



# NGJ

ministries

Nov-Dec 2008

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

III John 4

# We Are **LIVE!**

**2 Hours of live broadcast!**  
**Look for it mid-November**



**Sunday 1 p.m.**

Live! from the Church at Cane Creek Sundays at **1 pm CST** to tune in to our NEW UStream **broadcast** online! To hear Mike's live Sunday morning message go to [nogreaterjoy.org](http://nogreaterjoy.org) and click on the "Tune In Live" button or just go to [www.ustream.tv/channel/the-church-at-cane-creek](http://www.ustream.tv/channel/the-church-at-cane-creek)



**TUNE IN  
LIVE!**

**Sunday 2 p.m.**

Right after Mike's Sunday message call in with your questions at **2 pm CST**. To tune in to the UStream **call-in** show go to [nogreaterjoy.org](http://nogreaterjoy.org) and click on the "Tune In Live" button or just go to [www.ustream.tv/channel/the-church-at-cane-creek](http://www.ustream.tv/channel/the-church-at-cane-creek)



**TUNE IN  
LIVE!**

**STARTS MID-NOVEMBER!!!**

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# Patriarchal Dysfunctional Families

## CLOISTERED HOMESCHOOLED SYNDROME | PART 2

BY MIKE & DEBI PEARL

The response to our first article in this series has been phenomenal. The need was far greater than we imagined. The questions we've received have run in the same vein:

- Is the Patriarchal doctrine scriptural?
- What does the Bible mean when it commands us to honor our father and mother?
- What can I do to stop feeling guilty?
- How can I help my siblings escape their bondage?
- How can I help my parents overcome their bitterness and rejection?
- When and under what circumstances can I act contrary to my parents' wishes?

This article is quite long, largely because we have recorded portions of more than a dozen letters. If I tried to convey the ideas you will read in these letters, you would think I was overstating the facts. These letters speak volumes. I am convinced that this "Patriarchal" evil disguised as righteousness will be disposed of by simply dragging it into the light. The facts are too embarrassing and shameful for this pretense to continue. Many have continued to be faithful to their patriarchal precepts in spite of the many indications of failure, convincing themselves that their poor family experience is the exception. They plod on in blind faith trying to do better, but they blame their failure on their children, accusing them of worldliness and rebellion. When things don't work out like the model they have been presented, they shut the door tighter against the world outside, not realizing that their failure is visible to the whole world, and is actually a universal side effect of a very bad idea.

There has been a sacred hush over the exalted doctrine of the patriarchal family. None dare question a system that stands for a recovery of Biblical values and promises to restore the family to a Christian culture. The headline is respectable and is innocent-sounding enough—Patriarchal Family. After all, doesn't the Bible tell us that the husband is the head of the woman and of his house and that children are to obey their parents?

I understand the motivation of the Patriarchal authors and purveyors. The crumbling of the Christian culture calls for radical solutions. The church is in desperate need to be reconstructed in accordance with the Word and the Spirit. The world seeps into our children like cold air into a log cabin in a Montana blizzard. Righteous parents are desperate for a solution. They looked for a scriptural means of correcting the problem, but believed a "Hath God said" partial truth—now clearly proven to be a lie.

The Patriarchal/Extended Family movement has been around long enough to demonstrate its bankruptcy. It is time to lay it aside and go back to the old-fashioned Holy Spirit-filled family—a family "in the world" ministering, but not "of the world." These true families are overcomers, not barricaded babies. They are militant godly witnesses of the gospel of Jesus Christ, not fearful, isolated survivors of an evil and intimidating culture.

### A Physician's Perspective:

Dear Pearls,

As a family physician who sees many homeschool families in my office, I am fully aware of how much damage is being done to young women because of this "Cloistered Homeschool Syndrome." It started with good intentions, but has grown so far out of balance that these families are becoming dysfunctional.

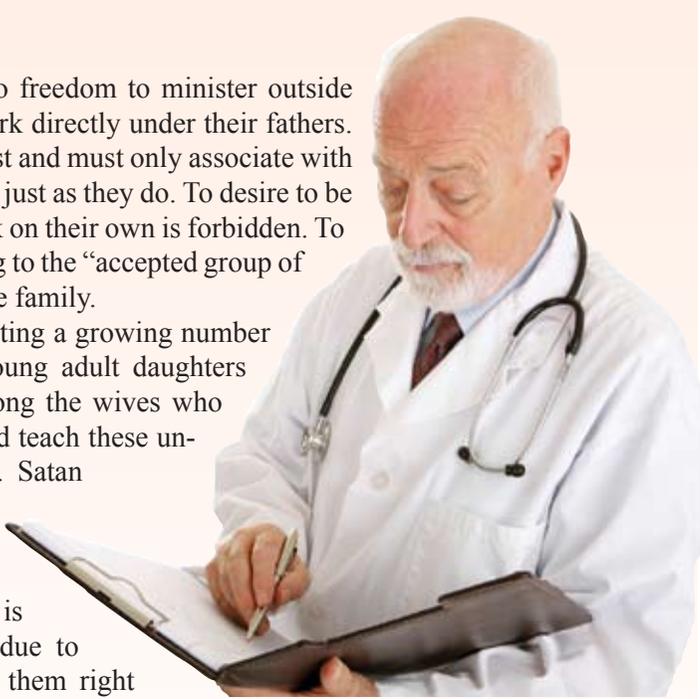
80% of my patients are Christians, and a good majority of them are homeschoolers. I have worked with over twenty young ladies from 20 to 35 years of age who are

so sheltered that they have no freedom to minister outside of their homes unless they work directly under their fathers. They have no freedom in Christ and must only associate with those who walk, talk, and look just as they do. To desire to be educated as an adult or to think on their own is forbidden. To have friends who do not belong to the “accepted group of believers” is unthinkable to the family.

This false teaching is creating a growing number of health problems in our young adult daughters in these homes, and also among the wives who are being forced to believe and teach these untruths to their children as truth. Satan is using this new Patriarchal teaching to destroy families in the Christian community everywhere. The effects of it is destroying believers’ bodies due to extreme stress, and is taking them right out of their ministry to unbelievers, because they are too sick and are such a poor testimony to the world around them.

Please accept my gratitude for what you are doing, and please follow up on this important homeschool issue before more families are divided or destroyed.

Thanks for understanding.



### **Clip their wings.**

Dear Mr. Pearl,

While homeschooling my own kids many years ago, we read an article that told about how certain ants secrete a hormone that prevents aphids from growing wings and flying away, allowing the ants to “farm” the aphids for the honeydew they produce. This is exactly what my parents did to us. We weren’t just discouraged from exercising our wings and flying from the nest, we were prevented from growing wings at all!

I tend to believe that many of the Patriarchal families you speak of are really Matriarchal families. And if you think this is impossible, you have never experienced the power and mind control an extremely intelligent and manipulative mother can have over her (young) children’s minds, and to some extent (though it may take years), over her husband. I don’t know if she really controls my dad; I think he just gave up.

My 35-year-old (at the time) married sister once told me: “I won’t cross the street without asking Mom and Dad for their permission!” And she was proud of this. You can imagine what her marriage is like. She has also copied my mom’s manipulative tendencies and loves to cuddle up to my dad and “nurse” the wounds he suffers at the hands of my mother’s controlling spirit.

When my mother, with my father’s silent consent, tried to control her daughters-in-law and sons-in-law, they refused to submit, so mother treated them as unfaithful to the family, and expected the rest of the family to respond in kind.



We are expected to live our lives exactly as Mom and Dad ordain. We are to worship, think, believe, eat, work, and spend our leisure only with their approval. I watched as my mom became worse and worse in her “Queenship,” the older she got and the older her (once little) subjects became. The fruit of her control has been family infighting and divorce.

I wish I could say that I knew how to “handle” my mom (my family) and her ways, and that I had stuck around to try and witness to them, but I have no idea how to handle her (them). And I refused to sacrifice my wife and kids any longer while I tried.

So, I took my family and left. I have severed all contact with my parents and siblings. My parents have made it very clear to everyone how my family has hurt them terribly by this separation.

My siblings throw at me: “You are not honoring your parents, and they may die soon. You are not a Christian, because if you were, you would follow the program!”

Yup! This kind of bizarre stuff goes on! We need to wake up and say, “NO MORE!” And stop pretending this sickness is what God meant by “honoring parents”!

I do not regret leaving. However, I do regret that my parents do not get to be a part of their grandkids’ lives, that my kids don’t get to know their cousins, and that we miss out on extended-family get-togethers. All because of my mother’s refusal to let go, my dad’s refusal to be a man, and my siblings’ terror over admitting any of this! And my not knowing what to do to make things better!

Thanks again, A freed man



courtesy of BoldFlame, LLC

## Got it right.

Dear Mr. Pearl,

I am from a Patriarchal Dysfunctional Family, as you put it. At 25 years of age, I left my father’s home along with two of my younger sisters. We praise the Lord for providing wise counselors and pastoral support as we made the decision to leave the home. My father was the head of his own church, so we had to find counsel and pastors to help us realize the error of these teachings. I know that without them, I would have probably turned my back on Christ. To this day, we still do not have a relationship with my parents since we will not “repent” of forsaking our parents’ authority and leaving “their” roof. Even though we reach out in love to them, they will not allow us to have relationships with our younger siblings or have contact with them. Yet, all three of us attend strong Bible-believing churches and are actively involved in ministry.

In many ways, I have come to understand that my love for Christ must be stronger than love for mother or father. “If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and

mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple” (Luke 14:26). I never thought this is what my life would be like, but my love for my Lord has grown so much deeper. I hope others come to realize how devastating the Patriarch Movement is. Because my family was an “idol” in the Patriarch Movement (especially in the Vision Forum arena), the pressure and rejection we received was very severe when we left.

Thank you so much for addressing this issue. I know so many families who could benefit from this article. May the Lord bless you all richly.

### **Better late than never.**

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Pearl,

This goes back to the question you asked in the article “Where are the Men?” Well, I became a man six years ago and eventually got out of Dodge! Thank you for your article. I needed that. Believe it or not, I still (occasionally) wrestle with guilt over leaving my family. My mom’s influence is still hard to break at 40-some years of age! Actually, the sadness I feel is not over what I did, but over what our family misses as a result of this mess.



### **Fear.**

Dear Mike & Debi,

I grew up in the worst of the cloistered dysfunctional families, and I can tell you the source of it is what God tells us we are not to have if we are His – FEAR. These parents FEAR too much. Just like the person who never leaves home for fear of being run over, these parents FEAR losing their kids. The parents believe they somehow are the only ones who know what is best for their maturing and adult children, and they thrive (literally) on their maturing and adult kids’ attention, honor and obedience.

The children they have worked so hard to teach and train their way are now, as young adults, treated like ignorant and hopeless individuals. For them, God is considered powerless...even in the most conservative Christian circles.

