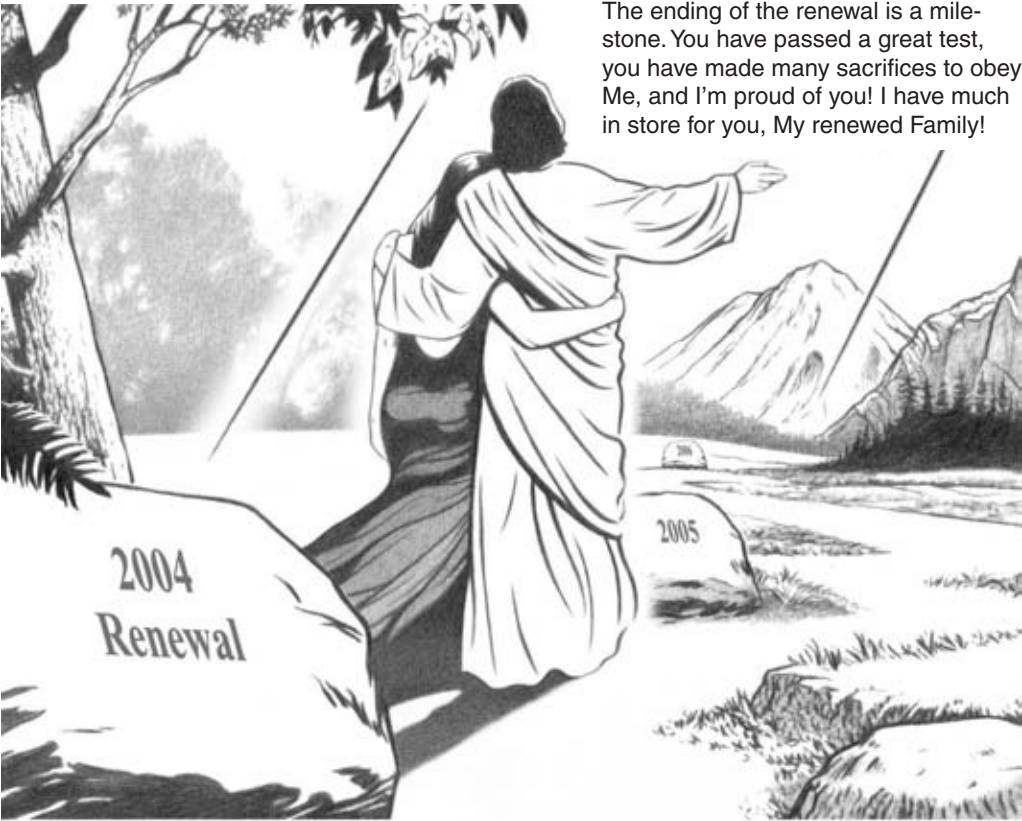


Please read paragraphs 1–22 before Tuesday, November 30, so that your Home will have time to plan ahead. Please save paragraphs 23–61 to read on November 30.

RENEWAL: THE CONCLUSION

By Maria

FD/MM/FM 3510 10/04



The ending of the renewal is a milestone. You have passed a great test, you have made many sacrifices to obey Me, and I'm proud of you! I have much in store for you, My renewed Family!

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Dear Family,

PETER and I love and admire each of you! Through your obedience during the renewal, you have proven, once again, your determination to be maximizing disciples, your faith in the Lord’s Words, your dependence on the keys and the new weapons of the spirit, and that you’re fighters through thick and thin!

2. Now that the renewal—an important event in all of our lives—is coming to a close,

our Husband confirmed that it would be appropriate to do something to officially celebrate its closure—to celebrate and praise Him for the victories, to solidify our personal commitments, to look forward with faith to what lies ahead, and to bathe the new era we are about to walk into with prayer and the power of the keys.

3. When the Lord gave His confirmation and blessing, He said:

4. The renewal has been a big deal, the ending of it is a milestone, and I want you to celebrate the victories! The celebration itself should be simple for you to plan and enact, mainly because you will be entering the Christmas season, and some of you may already be in the throes of your Christmas witnessing.

5. I am very proud of each of you who have made it through the renewal. Although it brought with it many wonderful gifts and blessings, it took a lot of faith, great grace, and some big sacrifices. In time you will look back on these last 5½ months as an important part of your history as a Family, and as a steppingstone to greater things.

6. As the renewal began with praise, it would be appropriate that it end with praise and thanksgiving. And since the end of the renewal is near the end of the year, it should also be a time of commitment and rededication for the new year.

