

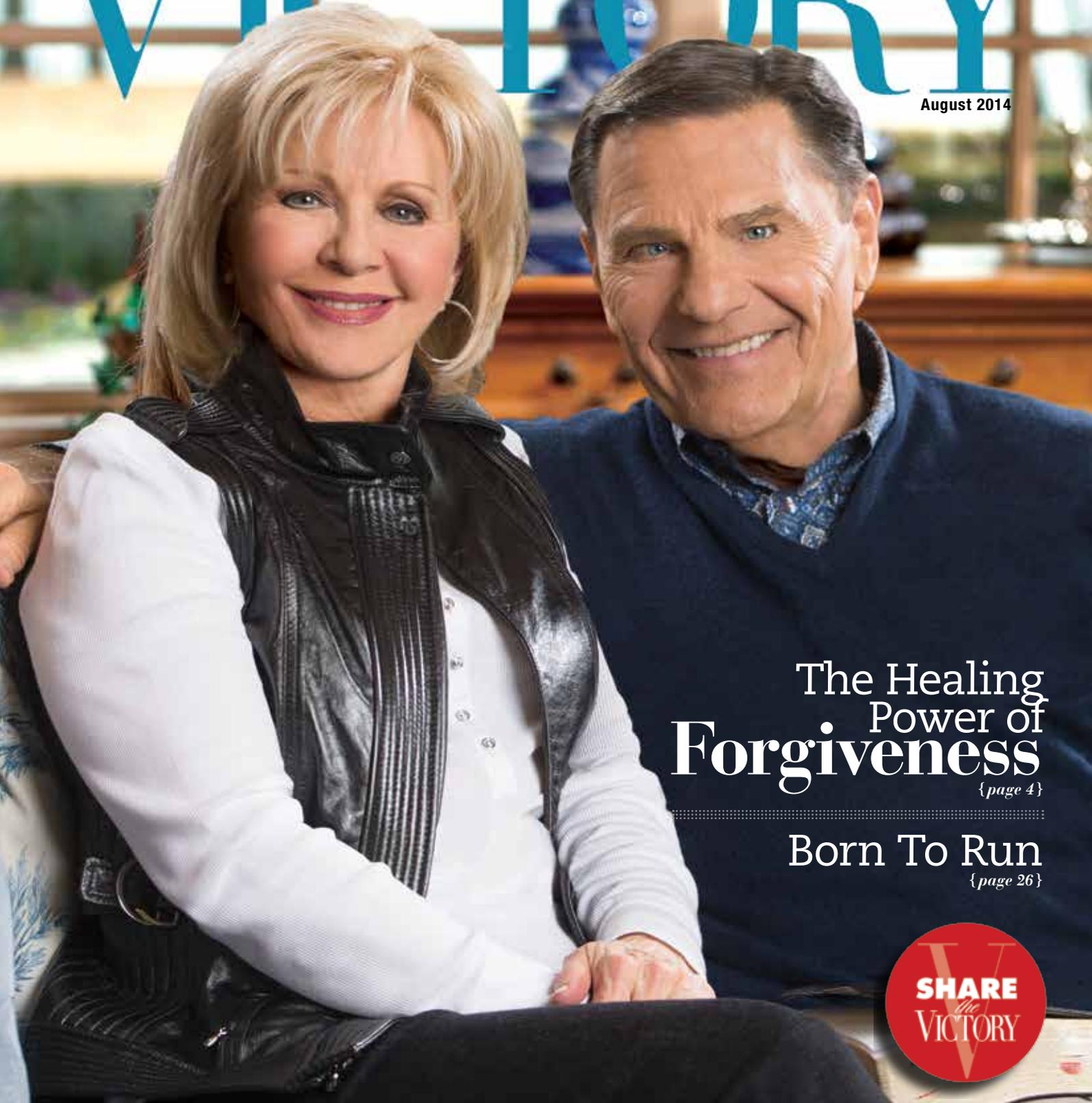
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Believer's Voice of

# VICTORY

August 2014



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Power of  
**Forgiveness**  
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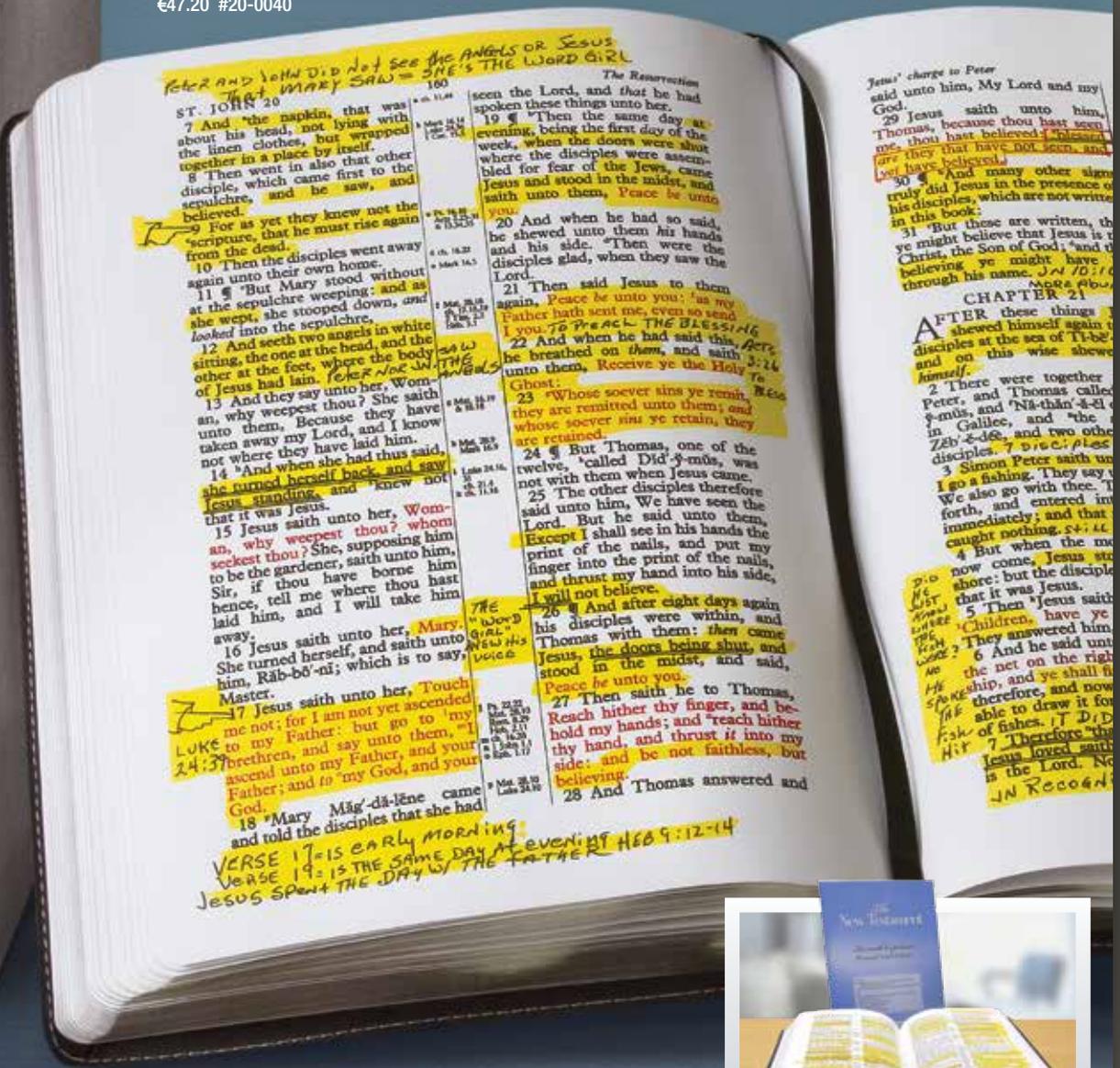
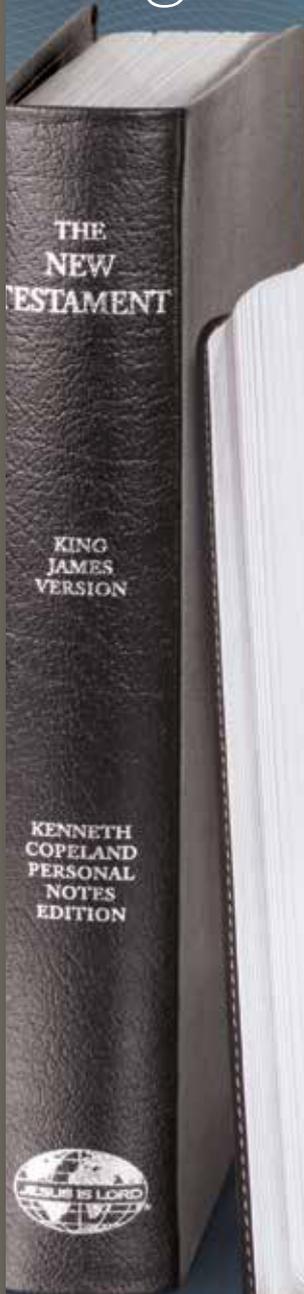
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# August



Good News! That's what *Believer's Voice of Victory* has been bringing to you each month since 1973. For 41 years, it has been our joy to bring you good news through the teachings of ministers who write out of living contact with God, and through the testimonies of believers who took God at His WORD and experienced His victory in their lives. We are committed to teaching you how to live a life of faith and experience God's victory—every day!

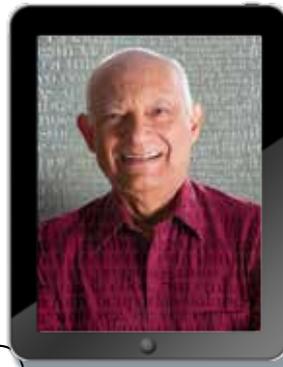
*Kenneth & Gloria*

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# *the* Healing Power of Forgiveness

There's nothing in the world more practical and predictable than faith in God's WORD.

It always produces dependable, consistent results. When we use it the way God designed it, living by faith is much like driving a car. All we have to do is follow the manufacturer's instructions and our faith gets us wherever we want to go...and it gets us there all the time, every time, without fail.