### **Did it Right!**

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Pearl,

I have just read your article, “Cloistered Homeschool Syndrome”, and just want to stand on a chair and holler, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!! I am a homeschool product whose parents raised as an individual, with an intricate part of our close family, but with unique giftings. By the age of 14, I was an equal with my mom and dad, helping to raise my five younger siblings, not as a slave, but as my mom’s partner and “right hand woman.” As her peer, I learned through her example wifeness and mothering. I was her buddy and friend, and she was my mentor and role model. My parents realized that I had a call for missions on my life, and I spent my childhood and teen years nurturing independence and life skills so that I would be prepared for when we would be parted. As I write this from my living room in India, where I have served with my husband as a missionary for three years,

I can't help but feel grieved for those of my friends who just became an extension of their parents, or those who got fed up and left the fold. Either way, they never saw life with God as an adventure, because the only future they had was the one carefully crafted by their parents. Thank you again for your article. I pray that it serves as a wake-up call for parents before it is too late. God bless you!  
—Rebekah

### **Dead Inside.**

Dear Mike & Debi,

I am a 25-year-old girl in one of these Patriarchal Dysfunctional Families. God gave me verses like Matt.10:32-39 and Luke 14:25-35, and asked me to give my heart fully to Him. He is, after all, a jealous God. My parents want me to give my heart to my father, and to follow them. I love my parents, and I do not want to hurt them or seem ungrateful. I actually enjoy being at home still, but feel as though I will be a perpetual child if I remain there. More importantly, I know that the Lord is calling me out so I can follow Him. I'm not allowed to believe differently from my parents' beliefs. Up until now, I have never had to trust God or have faith in Him, because I was just to follow my parents. But the longer I and my siblings stay at home, the more we are finding out that although we have been given the whole world, we are losing our souls. We are feeling dead inside. Is there a way to remain at home, under our parents, and be alive? Am I still supposed to relate to my parents like a child, or do I follow Christ as an individual? I was always taught that God wouldn't speak to me unless He also spoke to my father and gave him peace. Anything else was attributed to the Devil leading me and wanting to break up our home. Where does headship come into all of this? I do still want to honor my father and have him be my head, but how? Can I move from home and be alive in Christ, or must I remain at home to stay in His will? I have not been allowed to make a 'life' decision, and I would like my father's wisdom, but not his control.

No, my father doesn't know I'm writing to you. He doesn't agree with Michael Pearl, but agrees with Debi and the book, *Created to Be His Helpmeet*. He lets us get the *No Greater Joy* magazine, and each issue has an article that seems like you've been spying on our family by the way you address some issues. I just want answers so I can know my place. Thank you, if you can help me. I won't be offended if you tell me to stay under my father, or if you won't answer my questions without his ok.

What can I do?

### **I've already suggested counseling.**

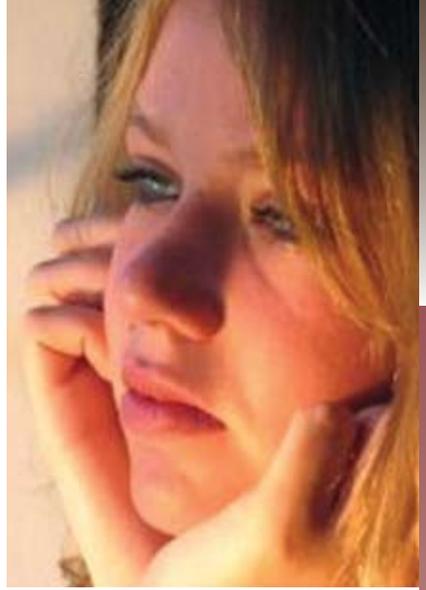
Dear Pearls,

I read your article, *Cloistered Homeschool Syndrome*. What do you do when your family is like this? What do you do when you are 23 and your father uses the word "submission" to control me, my mom, and my brothers and sisters? How does God want us to handle it? Is there any way to fix it, or does God want me to just wait for him to act? I've already suggested counseling, and they won't hear of it. Should I just pray? I'm at a loss.

### **Directionless.**

Dear Mr. Pearl,

I am a 27-year-old single woman who read your article "Cloistered Homeschool Syndrome" with great interest. How could you know what had been swirling in my head the past month? These past year(s)? I'm still at home with my parents, my family of three siblings (one is married), and am honestly directionless. I was raised with



the mindset that I would get married shortly after high school, but after that didn't happen, and I became 21 and 22, my parents kept feeding me that I just needed to stay home, be patient, and the right guy would come. When I was 25, I finally was given permission to branch out and serve full time in a ministry away from home. I loved it. I finally felt like I had something to love in my single years and knew this was where the Lord wanted me. But my parents called me home after 9 months. Since then, I have felt incapable of hearing from the Lord. I was 100% convinced that this was God's leading to work at this ministry, and I went with my dad's blessing (even though it wasn't his first choice). It doesn't seem right, I'm still considered a kid, and treated as incapable of making decisions. I'm being molded into what my parents want me to be, not what God may have for me, even if it is completely different. It's incredibly frustrating. I don't want to live this way until I get married or, the rest of my life should God choose not to bless in that area. I don't want to be a rebellious daughter. I don't want to bring them heartache and sadness. But I do want to follow the Lord's leading—and what if that is different from their dreams? Can I do so and not be condemned?

How can parents learn to let go? How can adult children change their mindset so that they are not in rebellion to want to even think this way? Thank you for your time, and THANK YOU for your ministry.

A Reader

### **Angry Mother.**

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Pearl,

I am a very concerned and frustrated 23-year-old daughter. My family has been having difficulties for some time now. I am no longer willing to be passive in regard to my mother's control. She has poured her life into her children, and I am so very grateful for her, but when my brother went to work out of town, my mother had a nervous breakdown. She had to talk to him on the phone at least once a day and became completely distraught when he would only talk a few minutes, saying he had to get back to work. When my brother refused to promise that he would live at home until he was married, she considered this to be a breaking up of her family and wrote my brother an eight-page letter telling him how sinful he was.

This past summer, I felt God's call for me to go to Bible college. God has impressed on my heart that NOW is the time for me to prepare myself for a life of service with whomever God calls me to marry. Mother let me go for one semester. There are those in my life who think a girl is not to leave home until married and does not need education like a man. I love being a girl and a keeper at home, and I expect to be a wife, submissive to my husband, but I will never be a houseplant. The very way God has made me requires me to learn constantly, to be active, and to live for more. I have a passion for learning and an adventurous spirit.

My father and I are very close, and I get his advice and blessing in what I do. When I returned home from college, I talked to my father about what God was teaching me, and I told him that I felt God was calling me to a different path, and that I

*Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all [things]; Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies which the LORD shall send against thee, in hunger, and in thirst, and in nakedness, and in want of all [things]: and he shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck, until he have destroyed thee.*

—DEUTERONOMY 28:47–48



wanted to return to college, and I wanted his prayer. I was so struck by how blessed I was to have a father with whom I can have such discussions. He was very encouraging and gave me his blessing, telling me he had been feeling the same way.

Then I went to tell my mother, and as soon as I said, “I am praying about returning to college” she blew up in tears and anger. In short, she wants me to stay home, get married, have grandkids, and live next door so she can have a big “multigenerational family.” My mother says “a guy might not like a girl too educated,” but I don’t want to marry a man who is intimidated because his wife is intelligent and informed.

I am not sure how to deal with this. My mother tries to wear me down by talking about it every day for hours. Yesterday, I spent almost five hours listening to her. She told me that she thinks I don’t respect her because I usually talk to my father first about things like college and such. Well, the fact is that my mother doesn’t agree with my father on much and fights over everything. I am not very close to her, but I do go to her because of respect, even when I know she will go against me and against my father. She said I am rebellious and sinful. She will “not give her blessing for things she doesn’t agree with,” and I “will have to live with the consequences and pain of that.”

She is chronically depressed, upset, and often points out the spiritual fault of all of us in this family—including my father. She thinks she is more spiritual than he is.

She says I’ve crushed her dreams and essentially ruined her life. She “doesn’t like who I’ve become.” Truly, my heart is to respect and honor both my parents, and I try so very hard. My father says that with him, I am being submissive and respectful. My mother says I am not with her... I should trust her judgment because she is a woman, and my father doesn’t understand about girls as much.

It is difficult living in a home that is ripped apart daily by anger and tears. Most of all, I want to know how to act towards my mother. What does one do with two parents of different views? What more can I do to honor a mother with bitterness and constant conflict. She is very, very “spiritual” and will often cry and pray hours upon hours and read her Bible and always comes away with a message for us. The house is neglected, she doesn’t want to see other people, and will not do any other activities unless pushed. I’m worried about her. I think she is mentally sick and, though this seems radical, oppressed by the Devil. Both my brother and I feel that our home often has a spirit of conflict and that can only be resisted by God’s spirit of unity. I will continue to try to be kind and respectful in every way. My mother is incredibly insecure, so I will show her love with cards, notes, true words of encouragement, etc. Then, I will try to do something with her—a deliberate activity—once a week. I will pray for 1 Corinthians love. God has been with me for the past few years with her depressions and blow-ups towards the family.

Nothing may change in my situation, but I need to live victoriously. I have been amazed at the joy, peace, and presence of God I have every day. I think my father is often shocked at

### *Practice Makes “Awful,” Perfectly Awful*

**By the time many women are entering their fortieth year, they are teetering on the edge of mental instability.**

**They have spent several years of their life irritated at their husbands, daily feeling hurt and responding with coldness and bitterness.**

**Instead of practicing being thankful and merry, they are practicing bitterness.**

**As practice enables the pianist to find the right keys without effort or thought, so a woman who practices discontentment will, without thought, hit the notes of bitterness when her chain is pulled. Practicing, always practicing, perfecting her bitterness and discontentment.**

*From  
Created To Be  
His Help Meet,  
By Debi Pearl*



the peace and quiet joy with which I carry myself...It is ONLY GOD's doing. He is preparing me, and everything He does is on purpose, so I am not bitter or trying to get out of a lesson He has for me.

I have specific questions. Where is my place as a daughter? What is my role before marriage? Where does what God is telling me come in? Even more, what can I do to help her out of her prison? Life has to be miserable for her living like this. She is so unhappy and always worried. Guilt makes me feel that I am sinful and cannot serve God with the gifts He has given.

I cannot tell you how delighted I was to discover your article on this subject. It will probably make my mother mad. And I know I am not the only one in such a place. Please write more on this subject. My mother really needs to read it.

### Mother raises independents adults.

Dear Mr. Pearl,

I just finished reading the article called "Cloistered Homeschool Syndrome." Our oldest daughter (19 at that time; we have four more children age 7-12) left our little nest in May to serve at a Bible Camp in Minnesota. The temptation to hold on to her was really strong. Our mission statement of sorts for our family is: **To raise strong intelligent, independent adults who desire to love and serve Jesus.** If we held on, it seemed then we would not have been allowing God to work, not only in her life, but in ours also. She will be home for a short while this Winter, then she is planning to return to the camp next Spring/Summer. Your article truly hit home, and I love what you said that as parents, it is our job to work ourselves out of a job.

### Rectified Misunderstanding...

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Pearl,

...is all I can say for your article on the Cloistered Homeschool Syndrome. In fact, it seems opposite of what most people "accuse" you of. I am most grateful that you have rectified this misunderstanding. We have had families in our church in the



past who advocated exactly what you are writing AGAINST and saying that is how ALL TRUE Christian families should act. They say that Dad is the "high priest", grown daughters should not show aptitude for anything, except perhaps midwifery or herbology, and should never venture out on their own (even at 20 or 30 years of age!). Single or widowed daughters must move right back home, because they are now again under their father's authority because they are without a

husband, etc. etc. I have been trying for years to put my thoughts into words, and you said it exactly! Thank you!

