

SEYCHELLES

Church of Christ

MONTHLY REPORT

by Jimmy Petrouse

THEME OF THE MONTH: FAMILY MATTERS

During the first week-end of January, the congregation came together to launch its new mission statement for the year. It is “ Lord, give us godly families and Christian homes.” The brethren prayerfully agreed on this theme because of the progressively blatant attacks by the culture on the family unit as a whole within this nation. Sadly, our Christian families have not been spared from these assaults. As a congregation of God’s people, we are committed to reverse this perversion of family mindset inculcated by the culture and instill rather the simplicity and purity of devotion to family as appropriate of Kingdom citizens. Our goal is not just a noble one, but practical in every sense of the word. Literally, it is a matter of life or death, and we are confident God’s cause will be vindicated. We have already observed the tension caused by our brethren’s determination to transform the old corporeal way of thinking into the new spiritual perspective. One of our dear brothers just got married and his new bride is very excited about learning the truth. More people are reaching out to us seeking counseling, advice and teaching about their relationships, themselves and life in general. Christians are getting together more, and the kids are spending more with each other. Nevertheless, few others have chosen to swing on the opposite side of the pendulum by indulging old vices. To me, the latter

is symptomatic of the nature of this struggle between the old self and the new. We are all very hopeful. There are eleven more months to go... Slowly but surely, we are making progress. What’s particularly exciting is that five of our visitors have intensified their studies and we are hoping soon they also will join the Lord’s family.

Does family really matter? You bet! And life at “home” gets especially more fun when it comes to doing the chores and stuff. Chores like taking care of the laundry, cleaning the closets, feeding the new babies, etc. Well, its got to be done, especially now that we’re preparing to welcome new family members into our “homes.” May God be with us!



Before the new school term, the boys in the above picture came to our home for some fun time. We did all kinds of fun stuff; devotionals, playing games, baking some yummy goodies, cleaning around the house and just being goofy. I am afraid Tabitha was the only adult taking care of “us” kids. She soon realized that she had lost her husband, and had to put up with another munchkin. We had a great time!





There are several things we're trying to implement in our quest to create an environment conducive to nurturing strong and godly families as well as homes where the basic principles of Christianity are honed and lived. During the Sunday morning Bible classes, I have started a series of lessons called "Making your love last a lifetime: building strong and happy marriages." We started the series of classes talking about courtship, and the importance of preparing oneself for a wonderful marriage. This class will go on for another five to six weeks as we explore marriage in all of its different facets. What's exciting to me is the fact that several other men are willing to teach the Sunday bible classes. They will be teaching on subjects like raising children, being married to a non-Christian, being a single in the congregation, et. al.

During the weekly bible studies we are continuing with the Acts study at Mont Fleuri. This class is going very well. I've also started teaching 1 Corinthians at Anse Royale. There are all kinds of visitors attending the classes and they are very keen on asking questions. At Anse Etoile we are learning about the book of Acts as well. There are two other bible studies conducted at Peter's house on Tuesdays and Fridays. He has three very promising young visitors who are very much taken by the simple teaching of the truth. They have covered a lot of the first principle topics and the last couple of weeks they were focusing on accountability and the need to count the cost. We are praying that soon these studies will yield much fruits.

The ladies are also contributing much to the work. They are rigorously putting a curriculum together for the smaller kids

and are also busy organizing all kinds of activities for themselves, the kids and the church as a whole. We have few brethren straying from our mission, but the majority are on board and very excited to do their parts. We honestly cannot wait for what the Lord has in store for our family(ies) this year.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support. You have been so kind and abundantly generous towards us. We love and appreciate you all so much. Thank you again and may God bless!

The pictures below are representative of what we are trying to become more of this year. We are encouraging the parents to spend quality time with their children and teaching them about God. We are exhorting the whole congregation to exemplify what godly family is all about. We are taking time out with each other and simply enjoying one another's company. To God be the glory!