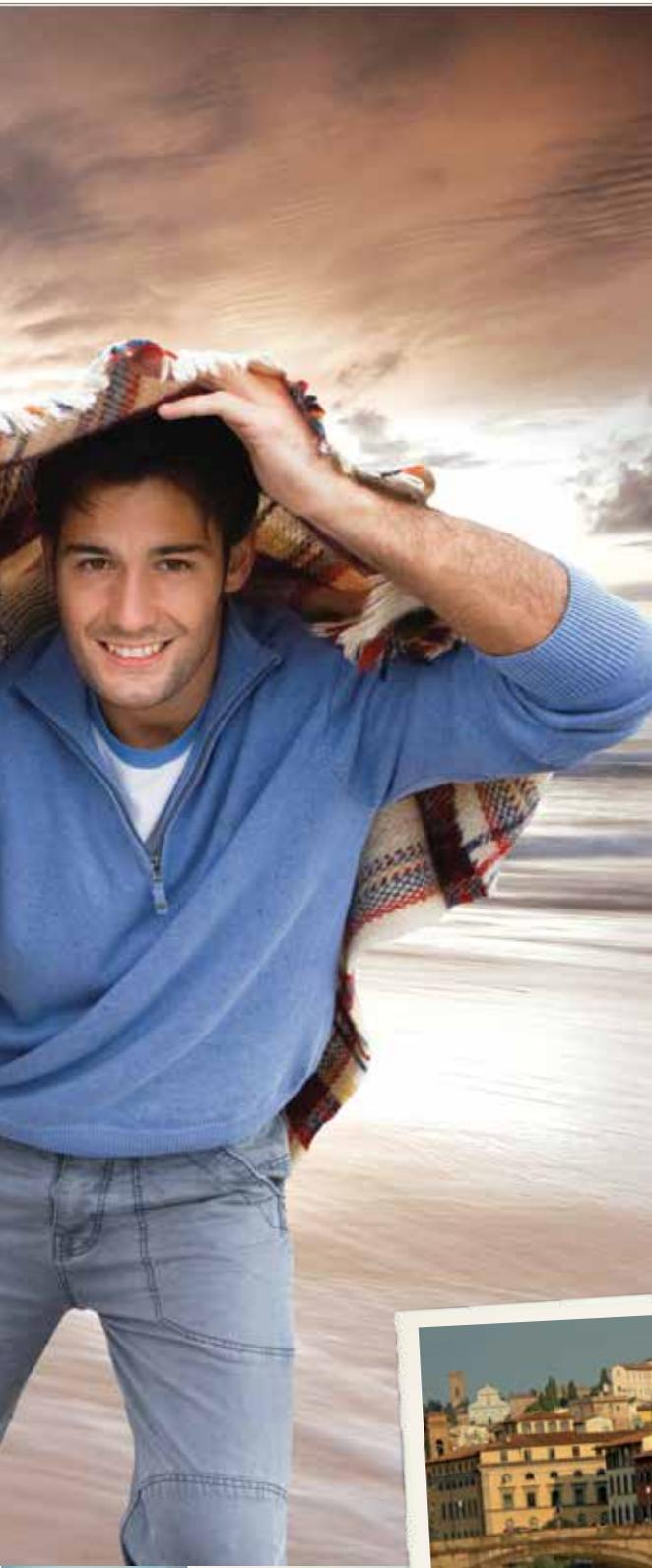
**I**f it doesn't, it's because something is out of line. It's not because God in His sovereignty just decided to put His foot on the brake. It's not because, as some people say, "He works in mysterious ways and you just never know what He's going to do." It's because there's a problem somewhere.

Most of us understand this when it comes to our automobiles. If we put the key in the ignition, turn it and nothing happens, we don't just shake our heads and say, "Well, I guess



*by Kenneth Copeland*

*That's the beauty of the New Covenant. It has empowered us and set us free, not to disregard Jesus' commandments, but to keep them—just because we love Him!*



it's just not the will of General Motors (or Toyota, Chevrolet or whatever) that I go anywhere today. I guess I'm just meant to stay home."

No, we say, "Hey, what's wrong here?" Then we check the gas gauge, look under the hood or call a mechanic because we know we're not going anywhere until we identify the problem and get it fixed.

We ought to respond much the same way when our faith fails to function properly. If we pray and believe God for something and don't get results, we should grab our faith manual—the Bible—and find out what's messing up the system. One of the first verses we should look at is John 14:21 where Jesus said: "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him."

Right there, in that one scripture, we can see how to fix almost any seeming "faith failure." We do it by *having* and *keeping* Jesus' commandments; by *hearing*, *believing* and *obeying* His WORD. When we do those things, He can manifest Himself to us—and when Jesus is in manifestation our faith always gets results.

"Well, Brother Copeland," someone might say, "I don't know if I agree with

that. It sounds like legalism to me. I don't think we have to earn things from God by keeping commandments."

Of course we don't. Jesus already earned everything for us and made us His joint heirs. Through Him, every spiritual blessing in heavenly places is ours just because we're born again. That's the beauty of the New Covenant. It has empowered us and set us free, not to disregard Jesus' commandments, but to keep them—*just because we love Him!*

### Love Lessons From God

Over the years, The LORD has taught me a lot about this through my relationship with Gloria. We just celebrated our 52nd wedding anniversary. We're seldom apart for any reason and we're stronger together now than we've ever been. Gloria gets most of the credit for this because she's always excelled in her love walk.

I, on the other hand, haven't. Particularly in my early years as a believer, I needed extra help from The LORD when it came to operating in love, so I often asked Him about it. One day He was teaching me how to be a better husband and He said something to me I'll never forget.

He said, *If you want to be like Me, if you want to love like I do, listen to Gloria and when you hear her talk about something she likes, then make it your business to find a way to get it for her.*





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At the time, I thought that would be easy to do. But over the years, it's turned out to be more challenging than I expected because Gloria isn't the kind of person who goes around talking about what she wants. Sometimes I'll ask, "How do you like this particular thing?"

"Oh, it's OK," she'll say.

"Well, is there something else you'd like?" I'll ask.

"No. I'm all right."

Every once in a while, though, she'll give me a clue. She'll say, "Wow! What a beautiful pair of earrings (or car, or whatever)!" Immediately, I'm all ears. I'm thinking, *Where can I buy that for her?* Then I'm on the phone, asking how much it costs and believing God for the money to get it.

Why? Because I enjoy blessing her. It gives me great pleasure to give her what she likes. I'm not trying to earn anything from her or impress her. I just love her!

That's how we, as believers, ought to be with Jesus. We should develop our relationship with Him to the point where we're highly sensitive to what He wants. The minute we even think there's anything He might like, we ought to be all over it, saying, "Oh, yeah! Jesus wants that, so I'm going to do it!" Not because we're trying to earn something from Him but because we love Him.

"What if He wants me to do something I don't quite like?" you might ask.

Then trust Him to change what you like. Say, "Yes, Sir!" in response to His command and then put your faith in Philippians 2:13: "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure."

If you'll just be willing to be willing, God will fix your likes so they line up with His. In the process, He'll help you see that whatever He commands you to do is always to your advantage. Then His commands will start looking better and better to you.

## Commands Are Not Optional

Personally, I'm thrilled with the commands Jesus has given me—especially the ones about faith. That's why one of my favorite passages in the Bible is Mark 11:22-26 where Jesus said:

Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

Jesus gave us a number of commands in those verses. First, He told us to "have faith in God," or as one translation puts it, "have the God kind of faith." What is the God kind of faith? It's the same kind Jesus has. It's the kind of faith He functioned in when He was on earth, which is the kind that always works.

Is it really possible for us to have that kind of faith? Yes, it is and here's why: Jesus always authorizes and empowers us to do whatever He commands. Therefore, the very fact that He commanded us to have the God kind of faith—faith that speaks to mountains, and receives whatever it asks for in prayer—means He has authorized and empowered us to do it.

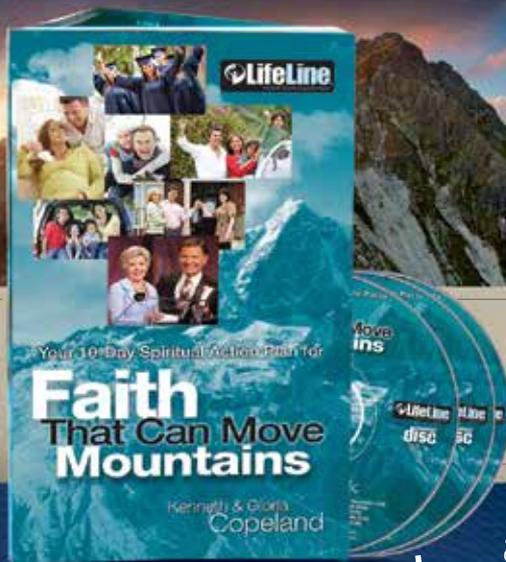
That's good news. It's worth shouting about!

But Jesus didn't stop there. He went on to say something else of major importance. He said, "When you stand praying, forgive."

That is a huge command! Everything Jesus said about faith

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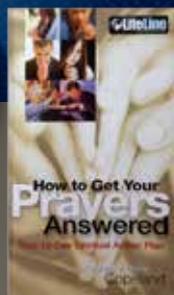
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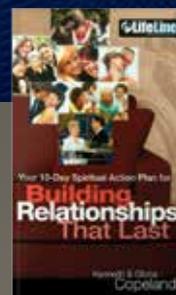
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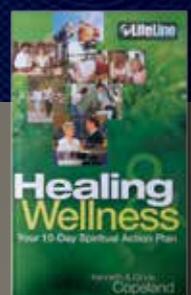
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# Enough for Every Good Work



When Ken and I were first learning to walk in faith for prosperity, more than 45 years ago, we didn't know very much of God's Word yet. We received our revelation piece by piece. Every time we'd learn something new, we'd put it into practice.

by *Gloria Copeland*

Actually, it's much easier for us now to walk in prosperity than it was back then. Today, we have to believe for millions of dollars just to pay our TV bills. But that's not nearly as challenging as it was to believe God back then for food on the table. During those days I often had to pray in the spirit just to pay my way out at the grocery store. That was the hardest time of all because we were just learning.