### Thirty but seems twelve.

Dear Mike & Debi,

Was I surprised! Your article hit home on the "cloistered family." My brother is 30 but seems 12. Until Dad's death last week, he made my brother live at home. While my dad lived, he



courtesy of Elizabeth Stewart

NEVER let my brother get a job. He was simply there to do my dad's bidding. Now that my dad has passed, I have to figure out what to do with my brother. He is "mentally stable" but his social skills are pretty bad. Now I am trying to figure out what to do with him. I do not know where to start! I only wished my dad had your article to read 30 years ago. Seeing how Dad raised my brother helped me in seeing how not to raise my own children. Now, I TRULY LOVED MY DAD. But with his ways, he has put my brother and me down a road that seems to have no light at the moment. All because he was selfish. How do I get my brother to where he can take care of himself?



courtesy of Elizabeth Aprile

## Stupid Guilt

Dear Mike & Debi,

A thousand thanks for your article, Cloistered Homeschool Syndrome. I was raised in a situation like the one you described. I have struggled with guilt for more than a decade over my decision to "fly away to breathe fresh air" against my father's wishes. By God's grace, I ended up marrying a wonderful Christian man and am continuing to follow after God, but I was left to my own devices with zero parental support for several years.

I'm in a reasonable relationship with my parents (Now that I'm married and in a new patriarchy, as they see it, they will talk to me.), but they still hold my leaving over my head, and I know they are waiting for an apology for the breach of their patriarchy. I know there is much to be gained from them even in our imperfect relationship, but I'm hoping that your article will speak to them and bring some peace to our whole family the way it has to me.

Thanks so much for sharing your insight.

## My parents are in my brain.

Dear Mr. Pearl,

I just wanted to express my thanks for your recent article called, "Cloistered Homeschool Syndrome". In reading it, I saw it fit my family to a "T". My husband and I left my parents' jurisdiction, so to speak, about 5 months ago. We have a little boy almost 2 years old. We have struggled on a daily basis with many doubts and insecurities and continue to face negativity from my parents. It has been hard, knowing that the decisions we make are not according to my parents' beliefs. My parents are very much in the Patriachal thinking, and it has damaged my family in many ways. I am the oldest of five children and have just now left at 33 years old. My brother (the youngest) left my parents in December last year, and my youngest sister just left about 2-3 months ago. My sister after me is turning 30 and is still at home. I worry about her, as she has a very private personality. She has gone through a lot, and I believe she has a tendency to depression. She invests her life in a couple of dogs, which I think is used as an escape, because they make her happy. I don't talk to my folks much because there is always a negative atmosphere or underlying attitude that is very hard for me to live with. I am not even in their presence, and yet I feel like my parents are in my brain. I fear what they think of me. I came to the understanding after I left my parents that I was using my mother as my Holy Spirit. I don't blame my parents, because I know that I make my own decisions, but when the LORD helped me see this, I just cried because I see where it has led me. I just want to be able to feel and experience the LORD working in my life and be led by his Spirit, but there is so much confusion...

## MICHAEL RESPONDS

We have been inundated with letters like these testifying of dysfunctional families. The last time we had this strong of a response to an article was years ago when we first published the article “Jezebel”. Reading your letters, we have come to see that the two issues are really one. Rather than speaking only of Patriarchal (ruled by men) dysfunctional families, we should also be speaking of the Matriarchal (ruled by women) dysfunctional families. It is a deadly combination. When a man adopts the doctrine of bringing his family under the umbrella of parental oversight, Jezebel, with her emotional need to be nursed beyond the toddler stage, seizes on the doctrine to justify and solidify her Matriarchal rule. Dad still needs a little nursing from time to time and doesn’t want to sleep on the lonely side of the bed, so he goes along with it, pretending to be the authority. Not fully understanding what is happening, he allows her to wield awesome power in his name, and will not speak his mind about how he really feels because he does not want to appear unspiritual.

And then, there are those families where Dad is the patriarchal head of his family and does not share the throne with his wife. His Patriarchal status readily turns to a monarchical rule. He jealously tightens his control until he squeezes the ambition and independence out of his children and his wife. Absolutism prevails.

Thirdly, there are those sincere families that just get caught up in the latest “Christian” trends. They desire the best for their kids and have no twisted emotional needs, no compulsion to be king and queen of an everlasting kingdom. They do hope to see their children marry and become independent, but the patriarchal system they have adopted has enslaved them as well as their children. The family is weak, maybe hurting, and their children are not maturing as they had hoped, and they are ready to see this sad movement in its true light. These articles will free them like the dove turned out of the dark and smelly ark after a year of confinement, having been tossed around on the waves of destruction.

Those with the King and Queen compulsions will defend their silly doctrine until the last kid leaves in bitterness or disgust. Those who are led by the Spirit of God will welcome the light of liberation and will throw off their own shackles and open their children’s cages.



courtesy of Sara Quinnett

### Honour your father and mother.

Men and women ranging in age from 18 to 80 are asking, “What does it mean to honor my father and mother?” The Patriarchal movement has capitalized on the misperception that *honor* means *obey*. The Scriptures are clear, there is no age limit on honoring your parents. In Matthew 15, Jesus rebuked the religious leaders for not honoring their parents. But nowhere in the entire Bible is *honor* synonymous with *obedience*, and nowhere does the Bible even suggest that an adult should obey his parents. It speaks quite to the contrary.

Jesus said very plainly, “For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man’s foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother

more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me” (Matt. 10:35–37).

The Bible viewed in its entirety—not cherry-picked—throws a lot of light on the subject of honor to parents.

## Foundational Passages.

The word *honor* (honour) is found in the Bible 146 times.

Following are the two Old Testament accounts of foundational passage on honoring your father and mother, and the New Testament reference and affirmation of the commandment.

**Exodus 20:12** Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

**Deuteronomy 5:16** Honour thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

**Ephesians 6:2–3** Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

God promised the Jews that if they would honor their parents (no age limit), they would continue to live in the Promised Land, but if their society failed to honor parents, they would be cast out of the land.

## What it means to honor.

**Leviticus 19:32** Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the LORD.

**1 Samuel 15:30–31** Then he said, I have sinned: yet honour me now, I pray thee, before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD thy God. So Samuel turned again after Saul; and Saul worshipped the LORD.

## ***Honor is Respect Due to a Person Based On Any Consideration.***

**1 Peter 3:7** Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

If *honor* implies *obedience*, or conformity to the will of the other, then a husband is to obey his wife.

## Honor all men.

**Romans 12:10** Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

**Romans 13:7** Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

**1 Corinthians 12:23** And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness.

**1 Peter 2:17** Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

We know we are not to obey all men, but we are told to honor all men, so *honor* and *obey* are not synonymous. If *honor* were to equate with *obedience*, Samuel could not have honored Saul with his presence at the sacrifice.

courtesy of BoldFlame, LLC



## Inappropriate honor.

**Proverbs 26:1** As snow in summer, and as rain in harvest, so honour is not seemly for a fool.

**Proverbs 26:8** As he that bindeth a stone in a sling, so is he that giveth honour to a fool. [It will come back and hit you in the head.]

**Ecclesiastes 10:1** Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour: so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour. [An otherwise honorable person who commits folly stinks.]

“Honour to whom honour,” but no honor toward a fool, even if it is a parent. You honor your parents as the ones who gave you life and dedicated one fourth of their lives to nurturing you, but you shouldn’t lie and cheapen honor by being blind. A grown woman who honors a father who molested her and has never repented and sought restitution, that woman is binding a stone in a sling and flinging it with a certainty of it returning and hitting her in the head.

## Jesus on honoring your father and mother.

**Mark 7:9** And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.

**10** For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death:

**11** But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free.

**12** And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother;

**13** Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.

Jesus gives us a clear example of what it means to honor your parents. He was speaking to grown men in positions of spiritual leadership who found a loophole in the Jewish law which permitted them to abdicate their responsibility to care for their aging parents. They took their savings and, as it were, put it in an account labeled: “Dedicated to God.” Having done that, they

couldn’t access it to spend on their needy parents. No doubt after the parents were dead, the money would be transferred to a retirement account for themselves.

## Not honoring is:

- Cursing parents (**Matthew 15:4**).
- Withholding financial support (**Matthew 15:5**).
- Not doing for them when they are in need (**Mark 7:12**).

There is no mention of descendants obeying their parents—never.

## Honor is:

- Being kindly affectionate (**Romans 12:10**).
- Seeking the good of the other (**Romans 12:10**—“*preferring one another*”).
- Respecting the office or position of a person (**Romans 13:7**).
- Bestowing more honor than their level of gifts suggest (**1 Corinthians 12:23**).

## Bottom Line.

**Ephesians 6:1** Children, [Those being brought up—Ephesians 6:4] obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

**2** Honour [Obedience and honor are separate issues.] thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)



courtesy of istock.com

3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. [Children, the ones who are to obey their parents, are being brought up—not yet adults.]

5 Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters [Parents are not masters; they are mentors, and children are not servants.] according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;

### **Obedience and honor are separate issues.**

We know this to be true because:

- The words are spelled differently.
- They are never used interchangeably.
- The context in which they are used demonstrates a clear distinction.
- A distinction is made the only time the two words appear in close proximity.

(Ephesians 6:1–5). Children who are being brought up are to *obey* their parents (6:1). All are to *honor* their fathers and mothers (6:2). And servants are to be obedient to their masters (6:5). Different words, different meanings, different applications. It is all in the Word of God, but kept carefully separated and distinct from each other.

1 **Peter 2:13–14** Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

The language used here when commanding us to submit to government is conspicuously absent in those passages addressing the honoring of one’s parents.

### **What Age?**

What is the age at which a person stops being a child who is to obey and becomes an adult who assumes responsibility for his own life?

We don’t need to guess. The Bible is clear.

**Exodus 30:14 (38:26; Leviticus 27:3)** Every one that passeth among them that are numbered, from twenty years old and above, shall give an offering unto the LORD.

**Numbers 1:3** From twenty years old and upward, all that are able to go forth to war in Israel: thou and Aaron shall number them by their armies.

**Numbers 14:29** Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me,

A Jew was counted as one year old when he was born, and became two years old when he commenced his second year, at the beginning of his thirteenth month of life. The way we reckon age, on one’s nineteenth birthday he is reckoned to be an adult, responsible for himself.

There is much more that needs to be said, which we will address in subsequent issues. Send your questions or comments. Feel free to challenge what I have said. I learn more from sincere challenges than from flattery.

## **COMING NOVEMBER 15!**

**The patriarchal movement has gone awry. This message delivered by Michael Pearl uncovers the fallacies that are enslaving young adults and preventing their natural development. This christian fad is held up to the light of Scripture.**

HONOR THY  
FATHER & MOTHER  
MICHAEL PEARL



# MINISTRY/GENERAL

Thanks for having a backbone! It's so rare that it is refreshing. - L.H.