7. (Mama:) The plan our Husband then gave for the closure of the renewal is very simple—as He said—and consists of some personal time with the Lord prior to November 30, then a devotions/meeting on November 30, and a celebration on the evening of November 30. Here are a few more details:

Pre-November 30 personal P&P assignment

8. Some time before November 30, please set aside some time to take stock of the last 5½ months. This would include praying about what you were most thankful for during the renewal, as well as what personal commitment, small or large, you would like to make for 2005, the year of strengthening. Your personal praise for the renewal and commitment for the new year would then be shared with your Home during a special devotions/meeting on November 30. On this, the Lord said:

9. At the end of the renewal is an opportune time to make fresh commitments, or cement commitments made during the renewal. These personal commitments need not be long, but you can pray about one thing you would like to commit to doing for Me in 2005. It could be an area of your spiritual life you are committing to

change in, a new goal, or something of a more physical nature. This would go hand in hand with you taking the time to pray about what was the most rewarding, special, or life-changing part of the renewal for you.

10. So there are two things I would like to ask you to pray about prior to November 30: one personal commitment for the new year, and a specific personal praise to Me for the renewal.

United devotions/meeting on November 30

11. (Mama:) The schedule for November 30 is very flexible, and can be arranged as each Home sees fit. One of the things the Lord has instructed each Home to do, however, is to hold a devotional type of meeting sometime on November 30. It could take the place of your regular united devotions in the morning, or be held at some other time, such as the afternoon. Teamworks, please pray and go with whatever plan the Lord confirms is His will for your Home.

12. The topic of this meeting/devotions is praise and commitment. The Lord has given a special message to read at the beginning of this meeting, as well as a simple program to follow, which includes everyone in the Home sharing their praise for the renewal and their commitment for 2005 (what each person prayed about prior to November 30, as mentioned above), songs of praise and commitment, and a short united prayer/pledge. This meeting doesn't need to be long—between 1 and 2 hours is probably a good time frame.

Evening celebration on November 30

13. The Lord suggested that each Home have a united activity, get-together, or celebration in the afternoon or evening of November 30. There is a new message from the Lord to read with some promises for the Christmas season and the year of strengthening, as well as some new toasts from our Lover, which you can incorporate into your evening activity—all of which are included at the end of this Letter. The Lord said that the new things He will accomplish through the Family this Christmas are going to be in great part due to our cleansing and strengthening, so we have a lot to look forward to on that front.

14. Regarding the evening activity, the Lord said:

15. I will leave the details with you Homes to decide, as far as what would work best in your situation. Some of you might like to combine and have your evening celebration together with another Home. Others of you might like to do something smaller with just your own Home. You could have an early barbeque or cookout in one Home's backyard, and then read the message and the toasts I've given sometime throughout. Or you could have a candlelight dinner, incorporating the message and the toasts. Some Homes might like to have a dance night, or a game night, or some other activity.

16. The message and the toasts I have given can be included in whatever type of united celebration or activity your Home would like to engage in. I will leave the decision of the type of celebration to each Home, according to what would work best for you. The end of the renewal is a celebration, and should be a special and memorable evening—enhanced and empowered by My Spirit. *(End of message.)*

Is November 30 a free day?

17. (Question:) Jesus, do You mean for the Family to take a full day off on November 30? Is that Your plan?

18. (Jesus:) That's an option, but I would not make it mandatory for the Family. It might not be feasible for some Homes to take the full day off at that time, as many will have already begun their Christmas witnessing season or their Christmas witnessing preparations. Those Homes who would like to take the day off and enjoy some extra relaxation and recreation as a part of their end of the renewal celebration may do so, but it is not a royal decree.

19. As long as every Home has the united devotions/meeting with the guidelines and instructions I have given, as well as the celebration in the evening, then they are fully within My will. The extra time off, or the Home having a free day, is optional, according to what will work best for each Home.

20. November 30 will be a busy time for many Homes. So even taking time away from their normal work for a special devotions/meeting and an evening celebration will take coordination and sacrifice. If Homes have the time and want

to take a free day, they may. But if not, there will be time for My busy Homes to have some rest at the end of the year, or in January. *(End of message.)*

21. (Mama:) Peter and I love you, dear Family, and we're proud of you—as is our wonderful Husband! You have demonstrated, and continue to demonstrate, your ability to rise above and use the weapon of praise, to fight the good fight, to walk forward into new territories with determination. You've also manifested your skill in using the keys to overcome in every area of your lives, and your love, loyalty, obedience, yieldedness, and submission to Jesus is worthy of honor and praise!

22. Peter and I commend each of you who have made it through the renewal and come forth stronger, cleansed, renewed, revived, revitalized, and ready to face the new challenges ahead! We have so much to be thankful for! Let's celebrate the victories together, and praise our Lover for each one!

Love and prayers, Mama

[Note: Please save the following messages to read on November 30. Those planning the devotions/meeting and the evening celebration may want to familiarize themselves with the material ahead of time.]

Message to read at the beginning of the devotions/meeting on November 30

23. (Jesus:) Today is a day of celebration and commitment. It is a day for you to rejoice, to praise Me, and to honor My Name. It is a day to look back on the steps you have already taken and to praise Me for each one and for the progress that has been made, while at the same time looking at the road I have placed ahead of you and committing to further progress for Me.

