.org article archives.

Above all, life is about effecting other people. The people nearest us are WHY we work hard, and WHY we do school. We learn to read in order to read to others and write for

others. We work in order to make life better for others. We live, not for ourselves, but for those nearest us. All things done selfishly are vain, empty, and very, very temporary.

Competition is not a bad thing. Joseph Courage, my son, (almost 5) is also very competitive. He likes to compare what he's done with what his little sister has done, and come out on top. Instead of noticing his comparison, I pull out some work or a project he did the day before and compare him with himself, making verbal note of the improvements.

Occasionally we let him play with other boys on the local playground and compete against them in wrestling, climbing, running, etc. If he was better or faster than them we point it out later when we're alone with him, and comment on his muscles and his strength, and then come back around to what really makes him special: how manly and kind and wise he is becoming.

Kids are extremely smart in an intuitive way. They know what is most important to you and will take up the same torch. If we as parents are focused on temporal performance, our children's focus will be the same. If your heart's desire is to please God, and win souls, your children will follow in your footsteps.

Here are some fun, practical ideas to help your kids be sweet:

Hero Cards

Make laminated "hero points" cards. When a child is kind and helpful to his siblings, assign worth by giving him a "hero" card. When he has a certain number (5 or so) he can take the family out for ice cream - thereby being a great hero. When we eat our ice cream, courtesy of Joe Courage, we thank him repeatedly, and talk about how wonderful it is to have

such a treat. He goes home on such a cloud of benevolence and satisfaction, it is quite humorous.

Negotiation and Responsible Ownership

When Joe Courage leaves a prized personal belonging in public territory (the living room), it is fair game for Hannah Sunshine to pick up and play with. Joe must then politely ask for his toy, and offer something of equal value to his sister (negotiation). Hannah is then required to hand over the prized toy.

If it is an old toy and not prized or needed, and Honey has been playing with it for a while, Joe is required to wait until she lays it down and then keep it in his room, or else talk her out of it (teaching him to reason and woo).

A personal toy is completely safe if it is kept on personal grounds (in Joe's bedroom) and all important belongings must be put away in designated locations. (This teaches responsible ownership.)

Whining and Bullying

If Ryshoni comes in whining that Joe has hurt her (accidentally) then Rysha gets a swat for whining and Joe gets a swat for being careless, or more, depending on the level of carelessness. If Rysha comes in without whining - only Joe gets the swat for carelessness.

If Joe intentionally bullies Rysha (hardly ever happens) then he gets a spanking based on the level of bullying. I try to keep an eye on the actual events so I know if Rysh is being over-reactive or not. If there is a fight in which both of them are out of line, then regardless of who started it, both of them are spanked.

We've taught our kids to go away from the child that is causing

conflict, so as not to be caught in a bad situation. This counsel applies to the public playground as well, and I'm always amazed at how smart kids are when the rules make sense. So many fights are avoided by the kids deciding, on their own, to separate for a while.

Family Treat

If all three of the kids have been loving, kind, and cooperative all day, with a lot of good work accomplished, we have a Family Treat of their choice. Usually it involves building a fire in the backyard and roasting hot dogs while sitting on straw bales and drinking hot cocoa. Sometimes it means making cookies or cupcakes and letting them decorate. Other ideas would be, setting up a tent in the living room or backyard to camp out. Going to the local lake or pool to swim, going on a biking/hiking trip in the nearest forest, or going to a local basketball game to eat popcorn and watch a lot of really big guys

jump around. Our kids live for these moments, and I try to make at least one a week possible for them.

Conclusion

Having sweet kids takes a lot less supervision in the long run. Joseph and Ryshoni head out the back door to play as soon as it is officially "day" and before I'm fully awake. Hannah Sunshine (18 mos.) is not far behind them. I have to call them in for meals, and would never see them if I didn't make schoolwork fun enough to hold their attention for 20 minute intervals in between the play times. They can't get enough of playing together. The simple guidelines above make their interaction "safe" for them. So when the day is over and the dirt and sand go down the bathtub drain, two voices call out from their twin beds, "Good night Mom, I love you, don't let the begbugs bite, see you in the morning, it was a wonderful day, and tomorrow will be wonderful too..." ❖

“ Having sweet kids

takes a lot less supervision

in the long run. ”



Homeschool Kid

Hannah Sunshine is 17 months old now. By the time Joe Courage was her age, he was telling stories and talking his head off, but Honey is just learning to say sounds. Being a third born doesn't require much talking, since there are two siblings quite willing to talk for you.

But lately Honey has decided she wants to talk. I almost missed it! Thanks to her dogged persistence I realized that she has been repeating the most prominent sound in the words that I say to her. I noticed her bright blue eyes watching my mouth

Learning to Talk

and then babbling: "Ch", "Bu", "Ju", "Eesh". So now when she gets in my face (as kids love to do) I say a short sentence very clearly: "I love you," and then pull one sound out of it and repeat it for her to see, and then in her ear for her to hear, and then against her head for her to feel. Honey repeats the sound with delight, and then runs to the office to say it to Daddy. "Dada - Yu! Yu! Yu!" Maybe I'm a glutton for childish conversation, but I sure love it when they learn to talk!

Rebekah (Pearl) Anast

Check This Out Online!