*I absolutely love the Podcasts and listening to the testimonies of the NGJ staff. I can't tell you what they do to answer questions and bring perspective to me. They are like gold and I could listen all day long!! If you have the time, more would be more than appreciated. They would be treasured!! - P. S.*

*I wanted to let the Pearls know of my gratitude. I was so stressed about my son, who is nine, not being on his grade level. I followed your advice and let him set the pace and study what interested him and so forth. Well, he decided he wanted to learn cursive writing. He is devouring (all the materials) I had for learning this and is reading the whole stories to all of us. I am so glad I learned to relax and not stress over everything. Thank you so much. I pass your books to my friends every chance I get. - Thanks again, Linda*

## **SO, WHO'S DISABLED?** 😊

*Hi, we ordered materials several months ago for my developmentally disordered son, Jordan, to give out when he ministered at a local men's prison/transitional center. It was such a success! He ended up preaching to over 60 men, giving out Bibles he had purchased or collected, as well as your materials, offering them an invitation to be saved and was well-received. He is ready to go back. This time, he is taking some of our youth department with him to do some drama. We are excited about God using him when doctors told us he would never fit into society!! How ironic, God is having him minister to society. He witnesses everywhere he goes, boldly.*

*Thank you for any materials you may send him. God bless you for blessing Jordan as well as prisoners!!! - Sheryl D.*

Dear Mike & Debi,

*I came across a statement: "For seventy years the ruthless, atheistic communist regime in Russia blasphemed the Lamb and jailed, tormented, and killed all who proclaimed His name. They planned and purposed to eradicate his kingdom from the earth! Today the communist government no longer exists in Russia and it is ironic that the Russian government, through its ministry of education, invited a consortium of sixty American evangelical groups and Christian colleges to train educators in 120,000 public schools on how to teach Christian and spiritual principles. In commenting on the invitation, Evgeniy Kurkin, the Russian deputy education minister, told USA Today on November 1, 1992: 'Seventy years ago, we closed God out of our country and it has caused so many problems in our society, we cannot count them. We must put God back into our country and we must begin with our children.' I do not recall this ever making into the national daily news. America has all but eradicated even the mention of the word God in the schools." - Sent by Rita Robinson*

Dear Mike and Debi,

*I wanted to thank you for your magazine and its encouraging articles. Your ministry has helped us make changes in our lives that were much needed. About a year ago my husband quit a lucrative job so that he could spend more time with his family. We moved out of the city and he started a lawn care business. He has two engineering degrees but he is mowing lawns and picking up trash, and I could not be more proud of him! He did it so that he could work with our oldest son, who is now 13, and someday work with our other three sons as well. Although it was a*

hard decision, and it puzzled many family members and friends, we continue to see the benefits of it. We know that we are purposely guiding our son(s) toward manhood, in a world where boys are increasingly feminized. Your ministry has been our cheering section as we have gone down this path. God bless you! - Molly B.

Dear Pearls,

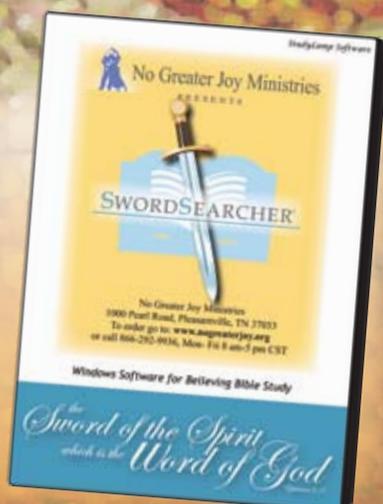
A few weeks ago, our nine-year-old Emma asked if, instead of having a yard sale, she could hold a Bible sale in our driveway. Amused with her entrepreneurial spirit, I told her that would be just fine, and suggested she pick a date and I'd help her look online for case costs so she could decide what price she would sell them for. She proceeded to tell me that she didn't want to keep any profit, she just wanted to buy cases of Bibles and sell them at cost. Humbled by her generosity, I resolved to discuss such a donation with my husband and I gently told her that most people in this town can probably buy their own Bibles at retail price should they choose, but that there were many people in the world who could not get Bibles at all, and perhaps she could consider GIVING bibles instead of selling them. She adores our *Good and Evil* book, as well as the color comics and I explained that she could send money to NGJ to have them sent to foreign countries, or to help pay for translation into new languages. Emma asked who needed Bibles the most and five-year-old Maya yelled SINNERS! (smart girl, isn't she?), then Emma asked if people in prison were forgiven and if they could get bibles. I told her anyone could be forgiven, but she and her sister were horrified to learn that prison ministry is often underfunded because people think they either can't be saved, or don't deserve it. "But MAMA, it's NEVER too late to repent right!?!"; So after some thought and prayer, my sweet little helpers set aside some of their hard earned money to send to you. Last week they drew and colored pictures for you, and today I took them out to purchase money orders. We will post everything tomorrow. Here is our contribution to the prison ministry as well. We thank you for this service, and for the rich blessings our family has experienced from reading and using your materials. Speaking of blessings, Maya will be a big sister in a few months, but I'll write another time to tell the story of that little miracle in our lives. To God be the glory! - Warmly, The Koziols

## **NEW! SwordSearcher Software**

Now you can use the Bible search software that Mike uses to study the Bible. Includes over 70 study references such as the KJV, KJV 1611, early translations by Tyndale and Wycliffe, commentaries and much more! PC only.

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# Baby Potty Training (Follow-up)

BY SHALOM BRAND

Well, now, for all you mothers out there who read my last article on potty training (Sept-Oct 2007) and said to yourself, “The only reason she could potty train her first child is because all she had was one, and so had lots of time,” I have completely discredited your presumptions. For now I have my second little girl potty trained, and that while working for NGJ, teaching and training Gracie, gardening, doing yard work, keeping house, cooking, and entertaining my husband who is around most of the time.

Lots of mothers have said to me, “Well, I just do not have the time, and after all, it is not that the baby is trained; it is the mother who is trained to remember to take them.” So? Are you then saying that your baby can be trained, but you can’t? Maybe you are more trained than you think. Do you still ask your three-year-old, “Honey do you need to go potty?” I do. So does that make her not potty trained? I don’t think so.

A mother spends more time with her baby during the first few weeks than at any other time. I hear many mothers say, “All I do is nurse and change diapers and nurse again.” Then, why not use that same time to begin training your child for when she is two? Gracie was potty trained from a newborn to poop on the pot, and now my second little girl is ten months, but she has also been potty trained to poop on the pot since she was born. She still wears diapers to catch her little tinkle, tinkles. She is not perfect, but I never get that greenish brown stink on my hands in the grocery store. I won’t have a two-year-old walking around dragging a loaded diaper.

## You can do it.

First, you must let go of everything you have been led to believe about potty training. Stop using all the standard excuses: “Well, I just don’t have time. It is too hard. I don’t know what to do. How can a baby understand?”

Secondly, choose a word or expression that means, “Go potty!” It does not matter what word you use, but it is important to have one discernible word you always use for “Go potty”. Even when we are out where I cannot easily or quickly take her to go potty, and I get the signals that she is near to relieving herself, I still use the word, giving her permission to “go.” In so doing, I am reinforcing the fact that Mom is in charge and knows that she is going potty in her diaper.

Step three: You never know when your new baby is going to go potty at this age, because they are not very consistent. So, what you do is, every time they do go in their diaper, instead of going to the changing table and pretending all is well and normal for a child to poop on themselves, go to the bathroom and put them on the toilet. Sure, it is too late, but right now you are trying to familiarize them with the act. Use your chosen potty word; always use the same word. If you are out somewhere and you notice that they are going potty, do not just sit there and laugh at them “Oh, isn’t she so cute. look how her face is all scrunched up and all red.” Come on, parents; it is not normal. If it is, then why don’t you start walking around in a diaper? Just say your “potty” word to them, and if you know they are going, run them to the bathroom if you are home. For the first month or two, I always have a half-dirty diaper and a half-dirty potty.



By the time your baby boy is three months old, his back is beginning to get a little stronger so he can hold himself up better as you hold him on the potty. If you have been faithful in putting him on the potty every chance you get, then by now you can put him on the potty and say your word, and he will most likely go for you.

At about three months old, Laila was beginning to control (hold) her bowel movement until I put her on the potty. And, even if she did not need to go, if I put her on and told her to, she would try to go and did on most occasions. Of course, there were always those times when there would be an accident, but that is OK. You are trying to set a norm so that when they are one year old, it will be easy to just go right from diapers to panties.

When Laila was just about six months old, my husband and I took a trip to visit my sister. The first day we arrived, I was bragging to them that Laila was potty trained. I explained that she arched her back to tell me when she needed to go. And, you guessed it, as I was telling them, we all began to smell a nasty odor. With just a little investigation, I found that I had bragged too soon. It did give us all a laugh, and then I hurried to put her on the potty to finish her job. So, as a side note, don't be too quick about bragging, because the moment you do, your baby will throw you for a loop.

One of the best things about baby potty training is that you are training your baby to learn self-control. To have a five-month-old wait to be put on the potty and then obey Mama's voice when you say that special word to him and see him go potty for you, then you are not only beginning to train your baby self-control, but obedience almost from the womb. How cool is that?! I love to take Laila to the potty and know that if I tell her to go potty, she will cheerfully sit there and go.

### **You are also teaching your baby self-respect.**

Laila knows the difference between having a dirty diaper and having a clean one. She will put up quite a fuss if I get too busy and forget to take her to the potty, until she cannot hold it any longer. She likes to be clean, and I like her to be clean; Who wouldn't?

What about peeing in their diaper? It would be very hard to catch a baby peeing in their diaper, especially boys, because it seems that they are always tinkling. What I want most of all is to have my baby trained to go potty, and upon command.

Start right now teaching the good habits. It is not productive to allow your children to establish habits that you plan on training out of them when they are older and understand better. Start teaching them now when they are young, so you do not have to retrain later. I say, train now while the training can be fun, and that way you will not have to go to war with your children over a habit that you "taught" them in the first place. Do this in every aspect of your life, and you will not only have obedient children, you just might be a happy camper yourself.

If you have a story or some suggestions about potty training a baby or a toddler, please write it down and send it to NGJ. I am going to put together a book of potty-training ideas that will be helpful for all of us.

Thanks, Shalom



# GOOD & EVIL GLOBAL

BY MEL COHEN, CFP, RFC, GENERAL MANAGER

## GOD GIVES THE INCREASE

**M**ike and I are busy writing and teaching, so we really don't keep up with the details of the *Good and Evil* translation project. That's Mel's job—one of his jobs.

Over in Thailand, Tom Gaudet, our translation coordinator, has stretched the funds available to him to the max. He has asked missionaries to fund the printing for their language group. This taxes the missionaries' limited funds. Some just do not have the \$5,000.00 it takes to print 10,000 or so. This slows the publishing of the gospel. At the moment we have about 12 languages ready to print—waiting on the funds. Among them is Arabic. This is exciting beyond comprehension. Think of distributing these books to residents in Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Yemen, Kuwait, Iraqi, Iran, Turkey and more! Pray.

