

# JACKSON FAMILY NEWS

*A Newsletter for Friends and Partners in Ministry of Bruce and Brenda Jackson      Spring 1988*

It is hard to believe that Spring is upon us and that we have completed our first year in this ministry to families! What a joy it has been for us to see many of you as we have traveled thousands of miles and had the opportunity to touch countless lives for Jesus Christ. Our only regret, as we share in this way, is that our time to be together with friends is so short! We find ourselves longing to linger over just one more cup of coffee with that special family that we have met, or spend time having breakfast with a beloved pastor where we have ministered the night before. I guess that is why God gives us the opportunity to belong to His family, realizing that our eternity together will not be limited by time and miles but will be savored in everlasting fellowship!



In this past year, we have seen an extraordinary out-

*"We thank  
our God in  
all our  
remembrance  
of you."*

*Philippians 1:3*

pouring of God's blessing on our efforts to touch as many lives as possible with the message of the gospel and God's standard for the home. It has been our privilege to be hosted by churches of more than fifteen different denominations as we have traveled in, primarily, the Midwest and East coast states. This past summer, we were part of the program for one of the nation's only remaining Chautauqua organizations (formed in 1895 for the purpose of culturally informing and educating the people of that particular area). We also have been guests of civic organizations such as a Dayton, Ohio area Rotary Club, where we had the opportunity to present a family Christmas concert. Wherever a door for ministry has opened we have shared the uncompromised

message that God, through His son Jesus, gives us an unwavering foundation in a world full of instability! Please continue to pray for wisdom and discernment for us as we consider invitations from California and other Western states for an early '89 tour. Also, two invitations for ministry in foreign countries have come to us, presenting some interesting future possibilities for touching the families of the world!



We will long remember this past year in our family as the year when our son Brent, at age two, potty-trained himself; when our daughter Brittany sang in her first concert, and when all of our lives changed so drastically that we were no longer certain where we lived! Launching a full-time ministry has certainly been a learning experience for all of us and organization has been a top priority for us as we seek to take advantage of every opportunity for service. We have had to

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continually update our office, making needed additions of equipment for correspondence, mailing and filing. The addition of a computer for some of these tasks has been an immeasurable time-saver for us. Also, a major investment in organization and comfortable travel became necessary and we purchased a Southwind motorhome, which came at a time when we were not sure how many more major trips our van (with 110,000 miles) could take! The Lord supplied a vehicle for us that will not only provide us with adequate space, but will serve as a home for us when we are gone for extended periods of time. What we will save in the high costs of restaurant and motel bills virtually will pay for the cost of this vehicle without putting our ministry under any financial burden. We have found that God is always ready to give us His best if we are willing to *wait* for His best!

*Many of you have made a financial investment in this special outreach to families this year and we want to thank you for sharing our vision. Your participation has made it possible for us to touch thousands of lives with a unique ministry that will reap eternal dividends!*

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## What Makes a Marriage Work?

*"But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection." Colossians 3:14*

A 104-year-old California man and his 96-year-old wife recently celebrated 80 years of marriage. She had been a 16-year-old "child bride" in a marriage the families had arranged. They had no dating period — no chance to "fall in love" by today's standards. So many things were against them. Yet they raised five children, survived the Great Depression, and lived to see a day when nearly half of all marriages end in divorce.

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## We'd Love to Visit You!

Do you know of a church or organization that would benefit from a special family emphasis and music ministry? We would appreciate a word of personal recommendation from you to the Pastor, Music Director, or Concert Promoter in your area! Dates for the coming year are filling rapidly and we would be thrilled to see *you* on our next trip. Write or call for information and we'll be in touch!

Check our itinerary located on the next page to see when we will be in your area...if you need more specific information concerning any of our concert dates, please drop us a note!

*Bruce and Brenda Jackson  
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Englewood, Ohio 45322  
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How in the world did they do it? They did it the same way other members of their generation did it. They stayed together on the basis of values that are different from those shared by most newlyweds today. For them, love meant commitment, "till death us do part". What happened to those old values? Why do so many people live with the regret of broken marriages, broken homes, broken families, and broken promises? Maybe it's time to look again at the values that make marriages work — *mercy, kindness, humility, longsuffering, forbearance, and forgiveness* (Col 3:12,13). Old-fashioned? Perhaps — but they work!

