

David & Karen Hall
738 E. 2680 N.
Provo, UT 84604
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Dear Mark & Stephen,

Dad:

Mary had her farewell today. She is going to the Japan Nagoya mission. She will come home about the same time as Stephen because her mission is 18 months. I had to attend a bishopric meeting and so did not go but the rest of the family went this morning to her farewell..

BYU has won all three of its foot ball games so far but each by just a few points.. They were in colorado yesterday and it was raining and sleeting snow. It snowed 1/3 the way down timp here yesterday also.. The trees are turned most of the way down the mountain now.. We are having a very cold and wet fall which points to another wet winter and maybe record run off in the spring again..

Michael and Mom went to Utah State yesterday to a college of engineering re-union for Michael.. Mom went to look for a home or duplex. We plan to purchase something up in Logan for you kids to stay in while attending college.. Mom found that home prices have appreciated alot up in Logan also and that there is a shortage of housing..

Stephen, since you have to do so much tracting you might consider following up on inactive members and old contacts that the missionaries had in the past as well as cold calls.. Sister Wiggins told me that her son had more success with inactive members than tracting. He found that usually there was other members of the family that had not been baptized yet and by activating the baptized member he was able to baptize other family members.

When tracting got old for me on my mission I worked with the ministers of other churchs to help them with projects and as a result got good referrals for discussions. I was usually in small areas where we could not tract much anyway but I believe that the Lord can inspire you to find a variety of ways to contact people so that no method becomes so repetitive that you lose the missionary spirit.

Barbara:

Dear, Mark and Steven how are stuff down there? Here stuff is ok. I sighed up for Dance lessons.

Love Dad

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The following is from a conversation with Tracy. He read part of Mary's last letter over the phone to me and gave me some other news from the family:

Dear family, (Mary's letter 8 Oct. 1993)

Happy P-day to me! this morning our district went to the temple and did baptism for all of the names of one of our teacher's uncle's family file. Next week we'll do initiatories and the week after that the endowments--sort of our district temple project. We also baptized 60 names from the Stan James file (this is a file that her father is helping with.) It was a great morning. Good practice for the elders and good for me to see my district in that context. They all helped baptize, confirm, witness etc. It helps me remember why we are all here at the MTC. We have a lot of fun together and that's good, but sometimes it is more like a big frat party than anything--its easy to forget we're all called of the Lord. I listened to Janet (Bartholomew's) farewell the other night. It made me cry. I think her mission is going to be a blessing to a lot of people, especially her family. The sisters in my apt. are Amy Hodges from Colorado, Amy Humprhies from Parawon, my companion and me. We joked that if it weren't for Sister Clark it could be the 4H apt. We have also decided that we are going to write a musical based on the life of "Four Shimmis (Japanese for sister) at the MTC!" We laughed our heads off coming up with choreography the other night. Sometimes the sisters in my building sing in the shower. It's great. Last week we had an incredible group of us wailing out amazing graze in 3 part harmony. There is also a tradition that we gather at the apartment of the sisters who are finished here the night before they catch their plane and sing "God be with you 'til we meet again".

Sister Clark and I have already had a cool teaching experience yesterday. We were doing a practice follow up with some sister in another district. (we practice teaching the discussions to the same two sisters all the way through discussions one- 6-so far we've only taught 1.1) There was a group of elders in the same room so it was pretty loud and distracting. One of the elders likes to play the difficult investigator and it can get pretty silly. We reviewed our last lesson with the sisters and found out how they were doing, introduced the Book of Mormon and committed them to read some passages etc. Then we decided to sing them "I Am a Child of God" since that's one of the important parts of 1.1. It was a testimony to me, because we were singing very softly, just two voices in 2 parts, stumbling over the Japanese--not even singing very well-- but the whole room fell silent and the whole mood changed. Afterward my sensei (teacher) who had been observing to give us feedback just said "Wow, I really felt the spirit!" Back in our classroom Olson choro (elder) said when I overheard Sister Hall and Clark planning their visit and saying maybe they would sing for them I thought, oh my gosh, how stupid, it's only a practice, how cheesy. But I have