Three years ago Mel read that many publishers from all over the world were interested in comic formats. He took our books to some international book shows. It was slow going at first but God has given the increase. This week Mel called me into his office to sit in on a conference call with a global coordinator for publishers in other countries. He wanted to show me just how effectively the gospel was going forth. As I listen to Mel talk with his contact, all this information was forcefully brought to my attention. They were discussing five African languages that will soon be in print. I remember one was Afrikaans and one was Zulu. These five languages are not part of our translation project. The publishers are handling the entire process. This means that the gospel distribution now has feet of its own. And this kind of translation and printing fire is igniting in every part of the world. Secular publishers are doing our job for us and paying us a very small sum for the privilege. WOW! That's good gospel business.

There are some people groups... even nations that until now have been unreached. The Bible tells us that before the second coming of Christ, "the gospel must first be published among all nations" (Mark 13:10).

With your help we have been publishing and will continue to do so as the Lord gives us strength and life. We have planted; you have watered; God is giving the increase. "Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his labour" (I Corinthians 3:8).

Read Mel's partial update on the *Good and Evil* project. Thank you. Michael and Debi

## HISTORY

**O**ur initial printing of English Language *Good and Evil* took place in May 2006. The print run was 20,000 books. We have had three other English printings for a grand total of 80,000 books. In February 2007 we printed 20,000 in Spanish. All of these books were printed in Nashville, TN.

Of these 100,000 books we have given away about 10,000 to over 1,000 prisons, missionaries and church workers. Additionally over 5,000 have been sold at reduced costs for distribution to prisons, schools, missionaries and church workers.

About 85,000 have been sold to individuals, churches and bookstores. The sales of *Good and Evil* make the printing and distribution in other languages possible. The 5,000 remaining books of the 100,000 remain in our inventory for future distribution.

About two years ago, we started an aggressive plan to translate *Good and Evil* into 100 languages. NGJ funds all of the costs along the way: translation, proofing, editing,



prepress, printing and finally the shipping and distribution of the books. Counting the books we have printed and the books we have authorized other Ministries to print and distribute, over 20 languages have been printed and distributed worldwide. We estimate over 75,000 books have been distributed in this manner.

Adding the totals to the books printed and sold in English and Spanish along with the 20-plus other languages, over 150,000 books have been used to share or present the Gospel. Each person that has purchased books or contributed to the translation work has been a part of this. Without a constant stream of income from sales and donations, the other language outreach would not be possible and would have to grind to a screeching halt.

To have an outreach to an even younger audience we decided to print *Good and Evil* in color comic book format. We have completed this in English and Spanish (*see Good and Evil Comic Book Part 1, in English and in Spanish, pictured at left*). To date we have printed 240,000 comics covering the first 6 chapters of English and the first 5 chapters of Spanish. We have sold about 60,000 of the comics in less than a year and a half. The comics are used for evangelism, teaching children to be bilingual, Sunday School study and fun reading.

## **FUTURE**

NGJ is committed to seeing *Good and Evil* translated into a minimum of 100 languages. We are also working on several sales, rights and licensing agreements to put *Good and Evil* into more languages for commercial sales. We are now generating more sales to Latin America than at any other time in our history. Within 6 months we expect to have another 60,000 color *Good and Evil* throughout the continents of Africa, Asia and Europe alone. Many of these books have been sold to secular bookstores in Singapore and Malaysia that are frequented by tourists from many nations. The Lord has opened up opportunities for us to generate income while spreading the Gospel. We have already ordered 20,000 color *Good and Evil* in English and 10,000 in Spanish for U.S. distribution. We expect a mid-November delivery for English and mid-December for Spanish. All of this is in addition to continuing on with our translation, publishing and free distribution through missionaries in other languages.

When you add up where we've been and where we are going, we expect to have printed over 500,000 either full book, comic or partial printings.

The missionary that is working with us to oversee the foreign translation project has received the color files. He will make the decision of printing future languages in color or black and white depending on the language and the cost.

## **HOW TO BECOME PART OF THE PUBLISHING MINISTRY**

The drawback to getting more books printed in more languages and reprinting the languages that have been fully distributed is the funding. As more funds come in, more books in more languages will be printed. Continue to pray with us about the Lord providing funding for His work. Check off one or more blocks where you can help. Whether a one time gift or consideration of a specific monthly amount, we greatly appreciate your sacrificial giving.

We can provide you with any additional information you desire on this monumental project. Contact Mel Cohen, CFP, RFC, our General Manager for more information. Mel can be reached at [mcohen@nogreaterjoy.org](mailto:mcohen@nogreaterjoy.org) or call 931-593-2484. All gifts to No Greater Joy are qualified gifts, and may be Tax Deductible if you itemize your deductions.

If you desire to fund a specific language, we can do that. Languages that are ready to print are being held up by a lack of available funds. You can designate any amount you desire to fund a specific language. You can do it alone or have a church or other organizations help you fund the language of your desire. Upon completion we can provide you with copies in the language you have funded.

There are no overhead or administration fees deducted; all designated donations go 100% to the designated request.

# Squashing bad habits



I recently found myself at a crossroads with my 1-year-old baby girl. I could either continue giving her crackers and cheerios to keep her “tantrum free” at the dinner table, or I could embrace the opportunity to train her to eat healthy food that I knew she needed.

Unfortunately, I had let this behavior slip up on me; I didn’t even recognize the habit I had formed with her by “hiding” the less tasty veggies inside her applesauce or sweet potatoes! But, I DID know well enough that the hard work I needed to put into training our little Sophie would pay off tenfold, because we have already had big successes in the past with her 3- and 4-year-old siblings when they were her age. What a blessing it is to see them eat whatever is offered with grateful hearts! So here was our plan:

**Day One:** “Baby Boot Camp” began. When Sophie was offered her usual steamed squash, she spit it out and threw her bite “overboard”. I swatted her because of her tantrum and bad attitude. This went on for several attempted bites. She finally quit spitting, but still refused to eat. So, in my happiest “you’re not bothering me one bit” tone, I took her plate to the refrigerator. Each time she would ask for more food, I would smile, go get her squash, and offer her a bite. To which she would refuse...and refuse...and refuse.

After that, she got down out of her high chair and went on with her usual day and usual nap. When she woke up, I served her the squash again, which she again refused.

My mother’s heart was strained for those hours knowing that she was hungry, but I kept reciting Proverbs 31:25: “Strength and honor are her clothing”. And, then came a victory! After 10 long hours, she broke her “squash fast” and eagerly ate EVERY BITE!

**Day Two:** At breakfast, I served her blueberries, another food she had recently decided not to eat. But on this day, I made the mistake of giving Sophie a full cup of milk first, so I think her tummy was fuller than I needed her to be for “baby boot camp”. However, her “blueberry fast” was shorter lived than the day before—5 hours! I considered today a success!

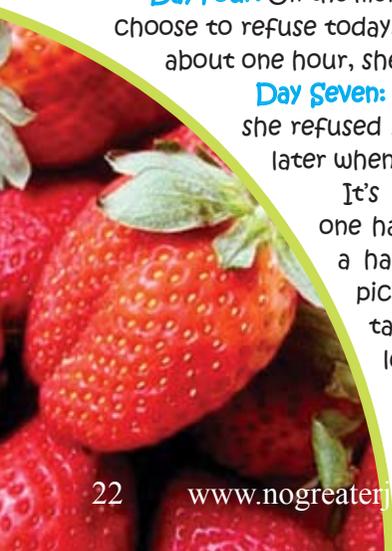
**Day Three:** Today, I served her strawberries at breakfast, and she refused them, but only until after her morning nap (about 4 hours later). Then she ate them with complete delight. Also, I believe it is important to note at this point that she is no longer throwing any tantrums in her high chair.

**Day Four:** On the menu for lunch was lima beans, but this was the food she would choose to refuse today. I once again took her plate to the refrigerator, and after about one hour, she ate each and every lima bean on her plate, with pleasure!

**Day Seven:** “Sophie’s Last Stand” Daddy served her some squash, but she refused it. So into the refrigerator it went, until about 10 minutes later when she asked to eat it and then gobbled it up!

It’s been several months now, and to date, our baby girl is one happy eater. Because of that, she has one happy mama and a happy daddy, too. Who wants to eat a meal with a whiny, picky, ungrateful eater? Praise God for giving us wisdom to tackle this at her young age! “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him” (James 1:6).

—Catherine Ward



Thank you so much for your excellent book *To Train Up A Child*. I myself currently have six well-behaved children and my friends and relatives have encouraged me to write a book on child training. As I've not seen any good books on child discipline (and even Dr. Dobson and Dr. Carlson never even use the dreaded word "spank"), I decided to undertake the venture.

I began writing down notes and categorizing Scripture passages, but when someone handed me your book and asked my opinion of it, not only did I realize my book was completely unnecessary, but that you bring out many foundational principles of Scripture that I have missed, as well as cover topics and methods I would not have covered, or covered incompletely (or covered in error). Also, the brevity and the immediately practical nature of your book is something I greatly appreciate.

I have begun training my own children in a much more Biblical way, and am ordering 20 of your very well priced books to hand out to anyone who will have them, especially when asked why my children are so well-behaved.

I just wanted to thank you for being willing to publish such an anti-cultural book, for which, no doubt, you have received much persecution. - God bless you! Josh

Thank you for your book *To Train Up A Child*. It really clarified for me the difference between discipline and training. I am a grandmother and love using your ideas with the grands! - Thanks, Bonnie

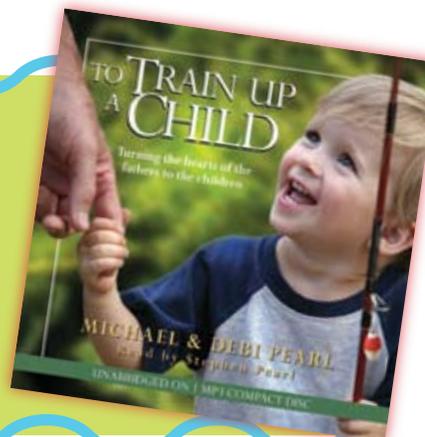
I wanted to send along some pictures of our two boys, Isaac and Javan Abishai, on the potty when they were but a few months old. I taught them the sign language signs along with a 'pee-pee' or a 'poo-poo' word. We usually did a 'pssss' noise, like water, for the 'pee-pee' word as well. I only changed a handful of poopy diapers on Isaac from when he about five months on. He is three years old now. Javan is nearly five months old and we are progressing well with him. Isaac helps by saying 'poo-poo' when he hears the dirty diaper noise. Thanks so much for the idea to do this. - Jon and Jennie G.