WellTellMe.com

Gabriel and Rebekah Anast, along with their friends, Steve & Stephanie Tallent, have begun a new health forum called WellTellMe.com, a place where people can share their questions and answers on family health issues. WellTellMe.com is sponsored by Beeyoutiful.com, an online store for the Supermom supplement. Visit them online or write: Beeyoutiful.com, 4056 Montreal Loop NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144-8420, or call 1-800-556-0967.

Simple Green Plantain Salve

From a Smart Reader

- 12 oz. jar of Vaseline
- 2 handfuls of plantain leaves
- 1 large or 2 smaller aloe leaves, sliced and crushed

Heat Vaseline on low, only enough to liquefy. Carefully drop the plantain leaves into the liquid—it will quickly produce a mass of thick foam. Add the aloe. Let simmer until foaming has stopped. Pour through strainer. Pour back into Vaseline jar. Let cool. Mark container and store on shelf. It is easy to make and works on bug bites, stings, cuts, sores, pimples, burns, and more. For More information visit BulkHerbStore.com.

Sobering Issues

You Ask, Michael Answers

Q: *Dear Mr. and Mrs. Pearl,*
I am a teen girl who has a problem. A man in my family took sexual liberties with me that were not his to take. I told my parents and they were sad and a little upset, but did NOTHING. This man is not in jail for hurting me and my parents have not confronted him. I have to pretend that he did not hurt me, by talking to him and even being alone with him. I am very scared and worried. I am not even safe in my own room. I am scared that he will hurt me again, or my little sister.

When I try to tell my parents, they say I am "silly" and "childish." It try to tell them that next time he might be more bold because he might think I have not told. I say, "He could rape me next time!" but they won't listen.

Please help! Should my parents confront him? Should we take legal action? I want him punished. He ruined my innocence and purity!

Thank you, Scared

A: Dear Scared,
Your innocence has been stolen, but not your purity. God does not condemn you for what this evil man has done to you. God does condemn him. Jesus said, "But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea" (Matthew 18:6). As I write this letter to you, I am so hurt and mad that all I can think about is how I would like to get my hands on the filthy pervert who hurt you. I would slap him until he cried and then I would kick him. "Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee? I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies" (Psalm 139:21-22). Finally I would call the law and see to it that he got at least 20 years in the state penitentiary where he would get some of his own medicine back.

Then I would apologize to you on behalf of all men and assure you that we are not all like that. And I would promise you that God will heal you, and someday you will marry a righteous man who will cherish and protect you.

Yes, you are right. This rotten devil will strike again, if not you, then other children. He feeds on pornography. His soul is twisted. Hell awaits him in the end, but in the mean time, we must protect the children. Yes, he must be exposed to the public. He must be handcuffed and pushed into the back of a squad car. He must be finger printed and thrown into a jail with murderers and rapists. He must stand in a court room and hear the sentence passed against him. He must be given a prison uniform and hear the door close behind him and then turn and face fourteen hundred inmates, many of whom despise child molesters. He will have thousands of nights to remember his sin and

understand the seriousness of it. Maybe one day he will walk into the chapel service where I am preaching and he will hear the gospel preached. Perhaps God will have mercy on him and he will repent. God will save him and he will be forgiven and delivered from sin.

But for the present, you must go to your parents and tell them that either they call the law and report him or you are going to do it. Warn them that if you are forced to call the law, they may be incriminated for not doing so themselves. They would be construed to be accomplices for knowing of the ongoing crime and not taking action to stop it.

Now I want to try to help you understand your parents. It is obvious that the perpetrator is someone in your family, possibly an older brother, an uncle, or perhaps a grandfather. In situations like this, parents are sometimes so shocked that they do not face reality. They just hope that this is the last of it and that it will go away. They know the trauma of everyone finding out that this family member is the most despised of sinners, and of him going to trial and to jail. I am ashamed to tell you, but you need to know: Your parents are cowards. It looks like they care more for their reputations than they do for you, but they are just moral weaklings with no spiritual or moral backbone.

If you give them the ultimatum and they still refuse to act, then tell everyone you meet that this person has accosted you in a sexual way. Tell everybody at church. Call everyone in the family. Denounce him in the home. Denounce him in public. He and your parents are making you bear his sin in silence. Let him bear his own sin in public.

There is "a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; A time to love, and a time to hate" (Ecc. 3:7-8). It is the time to speak, and it is time to hate. When he has served his time and repented, then it will be time to keep silent and time to forgive.

When he gets to the prison, send us his name and address and we will send him a new Bible and some Bible tapes.

Q: *Dear Mike & Debi,*
I have been married 25 years to a professing Christian man that has had adulterous affairs and is deep in the sexual bondage addiction. If I do not let him tie me up and have sex once a week he leaves me. I am at wits end. I go to a Baptist Church and that is where I heard of you. I just cannot go to our Pastor about this. I need help. Please give me some godly advice.

My husband left last year (has been back since June) spent all our money, we had to file bankruptcy because he picked up a 22-year-old prostitute that let him tie her up. He gave her everything. I am so confused. I beg God to help him or

(continued on page 17)

Gummed Up

by Zephyr Pearl

This morning as usual, Ashley, our 18-month-old smiley, toddled into our room and climbed into our bed. When I administered the morning kiss, I felt something gummy on the back of her head. Turning her around, I was horrified to see a big, double wad of bubble gum firmly embedded on the back of her head—pressed flat against her skull by a long night of wollering around in the bed. With the hair and gum all mixed together, the back of her head looked like road-kill possum.