24. You have made it through the renewal, My loves, and I am well pleased. Whether you feel the effects drastically or not, I assure you that you have been cleansed, strengthened, revitalized, and renewed. The renewal has been a success—a success for the Family and a success for you personally. It was My will from start to finish, and because you yielded to My will and obeyed My

instructions, you are feeling the benefits today as you have grown stronger in Me.

25. Today is a day of celebration! You have every reason to praise and thank Me, every reason to be encouraged and inspired because of the major milestone steps you have taken for Me. It wasn't easy, but you didn't give up. More than anything, you wanted to gain the strengthening of spirit that I had promised, and you gave your all to receive My all. Raise your hands now, My darling brides, and praise Me for the victory!

[Note: Stop reading here and sing some songs of praise and some songs of commitment—either with a guitar, a cappella, or by singing along with the songs from our Family CDs.]

26. (Jesus continues:) **There have been so many victories!**—Victories of yieldedness, victories of submission, victories of overcoming, victories of change, victories of rising above, victories of overcoming the Enemy, victories of massive proportions. You are not the same person today as you were 5½ months ago. Things have changed in your life for the better. Your Home is not the same Home that it was 5½ months ago. Improvements have been made, and your Home is a stronger Home today than it ever was before.

27. You are now ready, with My help, to begin your new walk into the future. You have passed a great test, you have made many sacrifices to obey Me, and I'm proud of you. I have much in store for you, My loves, My renewed Family. Although today marks the end of the renewal, it does not mark the end of My plans for you, nor the end of My blessings. As you embark into a new era, as you wrap up 2004 and enter into 2005, you can expect a new beginning, a new adventure, filled with many new blessings. You have made it thus far, and now I am in need of your commitments, once again, to continue on for Me.

28. The era of renewal is over, and it has accomplished My plan. Now you enter the era of strengthening. I could have strengthened you before, but you were in need of cleansing first so that the strengthening would take root and hold. I needed you to forsake your bad habits, get rid of ungodly attitudes and opinions, overcome your addictions, and make significant spiritual progress,

so that when you entered the era of strengthening—which you are now on the threshold of—you would be in the position to be strengthened to the maximum.

29. With the renewal, the body of the Family has been working out to burn off the “fat,” the excesses, and the things that were weighing it down—the bad habits, addictions, and attitudes. Now I will begin to tone and strengthen the Family and build its muscles for the future. This is the purpose of the year of strengthening.

30. I am your Coach, your Fitness Trainer, and I'm going to train you, My Family, in the year to come to be better fighters, to have more spiritual endurance, to be winners on all fronts. But before I invest more in you, I need you to make personal commitments, telling Me that you want the strengthening, you desire the training, and that you're willing to give it your best shot.

31. During this time today, I wish for you to praise and thank Me for the renewal, for how far you have traveled with Me, and for the benefits of the renewal that you feel in your life. I want you to be specific and personal, to testify to Me—and also those you live with—of at least one of the miracles that I have performed in your life over the last 5½ months. And remember, miracles can be big or small. Any change, any improvement, any step of progress that was a result of My power is a miracle.

32. Proclaim My goodness and My power, and make known to others how I have worked in your life. I desire to hear your praises. I long to hear you tell Me that you appreciate the things I did for you, and the positive changes that My plan of renewal brought about. I am your Husband, and I have been working closely with you during this renewal—supporting you, helping you, encouraging you, and guiding you—and I now wish to hear you tell Me something personal that you are thankful for, something that has happened in your life during the renewal.

[Note: Stop here, and everyone can say their personal praise, something about the renewal that they are thankful for.]

33. (Jesus continues:) **Now I wish for you to tell Me at least one thing that you are com-**

mitted to doing for Me in 2005, or something that you are committing to Me—some part of your life that you would like to dedicate to Me. I have worked in each of your lives, I have taught each of you new things, and you have grown and been strengthened in different areas, so now I want to hear you publicly share—before Me and others—a commitment you are making for Me, or a solidifying of a previous commitment, right now at the closing of the renewal and shortly before the beginning of the new year. Your commitment need not be elaborate or wordy or eloquent or long. I see your heart and I know your deepest feelings and intents.

[Note: Stop here, and everyone share their personal commitment.]

34. (*Jesus continues:*) Thank you, My dearest brides. Your praises have brought Me great joy and will cause Me to perform bigger and more noticeable miracles in the days to come. Your commitments have come before My throne and have opened the door of the year of strengthening for each one of you. Your praises, your commitments, and My power combined have created an unbeatable force in the spirit today, a force that is preparing the way ahead of you and beginning to pour into each of you the anointing you need for the next era. (*End of message.*)

[Note: Say the following pledge of commitment unitedly.]

35. I am Yours, Jesus! My life, heart, soul, body, and spirit are all Yours! I am here today because of You and You alone! I have been cleansed and revitalized through the renewal because of Your power, because You gave me the faith to obey and yield to You. And now that we are closing the door on the era of renewal and opening the door of the era of strengthening, I once again commit to doing Your will. I don't know what You have in store for me, but I know it's going to be good. Give me the faith, dearest Jesus, to walk into the future with You. I want the strengthening You have in store for me. I desire it with all my heart, and claim it through the keys of commitment. I want to be what You need me to be.