Child Training saved my kid from Whooping cough! When my daughter was 19 months old she got whooping cough. Thankfully we had trained her to obey in all situations. If she started coughing and crying at the same time because she was scared, she could NOT breathe. My husband was able to keep her breathing in the night by simply telling her, "Stop crying" or "Stop coughing" because it got into spasms, which was when she could not breathe. We know that her unquestioning obedience saved her. Thank you so much for teaching us this sometimes life-saving principle. - Janet

## To Train Up A Child Audio!

Enjoy the Pearl's timeless classic book in your car, working around the house or exercising! Now in MP3. Read by Mike's brother Steve. This would make a great addition to any audio library or as a gift for a young, tech-savvy family. See page 33 for details. **\$12.95**



## NGJ MINISTRY

Please find enclosed an offering to be used where it's needed. I really like the thought of your gifting the *Good and Evil* book to the jails and prisons, also the King James Bibles. - God bless you, Gwendolyn

The article "Honoring Parents?" in the May-June 2008 magazine hit a chord. My husband has learned the skills of a subtle minister. He stole my idea of leaving an article, book, or pamphlet in the bathroom reading basket. The "Honoring Parents?" article had been there for a while and I never noticed it. My mother is abusive and controlling and had been nagging me to have a family gathering where child-molesting perverts would be attending. I told her no, and she threw a fit. I was so hurt. I have lived under the burden of her guilt for as long as I can remember. Thank God for your article. The next morning after her explosion, and a very restless and tearful night for me, I found your article waiting for me in the bathroom. I sat down and read it over and over. Down here in the South, the "honor your parents" command is so misinterpreted and misunderstood. Thank you so much. I feel a release and a heavy weight removed. - C

I truly enjoyed your article on silly boys in the July-August 2008 magazine. We have used your products for years with our 3 girls. Eighteen months ago we had a son and I honestly saw a difference in myself in how I treated him. I saw the same thing in my husband, only in the opposite direction. He wants him to teach him to be tough, and I am saying he's just a baby. On his 1st birthday, my husband pulled out the story of how your son was pulled away from Deb by a couple of men for a couple hours, and I gave in. He is now outside building and throwing things around and getting dirty. He scrubs tires, pretends and often does hammer everything, and "gives knuckles" to his dad (that's their own little way of saying job well done) for his great jobs. It is different than the girls. They would help me sweep and hang clothes when they were that age. But, we are training them for their purposes in life, and I certainly don't want a man (son) who wants to hang clothes and sweep floors when he is grown! Thanks again for reaffirming for me, even when it's hard to see him fall down outside doing things we never let the girls do and not go running! - Stephanie

An article in your latest magazine about the ministry needs in prison got our four-year-old asking questions that caught us by surprise: "Why are they there?" "Will they go to heaven?" "Are they bad people?" "Can they go to heaven?" He wanted to donate some books about God to the local prison so the inmates could become "good and go to heaven to be with God." While our local prison would not take any material for the inmates, we know that your ministry can reach inmates elsewhere. - Thank you, Paul

I have just finished No Greater Joy Volume 3 book. I have been immersed in your training books for the last three weeks! Thank you for helping such lost lambs as us! Our hearts were broken at a very young age in most all the ways man can indulge. Then we were left to ourselves. This led to a life of fleshly indulgence and empty souls. Praise the Lord for the blood to wash us clean and [make] us whole. Every day is now a journey, not a curse! We are forever grateful for everything every sincere Christian we have met (including your family) has helped us with! - Forever your friends in Christ, D & C

I appreciate the simple and forthright way that you admonish fellow Christians to turn from their wicked ways. The examples you use in a realistic setting make the point easy to understand. I've been convicted many a time. You don't beat

around the bush and worry about hurting feelings. It's needed in this politically correct world we live in. - A Reader

**My Sunday School class read through your *Good and Evil* [book]. They thoroughly enjoyed class. I have mostly boys, and this really spoke to them. We decided to send our offering money to you so that more boys and girls could learn in this way. - Thank you, Jenny R.**

*Thank you so much for your wonderful ministry. I am a 16-year-old homeschooler. The Lord has allowed me to sell cats as an in-home business and I wanted to send a donation to the *Good and Evil* project. I have listened to many of your tapes including "Sanctification" and "Sin No More", "Romans", and "Corinthians." Our church recently opened a bookstore and is selling *Created To Be His Help Meet*. The ladies are reading it and saying things like, "It's worth its weight in gold." - In Christ, Megan*

My oldest brother buys a lot of your books and tapes and other products and he has loaned them to me. Your monthly magazine and tapes on the books of the Bible are and have been so good to me. I knew there had to be somebody that was teaching the Bible and not what the organization taught. I'm not a name-dropper or a follower of so-and-so. I'm a blood-bought child of God. Christ is my example. I am a redeemed.

## **GOOD AND EVIL**

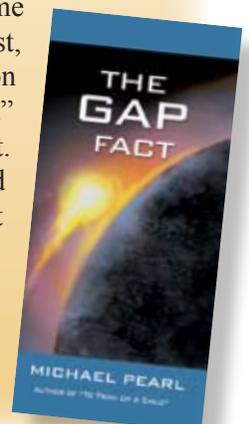
**Your magazine is a blessing! I just returned from visiting missionaries Joshua and Kelsey Steele in Ukraine and I saw the wonderful way they are able to use the *Good and Evil* book in Ukrainian. May God continue to spread His Word. - C.B.**

*I am a teenage girl who really likes what you are doing with the *Good and Evil* project. I do not have a lot of money to spare, but I wanted to help you give more books out. Please use this \$25.00 in the *Good and Evil* project where it is most needed. - With love, A.B.*

Hi there. My name is Hannah and I am 11 years old, almost 12. I read about the translation of *Good and Evil* into the different languages. I have \$41.00 for it and I hope to send more soon. It doesn't matter to me what language it helps to fund; just whatever one is most important right now. We have a farm, my parents, my two sisters, my brother and I. I am the oldest and we are all homeschooled. We are all very tired and busy but I think we'll pull through. I would love it if you would write back. I love to get mail! Thanks!!! - Love, Hannah

## **Gap Fact Critics**

We have received several critical and even condescending responses to our advertisement for the booklet "Gap Fact." They all quote the same authors without giving them credit or, maybe they are gleaning the material from a web site and don't know the origin. The letters all contain identical arguments that are profoundly empty strawmen. The most striking thing about the critics was that not a single one of them had read the booklet. They assumed they knew what I believed and the nature of my arguments from the title alone. There will come a time, for some at least, when they will come upon a copy of "The Gap Fact" and will actually read it. They will be ashamed and embarrassed that they jumped to false conclusions about what I believe and about the nature of the evidence. Where are the men?





# Teaching Questions

By Kristen Victory

**I still remember the car ride two years ago. It was a warm summer day and the breeze was blowing through the open windows.**

I still remember the car ride two years ago; it was a warm summer day and the breeze was blowing through the open windows. I turned to my husband and asked: “Why don’t you ever answer any of my Bible questions?”

He calmly replied, “Because they aren’t really questions. You are trying to teach me.”

I sat in a stunned silence and did not even try to deny the claim.

You have to understand that, when I became a believer, I really BELIEVED! I was on fire with my passion for Jesus and what He did for me. I desperately wanted my husband to believe the Good News also! If I had not gained the wisdom through *Created To Be His Help Meet*, I would have run off to the nearest church and joined the women’s group. I probably would have been very active in children’s ministry and a leader among the many wives praying for their lost husbands.

Instead of running off in my zeal--like a chicken with its head cut off-- I sat at home and ministered to my husband and child, knowing that screaming out the gospel was not God’s plan for a “Titus 2” woman. So, I turned my energy to my husband, and boy! Did I ever have plans to minister and win him with my conversation! I just KNEW I was going to lead him to the Lord!

But, there were some things about him that I didn’t realize back then:

1. He would go along with anything he felt was key to my happiness, just to be polite, AND, because he was crazy in love with me.
2. His sense of integrity would NOT allow him to make a false profession of faith.
3. His sense of manhood would NOT allow him to be led by me, although he would make allowances to keep peace at home.

But, “I” had determined that he WOULD lead me in matters of faith and Bible instruction, and I used what I thought were subtle tactics to stimulate him to seek for truth himself. As we would read the Bible together, at my prodding and his apparent acceptance, I would ask questions like: “Don’t you think \_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_?” or, “What do you think this Scripture means we should do?”

Without realizing it at the time, many of my prayers came together in the car that blessed day when he said, “because they aren’t really questions. You are trying to teach me.” I realized that my plans and actions, centered around ‘getting him saved,’ were failing miserably. My attempts at reading the Bible out loud, leaving magazines open to key articles around the house, remarking on the other “strong” men praying for their families, and showing certain movies in the home —were all in vain—even counter-productive.

Later that evening, I railed against God and told Him: “You can just have my husband! I don’t care if he ever gets saved! He’ll still be good to me and our children even if he is a heathen. I QUIT!”

What happened after I “quit” my job” was miraculous... and I’ll let you in on the details in the next issue...

*To Be Continued...*

# Hippy Mom

**As I sat down to write this article I asked Gracie if she would like to help me. She looked at me and said with a big smile, "Sure, Mama."**

By Shalom Brand



I started by telling her what I planned. "I want to write about how you help Mama." Gracie is standing by to help me write this article. She helps me when I sew, cook, and fold clothes, so she knows that she can help me come up with interesting stories for you.

Every day, from the first thing in the morning until they go to bed at night, both of my girls are with me. We are a team that is working together getting our work done, so we can play together or learn together.

Just yesterday as I was washing the dishes at NGJ, I had Laila, my 11 month old, sitting in the sink next to me helping me wash, as Gracie stood on the chair beside me. One of the office workers stopped upon seeing us and laughed, "That is a good way of doing it." Once, not too many years past, I sat in the sink helping my mom with the dishes. Now it is my turn to bless my daughters with both the joy and the responsibility of washing dishes together.

From the time Gracie was born she has been working and enjoying life with me. At times I have been in a hurry to get the house clean before Daddy comes home, yet I make myself slow down to include Gracie in my activities. She is always there wanting to be a part of everything I do. Now at the age of three she is more help than most ten year olds. We are friends in every sense of the word.

Last week my husband and I had some friends over for dinner. As I was working in the kitchen cooking and setting the table, my baby, Laila, was riding on my hip. The lady visiting asked me why I carried my baby around like that while I cooked. At eleven months Laila is learning the art of cooking. I let her sniff the herbs and taste test the food. I am training a chef. How else is Laila going to see what I am doing if I don't carry her? If she does not see, taste and experience cooking, how will she ever learn?

My daughters will be wonderful wives and mothers. They will be fully equipped in all good matters of the home. They will be cheerful, thankful, delighted in their husbands, obedient, hard working, creative, and did I say thankful? I am not a name it and claim it believer. It takes far more than naming and claiming to have children that are hard working, cheerful and honor God by walking in truth. Nor do I leave it up to "hope", "chance" or "curriculum". I train my daughters now to be a part of what mama is and what mama is doing. I pray that my steps will be straight, my heart pure and my soul full of joy unspeakable and full of glory, because what I am will be passed on to my daughters. ■

**I have been in a hurry to get the house clean before Daddy comes home, yet I make myself slow down to include Gracie in my activities.**

# College From Home

BY SHAWN COHEN

**For decades now, my parents have thought outside the box regarding my education. I'm a homeschool graduate and incredibly thankful that my dad and mom stood against the cultural norm of public school and followed the Lord to give me the most godly, biblically-sound education they knew how.**

**W**hat saddens me these days, however, is that thousands of Christian homeschooling parents are sending their kids off to college campuses for five or six years to fit into a university system that is morally corrupt and economically disastrous for the next generation of God's people. In fact, current statistics show that around 70% of Christian freshman will walk away from God after they graduate. Although we might wonder how many of these people were truly believers to begin with, the reality remains that these people may be forever lost to hearing any spiritual truth the rest of their lives.