You have to grow in these things. If you're just now hearing that God wants you to prosper, you probably won't be able to get a million dollars in cash by this time next week.

Why? Because your faith isn't up to that yet. What you need to do is start right where you are. Start believing God for rent money. Start believing God to buy groceries. Start believing and then increase.

That's what we did. We just kept growing.

We kept listening to God and walking in the faith that we had, and it grew bigger. And we kept tithing and giving!

What's important is to start now. Don't wait until next month. If you want a change, make a change. Start believing God for the things you need today. Start thanking Him for them. Tell the devil you're out from under his curse. Grab hold of the Word of God and don't let go.

If you'll do that and stay with it, and continue to do what God tells you, you'll eventually have a surplus of prosperity so that not only can you pay your bills, but you can also have the capacity to give into every good work!

## Speak the Word

God makes all grace abound toward me. I always have all sufficiency in all things. I abound to every good work.  
2 Corinthians 9:8

hangs on it because "faith...worketh by love" (Galatians 5:6), and forgiveness is an essential expression of love. Without forgiveness, faith won't function. It just sits there like a car with a dead battery, going nowhere.

Many Christians haven't understood this. They've had the idea that forgiveness is optional. "You just don't know what that person did to me!" they'll say. "I've been trying to forgive them for years but I haven't been able to do it. I guess I just need a little more time."

Such statements directly contradict what Jesus said. He didn't tell us to take years to forgive people. He commanded us to forgive them right now, immediately, while we're praying. He told us to do it before we say, "Amen!" Not because He's hardheaded but because our faith (and therefore, the answer to our prayer) depends on it.

## The Power That Forgives Is the Power That Heals

If you want to see how vital forgiveness actually is, think about the paralyzed man in the New Testament whose four friends brought him to Jesus for healing. You probably remember his story. His friends couldn't get into the house where Jesus was preaching because there were too many people in it. So they ripped off part of the roof, put him on a mat, and lowered him down into the meeting.

Sure enough, the plan worked and Jesus ministered to him. But He didn't start by addressing the paralysis. Instead, He said, "Son, thy sins be forgiven thee" (Mark 2:5).

That didn't go over very well, especially with the religious crowd. They thought, *This is blasphemy. Only God can forgive sins!*

And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts? Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy,

Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house. And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all (Mark 2:8-12).

Do you see what happened there? Jesus declared and demonstrated the fact that the power that forgives is exactly the same power that heals.

The Bible calls that power the *anointing*, and it's a tangible, spiritual force. It's the force Jesus was talking about in Luke 4:18 when He said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised."

This burden-removing, yoke-destroying anointing is also the power behind forgiveness. So when we refuse or neglect to forgive, we choke it off and hinder its operation in our lives.

That's dangerous business!

"I know, Brother Copeland," you might say, "but what if someone has hurt me so much, I can't even stand the thought of them? What am I supposed to do?"

Just obey Jesus. He didn't ask you to feel better about the person who wronged you. He commanded you to forgive them. Forgiveness isn't about feelings. It's an act of obedience. It's choosing to put God's WORD above your emotions by making a decision to say, "I forgive."

The quicker you do that, the better off you'll be.

The reverse is also true. The longer you wait, the worse things will get and the more deeply mired in unforgiveness you'll become.

You'll just be going along doing something else entirely, when

suddenly you'll find yourself mentally rehearsing the ugly things someone did and said to you. You'll imagine yourself saying the things you wish you'd said at the time. With each rehearsal, the conversation in your head will get uglier. The negative effects will be re-energized. You'll relive the hurt and it will do more damage.

Every one of us has done this at one time or another. We've all gotten caught in a cycle of unforgiveness and spent hours, days or even months, feeling angry and hurt and upset with someone. It's a miserable experience.

But as born-again believers we don't have to get trapped in it anymore. Instead, we can do what Jesus commanded, and we can do it instantly. As soon as we realize we "have ought against any," while we stand praying we can forgive!

We don't have to make a big production out of it, either. If there are other people around us at the time, we can just whisper quietly so no one else can hear, "LORD, I forgive that person." Thirty minutes later if the negative thoughts come back to our mind again, we can say it again. "LORD, I'm not a condemner. I'm a forgiver—and I forgive."

Do you know what will happen when we do that?

The anointing will start flowing in that area of our lives. God's burden-removing, yoke-destroying power will go to work and give us insight into that troublesome situation. He'll show us what we can do to correct it. He'll start working in us and through us to bring healing to everyone and everything involved.

Better yet, because we're walking in love, Jesus will be manifesting Himself to us. Our spiritual engine will be roaring and our faith will be working just like God designed it—bringing His promises to pass for us and taking us wherever we want to go.

All the time! Every time! Without fail! 🍷

## points to get you there

### forgiveness

There's nothing more practical and predictable than faith in God's WORD. It always produces dependable, consistent results. When it doesn't, it's because there's a problem somewhere, and often the problem is unforgiveness. If you want to receive what you're believing God for, always be quick to forgive. Here are some points to help you:

#### 1 Forgiveness is a vital part of the prayer of faith.

Mark 11:25: "And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."

#### 2 Forgiveness is an expression of love.

Galatians 5:6: "...faith...worketh by love."

#### 3 Forgiveness isn't optional, it's a New Testament command.

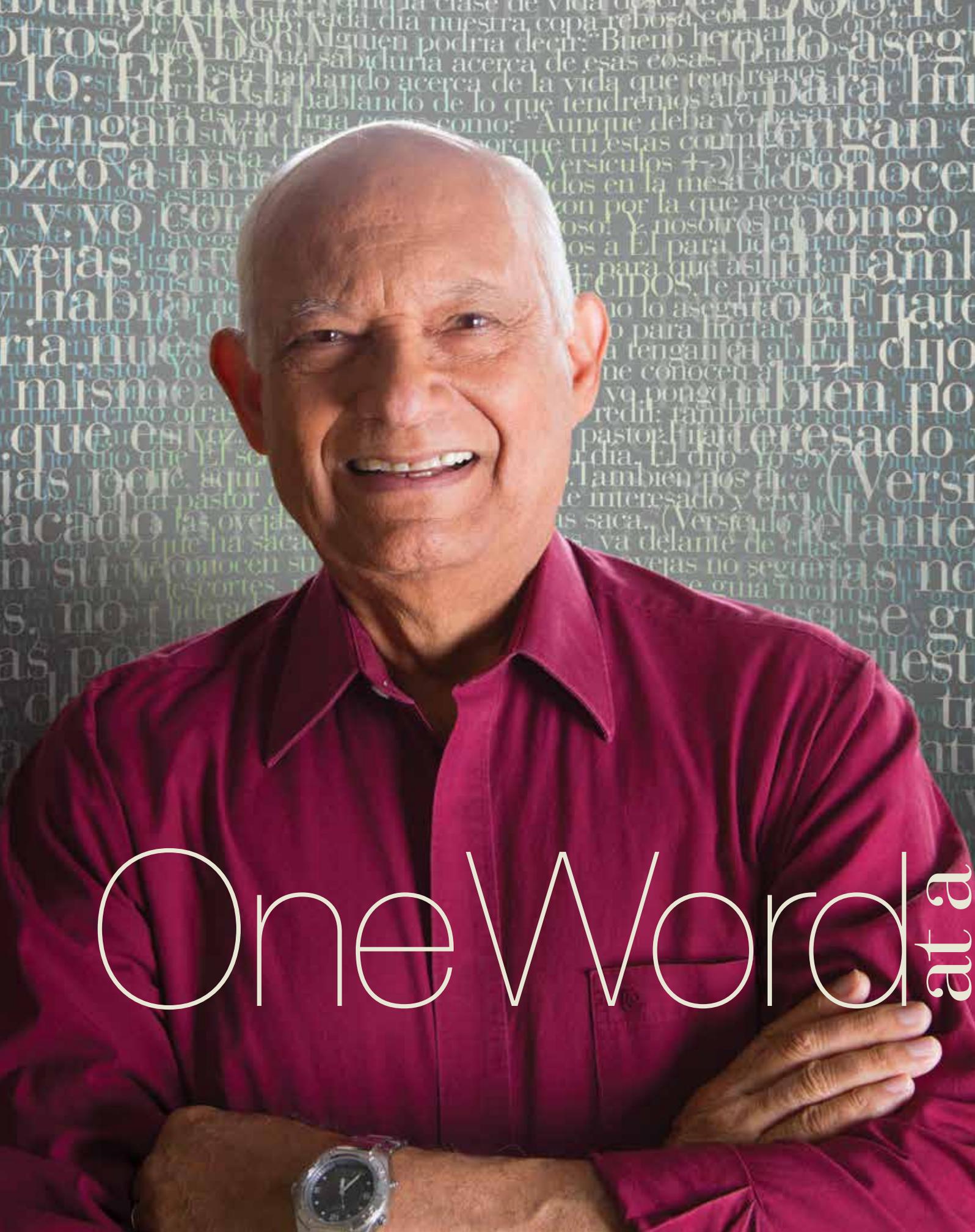
John 14:21: "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him."

#### 4 God will help you become willing to forgive.

Philippians 2:13: "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure."

#### 5 The divine power behind forgiveness is also the power that heals.

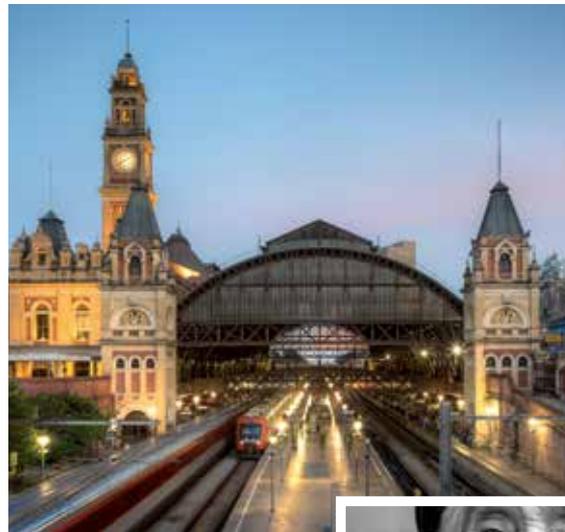
Mark 2:10-11: "But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house."