[Note: Play the “Song of Victory” and then close with more praise, a short prayer, and a love feast.]

Message to read during the celebration on the evening of November 30

36. (*Jesus:*) Ahead of you lies a whole new world—new minutes, new hours, new days, new weeks, new months to use in service to Me. Everything is new, everything is fresh, as you stand on the threshold of the Christmas season and the new year. Right now I remember your past sins and mistakes no more. They're all washed away with My love and forgiveness. The only thing that I'm focusing on is the progress you have made, the steps you have taken for Me, and the brilliance of your spirit that has come about as a result of the cleansing.

37. You're entering the year of strengthening—which all who want to can be a part of. I know that “year of strengthening” doesn't sound all that fun; and, you're right that it will be hard work and it won't be a piece of cake. But there will be a certain thrill and satisfaction that will come with the time of strengthening—much like how when you're working to get physically fit and build physical muscles, you start to feel excited about it. You become pleased with your progress, you get encouraged when you see improvement, and you feel more energetic and healthy and in shape. All of these are good physical feelings. Well, you'll feel special things in the spirit during 2005, the year of strengthening, such as satisfaction for the progress you'll be making.

38. How do I know you're going to make progress and be strengthened? It's because you've proved that you want My help and power and the changes I wish to make in your life through your yieldedness to the renewal. You didn't give up, you didn't quit, and that shows that you are in My training course for the long haul and you want all that I have to give you. Plus, you've committed to Me again today.

39. During the year of strengthening you're going to see more clearly the purpose for the renewal, and will continue to see the benefits of it in your life. Some things you see and understand now, but other things will become clearer with time. But trust Me, the renewal was just the

beginning, and it paved the way for what I have in store for you during the year of strengthening. I couldn't have brought you into the next grade if you hadn't passed the last one—but pass you did, and with flying colors.

40. This Christmas is going to be better than any before it, because your priorities are focused on the things that really count. I know you want to give and sacrifice and put in the hours so that as many souls as possible can come to know Me this season, because you have grown less selfish and more like Me. I know you want to use this special time to reach out to everyone, those in the world and those within your own Homes, because you have learned more the joy of giving, the importance of love and the power of unity. I know you want to give this Christmas season your best shot, your all, because you have learned to give Me more of yourself—more of your own plans and ideas, more of your heart and soul and spirit.

41. I will use each of you to do something special for Me this Christmas. Whether you're a full-time witnesser or not, I can still use you to witness and show My love. And as you do your part, as you step out to witness and love in the ways you can—whether those ways are big or small—then in turn you will be rewarded with My special Christmas gifts this year. Some of the gifts will be physical—needs that I will supply, wants that I will bring to your doorstep. And some of the gifts will be spiritual—the kind that money could never buy.

42. My darling brides, this Christmas I'm sending you, My renewed brides, out to reach the lost. I need you to make a difference where you are, and touch the lives of those around you. Do something new, something out of the ordinary. Don't settle for the way you've always done things, or the witnessing methods you've always used at Christmas. Stretch yourselves and your faith. Remember that you're new creatures in Me now, and therefore you have the capacity to be used of Me in new and greater ways.

43. So enter, My loves, into the Christmas season, and from there go forth into the year of strengthening. The adventures I have planned for you have only just begun, and happy and strong will all My brides be who continue to walk with Me.

44. I am your Good Shepherd—and not only your Shepherd, but also your Husband—and I promise that you will not lack for anything that is within My will to give you.

45. I will bring you to green pastures and restore your spirit every time it is weary and tired, and let you rest beside still and peaceful waters.

46. I will lead you in the paths of My righteousness, with My truth and promises and powerful weapons ever by your side—because I have need of each of you, My brides, to be strong and able in Me.

47. Even if you walk through dark valleys, or face the possibilities of danger to your body or spirit, or endure deep and trying experiences, I will give you the power to not fear; I will grant you the keys of rise-above power.

48. I will be with you through everything—the hard times and the happy times. I will keep you through My instruction and guidance, and comfort you in times of trial.

49. I have set you in the midst of a world full of greed and hate for a reason, to give the truth to those who thirst after My Spirit. You are in the world, but not of the world, and I give you My power to shine My light into every dark corner.

50. I anoint your heads with oil now, the oil of My anointing for the year ahead. The cups of your spirits are filled to overflowing with everything you need in order to do My will.

51. My goodness and mercy and love and strength will follow you everywhere! You will dwell in My house forever—first My spiritual house on earth, which is a symbol of My protection and anointing, and then My house in Heaven as a reward forever for your service to Me.