My husband – Michael Pearl’s unsympathetic son, Nathan—laughed, said “Good luck,” and went off to work.

I asked a couple people for ideas. Some people said ice, others said Vaseline or lotion would do the trick. They made messes and that’s all. I was about to resign myself to the idea that we would have to shave the whole back of her head when I decide to try the World Wide Web.

I found out that peanut butter leaches the elasticity out of the gum, causing it to become flaky. I smeared a handful onto the back of her head, and, so as not to peanut butter the house, sent Ashley and her big sister out to play.

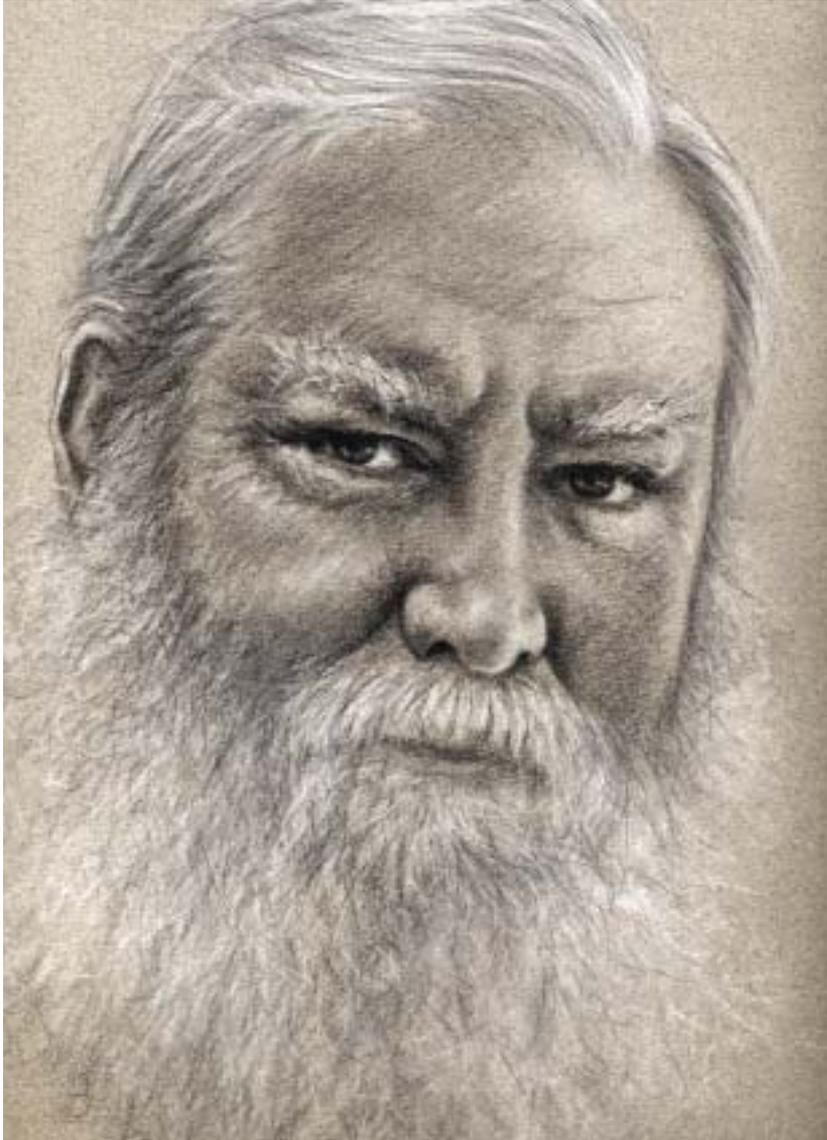
A few minutes later, while I was in the house cleaning up the peanut butter mess, I heard a cry of distress. I ran to the front porch where I found Ashley pinned down by our clumsy Basset Hound pup. He was joyfully licking the peanut butter off the back of her head. I was laughing so hard I hardly had the strength to rescue her. I brought her back into the safety of the kitchen and gave her the jar of peanut butter, telling her to smear it on the back of her head. I got distracted, and when I finally thought to check up on her, she had taken the opportunity to not only coat the back of her head but the top, front, and anywhere else she could reach. I made sure the gum was coated, and after 20 minutes we were gum free but peanut butter battered. Five

shampoos later, Ashley’s hair was shiny, gum and peanut butter free, and smelling sweet.

The moral of the story is: Don’t let kids go to bed with gum. Big Papa says his moral to the story is: Don’t let children under 6 years-old chew gum. ❖



Emerging Artist, Nikki Zeferatos



The No Greater Joy 2006 Calendar has an art contest each month. The best of each month's art is displayed on our web site. We have been surprised at the volume and the quality of art that is sent to us each month. The subject for January was a picture of Big Papa. You can imagine our surprise when we received this amazing portrait of Michael. It was done by 14-year-old Nikki Zeferatos, homeschooler, and an obviously up-and-coming famous artist. Mr. Zeferatos wrote and said his daughter has been doing charcoal portrait art since she was 11 years old. No Greater Joy Families are raising an army of skilled, talented, honorable servants of God. You have a grave, difficult, yet rewarding challenge. We experience great joy when we open the mail and read of your victories. To see this kind of talent is icing on the cake. There is a young, new army of saints coming forth. God is indeed faithful.