# One Word at a

Bells rang out, calling the faithful to worship as 17-year-old **Stanley Black** genuflected before sliding onto the worn pew. His usually happy face was creased with furrowed brows and a frown. Kneeling, he heaved a sigh and closed his eyes. His life was...*what?* He concentrated, searching for the right word. *Blended.* That was the perfect word to describe it.

His country, Costa Rica, was a hodge-podge of blended cultures, blended religions and a blend of primitive jungles mixed with modern cities. His father's family had emigrated from India. His mother's family was Scottish. Stanley had been born in Jamaica. Just following his family's migration patterns required a global map and skill using it.



It's been nearly 60 years since 17-year-old Stanley Black took the gospel to the streets, hospitals and jungles of Costa Rica. Since then, he's taken that good news to 55 countries.



At school, Stanley listened as the German priest, who was also his professor, expounded on a common theme. "Our church is the mother of all religions," he said. "Going to a Protestant church is the unforgivable sin!" Stanley broke out in a cold sweat. *Mama. Papa.* There was no forgiveness for their sin. There was nothing left to pray. His father, a dairy farmer, had invited their veterinarian to his birthday party. Afterward, the doctor had said, "I'd like to reciprocate your kindness. Please visit our church. In honor of your birthday, we want to pray for you." His parents had been duped into going.

Stanley left church hoping that God had heard his prayers and his parents had not committed the unpardonable sin. At home, his mother beamed, "We're now born-again Christians!"

The color drained from Stanley's face.

"I was stunned by what my parents had done," Stanley recalls. "There wasn't much gospel in Costa Rica in 1954, and our church included a lot of paganism. I'd never seen a Bible so I had no way of knowing that my parents really hadn't committed any sin by going to that church. Finally, after two weeks, they talked my brother and me into going with them to church. The pastor described the crucifixion in such detail that I shook while the nails were being driven into Jesus' hands. By the time he gave an altar call, I had to hold on to my brother for support. The next thing I knew, we were both at the altar.

"Right away, my brother and I started playing our guitars on the streets and preaching to anyone who would listen. We got a copy

# Time



by *Melanie Henry*

of Dr. T.L. Osborn's book *Healing the Sick*, and started preaching healing."

### Faith for a Miracle

News trickled from one of the port cities that two men in the hospital there had been given up to die. The men were in the terminal stages of

tuberculosis. Stanley stood at the bedside of one of the dying men with absolute confidence that God would heal him. He and his brother anointed the men with oil and prayed for them.

The story whipped through town like a wind-driven wildfire. The men didn't die! They'd been healed! Their doctor flew the men to the capital of San José for medical verification of the miracle.

The men returned home, walking the streets of the city alive and well while Stanley and his brother preached the gospel. So many people accepted Jesus as their Savior that they planted a church there.

"My brother and I were both called to the ministry," Stanley explains. "He was three years older so he left for the U.S. ahead of me. In 1958, I moved to Greenville, S.C., to attend Holmes Theological Seminary.

"Before moving to the U.S., I thought I knew English. My father had sent us to a private English school in addition to our regular classes. But at the seminary I didn't understand a lot of what I heard and I could speak even less. I spent hours at night praying and weeping before the Lord. I went to class every day with eyes red and swollen from crying. After class I went back to my room to weep and pray some more. This went on for months."

Stanley stayed with some missionary friends in North Carolina over Christmas. While visiting the family's church, their pastor invited him to preach the following Sunday. Knowing that his English wasn't good enough, Stanley declined.

Back in his room, Stanley felt as though he'd grieved the Lord. Falling on his knees he cried out to God. "Lord, You opened a door for me to preach and I slammed it shut! I'm sorry!"

Stanley went back to the pastor. "I'll preach," he said. "My sermon may only be one or two minutes, but I'll preach."

Stanley remembered the confidence he'd felt about praying for the men with tuberculosis. He'd seen in the Bible that it was God's will to heal

and had known that if he did his part, God would do His. Maybe he needed that kind of confidence now.

On Sunday, Stanley trembled when the pastor introduced him. Walking to the pulpit, he looked out over the audience. Taking a deep breath, he spoke. That single act of faith activated the power of God on his behalf.

Stanley Black received a vocal miracle; he preached the entire sermon in perfect English.

From then on, Stanley spent his summers preaching revival meetings all over the South. While in Greenville, he also met his wife, Pearl. The couple married in October 1961, and returned to Costa Rica under the umbrella of the Pentecostal Holiness Church.

In Costa Rica, they sat in on a meeting with the leaders of their denomination. The topic on the agenda was a tiny mission in Santa Ana. Numerous pastors, including most of the men in the meeting, had tried to make the mission succeed but it had never taken root. They voted to close the mission and sell the property.

"Sirs, I disagree," Stanley said. "I don't think the Lord is in the business of shutting down churches. Everyone else may have failed, but God hasn't failed. I ask that you let my wife and me take the mission for six months."

"Sit down young man! When we want your opinion we'll ask for it!"

Stanley sat in silence and listened to the argument that ensued. In the end, they agreed to let Stanley and Pearl take over the mission. It was so small that the few congregants met in the tiny parsonage. In truth, it appeared dead. However, Stanley Black had believed in the power of resurrection since the day he gave his life to Jesus. "I'll build a church," he said.

### Finding Life in the Jungle

People thought he was crazy. *Build a church with what?* they wondered. There was no money. *Build a church for whom?* they laughed. There were no members to fill it. Besides, he didn't even have a builder.

## AUGUST

		Old Testament	New Testament
Fri	1	Job 12-13	Rev. 5
Sat	2	Job 14-15	Rev. 6
Sun	3	Job 16-17	Rev. 7
Mon	4	Job 18-19	Rev. 8
Tue	5	Job 20-21	Rev. 9
Wed	6	Job 22-24	Rev. 10-11
Thu	7	Job 25-26	Rev. 12
Fri	8	Job 27-28	Rev. 13
Sat	9	Job 29-30	Rev. 14
Sun	10	Job 31-32	Rev. 15
Mon	11	Job 33-34	Rev. 16
Tue	12	Job 35-36	Rev. 17
Wed	13	Job 37-39	Rev. 18-19
Thu	14	Job 40-41	Rev. 20
Fri	15	Job 42; Prov. 1	Rev. 21
Sat	16	Prov. 2-3	Rev. 22
Sun	17	Old Testament Prov. 4-5	Psalms Ps. 1
Mon	18	Prov. 6-7	Ps. 2
Tue	19	Prov. 8-9	Ps. 3
Wed	20	Prov. 10-12	Ps. 4-5
Thu	21	Prov. 13-14	Ps. 6
Fri	22	Prov. 15-16	Ps. 7
Sat	23	Prov. 17-18	Ps. 8
Sun	24	Prov. 19-20	Ps. 9
Mon	25	Prov. 21-22	Ps. 10
Tue	26	Prov. 23-24	Ps. 11
Wed	27	Prov. 25-27	Ps. 12-13
Thu	28	Prov. 28-29	Ps. 14
Fri	29	Prov. 30-31	Ps. 15
Sat	30	Eccl. 1-2	Ps. 16
Sun	31	Eccl. 3-4	Ps. 17

“God will provide,” Stanley said with quiet confidence.

“I went into the jungle to preach,” Stanley recalls. “One night I was preaching in a little thatched hut with a dirt floor. When I gave the altar call, a man who’d been standing outside the hut listening, fell on his knees.”

“My name is Hugo,” the man said. “Tonight I was going to take my life. Instead, I found life.”

“I’m a builder and finish carpenter,” Hugo explained later. “I also do plumbing and electrical work.”

“I want to build a church,” Stanley explained. “Would you consider moving into my house and helping me?”

“I’d be honored.”

Hugo lived with them for a year and it was a blessing for both men. Hungry to know more about God, Hugo grew in his faith. Stanley, who had more faith than money, grew a building.

“A man who owned a plantation donated all the sand and rocks for the foundation of the church building,” Stanley recalls. “Money for the roof was sent by Christ for the Nations Institute. In addition to pastoring, I also taught in a Bible school which Hugo attended. He grew strong in the Lord and when God called us to move to Mexico and minister there, Hugo took over the church.”

“Many years later, I returned to Costa Rica to preach and decided to visit Santa Ana. The little parsonage and the church we built had been torn down. In its place was a large two-story building under construction, but it was for sale. The church had already outgrown the new building! Not only did the Pentecostal Holiness Church not close the mission, they bought a farm and some land and built a Bible school. Later on, they added a chapel and youth camp facilities.”

In 1965, Stanley and Pearl moved to Mexico and were ministering in Guadalajara, when Stanley flew to Dallas to attend a conference with the Pentecostal Fellowship of North America. Ministers arrived from all over the world, including Dr. David Yonggi Cho, who was on the steering

# An Invitation to Partnership

from  
Kenneth  
Copeland

Thank you for the opportunity you have given us to be part of your life! That’s what it’s all about for Gloria and me. We are here for you...to minister the uncompromised word of faith and victory in Jesus into your life.

Our lives changed dramatically years ago because we made one important decision: We determined to walk in faith every day, believing EVERY word of God and receiving THE BLESSING He has so graciously given!

Since that day, we’ve never turned back. It’s been thrilling to walk with God and watch Him work in the lives of believers who made the same decision. Today, I want to urge you to get in on what God is accomplishing in people’s lives around the world through this ministry.

If your heart’s desire is for a deeper walk with God, if you’re looking for fresh revelation from His WORD, and if you’re ready to step up and fulfill God’s plan for your life, Gloria and I would like to enter into a spiritual covenant of partnership with you. We would be honored to have you come alongside us—believing together for God’s best and praying together and experiencing together His favor

and blessing on all our lives as we discover the wealth and the wisdom of His WORD.

Partnership with Kenneth Copeland Ministries does not mean you sign up for some program. It’s a spiritual connection that touches every part of your life.

