

PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP INC

Form 424B5

December 27, 2004

Pricing Supplement 12/23/2004  
Dated

Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)

(To Prospectus dated March 5, 2004, and  
Prospectus Supplement dated March 5, 2004)

Registration Statement Nos. 333-110499 and  
333-110499-01

CUSIP: 74254PDS8

**Principal Life Insurance Company**  
**Principal® Life CoreNotes® (Callable)**  
**Issued Through**  
**Principal Life Income Fundings Trust 2004-81 (the Trust )**

The description of this pricing supplement of the particular terms of the Principal® Life CoreNotes® offered hereby, and the Funding Agreement (specified below) sold by Principal Life Insurance Company to the Trust (specified herein), the payment obligations of which are fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the Guarantee (specified below) issued by Principal Financial Group, Inc. to the Trust, supplements the description of the general terms and provisions of the notes, the funding agreements and the guarantees set forth in the accompanying prospectus and prospectus supplement, to which reference is hereby made.

**1. The Notes**

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Principal Amount:	\$6,429,000.0	Purchasing Agent Discount:	1.500%
Issue Price:	100.0%	Original Issue Date:	12/29/2004
Net Proceeds to the Trust:	\$6,332,565.0	Stated Maturity Date:	12/15/2014

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Interest Payment Dates: The 15th day of every sixth month commencing on 06/15/2005.

Initial Interest Payment Date: 06/15/2005

Regular Record Date: The 1st day of every sixth month commencing on 06/01/2005.

Type of Interest Rate:  Fixed Rate  Floating Rate

Fixed Rate Notes:  Yes  No. If, Yes,

Interest Rate: 5.00%

Floating Rate Notes:  Yes  No. If, Yes,

Regular Floating Rate Notes:  Yes  No. If, Yes,

Interest Rate:

Interest Rate Basis(es):

Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Note:     Yes             No.            If, Yes,

Floating Interest Rate:

Interest Rate Basis(es):

Fixed Interest Rate:

Fixed Rate Commencement Date:

Initial Interest Rate, if any:            N/A

Initial Interest Reset Date:            N/A

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CoreNotes<sup>®</sup> is a registered service mark of Merrill Lynch & Co.*



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Initial Redemption Date: 12/15/2005  
Redemption:  In whole only and not in part  
 May be in whole or in part  
Additional Other Terms: Any redemption date will be an Interest Payment Date falling on or after the Initial Redemption Date  
  
Repayment:  Yes  No. If, Yes,  
Repayment Date(s):  
Repayment Price:  
Repayment:  In whole only and not in part  
 May be in whole or in part  
Additional/Other Terms:  
  
Sinking Fund (not applicable unless specified): N/A  
  
Securities Exchange Listing:  Yes  No. If, Yes, Name of Exchange:  
  
Authorized Denominations: \$1,000

Ratings:

The Notes issued under the Program are rated AA by Standard & Poor's ( S&P ).  
 Principal Life expects the Notes to be rated Aa2 by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ( Moody's ).

Purchasing Agent(s) Purchasing Notes as  Yes  No. If, Yes,  
 Principal:

<u>Purchasing Agent(s)</u>	<u>Principal Amount</u>
Merrill Lynch	\$6,429,000.0
Total:	\$6,429,000.0

State of Organization of the Trust: New York

Additional/Other Terms: None

Special Tax Considerations: None

**2. The Funding Agreement**

Funding Agreement Issuer: Principal Life Insurance Company

Funding Agreement No.: 4-51528

Deposit: \$6,429,015.0

Net Deposit: \$6,332,565.0

Effective Date: 12/29/2004

Stated Maturity Date: 12/15/2014

Interest Payment Dates: The 15th day of every sixth month commencing on 06/15/2005.

Initial Interest Payment Date: 06/15/2005

Type of Interest Rate:  Fixed Rate  Floating Rate

Fixed Rate Funding Agreement:  Yes  No. If, Yes,

Interest Rate: 5.00%



Index Maturity: N/A

Spread (+/-): N/A

Spread Multiplier: N/A

Interest Reset Date(s): N/A

Interest Rate Determination Date(s): N/A

Maximum Interest Rate, if any: N/A

Minimum Interest Rate, if any: N/A

Computation of Interest: N/A  
(not applicable unless different than as specified in the prospectus and prospectus supplement)

Day Count Convention: N/A  
(not applicable unless different than as specified in the prospectus and prospectus supplement)

Discount Funding Agreement:  Yes  No. If, Yes,  
 Total Amount of Discount:  
 Initial Accrual Period of Discount:  
 Additional/Other Terms:

Terms of Survivor's Option:  
 Annual Put Limitation:  \$2,000,000 or 2%; or  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or %  
 Individual Put Limitation:  \$250,000; or  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trust Put Limitation:  2%; or \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Redemption:  Yes  No. If, Yes,  
 Initial Redemption Date: 12/15/2005  
 Redemption:  In whole only and not in part  
 May be in whole or in part  
 Additional Other Terms: Any redemption date will be an Interest Payment Date falling on or after the Initial Redemption Date

Repayment:  Yes  No. If, Yes,  
 Repayment Date(s):  
 Repayment Price:  
 Repayment:  In whole only and not in part  
 May be in whole or in part  
 Additional/Other Terms:  
 N/A



Sinking Fund (not applicable unless specified):

Ratings:

The Funding Agreement issued under the Program is rated AA by S&P.

Principal Life expects the Funding Agreement to be rated Aa2 by Moody's.

Additional/Other Terms: None

Special Tax Considerations: None

### **3. The Guarantee**

Guarantee Issuer: Principal Financial Group, Inc.

Effective Date: 12/29/2004

Additional/Other Terms: None