On top of this, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, families pay anywhere from \$41,000 to \$107,000 on their degrees, leaving students on average \$21,000 in debt. And that's not all—other statistics suggest that 80% of people that major in a field end up doing something entirely different from what they majored in.

Some have looked at these trends and concluded that college is completely a waste of time and money and that it just simply puts their kids at too much risk. I agree with that assessment. I've spent time on college campuses, and I know that the perversion taking place openly in the classroom is bad enough, let alone the depravity that students engage in secretly. Christians just don't need to be in that ungodly atmosphere unless it's absolutely necessary to complete the degree God has called them to.

I'm excited that there's another option for higher education than the local college or university. Here's my story.

I've been interested in writing and communications for years and soon after I finished a Bible school program, I worked as an editorial assistant for a small Christian publishing company. Because I enjoyed the work so much, I thought that I'd stay on there for years. Then it hit me—God was calling me to something different. I wanted to be a writer and the Lord made it clear that completing an English degree would do wonders for my writing skills and creativity.

I didn't have the time or the money to do college like millions of teenagers do every year. I was already 25 and living on my own, and taking out thousands of dollars in college loans was simply out of the question. I didn't want to be saddled with debt for decades after my education ended, so I started looking around for an alternative.

Now, I didn't have to look far before I heard about a process called "credit by exam" that would enable me to take tests that counted for college credit. Credit by exam allowed me to study college level courses at my own pace and then take a CLEP or DANTES exam that would give me between 3 and 12 credits if I passed it. Instead of sitting through hours of humanistic instruction from atheistic professors, I studied from the comfort of my own home and on average completed semester long courses in a few days or weeks. For instance, I passed the Spanish CLEP test that counts for 12 credits, completing 10% of my entire degree in one exam.

These days, a lot of people are using CLEP exams to get college credit for knowledge gained outside the classroom. However, many families are electing for someone to guide them through their children's degree process. I used a Christian coaching service called CollegePlus! that assigned a coach to me and mapped out my entire

template so I knew from the outset every exam and course I would need to take to complete my degree and how to study for them. In fact, my entire English degree cost under \$10,000!

Additionally, I completed my studies and coursework in less than a year. That's 120 credits, an entire bachelor's degree, in 49 weeks since I didn't transfer in a single credit when I started studying. All this in fewer than 12 months, a process that takes the traditional college student five to six years to complete. In fact, I believe in CollegePlus! so much that I went to work for them full time after I graduated.

Best of all, these degrees are fully regionally accredited (the highest form of accreditation in America). Grads who have used this process are confidently entering the workforce or are going on to grad schools at the school of their choice. Even more radically, many homeschoolers are using these proven accelerated distance learning methods and are even combining high school and college together earning their entire bachelor's degree by age 18!

Completing a distance learning degree just makes sense. As one university professor said recently, the college system is broken. He's not the only one to see this—other professors actually encourage their children to avoid the college campus where they teach in favor of distance learning. Even they see that it's logical for homeschoolers to finish their degree in high school, intern or work for a few years while living at home, and then go on to a master's degree, if their chosen career field requires graduate school training. Incidentally, more employers than ever want their prospective employees to have a master's degree because so many applicants these days have already completed their bachelor's level training.

Now more than ever parents need to be concerned about their children's education instead of leaving it in the hands of unbelieving college professors. Thankfully, because of the technology that has been developed in recent decades, kids don't need to be exposed to the moral depravity festering on the typical college campus. They can complete their degrees from home, under their parents' nurturing authority. These days, no one needs to settle for completing higher education the world's way.

Shawn is public relations manager at CollegePlus! To learn more about the growing trend of students who are combining high school and college, visit [www.collegeplus.org/ngj08](http://www.collegeplus.org/ngj08) to get a free e-book and audio download. Also, when requesting information use promo code NGJ08 for a special discount.

Editor's Note: Shawn is the middle son of Mel Cohen our General Manager.



**Instead of sitting through hours of humanistic instruction from atheistic professors, I studied from the comfort of my own home and on average completed semester long courses in a few days or weeks.**

**For instance, I passed the Spanish CLEP test that counts for 12 credits, completing 10% of my entire degree in one exam.**



## From grateful readers of *Created To Be His Help Meet*



### CREATED HITS HARD IN THE SUBURBS!

Dearest Mrs. Pearl,

I lead a Bible study and a summer book club to a group of women that may not fit the “typical” woman in your audience... on the surface. All of us are married to successful professional men; doctors, lawyers, and businessmen. All of us are close to middle-aged and married from 10-20 years. All of us maintain a trendy image. All of us send our children to a private classical Christian school. Most send or have sent their children to preschool, some in the liberal main-line denomination churches. Some of us go to seeker-friendly churches. Some have had or are considering having plastic surgery. Some work outside of the home part-time. Some probably have serious marital issues.

All of us seek to honor our Lord by respecting our husbands... all of us truly enjoy our husbands... which is where your book comes in the picture! Although I have followed your literature for over a decade, I wasn't sure how our summer book club would respond to our series on marriage using *Created To Be His Help Meet* since it is so bluntly written and calls sin exactly what it is, which is not palatable in most. It has had such a profound impact in the daily lives of all the women. Your practical examples of God's truths have penetrated the hearts of these women. One woman wept as she rode the stair-climber at the gym, another woman has changed her attitude to the point where her husband is astounded in the change he has seen in her... and my dear husband has thanked me several times each week for simply a thankful heart. I have not seen this much excitement and fervor for marriage in mainstream Christian books. Thank you for writing the Truth in such a concise, tough, and compelling manner. We look forward to using more of your child training resources as a group in the fall. - Respectfully, Kim

I want to mention that *Created To Be His Help Meet* book was used by God, along with more of His miraculous ways, to bring my marriage back together after 9 years of divorce! - K.W.

*I think of you as friends, and parents in the Lord. My sweet husband is a pastor, an all command man. We are best friends and very much in love... your Created book only added to our relationship, thank you. I absolutely love being a pastor's wife, my husband has made it so easy for me. He wants me to be a wife and mother, he puts no pressure on me to lead a woman's group, children's ministry, etc. At times I do serve in "church ministries" but my number one ministry is him and my three children ages 5, 3, 8 months. There is such peace in knowing my calling by God.*

*I thank God for your ministry. It has helped us be better Godly parents (we are always growing of course) but by God's grace we are able to have a good witness to our church body by obeying the Bible on what it says about raising our children. We are blessed by your very simple practical training ideas, and share them with others.*

*Our women went through Created, too. They loved it and hated it, to God be the glory. Some of the woman were changed for eternity, now having a more heavenly marriage. The Lord softened the heart of a divorced lady in our fellowship and showed her where she had been wrong in her marriage. I believe now if it is God's will she is much better prepared for marriage or reconciliation with her ex-husband. - B.H.*

# Good & Evil

NOW AVAILABLE  
IN FULL COLOR, 336 PAGES

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Through Jan. 15, 2009, when you order 3 or more, we will give you a **FREE** book for every one you purchase at \$19.95 each. Orders must be in increments of 3. No limit!

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## 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 CD** **1010-45** **\$5.95**

## 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 CDs** **8325-45** **\$10.95**

I have read *Created To Be His Help Meet* and have found it to be amazing. It really has transformed my thinking towards my husband (even though I already knew a lot of what was being taught in the book). Putting it into action has made all the difference in my marriage. I now encourage other women I know to read it. Thank you, Debi! - Candice

## BECOMING A MAN

This message is for parents concerned about raising their boys up to be men, and for encouraging boys and young men to take the steps to manhood, and it is for fathers who never learned to be real men. It tells you what you need to do to become more than just an adult—how to become a real man.

**1 CD** **1417-10** **\$5.95**

## EE-TAOW & NEXT CHAPTER DVD SET

This is a remarkable story of a native tribe being won to the Lord. The gospel is presented chronologically and the results are spectacular. It is a great video to watch with your children, grandchildren, Sunday School students, etc.

**2 DVDs** **2910-75** **\$19.95**

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

**1 CD** **3020-41** **\$8.95**

## BEST HOMESCHOOLING IDEAS

Debi Pearl discusses her best homeschooling ideas. 20-plus years of accumulated wisdom. This message can remove your burden. A best-seller!

**1 CD** **6170-45** **\$5.95**

My husband and I have been separated for nine months; he filed for divorce in June. I am reading the book *Created To Be His Help Meet* after hearing about it with such acclaim. One woman thought I should not read it and counseled me so (I'm glad I didn't listen – it is an astounding book!)

I have not lost hope as my husband is still willing to reconcile, though it may be a painful journey back. - Sincerely, A Reader

## JUMPING SHIP

There is a troubling trend showing up among some of the "homeschool crowd." Their children are discontent and rebellious, jumping ship as soon as they think they can survive without the family—some as young as sixteen years old. Michael Pearl addressed this issue in a series of NGJ magazine articles in 2006. These have now been compiled into this book, along with new material and an additional two chapters covering further issues.

**106-pg. Book** **4940-10** **\$5.95**  
**8 or more copies ea.** **\$3.57**

## Abandonando el Barco

*(Span. Jumping Ship)* **4040-12** **\$5.95**  
**8 or more copies ea.** **\$3.57**

## 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** **\$5.95**  
**8 or more copies ea.** **\$3.57**

## STARTING OVER

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

**1 CD** **8338-45** **\$5.95**

## 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** **\$2.00**

## TEACHING RESPONSIBILITY

In this seminar, Michael Pearl uses humorous stories and practical examples to illustrate the simple process of training your children to work without complaint. Cut into his speaking presentation are hundreds of video clips and photos that help illustrate his message.

**2 DVDs** **8500-00** **\$19.95**

**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**

**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 **\$5.95**  
**1 MP3** **NEW!** 8610-55 **\$12.95**  
*8 or more copies ea.* **\$3.57**

**PARA ENTRENAR A UN NIÑO**

Spanish Translation of *To Train Up A Child*, Mike and Debi's best-selling book.

**Spanish Book** 8610-12 **\$5.95**  
*8 or more copies ea.* **\$3.57**  
**Spanish 5 CDs** 8620-45 **\$21.95**

**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 **\$5.95**  
*8 or more copies ea.* **\$3.57**

**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 **\$5.95**  
*8 or more copies ea.* **\$3.57**

**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 **\$5.95**  
*8 or more copies ea.* **\$3.57**

**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 **\$19.00**

*I recently found your book on being a Help Meet at the Goodwill. I can't begin to tell you how much reading through it that first night and the first three chapters have meant to me. It is, without a doubt, the best book I've ever read. I even shared sections with my husband, and he agreed completely with what you teach. The best part and most important to me is it's Biblical, so refreshing. Continue to share your life with others because I have certainly been blessed by your wisdom, and I'm just in Chapter 4. - Debbie*

**CREATED TO BE HIS HELP MEET**

What God is doing through this 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. UPDATED—The book now contains a word index at the back of the book to aid you in topical searches.

**296-pg. Book** 2020-10 **\$13.95**  
**Box of 24 books** 2020-99 **\$200.88**  
**9 CDs** 2020-45 **\$34.95**  
**1 MP3** 2020-55 **\$12.95**

**CREADA PARA SER SU AYUDA IDÓNEA**

Spanish Translation of *Created To Be His Help Meet*, Debi's best-selling book.