Thank You, Nikki, for this beautiful gift!

Art Contest Update

We are out of 2006 calendars, but you can visit NoGreaterJoy.org and learn how your children can participate in the art contest.



Wedding Special

Help start the young couples off in their new marriage with the knowledge of what God says concerning a man and his wife. Offer good through June 30, 2006.

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- *8 To Train Up A Child - Books*

June Calendar Special 8620-20

\$20.00

Coming Soon

Home Business-in-a-box Available May 15, 2006

We get lots of letters with your orders, telling us that in an effort to help others you are spending your extra money buying books and CD's to give away to your friends, relatives, and even strangers. Why not combine ministry and business, while teaching your children the ins and outs of business? That way, while you are being a blessing to a greater number of people you will actually bring in extra cash. The staff here at NGJ has been busy putting together a business plan, with simple to follow instructions, that will guide you as you organize and manage your business. You will become an authorized distributor for No Greater Joy materials. There will be a start-up purchase (no returns

policy) and a minimum order as you choose from the limited distributors order blank. You can sell at home, school book fairs or establish your own contacts. You can even sell over the web. This would be great for small Churches, even established book stores.

If you are interested, go to www.nogreaterjoy.org to read a special report that explains in precise detail how this program works and how to get started. Or, you can send an email with your name and mailing address to freereport@nogreaterjoy.org (Remember—we are still working on all this—it will NOT be available until May 15, 2006)



No Greater Joy Cards

We would like to put together a set of 48 “thank you” or “encouragement” cards featuring family, marriage, child training and thankfulness. We will have some from different countries as well as some from our No Greater Joy family (that's you!).

This month these 2 cards came in from Analene Rose Love, one of our talented readers. I thought they were so cute and spoke so much about the joy of marriage. Often (a missionary family) the Cofer family sends us cards from Mongolia that are beautifully made by the local people.

Do you have an idea for a card that you would like to share, one that we can publish and share with our readers? If so, now is your chance to go public—get published and share your talent and heart. Send us your art, ideas, or verses and we will start putting it all together—we hope. Please email us—

Attention: Cards **Debi**



(continued from page 14)

to take me home. I have even thought of suicide, but I have a great daughter and a beautiful grandson. This would break their hearts. I did bad things in my past. I have repented and I am wondering if God is punishing me with this. I feel so defiled. L

A Dear L,
Perversion has no point of fulfillment. Once a man starts on the road to porn, and then into the perverse, there will be no point of satisfaction. Sexual perversion is a quest for the bazaar. When the bazaar becomes common it loses its appeal and must be traded in for the more twisted and vile (Titus 1:15). Tying you up is his practice of rape and violence. There can be no love in this behavior. It is an insatiable fantasy for the illicit and forbidden that excites him. Never participate in his evil imagination. It is time to let him leave and not come back. By leaving and by joining

himself to another, he has become one flesh with the other person (1 Cor. 6:16). He is no longer one flesh with you, no longer married to you. He has “put you away.” In today’s terminology, you are a divorced woman. You are free from him, (1 Corinthians 7:15, Matthew 19:9).

The Bible doesn’t tell a wife what to do in this case, because under Mosaic law, he would be put to death. The Bible assumes that no man would be allowed to live who committed these sins.

You share no blame for his sin. It is his alone. If you allow him to return after being with other women, you are at high risk for AIDS.

After accepting the divorce he has pressed upon you, you may want to spend the rest of your days praying for his salvation and deliverance from sin. It would indeed bring glory to God if you should pray him into repentance.

There is a dearth of Bible knowledge across this land. Bible teaching has been replaced with principle-based, self-improvement psychology. More than ever, we want to get these Bible messages into your hands, so we have priced them right down to what it costs us to provide them. In the course of the ministry, at our discretion, we give many of them away, the cost of which is covered by your gifts. All of our CDs have been digitally remastered and re-edited to produce a higher than the originals.

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MP3 (1 CD) 2060-55 \$12.50

EPHESIANS

Practical and Scriptural Bible teaching encourage the believer. Chapter 5 includes one tape on husbands and one on wives.

10 Cassettes 2930-40 \$30.00

COLOSSIANS

If you enjoyed Romans, you need to hear Colossians. Learn about your spiritual circumcision. Rise to complete victory in knowledge that you indeed have risen with Christ and are an overcomer of the world, the flesh and the devil.

3 Cassettes 2050-40 \$12.00
5 CDs 2050-41 \$18.00

GALATIANS

Many professing Christians who don't have a personal relationship with Christ are seeking meaning in Rabbinical Judaism, keeping feast days and Sabbaths, and resorting to using Hebrew words for God and Jesus. Many are "falling from grace" in their attempt to give the Law of Moses a place in their daily lives. God gave us the book of Galatians to answer this ancient and now modern heresy.

6 Cassettes 3410-40 \$21.00
6 CDs 3410-41 \$21.00

HEBREWS

This is a book that will bless you like no other. As you study the book of Hebrews, you will not only learn about faith, you will actually have faith built into you by the Word of God.