52. Merry Christmas, My brides! Happy New Year 2005! It's going to be an unforgettable Christmas and New Year—with souls won, lives changed, and each of you in My Family strengthened. (*End of message.*)

Toasts for evening of November 30

A toast to the renewal

53. Thank You, Jesus, for the blessing of the renewal! It has changed our lives in ways we've already seen, and ways we will yet see. We've gained through the renewal gifts of the spirit that are priceless. We honor You for Your great foresight in knowing that it was just what we needed in each of our lives. Let's toast and praise our wonderful Husband, Who does all things well!

A toast to the year of strengthening

54. Three cheers for the year of strengthening—a year where we'll learn to be better fighters, gain more spiritual endurance, and become winners on all fronts! It's our goal to be the best disciples we can be, the humble brides our Husband needs us to be, and those who are going to make the Enemy and every demon in Hell tremble like never before! We are weak in ourselves, but will grow strong with the grace and power and anointing of our awesome Lord. To the era of strengthening!

A toast to the Revolution

55. May the fires of revolution never die out! By God's grace, we will always be revolutionaries in spirit—radical, believing, receiving, doers of the Word. No matter what comes our way, may we always be willing to follow You, the greatest Revolutionary, the Essence of Truth, and the Source of the Word that keeps us Your new church, Your radical brides, Your new bottles, Your iconoclasts. To the Revolution for Jesus!

A toast to the Word

56. Here's to the most important ingredient in our lives, the food that keeps us strong, the substance that gives us faith, lights our way, answers our questions, refreshes and renews us, combines with the keys to make a powerful and unbeatable force, and keeps us alive in spirit! To the Word!

A toast to the new weapons

57. Let's toast to the Law of Love, One Wife, the gift of prophecy, the weapon of praise, the keys, the gift of loving Jesus, and all of the new weapons we have been privileged to receive and be instructed in the use of. May we continue to prove ourselves

worthy of such great gifts by using them to the full and growing more dependent on them and skilled in wielding them by the day. To the new weapons that aid us in fighting and winning!

A toast to our spirit helpers

58. Hip, hip hooray for our spiritual support team, our comrades in arms in the spiritual realm. We couldn't do without our many helpers who assist us whenever we call on them. May we continue to grow in working together hand in hand and in letting them assist us. We call on the keys of insight, spiritual sensitivity and awareness, faith, and openness to our helpers. Here's to greater unity and communication between us!

A toast to the Family of the future

59. Here's to the Family of the future, which, as a result of our yieldedness and crazy faith and obedience to Jesus, will be stronger, happier, more fruitful, more united, and filled with His Spirit like never before. By His grace, we will be a humble Family, but strong in our Husband and able to tackle the new challenges He will bring our way. To the Family of the future!

A toast to Christmas 2004

60. As we raise our glasses, let's raise our arms to our Lover in praise and thankfulness for the Christmas witnessing season that lies ahead. He has promised that it will be a memorable Christmas, because as a result of the renewal our priorities are clearer, our desire to win the lost is stronger, and our obedience to Jesus has strengthened our faith for His supply and abundance. We will never forget this Christmas, because it will be a season of souls won, lives changed, and miracles performed that we will cherish in our hearts forever. To a wonderful Christmas witnessing season!

A toast to our Lover

61. We praise and honor You, our greatest Lover, with all of our hearts! You have never deserted us or failed us! You have been with us through thick and thin, in sickness and in health, when we're weak and when we're strong, when we're up and when we're down. You're a Lover we can depend on, Someone Who knows all of our sins and weaknesses, but You love us anyway! Who is like unto You? To our Husband—Jesus!

RENEWAL: THE CHALLENGE

By Maria

FD/MM/FM 3511 10/04

Dear Family,

PETER and I love you, and we're praying for you at this special time—the ending of the renewal, and the beginning of your Christmas witnessing season and the year of strengthening.

2. During the last weeks of the renewal, I began receiving a number of letters from Family members worldwide. These were inspiring, positive letters, with those who wrote in explaining the wonderful benefits of the renewal and how thankful they were for this time of focused cleansing and fasting the things of the world. There were mixed requests within these letters. Some people wanted the renewal—or at least the fasting of System input aspect of the renewal—to continue indefinitely. Some requested that the renewal be extended. Others wanted stricter guidelines put in place regarding System input after the renewal, so that the Family doesn't fall back into the same state we were in prior to the renewal. They're so thankful for the growth and cleansing, and they don't want to go back to the way things were before the renewal.

3. When we asked the Lord for His mind on the matter, and for His answers to these questions and requests, He gave the following counsel:

4. (Jesus:) It's the era of accountability, the era of obedience. Through the restructuring I am putting in place clearer guidelines and markers to show you, My children, what I expect of you, what I require of you. But it's still ultimately up to you to obey. I have made it that way because obedience brings with it a special blessing.

5. If the goal were just to have everyone be good and fulfill My will without question, I wouldn't have given mankind free choice. I would have set things up differently. But My goal for you, My goal for all those on earth, is to teach you how to choose rightly, to use the free choice you have and choose the truth, choose true freedom through obedience.