*Reprinted from The Daily Bread, December 1987*





## A New Release from Brittany!

After hearing your many responses to her uninhibited singing in our concerts and after receiving your requests for a recording of her singing *Daddy, You're the Only Man in My Heart*, we are pleased to announce that Brittany's first recording is now available on cassette!

A precious collection of children's songs is captured in stereo for the listening enjoyment of the entire family. Songs featured on the recording include:

- *They Can't Make a Monkey Out of Me*
- *How Great Thou Art*
- *Don't Be Afraid*
- *Count Your Blessings*, and of course,
- *Daddy, You're the Only Man in My Heart*.

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We are thrilled to see this avenue of ministry to children opening up, and for your financial investment of \$10 or more, we will send you a copy of this sweet recording to bless the life of that child that's close to you!

## Look Where We're Headed...

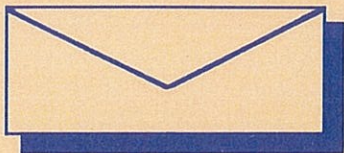
April 1	Hagerstown, MD
April 3	Ft. Washington & Baltimore, MD
April 6	Long Island, NY
April 9&10	Staten Island, NY
April 17	Springfield, VA
April 24	Van Wert, OH
April 29	Wheaton, IL
May 1	Lombard, IL
May 8	Cherubusco & Fort Wayne, IN
May 15	Chicago, IL
May 20-25	Milwaukee, WI
May 29-June 6	Minneapolis, MN
June 19	Myerstown, PA
June 30	Merrillville, IN
July 3-11	Knoxville, TN
July 17	Marion and Dayton, OH
July 24	Dayton, OH
July 31	Kokomo, IN
August 7	Xenia, OH
August 28	McLean, VA
September 4	Sandy Cove Bible Conf., NJ

## ORDER FORM

- ☐ Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ cassettes of Brittany's recording.
- ☐ Please send my \_\_\_\_\_ albums and/or \_\_\_\_\_ cassettes of your recording, "*A Miracle and Nothing Less*" at \$9.00 each plus \$1 for postage and handling.
- ☐ Bruce and Brenda, please pray for me! The following are my prayer requests: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I am praying for you!
- ☐ Enclosed is my \_\_\_\_\_ one-time (or) \_\_\_\_\_ monthly gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help you continue to reach families for Christ.

*(Gift of \$25 or more will receive a receipt for tax purposes)*





## Responses of Note...

We want you to know how much our family appreciates your letters and notes! Thank you for this ministry of encouragement to us... and thank you for letting us share our ministry with your family!

*Dear Bruce and Brenda,*

*I sure would like to buy another tape from you. The tape I would like is the one where you played the piano and she sat with you on the piano bench. The words were something like, "Daddy, don't you know that I love you..." I loved the song very much. You see, the song really ministered to me. I was abused by my father when I was very little. I was always afraid of him but still, in a tortured way, wanted to love him. I have a very hard time seeing God as a loving father and that song would help me.*

*—Toledo, Ohio*

*Dear Bruce and Brenda,*

*I listen to your tape over and over as I work through the day. My favorite song is "A Miracle and Nothing Less", but I love them all and they all help me. My husband and I were saved four years ago, and it is our goal and most important job to raise our family to love the Lord as we do and to help them with their talents so that they will be prepared to serve God wherever he chooses to use them. Your ministry helped to encourage me even more...the world truly needs more families like yours.*

*—Duncansville, Pennsylvania*

*Dear Bruce and Brenda,*

*I am a nineteen year old who attended your concert. I'm from one of those "hurting families" you spoke of. My parents are both alcoholics and I am recovering from alcoholism, divorce, and drug addiction. I realized that what you were singing was especially for me! I have been trying to hold myself responsible for my parents shortcomings. I started listening to the tape that I purchased that Sunday, and I let God have full control. I praise the Lord for messengers like you!*

*—New Carlisle, Ohio*

*Dear Bruce and Brenda,*

*Thank you so much for sharing your God-given talent with us. I know in my situation God worked through you and gave me a renewed strength. My marriage, by the grace of God, is going to work out A-okay! God bless you.*

*—North Vernon, Indiana*

*Dear Bruce and Brenda,*

*Thank you very much for the tape....It gives me hope to go on with my life. I am having a hard time with depression. I'm 33 and I don't have a family started yet....If I ever have a family, I'd want it to be like yours is — filled with God's love.*

*—Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania*

**Bruce & Brenda Jackson**

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