11 Cassettes 3800-40 \$36.00
12 CDs 3800-45 \$36.00

All audio versions read by Michael Pearl

A YOUNG STUDENT OF THE WORD

I just started listening to your Romans. I liked how you compared Romans 1:18 to the other versions like the NIV and the New King James. Sometimes I don't understand how when they make new versions they misinterpret the verses. I am 14 and got SAVED when I was 12. I have learned so much and still have so much to learn. It would be nice if I knew as much as some people like yourself someday. *Jacob*

Bible Topics

AM I SAVED?

This three message set: Born Again, Am I Saved? and Repent. Discusses the nature of repentance and faith as it pertains to salvation.

2 Cassettes 1310-40 \$10.00
2 CDs 1310-45 \$10.00

AUTHORITY PRAYING

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

1 Cassette 1330-40 \$5.00

BALAAAM & HIS ASS

Insightful and entertaining story of Balaam and his ass.

1 Cassette 1405-40 \$5.00
1 CD 1405-45 \$5.00

BODY, SOUL, & SPIRIT

Five messages discussing the nature of man, temptation and sin, the sovereignty of God, and the free will of man. Illustrated diagram included.

3 Cassettes 1435-40 \$12.00
3 CDs 1435-45 \$12.00

BY DIVINE DESIGN

If you are philosophically minded, this book will appeal to you. Michael discusses some of the basic presuppositions that lead us to believe in and trust the unseen God. We are part of a great drama that is perfectly orchestrated by both the sovereignty of God and the free will of man.

85 pg. Book 2330-10 \$5.00
8-99 copies each \$3.00
100+ copies each \$2.50

3 Cassettes 2330-40 \$12.00

CHRONOLOGICAL PROPHECIES

The infidel is silenced with this irrefutable testimony of the Bible's accuracy.

1 Cassette 2080-40 \$5.00
1 CDs 2080-45 \$5.00

GENERATIONAL SINS

Michael Pearl addresses the faddish teaching on generational sins, sins of the fathers visited on the children, family curses, etc. Let the word of God free you from the curse of pop theology.

1 Cassette 3730-40 \$5.00
1 CD 3730-45 \$5.00

GOD'S ETERNAL PROGRAM

Most of Michael's tapes and CDs are teachings. This one is a sermon preached at a camp in California. It is fun and a blessing.

1 Cassette 3610-40 \$5.00
1 CD 3610-45 \$5.00

GOD HATES SINNERS

It's time you knew the truth.

1 CD 3615-45 \$5.00

REPENTANCE

When the Bible warns a sinner to repent, what is the nature of that repentance? Michael Pearl examines all 112 uses of 'repent' in the KJV. Designed to put hearts at rest in Christ, and correct error.

44 pg. Book 8120-10 \$4.00
8 or more copies \$2.75 ea.

RIGHTEOUSNESS

Four messages on salvation: Blood, Imputed Righteousness, The Man Christ Jesus, and Saving Righteousness

3 Cassettes 8135-40 \$12.00
4 CDs 8135-41 \$15.00

SABBATH REST

What does the Bible say about keeping the Sabbath, be it Saturday, Sunday, or Tuesday?

1 Cassette 8310-40 \$5.00
1 CD 8310-45 \$5.00

SANCTIFICATION

Three sermons by Michael Pearl contain the good news of complete and immediate deliverance from any and all sin by the miracle of the gospel alone.

3 Cassettes 8320-40 \$12.00
3 CDs 8320-41 \$12.00

SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER

You will be surprised at what you hear. The Church (at large) has been divided, both sides holding to a portion of Scripture while explaining away the other Scripture. Can one believe all the Scripture on both sides of the issue? Absolutely.

2 Cassettes 8322-40 \$10.00
3 CDs 8322-45 \$12.00

SINFUL NATURE

These four messages answer some of the ridiculous teachings of an ancient heresy sometimes called "Calvinism." For too long, Reformed theology has robbed the church of the power of God. The petals fall off of Calvin's tulip when it is held up to the light of Scripture.

3 Cassettes 8330-40 \$12.00
3 CDs 8330-45 \$12.00

SIN NO MORE

The big question is: "So how do I stop sinning?" You have confessed your sins, received the baptism of the Holy Ghost with evidence of everything but ceasing to sin; yet you are still a Romans 7 Christian. I assure you, God not only saves his children from the penalty of sin but he saves them from its power as well. You can stop sinning.

7 Cassettes 8315-40 \$24.00
9 CDs 8315-41 \$28.00

NEW! SIN NO MORE & SANCTIFICATION

Two books on one MP3 CD.
MP3 (1 CD) 8315-55 \$12.50

SONS OF GOD AND GIANTS

Little known and forgotten facts of early human history

1 Cassette 8336-40 \$5.00
1 CD 8336-45 \$5.00

WHEN FORGIVENESS IS A SIN

There are times when to forgive someone would be a grave sin.

1 Cassette 9580-40 \$5.00
1 CD 9580-45 \$5.00

Bible Doctrine

Booklets & Posters

Booklets

All booklets are \$1 each or 60¢ each for 25 or more of any one of the below. These are great resources for teachers to use in Bible classes.

1 JOHN 1:9 THE PROTESTANT CONFESSIONAL

A core belief held by most conservative Christians is that Christians who have unconfessed sins in their life are in need of forgiveness, are out of fellowship with God, and are walking in darkness. The underlying assumption is that God forgives only sins that are confessed. What does the Bible teach? Does God withhold forgiveness until sin is confessed? Not on your life.