6. The renewal was a special time. It was a dispensation of grace. Some might look on it as a time of restriction and chastisement, but in

reality it was a reward, a blessing, a sign of mercy. For without the renewal, you would not be going on to fulfill your calling as My Endtime church. Many in the Family had become so weakened, so deceived and compromised in their ways of thinking, that it was necessary to have a few months of mandated cleansing, whether individuals saw the need for it and were willing of their own accord or not. It was an across-the-board cleansing.

7. Now at the end of the renewal, more and more of you, My children, are seeing how much it has helped you, how much you needed it. You've made progress in the spirit, and at the same time you've come to understand how far you still have to go—and I've engineered this not for the purpose of condemnation, but to challenge you. You've come to realize how much you have yet to learn and partake of in the spirit, and how much unchecked System input can hamper your goals, dull your desire for the things of the spirit, and make it harder to progress, and these are big steps of progress.

8. I didn't expect that anyone in the Family would come out of the renewal perfect, or having reached every spiritual goal, because spiritual progress is an ongoing endeavor. I have fulfilled My purpose for the renewal, and for the most part, it has awakened within each of your hearts the desire to continue to progress, to not lose the ground you have gained, and to continue to move forward for Me. You are now ready for what lies ahead. Now it's up to you to follow through, to obey, to ask for safeguards, to discuss your spiritual progress and spiritual goals as a Home, to begin to truly be your brothers' keepers.

9. That's My will at the end of the renewal—not to extend the fast of all System input or to keep the renewal guidelines in place, but to encourage My children to keep up the momentum in the spirit, to not let it slip. That is the greater lesson in the spirit: to see how far you've come during the renewal, to see where you still need to progress, to see the weak areas and the strong areas, and to make decisions in counsel with Me and as a body (Home), that help to facilitate

spiritual progress and keep things moving forward in the right direction.

10. I'm trying to make it very clear and simple for you, My children, to know what the right and wrong choices are. But I don't want to make the choices for you. I'm not going to forbid System input. That would be solving one small problem, but it would be missing a much greater point—that of helping you to grow to full maturity in learning to eschew the evil yourselves, learning to be your brothers' keepers, learning to make tough decisions as a team in order to safeguard yourselves and reach the high calling of discipleship. System input is one area or inroad of the Enemy, but there are many others that aren't covered under the renewal guidelines—such as pride, criticalness, lack of drinking deeply of My Word, etc. All of these are as important to safeguard each other in as is the area of System input.

11. I put the ball squarely in the court of each Home to pray about these matters and decide together, rather than letting things just take their natural course of events and drift back to the way they were before. This will be a good first test for new Homes and teams—establishing their guidelines on these matters in love, unity, humility, and prayerfulness. (*End of message.*)

12. (Jesus:) As I have said many times before, the Family of the future will only be as strong as the individuals within the Family. And the individuals within the Family will only be as strong as the decisions they make, the choices of obedience they make.

13. The renewal is My will. I have instructed you to put these guidelines in place for a time, but not indefinitely. To continue the renewal guidelines of no System input whatsoever would be the easier route, but it would not teach Family Homes and members to make the right choices. It's easy to not do something when it's not allowed. But it takes greater strength of character, a deeper relationship with Me, and more accountability—as Homes and as individuals—to make the right choices without the strict guidelines. I want you, My disciples, to be of that caliber.

14. I said very clearly prior to the renewal that it was not My will for you, dear Family, to return to the way things were before the renewal. There was an inordinate desire for the

things of the world prior to the renewal. Many of your appetites were perverted, and there was a lot of System input coming into your Homes and lives that was not of Me, that was not fit for discipleship, that was not according to My will.

15. The renewal was a time of cleansing, to wean you from your worldly desires, your System habits, and your ungodly appetites. The renewal was also a time to show you the benefits of no System input, so that when your freedoms were given back to you, you would count the cost, you would use those freedoms wisely, you would not go back to allowing unlimited System input in your Homes and lives, and you would not go hog-wild with the things of this world any longer.

16. Yes, I could easily say no System input whatsoever for the Family from this point on. But then how would that strengthen you, My children? How would that teach you to make wise decisions, to choose the good and eschew the evil, to keep things in their rightful place—not because you're being forced to, but because you want to, because it's your desire, and you have conviction in your hearts about it.

17. If the ban on System input were to continue indefinitely, it might solve some problems, but it wouldn't really teach you, dear Family, what you need to learn. It wouldn't really strengthen your convictions, your faith, and your discipleship. You would be obeying the rules, but you wouldn't have learned—like big boys and girls—to keep the things of the world in their rightful place, to choose the good and eschew the evil, to make the choices that strengthen your discipleship, not tear it down.

18. I do not wish to put a ban on worldly influences indefinitely. I wish for you, My children, to have the freedom to enjoy some of the good things that come from the world in moderation—such as an inspiring, uplifting movie. I want to teach you to be more godly and wise in the things you choose to let into your Homes and lives—and, yes, it is My will that the things of the world be much less of an issue in the Family Homes of the future. I wish for the things of the world that enter into your Homes and lives to be of a much more uplifting and godly nature. I do not sanction “anything goes,” as has been the attitude of many people in the past.