It’s a union of hearts—ours and yours—believing together to see God’s WORD lived out, not only in our lives, but also in the lives of people all over the world, as we declare in a strong, clear voice “Jesus Is Lord!” from the top of the world to the bottom and all the way around!

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Stanley translating for Brother Copeland at the 2013 Venezuela Victory Campaign

**“It’s crucial to translate the right words with the right spirit and anointing. I’ve seen poor translations ruin a ministry. When I’m onstage with Brother Copeland, I have to concentrate to the max. I can’t afford to lose my train of thought for an instant.”**

committee. There were two official languages at the conference, English and Spanish, for which they needed interpreters. Unknown to Stanley, one of his friends recommended him for the position.

“When I got to the hotel I was scheduled to translate!” Stanley recalls. “It’s a challenge to translate live because I have to focus intently on what the minister says so I can communicate the correct meaning using proper grammar. When I walked out before that audience my knees were having a fellowship meeting. But when I stepped out in faith, God anointed me to interpret. Afterward, all the other speakers wanted me to translate for them, including David Wilkerson.”

### From Jungles to Jets

“During the Charismatic renewal of the 1970s, I became friends with John Osteen. John asked me to preach at his church and conferences. It was through our friendship that I later met Kenneth Copeland, Kenneth E. Hagin, Fred Price and T.L. Osborn.

“I realized that Kenneth Copeland Ministries was fertile soil, so we became Partners with them. Through

Brother Copeland, I learned the secret of the inner workings of faith and how simple it is. I understood why weeping and crying hadn’t worked, but stepping out in faith and trusting God always did.”

After spending 11 years ministering in Mexico, the Lord directed Stanley and Pearl to move back to the U.S. They returned with five children: Lori, Tina, Mark, Stanley and Kenneth. In 1982, a major national ministry asked Stanley to do live translations for them, as well as to translate, lip sync and dub their daily broadcasts into Spanish. In addition to his work with that ministry, Stanley also scheduled his own meetings, preaching overseas.

About 10 years ago, Stanley began doing live translation, lip sync and dubbing for Brother Copeland.

“It’s crucial to translate the right words with the right spirit and anointing,” says Stanley. “I’ve seen poor translations ruin a ministry. When I’m onstage with Brother Copeland, I have to concentrate to the max. I can’t afford to lose my train of thought for an instant.”

To dub messages for Brother Copeland, Stanley starts by reading a Spanish transcript of the message as he listens to the entire program in English on headphones, making notes where the translation needs

to be corrected. After the rehearsal, he begins dubbing the message into Spanish, which usually takes four to five hours. The lip syncing is a challenge because Spanish is twice as long as English, so Stanley has to shorten the Spanish translation to fit the number of syllables spoken in English. To do it in excellence, the process is quite involved and sometimes takes an entire day.

“I still travel the world preaching, but I always try to be available for Brother Copeland. Everyone needs the faith message, but there has been an inferiority complex drilled into the Hispanic culture. They’ve been taught that they were born poor and they will die poor. I’ve seen young Hispanics who have never even owned a car get a revelation of faith and climb mountains for God.

“It’s also made a difference in my own life. Because of what I’ve learned from Brother Copeland, we are totally out of debt. We owe no man anything except to love him.”

It’s been nearly 60 years since 17-year-old Stanley Black took the gospel to the streets, hospitals and jungles of Costa Rica. Since then, he’s taken that good news to 55 countries. And at age 76, Stanley is still going strong, traveling with Brother Copeland and changing the world, one anointed word at a time. 📖

“Through Brother Copeland, I learned the secret of the inner workings of faith and how simple it is. I understood why weeping and crying hadn’t worked, but stepping out in faith and trusting God always did.”

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1-858-633-4885 | missiontolondon.com

**Brooklyn Park, Minn. : Aug. 21-22**

Upper Midwest Faith Explosion 2014  
Living Word Christian Center | 9201 75th Ave. N.  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55428 | 1-763-315-7000 | lwcc.org

**Forest Park, Ill. : Sept. 8**

2014 International Faith Conference | Living Word Christian Center  
7306 W. Madison St. | Forest Park, IL 60130  
1-708-697-5100 | billwinston.org or livingwd.org

**Austin, Texas : Oct. 12**

Victory Christian Center | 7625 N. Interstate Highway 35  
Austin, TX 78752 | 1-512-458-9100 | victoryaustin.com

Riley Stephenson

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Victory Church Evangelism Training | 1087 McDowell Road  
Asheboro, NC 27204 | 1-336-626-6561 | vfc-asheboro.org

## Venezuela Sept. 5-6

**Victory Campaign :** No preregistration for this event

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## New York City Sept. 12-13

**Living Victory Faith Encounter :** New York Marriott Marquis

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Spanish translation available at this event

## Word Explosion Sept. 25-27

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1101 Lincoln St. | Columbia, SC 29201

## Washington, D.C. Nov. 13-15

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# GoodNewsGazette

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” Romans 12:2, New King James Version

## Carpal Tunnel Disappeared!

Seven years ago I was watching Gloria's Healing School. At the time I had severe carpal tunnel and was told I would need surgery. While I was watching, Gloria said she could feel someone watching on TV who has carpal tunnel, then she demanded healing and told Satan to loose me! My hands started to burn, tingle and turned red for about five minutes. As of that day, I have never had a problem with carpal tunnel. I had an appointment with a specialist. He said he does not understand what happened, but it appeared that I never had carpal tunnel. All the nerves were perfect. All the bones were perfect. I'm still praising God for my healing. Thank you, Gloria, for having Healing School on TV so we all can see it. Thank You, God.  
Elizabeth S. | Florida

## Jesus' DNA Is Mine

I would like to give thanks to your ministry for grace and healing in my body through the Lord Jesus. At a recent visit to my doctor, I discovered my blood pressure was normal and after extensive testing (for high cholesterol), my blood test results were also normal! Before going in for the tests, I saw myself carrying the DNA of Christ through His blood; therefore my blood system would not carry any defects. The doctor noticed a blemish on my face that he suspected was cancerous. I did not accept that, and since then the spot has completely disappeared!

Thank you for keeping my intentions in your prayers (a new car and financial breakthrough). Blessings upon your ministry and everyone connected with KCM. Joan M. | Canada

## Back Condition—Healed!

I stood on the Word, healing scriptures and the teachings of KCM, and have been healed of a degenerative condition in my back. Jenette L. | Kentucky

## Angels Watching Over Me

I've been a KCM Partner now for 18 years and was actually born again on an airplane reading the *BVOV* magazine someone had left in the seat pocket. I am a total believer in Psalm 91, as it has protected me many times. Before Hurricane Charlie arrived, I prayed a hedge of protection around my dad's yard. The neighborhood was devastated but his house was untouched.

Two times our Lord saved me on a motorcycle. We were rear-ended at a stoplight by a pickup

truck, but the clutch and brake were not set, so we just shot into the intersection—no cars came through and we had zero injuries! Then we had an incident where another rider came alongside and his highway peg sheared off my running board peg—that could have been my foot! All my family and friends ask me to pray for them. I tell them what you've taught me, “Speak God's Word out loud, believing, and He will give His angels orders to protect you.” Stacy D. | Arizona

## A Set-Free Knowing

I attended last year's Canada Victory Campaign in Mississauga. After Gloria laid hands on me and prayed for me in Healing School, I had a strong sensation of healing. I had been expecting a physical healing but received significant inner healing and soul prosperity. I continued to thank and praise God for my healing, even singing praise songs while still in bed in the morning, meditating on the scriptures, “continue in my word” and “the truth shall set you free” (John 8:31-32). My favorite personal healing scripture was Hebrews 12:12-13. That evening before retiring to bed, I read those verses again and then was prompted to read verse 14. Revelation time! I went to bed with set-free knowing, relaxed and calm. A heavy weight lifted off my shoulders. I knew immediately what I must do: Mend some long-broken fences and resolve past conflicts! Thanks to your teaching and prayers. For years, I wanted to attend one of your conferences. I was so happy to finally be able to come and meet you.... I have followed your teachings since 1995, and feel “pumped up” after reading your monthly magazine. Thank God for your ministry. I'm so glad you have an office in Vancouver. Sharon O. | Ontario, Canada

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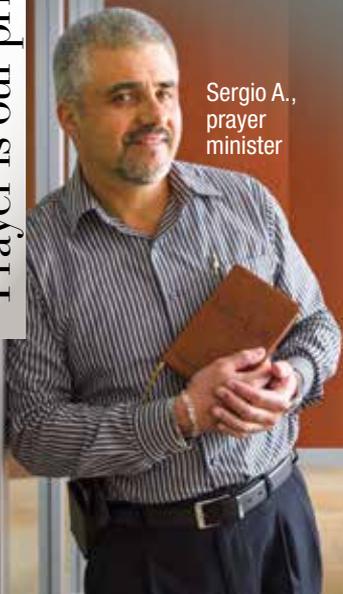
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Sergio A., prayer minister

Ontario

## Mountain of Debt—Removed!

We have a praise report! In 2013, the Lord told us to focus our faith on debt freedom. We watched George and Gloria, printed off the notes and fed on the scriptures, releasing our faith and speaking to the mountain of debt. Praise the Lord—Nov. 29, 2013, we received an inheritance which totally covered the debt with some left over. It is a financial miracle and breakthrough and we are so grateful to your ministry for the teaching about being debt free. Thank you for standing with us.

Laura M. | Canada

## *salvation prayer*

If you do not know Jesus as your Saviour and Lord, simply pray the following prayer in faith, and Jesus will be your Lord!

Heavenly Father, I come to You in the Name of Jesus. Your Word says, “Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved” and “If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved” (Acts 2:21; Romans 10:9). You said my salvation would be the result of Your Holy Spirit giving me new birth by coming to live in me (John 3:5-6, 15-16; Romans 8:9-11) and that if I would ask, You would fill me with Your Spirit and give me the ability to speak with other tongues (Luke 11:13; Acts 2:4).

I take You at Your Word. I confess that Jesus is Lord. And I believe in my heart that You raised Him from the dead. Thank You for coming into my heart, for giving me Your Holy Spirit as You have promised, and for being Lord over my life. Amen.