23 pg. Booklet 4650-10 \$1.00

BAPTISM IN JESUS' NAME

There are those who insist that New Testament water baptism is not valid unless the one doing the baptism vocally utters the words "in Jesus' name." It is the conclusion of this study that the verbal utterance is never an issue in Scripture. It is erroneous to insist on any certain phrase being pronounced over the baptized.

17 pg. Booklet 1410-10 \$1.00

IN DEFENSE OF BIBLICAL CHASTISEMENT

Michael brings clear understanding back into the confusing and often misunderstood subject of corporal chastisement. After firmly laying the Biblical foundation for chastisement, he then answers the question, "How do I apply corporal chastisement properly?" Finally, he shows the effectiveness of Biblical chastisement demonstrated in those families that practice it as taught.

29 pg. Booklet 4530-10 \$1.00

JUSTIFICATION AND THE BOOK OF JAMES

James clearly teaches that works justify a man, while Paul teaches that a man is not justified by works. Are they contradicting each other? Which one is correct? This study resolves the issue once and for all.

26 pg. Booklet 4960-10 \$1.00

PORNOGRAPHY - ROAD TO HELL

While most ministers avoid the subject, Michael Pearl addresses the deadly scourge of pornography head-on. He shows how repentance toward God and the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ can break the bondage of this wicked perversion through the abundant mercy and grace of a loving God. There is hope for the man caught in the snare of pornography and hope for the helpless, angry wife who finds it difficult to honor him.

12 pg. Booklet 7030-10 \$1.00

TO BETROTH OR NOT TO BETROTH

All Christian parents want their children to have God's first and best in all areas of their lives, and this includes marriage. In an effort to avoid the dangers of the modern dating game, families are giving attention to the concept of betrothal. The dangers of the betrothal system are exposed with the light of Biblical truth, bringing objectivity back to an often-misunderstood subject.

28 pg. Booklet 1420-10 \$1.00

Posters

REVELATION POSTER AND HANDBOOK

This poster is a print of an original painting done by Michael Pearl which shows the events of Revelation in chronological order. It is 40"x19" on heavy, glossy paper. The handbook which accompanies it is filled with Old Testament references and commentary to the events in Revelation.

Poster 8130-10 \$12.00

Other Authors

WHICH VERSION IS THE BIBLE?

Author Floyd Jones. Answers all your questions about Bible versions. Proof that the King James Bible is the perfect Word of God to the English-speaking people.

Book 9510-10 \$10.00

NEW! THE OTHER SIDE OF CALVINISM

Author Laurence M. Vance, Ph.D. This is a detailed historical examination and critical biblical analysis of Calvinism. Extensively documented from Calvinistic authorities, this book presents the other side to the over 400-year-old debate of the doctrines of Calvinism. Mike Pearl states, "This is the best book exposing the heresies of Calvinism. If you are a Bible believer concerned about TRUTH, this is a "must-read." Hard bound book of 788 pages.

Book 6610-00 \$19.50

Tracts

GOD MADE JESUS TO BE SIN

Illustrated Gospel tract. Spread the Good Word of salvation. The first 200 are free upon request, plus \$2.00 postage.

DIOS HIZO A JESÚS PECADO

Panfetos ilustrados del Evangelico. Comparta la buena palabra de la salvacion. Los primeros 200 son gratis enseguida sean pedidos, mas \$2.00 por el envio postal.



THE JOY OF TRAINING

Michael and Debi Pearl tell how they successfully trained up their five children with love, humor, the rod, and a King James Bible. The 2 DVD set contains the same high quality, digitally filmed content as the video set and hundreds of snapshots and video clips of family and children, illustrating the things being taught.

2 DVDs 4910-75 \$26.00
3 VHS 4910-70 \$26.00

TO TRAIN UP A CHILD

From successful parents, learn how to train up your children rather than discipline them up. With humor and real-life examples, this book shows you how to train your children before the need to discipline arises. Be done with corrective discipline; make them allies rather than adversaries. The stress will be gone and your obedient children will praise you.

Book 8610-10 \$5.00
8-99 copies each \$3.00
100+ copies each \$2.50
3 Cassettes 8610-40 \$12.00

Spanish Translation

Book 8610-12 \$5.00
8-99 copies each \$3.00
100+ copies each \$2.50
5 CDs 8610-40 \$18.00

NO GREATER JOY - VOL. 1

Reprints of the first two years of No Greater Joy articles. Covers the subjects of sibling rivalry, pouting, bad attitudes, and much more.

Book 6230-10 \$5.00
8-99 copies each \$3.00
100+ copies each \$2.50
3 Cassettes 6230-40 \$12.00

NO GREATER JOY - VOL. 2

Let your children listen to great bedtime stories. Covers the subjects of rowdy boys, homeschooling, grief, and much more.

Book 6235-10 \$5.00
8-99 copies each \$3.00
100+ copies each \$2.50
3 Cassettes 6235-40 \$12.00

NO GREATER JOY - VOL. 3

Children learn wisdom and enjoy listening to the stories as you read to them volumes 1, 2, and 3. Covers the subjects of marriage relationships and how they affect children, joy, much more.