19. If I were to make an across-the-board rule of no System input for Family members, then I would be taking away an avenue for you to work according to your faith. Since every Home is now fully accountable before Me and before your shepherds, as are the individuals within those Homes, it's only logical that you Homes make the decisions about your System intake. If you choose to allow too much, or input that is ungodly or detrimental to discipleship, then you are in danger of your Home sinking. It's your choice.

20. I would leave the power for the choices regarding System input in the hands of the Homes and individuals within those Homes, for this is the way of the future. This is Home accountability. This is what will continue to bring about the strengthening of the Family—not banning System input and taking all decision-making power away from the Homes and individuals.

21. You, as a Home, can choose to have no System input within your community. This is perfectly acceptable, and a decision well within your power to make, if doing so is what is going to preserve your discipleship standard. I'm not making this rule, but if your Home decides to do so, that's your choice. It's important that you, My Family, don't think that this is what I'm requiring of you, or that in doing this you're going to be in My highest will—because that won't usually be the case.

22. In almost every case it will be My highest will that you learn to make wise decisions, that you learn to choose the good and eschew the evil, that you learn to do all the “dos”—such as keeping worldly input in its place, ensuring that you're putting witnessing and the needs of others before any worldly entertainment, that you're focusing on your discipleship and spiritual progress first and foremost—and not focus so much on the “don'ts.”

23. Other Homes will not choose to have a complete ban, but will rather vote on guidelines within the Home—such as how much System input is acceptable within the Home, and what type of System input, and what safeguards to put in place. At the end of the renewal, before allowing System input back into the Home, would be a good time to make such Home guidelines and rules and standards.

24. Again, it all boils down to the value of discipleship. If you value your discipleship and your place within the FD Family, then you're not going to allow System influences into your Homes and lives that are going to tear that down. You're going to stick to godly, uplifting forms of outside entertainment, and you're going to keep that input in its place. Similarly, if you want your children to grow up as disciples—strong in the faith, strong in witnessing, strong in the truth—then you're also going to be very wise about your children's worldly input. You'll pray about it, hear from Me on it, vote on it, and monitor it carefully and prayerfully.

25. I know that there are many of you within the Family who would rather I would just say, “Okay, no System input from this point on. The Family is going to remain pure and unscathed from the things of the world.” But, really, that's the easy way out. That would not strengthen the Family. That would not teach you to make the right decisions. It would also ban any forms of good, godly, uplifting avenues of entertainment that I would sanction and allow for Family members' relaxation and enjoyment.

26. The way things were prior to the renewal—as far as unchecked worldly input is concerned—will no longer be acceptable in the Family of the future. There was way too much worldly input, and much that was ungodly. I have now cleansed the Family and weaned the Family, and I don't want you to go back to the way things were before. I want there to be much more moderation, a greater level of prayerfulness and discernment regarding worldly input, and much more wisdom manifested by My disciples.

27. The Homes, and individuals within the Homes, are going to be accountable from the end of the renewal on, to be “in the world but not of the world,” to “choose the good and eschew the evil,” to determine “whatsoever things are true, honest, just, and pure,” and think on these things, to “be doers of the Word and not hearers only,” to “be wise as serpents” when choosing what to allow and what not to allow when it comes to worldly input.

28. You, My disciples within the Family, need to be strong enough to make these choices on your own, according to your faith, in accord-

ance with My Word and guidelines, and with conviction in your hearts. (*End of message.*)

29. (Mama:) As a refresher, following are excerpts from “Renewal: The Big Picture!”

The Lord intends for the renewal period to help each of us—and all of our Homes—to make long-term, permanent changes in our lives. It would be pointless to go through the renewal and cleansing if the changes we make in our lives are superficial ones that aren’t going to last. If we’re not going to make durable lifestyle adjustments and changes, then we might as well not even go through all the trouble. What’s the point, if not to have a total revolution and to break away from our old ways?

(Jesus:) Don’t hold your breath during this time, waiting to exhale when it’s all over. That’s not the goal or the plan. That’s not what I have in mind. I wish for this time to bring a complete and lasting change in each person’s heart, life, and spirit, and in every Home. I want this time to cleanse the Family. I want those things that have such a strong hold on the Family today to never have the same power over them again. I desire mindset changes, priority readjustments, and for each person to have a clearer perspective on their goals for Me and how they can best achieve their goals, and clearly know what things hinder them from achieving their goals.

I don’t want the Family to welcome the worldly influences, or other things they have forsaken, back into their lives in full force after the six-month period is over. That’s not to say that you’re never going to see another movie, read another book, play another computer game, or ever watch sports again. But I do wish for the importance of these worldly things to fade, for them to be kept in their proper place, and for the things of My Spirit and the challenges of lives lived for Me, and anything that aids you in your job of reaching the world with My love, to come to the fore, to be what is most important to you.