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# Hidden for You

How do you know what you know? The answer to that question can mean the difference between standing and falling, between success and failure in the kingdom of God. Remember when you went to school and learned your ABCs and your multiplication tables? You know them because you learned them. Someone taught them to you.

That kind of knowing took you all the way through school. It's called natural knowledge. You get it by using your five senses and your logical abilities to gather information and sort it out.

But in the kingdom of God there's another kind of knowing. One that works its way from the inside out—instead of from the outside in. It's called revelation knowledge.

Jesus spoke about this kind of knowledge in Matthew 16. He'd just asked the disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered and said, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' Jesus answered and said to him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not

revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven'" (verses 15-17, *New King James Version*).

In other words, Jesus was saying, "Peter, you didn't learn this information through

your physical senses. You received it another way. You received it directly from God."

Actually, Peter did have to learn that truth later. He had to begin to grasp it with his mind. But he knew it in his spirit first. If you've never experienced this, it may seem hard to understand. But if you've ever had Jesus reveal something to you by the Holy Spirit, you know exactly what I mean.

First you received it—you knew it in your spirit. Then you learned it with your mind.

It can also work the other way. You may have already learned some information about a subject. But when the revelation comes, you begin to see that information in another light entirely. Suddenly it has depth and dimension it never had for you before. It becomes such an unshakable reality in your life that, as Jesus said to Peter, "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

I remember one time I was battling with a particular problem. I'd prayed with other people about it, but still I was struggling with it.

As I studied and meditated about it, suddenly it seemed as if a ball of light



exploded in my spirit concerning two people agreeing in prayer. Several scriptures popped into my mind.

"One [can] chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight" (Deuteronomy 32:30). All at once, I understood that when believers agree, the power doesn't just double, it grows to the 10th power!

Then the Spirit of God said on the inside of me, *Don't you see that two born-again people agreeing, bring Jesus on the scene?*

I remembered Matthew 18:20,

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I'll tell you this: If there's any way the devil can get your eyes away from the promises of God, he'll do it.

"Where two or [more] are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

*And why do you think I'm in the midst? Jesus asked me. It's to carry out the agreement.*

That revelation burned away the turmoil I'd been wrestling with. As far as I was concerned, the thing was done. It was settled in my spirit.

### Meditation Leads to Revelation

Now that revelation didn't come to me instantly or easily. I had to meditate The WORD and search the Spirit of God for it because it was "hidden" in Him.

You see, God has purposely arranged it so truths like that can only be understood by revelation. He

hasn't just left them in the sense realm where anyone can pick up a book and discover them. After all, the devil can read; and God doesn't want him taking that information and using it to destroy you.

God doesn't cast His pearls before swine. Instead, the Bible says He's hidden that wisdom *for* you, not *from* you. That's why Jesus said that nothing is hidden but that it shall be revealed.

Don't think, however, God is just going to drop great revelations in your lap while you're watching TV. Jesus said, "If any man have ears to hear, let him hear" (Mark 4:23). God has given you inner ears to hear His Spirit with. But *you're* responsible for the hearing. You're responsible for seeking out this revelation knowledge.

God isn't doling out revelations one at a time. Instead, He sent the Holy Ghost, and He has all the revelations in Him. When we get ourselves in a position to receive by meditating The WORD, praying and fellowshiping with The LORD, we begin to receive those revelations from Him. So it's on our end that the responsibility lies now.

Peter tells us that grace and peace are multiplied to us through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our LORD (2 Peter 1:2). That Greek *knowledge* doesn't mean something you learn through your senses. It means "exact knowledge, revealed in such a way that it's not hindered by the physical senses or by someone's ability to communicate."

Notice too that Peter says, "Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of *God*, and of Jesus." Did you realize you need more than a revelation of Jesus?

You need a revelation of God the Father. You need to know the Almighty One is your very own Father. You need more than a mental understanding of it. You need to *know* it on the inside—and that kind of knowing comes only by revelation.

I remember the day I got the revelation that my natural father

really loved me. I was 21 years old in the Army in Fort Bliss, Texas, standing behind a truck, reading a letter from him.

My dad just hated to write letters. You could count on one hand the number of letters he'd ever written in his life. But I was standing there reading these three handwritten lines from my dad telling me he missed me.

I remember I stood behind that truck and just cried. Guys were tiptoeing all around me. They thought I'd gotten a "Dear John" letter. But something big had just happened in my heart.

It changed my life. Changed my whole attitude toward my dad forever.

That's what a revelation will do.

I know a widow who got hold of that kind of revelation one afternoon. She'd been meditating in the scriptures that say if you're a widow, God Almighty has taken His place as your provider and leader of your household.

She'd been feeling a little sorry for herself up until then. But when she received the revelation that God was actually head of her household now, she started talking to Him like she would a husband.

"I'm telling You, LORD, the plumbing in this house is pitiful. Ever since Mr. So and So died, it's just gone to nothing. Will You please get

it fixed?"

Do you know God fixed it? From that moment on she never had any more trouble with her plumbing.

Now don't say, "I'm going to try that out!" This isn't something you can try. You have to get a revelation first. You have to stay before God until His WORD to you becomes reality.

If you need healing, what you need is a revelation of the Healer. I remember I used to get upset over people I'd lay hands on who wouldn't get well. I was praying one day and seeking God about this when He spoke to my spirit and said, *Healing always comes*. I remember I said, "What do You mean? Not everyone gets healed."

He said, *I didn't say they all received it. I do My part*. Then He spoke very sternly to me. *I said they would recover!*

Those words hit me like a ton of bricks. He said they would recover. If He said they would recover, then that means healing always comes. It's not God who's holding back. It's the receivers who aren't receiving.

Since that revelation, I've never had any trouble laying hands on people and believing for their healing. Whether they walk away well or not, I just keep standing with God for their healing.

In fact, I know if that fellow who went away still sick ever agrees with God and me—I don't care if it's five years from now—he'll wind up healed.

### Stay in The WORD Until It's Real to You

How can you maintain a walk of faith like that? The only way is to stay in The WORD of God until you can see it so clearly on the inside of you, you don't need to see it on the outside to know what's going on.

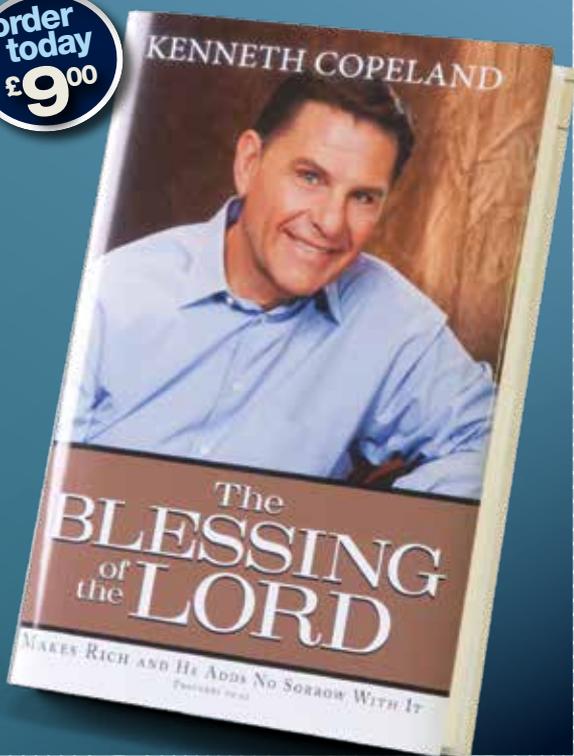
Now and then I've had a revelation of something good that was coming. Later, when it happened, people asked why I didn't go wild over such a great thing. I didn't because I wasn't a bit surprised.

Why do you think the Spirit of Truth would show me something to come? It's so I could walk by faith in that situation. So I could plow in

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hope instead of quitting in the heat and saying, “Oh well, the ground’s too hard for anything to come of this anyhow.”

Listen, if God is calling you out into the field, there’s only one way you’re going to make it. You have to pray and meditate in the promises of God until He reveals what He’s called you to do and how to do it.

There are specific things in your life that need to be settled and made solid by revelation because the devil is going to fight you over them. He’s going to do everything he can to steal them from you—and it’s going to take a revelation from God for you to hang on to what you’ve got.

When you start walking in revelation knowledge, it’s no longer a matter of whether you’re going to win or lose. It’s only a matter of how long you have to hang in there until you win! It’s when you walk in revelation knowledge that the power of God flows in your life. That’s why Satan goes to great lengths to get The WORD out of your life before it can take root.

In fact, Jesus said that’s the reason behind persecution and affliction. It comes for The WORD’s sake (Mark 4:17)—for the sake of the revelation. Satan puts the pressure on because he’s after that revelation.

He has to get it out of you before it has time to grow. If he lets it grow up, he knows you’ll beat his brains out with it. Satan will literally fight us one at a time to keep us from all coming together and getting the same revelation—because when that happens, he’s in big trouble.

Once you begin to see Jesus and His authority, you’ll put the devil under your heel and he knows it. But if he can keep you away from revelation knowledge, if he can keep you operating in the realm of the physical senses instead of the realm of the spirit, he can keep that from happening.

### Stay Focused on The WORD

I’ll tell you this: If there’s any way the devil can get your eyes away from

the promises of God, he’ll do it.

When Peter jumped out of the boat that day in response to Jesus’ call, what happened? He walked right along across that water without a problem. His whole being was fastened on that word Jesus spoke to him, “COME!”

But when he took his eyes off that word, he started looking at the storm. He started looking at the impossible thing he was doing. Fear was the result. As soon as fear gripped him, he began to sink.

Can you see it was Peter’s revelation of who Jesus was that kept him on top of that water? It kept his faith operating—and faith is the supernatural force in revelation that causes it to come to pass.

But then Peter turned his eyes away from the revelation and began looking at the natural. After all, he was a fisherman. All his training and experience told him when the waves were that high, you were going under. He started to focus on what he knew in the natural instead of what Jesus said; and when he did that, his faith slipped out of gear and he started to sink.