Book 6240-10 \$5.00
8-99 copies each \$3.00
100+ copies each \$2.50
3 Cassettes 6240-40 \$12.00

FOUR BOOK SET

Get the No Greater Joy Series and To Train Up a Child in this four book set. This is a perfect gift for friends or anyone who is seeking help in parenting.

4 Book Set 3200-00 \$16.00

Kumboi village, Rebekah writes and sings songs about her God. She accompanies herself on a classical guitar.

1 CD 3020-41 \$8.00
1 Cassette 3020-40 \$5.00

MY FAVORITE HOMESCHOOLING IDEAS

Debi Pearl discusses her best homeschooling ideas. 20-plus years of accumulated wisdom. This tape can remove your burden. It is our best-selling tape!

1 Cassette 6170-40 \$5.00
1 CD 6170-45 \$5.00

REBEKAH'S DIARY

Rebekah Pearl, (now Rebekah Anast) daughter of Michael and Debi Pearl, tells the awesome story of God's guidance and protection as she, a 22 year old girl, all alone, where no white person had ever been, adapted to a primitive culture.

106 pg. Book 7810-10 \$5.00
8-99 copies each \$3.00
100+ copies each \$2.50

STARTING OVER

The basic message, "OK, I know I've messed up in child training, now what do I do?"

1 Cassette 8338-40 \$5.00
1 CD 8338-45 \$5.00

TESTIMONY OF DARLENE ROSE

Hear the missionary story of Darlene Rose. Rebekah Pearl listened to these tapes when she was young. She says they helped mold her life toward missions.

2 Cassettes 8605-40 \$8.00

THE GAMI AKIJ STORY

Your heart will be stirred as Rebekah Pearl recounts how God prepared a people for Himself. The story of her time in the mountains of Papua New Guinea, translating the Kumboi language. Young people love it.

1 Cassette 3420-40 \$5.00

A-B-C BIBLE VERSE SONGS

Beka and some of the kids in the church sing the A-B-C Bible verse songs that her mother taught her when she was growing up. Your little ones will want to listen to this day and night, and by doing so they will learn 26 Bible verses, with the references. This is the smilingest tape you will ever hear.

1 Cassette 1010-40 \$5.00
1 CD 1010-45 \$5.00

ALABAMA SEMINAR

Two hours of Michael Pearl speaking on child training. These tapes are geared toward the father's role in the family. Tales of Mike and his sons' wild adventures. Boys love it!

2 Cassettes 8325-40 \$8.00

FROM THE END OF THE EARTH

Songs by Rebekah Pearl. All alone in a bamboo hut on the top of a mountain in New Guinea, the first white woman ever seen by the

Marriage Resources

CREATED TO BE HIS HELP MEET

What God is doing through this new book is amazing! We are receiving thousands of letters from people giving testimony to marriages restored and made new. Pastors, bookstores, and teachers are ordering and reordering cases. 296 Pages.



Book 2020-10 \$12.00

*Box of 24 books 2020-99 \$172.80
Now receive 2 extra books FREE with each case!*

FOR WOMEN ONLY

This book is based on surveys. It was a real eye-opener. Michael says it will help women understand men's thoughts and struggles.

Book 3210-10 \$8.50

HOLY SEX

Michael Pearl takes his readers through a refreshing journey of Biblical texts showing that God designed marriage to be the context of erotic pleasure. The world and the devil have attempted to make the subject of sex their domain. No longer.

82 pg. Book 4125-10 \$5.00

*8-99 copies each \$3.00
100+ copies each \$2.50*

MARRIAGE GOD'S WAY

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

2 DVDs 4140-75 \$18.00

2 VHS 4140-70 \$18.00

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.

1 Cassette 6650-40 \$5.00

PANEL OF FIVE (LADIES)

Five wives whose husbands have far-reaching ministries speak out on what a woman can do to be a helper to her husband.

1 Cassette 7010-40 \$5.00

YOUNG ADULTS & MARRIAGE

This message, spoken by Michael Pearl in California, was given to help parents and their young adult children make wise decisions concerning marriage. It has the story of all five of our children finding their mates.

1 Cassette 9810-40 \$5.00

1 CD 9810-45 \$5.00

From a man's perspective...

I would like to offer a man's perspective on the excellent book 'Created To Be His Helpmeet'. The year was 2005, and my wife and I were having terrible difficulties in our marriage... verbal arguments, selfish stubbornness, lack of taking responsibility and lording it over (both on my part), nagging, berating, and deep resentment building. I will not go into detail on how she was relating to me, just that she would agree it was not good.

A dear friend then recommended Debi's book to my wife. I soon began experiencing the 'firstfruits' of the things my wife was learning in 'Created...'. I was so angry at my wife one day, February 19, 2005, that I got a speeding ticket. I was honest with the officer and told him that I was speeding and deserved the ticket. When I got home, I told my wife what happened. I told

WANTED: Testimonies

Mike & Debi would like to post testimonies from husbands whose wives have read, "Created to be His Help Meet." Email your testimony to ngj@nogreaterjoy.org with your name and permission to print your story.

her that there was a silver lining in this cloud in that I was greatly encouraged by the officer when he complimented me on being upfront and honest. My wife's response jolted me. She said, 'Well, that had to feel good!' No sarcasm, no berating, no tart words, just encouragement. At that moment I found myself in a beautiful

place, and I didn't know how to act. I didn't need to be defensive or on my guard. Since that time I can't count how many times my wife's kind and respectful words to me have been a source of refreshment. I am spurred on to be more Christ-like in my relating to her as well as walking more responsibly as a man. She is not perfect, and neither am I. But I have seen tremendous beauty in her, the inner beauty described in 1 Pet. 3. I did not know such beauty existed. So to end this letter, thank you, thank you, and to God, a thousand thank you's!