It’s not about you saying, “Okay, I can live without movies and the Internet for six months, and then I’ll just go back to the way things were before.” It’s all about changing your lifestyle and asking Me to rewire your mind and help you establish new and different habits that are more in line with what I need in My disciples for this time, for this era of history. Ask Me to help you make progress, not to make one step forward during the renewal and one step backward afterwards, as you exhale and return to all the things you’ve been longing for.

This renewal is a time of cleansing for those who want to be cleansed ... I’ll wash the mud and dirt and grime off of you. But going through the cleansing isn’t going to do you any good if you just go straight back to the mud of your previous habits or mindsets or ways of doing things. Why go through the washing machine of renewal and cleansing if you intend to get back in the same dirt you came from?

(Mama:) It’s permanent lifestyle changes we’re talking about here, and it’s important that you understand this before you even enter the renewal period. The changes the Lord wants to make in your life need to take root, so that the Family as a whole doesn’t sink back into its sad state prior to the renewal. If we do, He’ll raise up others to take our place. Our future is not guaranteed; our destiny is only going to play out if we make the right decisions, if the cleansing and restructuring of the Family takes hold, if our children and young people are also strengthened. That’s why it’s so important that the progress we make in these next six months isn’t torpedoed by decisions to sink back into our bad habits of the past.

(Jesus:) You now have the chance—the last chance in many ways—to prove whether or not the Family as you know it will still be the body of believers that will march into the Endtime as My brides, as My miracle workers of the End, as My called and chosen radical revolutionaries. If this cleansing fails and does not accomplish all that I

mean for it to accomplish, then the Family will forfeit this place in world history and it will be given to another. I've told you this so many times, but now you're standing at the threshold of that very thing happening. The decisions being made now are the decisions that will make or break the Family's future (ML #3489:72–77, 80–81, GN 1073).

30. (Mama:) As you can see from these new messages, and from these excerpts from the very first renewal GN, the Lord is serious about the danger of going back to the way things were prior to the renewal. We've made so much progress as a Family, and every individual within the Family has grown in different ways, that it would be such a shame to throw all of that away through not fighting to keep the ground we've gained.

31. We've fought so hard now, during these months, to be renewed, to be cleansed, to get back to the basics of discipleship, to forsake the things of the world, to grow in love and unity, to progress spiritually, and to grow and be strengthened! So let's hold on to the victories we've gained! Let's keep making steps forward and safeguard ourselves so we don't slip backward! Let's fight to gain yet more ground in the spirit, and not get lax and lazy in our commitments!

32. Get together as a Home and pray about your post-renewal plan. Don't just go back to your old ways, your old ruts! You are a new person today! Your Home is not the same as it was before! Don't you want to keep that progress? If so, fight to not allow your bad pre-renewal habits and addictions back into your Homes and lives—and I'm not just talking about worldly input; I'm talking about anything in your life that the Lord has changed for the better! Don't go back to the way things were before. Hold on to your victories.

33. And as far as worldly input goes, do as the Lord suggests. Decide on your guidelines as a Home. And if your Home decides to allow some forms of worldly entertainment, then make your decisions in counsel with the Lord, through prayer and discussion as a Home, and with wisdom and the mindsets of disciples.

34. Coming your way soon will be a few Shooting Straight GNs with more guidelines and updated information from the Lord on some of the different specific avenues of worldly

input. Lord willing, these GNs will be on the MO site before the end of the renewal, and will reach you in printed form either right at the end of the renewal or shortly thereafter. Before you make any solid decisions as a Home, you will want to read and study these GNs, as they will help to answer any questions you may be wondering about and give you a clearer picture of what the Lord has in mind for us, as a Family, at this time in our history. We pray that this counsel will help you in your prayer and discussions as a Home, and as you hear from the Lord about any post-renewal decisions. Be moderate, be wise, be prayerful, and guard your discipleship at all costs. Some forms of worldly entertainment do have their place, but let's keep them in their place! Amen?

35. "The keys of change will break any and all old habits, help you build new and better ones, and then give you the determination to never lose the ground you have gained in the spirit or go back to the way things were before."

36. God bless you, dear Family! I love you, and look forward to all of the wonderful things our Husband has in store for us as we continue yielding to His will and following Him wherever He leads!

Love and prayers, Mama

P.S. Home Discussion Points

Please discuss the following questions in one of your required Home meetings in December. If you don't have time to cover them thoroughly because of Christmas witnessing, you could at least set initial guidelines and safeguards and finish your discussions in early January.

1) Discuss what positive changes took place in your Home as a result of the renewal.

2) Discuss how you can hold on to the victories and lifestyle changes you have gained as a result of the fast of worldly input—such as what safeguards to establish so that worldly input can be kept in its proper place, how to continue to build unity, etc.

3) If you have children, JETTs, and junior teens in your Home, brainstorm ideas and discuss how you can continue to give them the time, attention, and care they need. Discuss how you can continue to make them and their needs a priority in your Home.