That’s exactly how it works. Once you get a revelation from The WORD of God, you must hang on to it. The devil will do everything he can to take it away from you. He’ll stir up things around you. He’ll try to get you into fear. He’ll push every button he can from the past to get you back into your old way of thinking.

But don’t let go. Keep your eye on the promise of God until it’s more real inside you than anything else.

When you do that, you’ll know that you know that you know. It won’t be a bit like the ABCs or the multiplication tables. It won’t be a theory or doctrine or theology.

You’ll know what you know because you received it from the Spirit of God. Then, one of these days when what was revealed to you on the inside comes to pass on the outside, you won’t even be surprised. You’ll just nod and grin and say, “Bless God, I knew it all along!”

*“As we love and pray for those in authority as part of our daily agenda, not only do they reap the benefits but so do we.”*

—Kenneth



by Keith Moore



# Living *the multidimensional* Life

Have you ever considered the fact that you are a multidimensional being? By that, I mean you are comprised of an inward man *and* an outward man. We all are.

We are called to occupy both the physical and the spiritual dimensions at the same time.

Sadly, most people only live in one of those dimensions—the physical. They completely ignore or miss what is right in front of them.

**C**onsider this: If you and I were standing in the same room, but I closed my eyes and turned away from you, would I be able to see you? No I wouldn't. To see you, I would need to open my eyes and look in your direction. I would need to focus on you and turn toward you.

In the same way, you can be in a room with the Lord right there with you, and never see, hear or acknowledge the spiritual reality that He is there.

We need to learn how to live *focused* on the Lord and what He is doing—to live multidimensionally, with one eye on the physical and one eye on the spiritual.

## Focus on Your Blessing

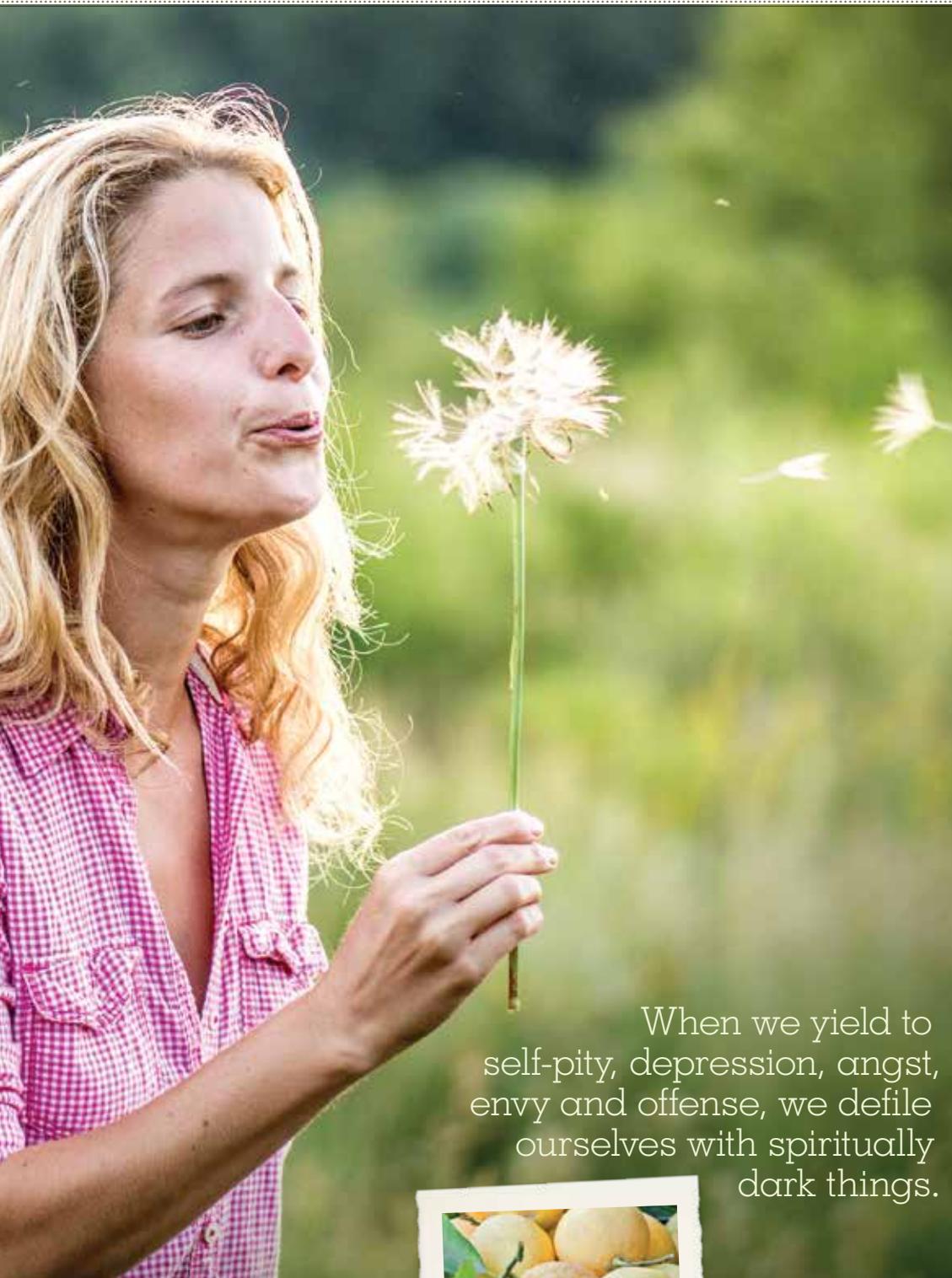
In Matthew 13:9, Jesus said, “Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.” That phrase occurs numerous times in Scripture, but what

does it mean? Verses 12-17 explain:

For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and

your ears, for they hear. For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them;





When we yield to self-pity, depression, angst, envy and offense, we defile ourselves with spiritually dark things.



and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.

“Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.” Variations of this scripture can be found in the Old Testament in Deuteronomy 29:4; Isaiah 6:10 and 32:3; and Ezekiel 12:2; and it’s found in the New Testament in Mark 4:9; Luke 8:10; Acts 28:27; and Romans 11:8.

The Lord is clearly telling us that we can open and close our spiritual eyes and ears, just as we can open and close our physical eyes and ears. The choice is ours. We are multidimensional beings capable of operating in both the physical and the spiritual realms simultaneously.

### Focus on the Spiritual

Brother Kenneth Hagin once shared that as a young minister he lived in a small house that didn’t have a dedicated office. With small children at home, he had an active home life. He had to learn how to get in a corner by himself and focus on the Word, despite the noise and activity. He had to develop his spiritual concentration.

This is not the same thing as what the cultic religions teach. They’ll tell us to empty our minds and float into cosmic nothingness. That’s devil talk. God never told us to be mindless. He told us to set our minds on *specific* good things because when we do we open our spirits and connect with them.

In the same way, our spirits can be defiled by

# *Our minds* contact the physical and the spiritual simultaneously all the time.

thinking and meditating on the wrong things. Second Corinthians 7:1 reminds us to cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and the spirit. When we yield to self-pity, depression, angst, envy and offense, we defile ourselves with spiritually dark things.

People talk about spiritual things as though they're imaginary, but the universe has more than one dimension. Angels, demons, the devil, miracles, and signs and wonders are all real.

In Romans 8, Paul wrote:

For those who are according to the flesh and are controlled by its unholy desires set their minds on and pursue those things which gratify the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit and are controlled by the desires of the Spirit set their minds on and seek those things which gratify the [Holy] Spirit. So then those who are living the life of the flesh [catering to the appetites and impulses of their carnal nature] cannot please or satisfy God, or be acceptable to Him. But you are not living the life of the flesh, you are living the life of the Spirit, if the [Holy] Spirit of God [really] dwells within you [directs and controls you]. But if anyone does not possess the [Holy] Spirit of Christ, he is none of His [he does not belong to Christ, is not truly a child of God] (verses 5, 8-9, *The Amplified Bible*).

Paul is not talking about living in a physical body when he writes that those "in the flesh" can't please God. If he were, then no one who was in a physical body could please God. No, he's saying that those who live in the flesh and operate in the flesh have set their minds—their focus—on the physical alone. And the Word is clear that living this way does not please the Father.

## Simultaneous Focus

Throughout the Epistles, we learn about living and walking in the spirit. First Corinthians 14:13-16 says:

Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret. For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful. What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also. Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest?

Our focus determines what we see. Our minds contact the physical and the spiritual simultaneously all the time. We can see out, and we can see in. We can hear out and we can hear in. We can touch out, and we can touch in. Our senses go both ways.

Of course, the devil tries to keep everyone in darkness, ignorant of this spiritual dimension. His objective is for us to be blind, dumb and deaf, only living and operating in the physical. If we only focus on the physical dimension, then we are only connecting with death. We are relying on the world's system, which always leads to death, and doing so shortchanges all that Jesus provided for us through His death and resurrection.

You and I are not only physical beings, we are born of God. We became new creations. Old things have passed away. There's no death in our spirits. We're made in the likeness and image of the Almighty. We're brilliant, shining beings of light and truth, and we don't have to wait until we die to touch the spiritual realm.

## Focus on the Unseen

So how can we see what is unseen? We must open our spiritual eyes and ears and look at it. We must feed on the Word and spend time in prayer so that we connect with the spiritual that is right in front of us. Luke 11:33-34, in *Wuest's New Testament Expanded Translation* says, "No one having lit a lamp puts it in a cellar or under the grain measure, but upon the lamp stand in order that those who are entering from time to time may see the light. The lamp of the body is the eye."

Jesus is talking about our spirits. Our spirits will contact life or death, depending on our focus. Just as our five senses receive information about our surroundings, our spirits receive information too. Our spirits assimilate whatever surrounds us—either good or bad.

So let me ask you: Have you been paying attention to your spirit? Have you been listening to it? Have you been living multidimensionally—focused on both the physical and spiritual dimensions at the same time?