**Spanish Book** 2020-12 **\$13.95**

**THE HELP MEET'S JOURNEY**

The Journey is a 184-page year-long companion workbook/journal for *Created To Be His Help Meet*. There are extra pages for your stories, doodlings, studies, and pictures where you will create a lasting memory of the miracle God is doing in you. This is a perfect study guide for individuals or women's study groups.

**Work Book** 2030-10 **\$10.95**  
**Box of 24 books** 2030-99 **\$157.68**

**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 **\$5.95**  
*8 or more copies ea.* **\$3.57**  
**Spanish Book Sexo Santo** 4125-12 **\$5.95**  
*8 or more copies ea.* **\$3.57**

## *Created To Be His Help Meet*

Being married is such a sweet blessing. Sure we have had our troubles, but your ministry has helped so much in so many ways. We both feel that you all were our knights of the round table, and helped to save a damsel in distress and aid a fellow knight in killing off several dragons through the years. - Cindy

## 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**                      **\$19.95**

## 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 CD**                              **6650-45**                      **\$5.95**  
*Spanish CD Solo Hombres* **6650-12** **\$5.95**

## 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 CD**                              **9810-45**                      **\$5.95**

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.

## **SWORDSEARCHER SOFTWARE *NEW!***

Now you can use the Bible search software that Mike uses to study the Bible. Includes over 70 study references such as the KJV, KJV 1611, early translations by Tyndale and Wycliffe, commentaries and much more! PC only.

**Software CD**                      **8375-10**                      **\$49.95**

Download Mike's entire teaching on the book of Romans and other FREE messages on our website! [www.nogreaterjoy.org](http://www.nogreaterjoy.org)

## **Books of the Bible**

### **1 & 2 PETER**

1 & 2 Peter introduces subjects that the Apostle Paul never touched on. Exotic, some people call it. Learn about election, adding to your faith, Paradise, the seven baptisms, Christian suffering, corrupt shepherds, and much more. There are more practical teachings in these two letters than one can imagine. Thirteen messages totaling over nine hours of teaching.

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**1 MP3**                              **7010-55**                      **\$12.95**

### **1 & 2 THESSALONIANS**

These two letters written by the Apostle Paul contain teaching on departed loved ones, the rapture, the second coming of our Lord as well as some of the most practical teachings in the New Testament.

**8 CDs**                              **8440-45**                      **\$29.95**  
**MP3 (1 CD)**                      **8440-55**                      **\$12.95**

### **MATTHEW**

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.

**24 CDs**                              **6020-41**                      **\$72.95**  
**MP3 (1 CD)**                      **6020-55**                      **\$12.95**

### **ROMANS**

Verse by verse, word by word, this is a commentary on the book of Romans. We continually receive testimonies of lives changed and souls saved through listening to this greatest of all New Testament books. Until you know the book of Romans you don't know the Bible. If you have never listened to any Bible teaching by Michael Pearl, this is the place to start. Michael also has a printed commentary on Romans 1-8 which is much more extensive than the audio.

**20 CDs**                              **8140-45**                      **\$56.95**  
**MP3 (1 CD)**                      **8140-55**                      **\$12.95**

### **ROMANS CHAPTER 1-8 COMMENTARY**

This commentary contains a careful word-for-word examination of every phrase and addresses all the hard theological issues that have been the foundation of the Christian faith down through the centuries.

**222-pg. Book**                      **8140-10**                      **\$8.95**

### **1 CORINTHIANS**

Here is a book of radical answers for radical times. Michael covers every verse in 1

Corinthians in a straightforward manner. This is not devotional teaching. It is practical Bible doctrine on a host of controversial subjects. Paul answers questions put to him by the church at Corinth.

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Two books on one MP3 CD.

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

**10 Cassettes**                    **2930-40**                    **\$12.00**

### 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.

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### 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.

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### 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.

**12 CDs**                    **3800-45**                    **\$39.95**

**MP3 (1 CD)**                    **3800-55**                    **\$12.95**

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Michael teaches through the book of Mark verse by verse.

**MP3 (1 CD)**                    **5950-55**                    **\$12.95**

### Posters

#### REVELATION POSTER & 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 hand-

book which accompanies it is filled with Old Testament references and commentary to the events in Revelation.

**Poster**                    **8130-10**                    **\$12.95**

### Other Authors

#### FIVE POINTS OF CALVINISM

Each of the much-touted 5 points of Calvinism is carefully compared with the clear teaching of God's holy and infallible Word, providing both serious Scriptural challenge, as well as correction to the extremes of Calvinism. 125-pg book

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**Book**                    **5200-10**                    **\$8.95**

#### 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**                    **\$12.95**

#### 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.

**788-pg. Book**                    **6610-00**                    **\$21.95**

### Books about the Bible

#### EIGHT KINGDOMS

The Bible speaks of eight kingdoms. You can't see one of them. One is coming but you can't be a part of it. Another must be resisted. You have been removed from another. You must honor another that is evil. One is now fighting for its life. One is going to smash all the others and reign forever on the earth. If you don't want to be challenged, don't bother

buying this book. This book would be a gift your pastor would truly enjoy.

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Written by Michael Pearl and featuring spectacular artwork by former Marvel Comic artist Danny Bulanadi. Over 300 pages illustrated in comic book format show the Bible stories in a chronological approach. Great for any child, teen or as Sunday School material.

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## GOOD AND EVIL - COMIC BOOKS

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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.

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### 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.

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### IN DEFENSE OF BIBLICAL CHASTISEMENT

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Mike tackles the arguments for the faith by taking the Atheists' own logic to prove Jesus Christ is God.

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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.

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*(La Pornografía: Camino al Infierno)*

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The Bible Clearly declares that the Earth existed before the six day creation. Don't let well-meaning creation scientists cloud this Biblical truth for you. Study it for yourself.

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**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.

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

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**ANGELS, GOOD AND BAD**

This is everything you ever wanted to know about angels, demons, Cherubim, heavenly beasts, living creatures, and UFOs. These messages are not going to sanctify you, but they will excite you to study your Bible.

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Insightful and entertaining story of Balaam and his ass.

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

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**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.

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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.

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**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.

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**GOD HATES SINNERS**

It's time you knew the truth.

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**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**    **\$4.50**

*8 or more copies ea.*    **\$3.15**

**REPENTANCE,  
TRUE AND FALSE**

Undoubtedly the most misunderstood word in the Bible. Have you repented? If you haven't you cannot be saved. Did you know that the most oft used phrase, "Repent of your sins," is not to be found in the Bible even one time? Then what is this vital act that God requires as a condition of salva-

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tion? Michael Pearl explores this subject in depth and gives definitive Biblical answers. This message could be the one that will change your life forever and forever.

**1 CD**                      **8125-45**                      **\$5.95**

## RIGHTEOUSNESS

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

**4 CDs**                      **8135-41**                      **\$18.95**

## RIGHTEOUSNESS, TEMPERANCE & JUDGMENT

When the Apostle Paul had just one opportunity to communicate the gospel to the pagan ruler Felix, he spoke of righteousness, temperance, and judgment. Felix was so moved he trembled. Preachers need to go back to the source and redefine their message.

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## SABBATH REST

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

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## 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 CDs**                      **8320-41**                      **\$14.95**

## 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.

**3 CDs**                      **8322-45**                      **\$14.95**

## 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 CDs**                      **8330-45**                      **\$14.95**

## 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.

**9 CDs**                      **8315-41**                      **\$34.95**

## SIN NO MORE & SANCTIFICATION MP3

Two sets of messages on one MP3 CD.

**MP3 (1 CD)**                      **8315-55**                      **\$12.95**

## SONS OF GOD AND GIANTS

The Jews have taught it for 3,500 years. The church fathers believed it and wrote of it. It has been commonly believed by Bible believers down through the ages, but it is too radical for our present generation. They will ridicule you if you believe it.

**1 CD**                      **8336-45**                      **\$5.95**

## WHEN FORGIVENESS IS A SIN

The Bible does not teach that Christians are to forgive everyone. In some cases it would be a sin to forgive. See what the Bible says and free yourself from the bondage of modern psycho babble.

**1 CD**                      **9580-45**                      **\$5.95**

## From an inmate at the prison where Michael teaches:

*I am writing this note in regards to your offer to send my wife the Helpmeet book and the box of material for my children. I was not able to see you today and I am really anxious to hear my boy's response to your picture Bible *Good and Evil*. Also I am in hopes always that my wife's and my relationship can be strengthened. I love your emphasis on family. I do believe with all my heart that family is the bedrock of the church. Thank you so much for your support and encouragement to those in prison. It means so much.*

*I just finished your new pamphlet *The Gap Fact*. Wow! It was really interesting and insightful. My wife and I have always insisted we are soul mates; that God always meant for us to be together. I just wrote to her about the difference you brought out about the two words create and made; how you made the point that Eve's soul was made from Adam's already existing soul!! There is no doubt that Eve was Adam's soul mate.*

*Man, I love my family and I am so anxious to be with them again. Thank you again for all you do. I pray for you and your family upon remembrance always. - Love in the name of Jesus, B*

# Join the Explosion

## NGJ'S DISTRIBUTORSHIP PROGRAM

In slightly over two years over 375 Ministries, Churches, Individuals and Families in 13 countries have joined us to become authorized Distributors for No Greater Joy.

Please review the website [www.nogreaterjoy.org/business-in-a-box](http://www.nogreaterjoy.org/business-in-a-box) before calling, as many of your potential questions will be answered there. Your family can get started right away-within a week we can have you set up and ready to go.

This is a good way for you to minister and to earn extra income at the same time.

After reviewing our website call Mel Cohen at **931-593-2484** to answer all of your questions or to sign up for the program. Email questions to: [melcohen@hughes.net](mailto:melcohen@hughes.net).

### Existing Distributors

Available upon request:

- Your complete contact information on our website
- A listing of homeschool conventions in your area. Homeschool conventions are usually from February to August each year.
- Images and product descriptions for you to use on your website or advertising
- Answers to your merchandising or marketing questions
- Special pricing not available to the public

For more information or to sign up, contact our General Manager:

Mel Cohen, CFP, RFC

Phone: 931-593-2484

Email: [melcohen@hughes.net](mailto:melcohen@hughes.net)



### New arrivals:

To Train Up A Child  
- MP3 CD

I have been using your book *Created To Be His Help Meet* as part of my personal devotions. All I can say is, wow!! Much of your book has helped to set me right with God's plan for me as a woman and as a wife.

In particular, your book has really helped me understand God's plan for a woman to be chaste. My husband has commented many times on my clothing being too tight around my chest. I've always either taken offense by his comments or ignored them as him being "too controlling". I am now ashamed after reading chapter 19 in your book. It was never my intention to arouse other men

or boys, but I'm sure it happened. I always thought I was dressing sexy for my husband, or that he would be proud if other men thought I as sexy. I now see how wrong I was. It disgusts me to think that I was included in adultery with other men's imaginations, including men at our church! (I guess I always assumed that the men at church were too old or too godly or too in love with their own wives to notice me.)

My heart is now opened, and I am saddened that I disobeyed God by disobeying my husband on this matter. I have asked for God's forgiveness, now I need to ask that of my husband, and to clean out my closet! - B

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