Paul

Dear Pearls,

I am writing from the VICTORY side. After 10 years of a difficult miserable marriage the Lord has saved us, changed us and blessed us. I love being a help meet.

Peggy

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Pearl,

I am a 27-year-old wife to a wonderful man, mother to 6 children and one more on the way. We just recently got out of the military and have started our adventure in civilian life! I was first introduced to the "Pearls" about five years ago when a cousin in our family mailed me a book by you, "To Train Up A Child". Oh boy! Did I despise that book! (Don't worry, this gets better!) I honestly didn't "get it". My children didn't act like the children in your book. Training them? Why? Oh how blind I was!

Now for "Created To Be His Help Meet". My friend and I agree that this book needs to be in the hands of every woman on the entire planet. To me, it was freeing. The relationship described in this book has always been the truth that has been etched onto my heart. How hard it is to be a young woman, raised by a semi-feminist mother, desiring to be the old fashioned, stand by your man kind of wife. And it all honesty, our church for a while did nothing, absolutely nothing to encourage wives. The church had the perfect answer and that was Christian school, baby-sitters, woman's retreats, couple's retreats. I wish someone could explain to me how our churches are in this state. I have to tell you, there is a whole new generation...my age range...rising up to take back

our places as WOMEN. This is our desire, and I just have to thank you for putting this book out, saying to this group of women "This is God's will...you are not weird".

And now I have spent way too much time on this email and my children are anxious for me to stop and get back to my day. I told them this email was important and they keep asking why. One day they will know.

With Love and Appreciation,

Melissa

Dear Mrs. Pearl,

I am 16 years old, and just finished "Created To Be His Help Meet". All my life I've just wanted to be a wife and mother, now I want to be a HELP MEET and a mother. I'm so glad that you wrote this wonderful book, and that my mother had me read it! Now when Prince Charming does come along and becomes my King, I can be his Dream-come-true-Queen, without making as many mistakes as I would have otherwise. Many, many thanks!

In Christ, **Alaina**

Debi,

My piano teacher loaned me your book, Created to be His Help Meet, and I was smitten by it. I am only on chapter 5, but I could not wait to get to your website. I am a married lady of 15 years to a wonderful man who I am surprised has stayed with me all these years. I am the one who "walks with the Lord," but he has been the one who has stood by me no matter how ungodly I have been. He has been more of a testimony to me than I have to him. For this I am thankful to the Lord, for he has used my

husband to help me to see how we are to treat one another despite how the other acts. Your book is life-changing. I have read some to my husband and we are ordering Holy Sex and the "Men Only" tape for him. He is excited that I am pursuing a deeper, more intimate relationship with him (in more ways than one). Thank you so much for your wisdom and insight and for letting God teach you how to be in His perfect will by being the ultimate help meet.

Amy

Debi,

I borrowed the Created book and read parts of it aloud to my children. Somewhere near the end of the book, my 12 year-old son turned to me and asked if I would plan on reading this aloud to his future bride. He wanted to make sure he had a joyful wife. My kids once were afraid of their angry mother who would fly off the handle and start screaming and throwing things in frustration. Now we laugh together and live in peace. I never knew life could be so sweet. We thank God for your ministry.

Stucky family

Debi,

I don't know where my family would be if we had not gotten your stuff. I was killing my marriage (from a super spiritual background). My husband got your book and the videos about a year ago. The last year has been good but the last few months...really great! I now know I am married to the best man on earth. Thank you so much.

Ami

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

On the Cover: Papa Glen (91 years old) with great grandson, Jeremiah James (7 months)

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1000 Pearl Road
Pleasantville, TN 37033

Mailbox

Military

My husband is serving as a chaplain in the National Guard in Afghanistan, and he was so thrilled to receive the package from ya'll!! Thank you so much!! I was also very excited at the gifts we received. I had been having some "issues" with my 3 year old, & a lady on one of the email loops I am on suggested your books, so I was overjoyed to receive these books from you!! This is a wonderful ministry of help & encouragement to military families. Thank you SO much - you are such a blessing!!!

Kim



We have now mailed out
1,288 packages to the military and
their families!

Jumping Ship

Dear Mr. Pearl,

I wanted to let you know how encouraging your last article was to our family (Jumping Ship, part 4). My husband pastors a tiny church that has only our children as teens. We had earnestly prayed that the Lord would send some good Christian friends for our young people, and the Lord had laid on our hearts to go to other church conferences in search of socialization for them. This has worked better than we could have imagined, and our children now believe they have many friends all over. It also encourages them that they are not the only teens in the world that want to live for the Lord. Your article encouraged us when you mentioned doing the same thing. It was so nice to know that such strict child trainers as yourselves believe that a social life is important. It is hard to know what to think sometimes, when the world has such an unhealthy attitude toward socialization. Thank you for such a balanced approach.

Carmen



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

WEBSITE ADDRESS: WWW.NOGREATERJOY.ORG

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