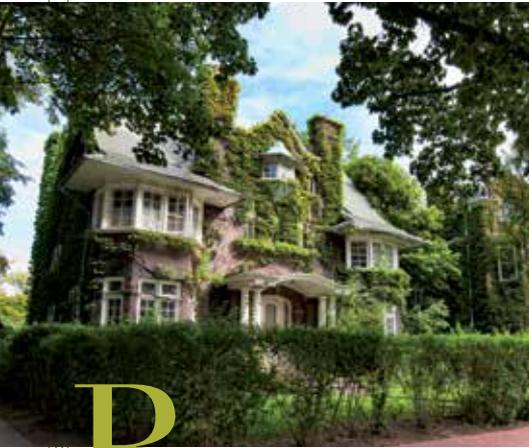
Focusing on the spirit realm should be a natural part of the Christian life. You don't have to be a prophet to live multidimensionally, but you must exercise your ability to open your eyes and ears and look for it.

James 4:2 says we have not because we ask not. So many things are available to us if we'll just ask for them, look for them and listen for them. Simply close your natural eyes, focus on the Lord and remain focused there. Say, "I can see! My eyes are blessed. I can hear! My ears are blessed. I am focused and living multidimensionally, ready to see and hear whatever the Holy Spirit is saying. Amen!" 🕊



Keith Moore is founder and president of Moore Life Ministries and Faith Life Church in both Branson, Mo., and Sarasota, Fla. For more information or ministry materials write to Moore Life Ministries, P.O. Box 1010, Branson, MO 65615; call 1-417-334-9233; or visit [moorelife.org](http://moorelife.org).

# The ABCs of ABUNDANCE



**Go to The LORD of the tithe and find out where He wants you to put your money. He's the only One who can direct you to truly good ground every time.**

Pray over that seed. Fill it with faith, worship and The WORD. Then it will be ready to plant.

## **B: Find Good Ground**

Out in West Texas on my grandfather's farm, there were big white patches of caliche. It's the most worthless dirt in the world when it comes to planting seed. It

won't grow anything. I don't care how fine your seed is, if you plant it in caliche, you won't get a crop.

There are some ministries that, spiritually, are just like caliche. They aren't good ground for your seed. So before you give, pray about where that gift should go.

Don't rely on your own judgments. Don't reason it out and say, "Well, this preacher over here is screaming and crying and saying he's going under, so I guess I'll give to him." You go to The LORD of the tithe and find out where He wants you to put your money. He's the only One who can direct you to truly good ground every time.

## **C: Water!**

Once your good seed is in good ground, keep watering it with The WORD of God. Speak faith over it all week

long. Call forth the growth of that seed by calling "those things which be not as though they were" (Romans 4:17). It may just be a little seed, but you need to start calling it grown.

You may say, "Well, Brother, I believe in telling things like they are."

You won't ever see any growth in your life then, because spiritual things grow as words are released. That's God's way.

Charles Capps said the one who "tells things like they are" is like the guy who went out on the porch to give his dog a bone. When he got out there, he found the dog wasn't there—just the cat. So he started saying, "Here kitty, kitty, kitty."

His neighbor said, "I thought you wanted to give that bone to the dog."

"I did," answered his friend, "but I like to say it like it is—and the cat, not the dog, is the one that's here."

Don't be like that guy. Call the dog. He'll come. Water your seed with words of faith. Don't call poverty if you don't want poverty. Call yourself prosperous. Call that need met. Before long, you'll be so full of joy and so full of expectancy that even the watering will be fun!

Find good soil. Plant the seed. Water it. Then as Mark 4:27 says, all you have to do is "sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow..."

"But I don't understand how that works!" you say.

It doesn't matter. Just do it. Plant and water. Sleep and rise. Sure enough, one of these mornings you'll wake up to an abundant harvest! 🍷

**R**ight now many of us are facing needs. Big needs. Needs so great that without the direct intervention of God, they can't possibly be met.

Because of that, we need to be more certain than ever before that we understand—and abide by—God's laws of abundance. Those laws are extremely important—but, praise God, they're not complicated. In fact, they're as simple as ABC.

## **A: Decide to Plant**

In Mark 4, Jesus compared the workings of the kingdom of God to planting seeds in the earth. "When [the seed] is sown," He said, "it grows up and becomes greater..." (verse 32, *New King James Version*).

Notice, He didn't say that when the seed is sown it occasionally grows up and becomes greater. Or it grows up and becomes greater if it's God's will. He said, "It grows up and becomes greater." Period.

God's economy isn't like ours. It isn't up one day and

down the other. It's always the same and it always works perfectly. If you have good earth, good seed and good water, you will have growth. It's inevitable. The laws of God will produce that increase every single time.

So, if you're facing a need, don't panic—plant a seed!

That seed may take the form of money, time or some other resource you have to give. But, no matter what form it takes, you need to understand that the gift itself isn't really your seed. There's no life in it. It's just the husk.

There are people who've planted husks for years. But, because they didn't put any life in them, nothing ever came up. So don't just plunk a husk in the offering bucket when it goes by. Put life in it first. Praise and worship God over it. Say, "LORD, I'm offering You my goods to do Your work with, and as I bring You my goods, I bring myself. I give myself to You spirit, soul and body."

by Gloria Copeland

# Born to Run

I was in a hotel room a few years ago, preparing to preach, when I looked out the window and saw something that caught my attention: A few stories below me in front of the hotel, a man with a little broom and a dustpan was sweeping the street. If he'd just been sweeping the sidewalk, or the hotel driveway, I might not have noticed him. But he'd taken on the entire street!

**C** *That's a big job, I thought.*

Considering the amount of road that stretched into the distance on either side of him, I wondered how he was going to do it. So I watched him for a while. It soon became

apparent his heart wasn't in his work. He stood and swept in the same little spot for at least 20 minutes.

I eventually turned my attention back to getting ready for the service.





## A daily dose of God's Word is the key to living an overcoming life!

When I looked out the window again the man was gone...having left behind one very small patch of clean pavement.

Later that day I thought about the scene again, and how that man had inched his way around one little spot in the street with his broom and his dustpan, and suddenly the realization hit me: Faith would work for that man! It would work for him just as well as it would work for the president of the United States.

If he had faith in God's Word and knew how to use it, he could be doing big things—things he could really get excited about. Instead of being a halfhearted street sweeper, he could be a mountain-mover in the kingdom of God. He could be one of the "whosoever's" Jesus talked about in Mark 11:23 when He said: "For verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith."

I know from personal experience what an amazing difference faith in God's Word can make in someone's life, so right there in my hotel room, I prayed for that man. I asked God to send someone to tell him that Jesus loves him. "Lord," I said, "send someone to tell him he can have faith!"

I knew it was a prayer God would answer because He has

wonderful plans for that man's life. He doesn't want him to be stuck in a dead-end job he doesn't enjoy. He doesn't want him to be standing in one place, doing nothing and going nowhere.

God has a destiny for him to fulfill. He has a divinely ordained race for him to run. A race that will satisfy his heart's deepest desires. A race that will bless him beyond anything he could ask or think, and make him a blessing to others in ways beyond his wildest dreams.

### In It to Win It

Actually, because God loves us all, He's planned a great and satisfying race for each of us. That's why we all need to have faith. If we're going to successfully run our race we have to be able to do what Jesus said and speak the Word of God to the obstacles that try to hinder us. We have to be able to believe in our hearts that what we say will come to pass.

"But Gloria," you might say, "I just don't have that kind of faith."

Yes, you do!

You got it when you received Jesus as your Lord and Savior. His faith was born on the inside of you the moment you were born again. Hebrews 12:2 confirms it. It says that Jesus Himself is the "author and the finisher" of your faith.

Jesus always does a good job at everything He does. So you can be sure that the faith He authored in you is of the very highest quality. You can also be sure that, as its finisher, He's going to help you develop your



# words on protection

This world is a dangerous place, and it's getting worse all the time. But God has provided protection for His people. He has promised you, as a believer, that He will be your shelter and your fortress if you will only take refuge in Him.

**Build your faith for protection by feeding on what the Bible says about it.** Romans 10:17

**Declare out loud that God is your refuge.**  
Psalm 91:2

**Be steadfast and unwavering in your faith and in your walk with God.** James 1:6-7

**Study the Word and find out how God wants you to live.** James 1:21

**Abide in the secret place by obeying the voice and the written Word of God.**  
James 1:22



faith until it's so strong that when you cross the finish line of your life on earth you can say, like the Apostle Paul did: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me..." (2 Timothy 4:7-8, *New King James Version*).

Of course, if you really want to finish your faith race with that kind of triumph, you'll have to put your whole heart into it. You can't act like the street sweeper did that day and be content to just creep along at a snail's pace. You must run like you're in it to win it. You must be determined to go the distance and give the race everything you've got.

As the great Christian writer Andrew Murray once put it, you must "judge everything in your life by one standard: *'Can it help me in the race?'*"

Personally, I think that's a marvelous question—one that all of us as believers should frequently ask. We can find the answer to it just by looking in the Bible. It's full of scriptures that tell us how we can best run our race. Take Hebrews 12:1-2, for instance. It says: "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith..."

Have you ever seen sprinters or marathon runners get ready to race? They don't load themselves down with heavy clothes, backpacks and shopping bags. They "lay aside every weight." They get rid of anything that would slow them down.

As spiritual runners we should do the same. We should get rid of anything in our lives that would draw us off course and tempt us to sin.

We shouldn't load ourselves down with the world's trash. We shouldn't go to movies that glorify immorality, or watch TV shows filled with profanity,

adultery, fornication and all kinds of other sin. We shouldn't stand around the water cooler at the office gossiping or flirting with someone else's spouse.

"But Gloria," you might say, "everyone in the world does that stuff!"

So what? The world is crazy! They don't know God. They're following Satan and they can't tell right from wrong. They're living in darkness, so for them sin is normal.

But you're a Christian! You've been born of the Light. Sin isn't normal for you. You'll never be happy living the way the world does. You'll never be satisfied doing things that are contrary to God's Word. They might bring you pleasure for a season, but they always end in misery and death.

So stay away from those things! When you find yourself in the wrong place, talking to the wrong people, and you realize you're headed for trouble, cut the conversation short and walk away. Go somewhere more wholesome and find someone to talk to who knows Jesus.

When you catch yourself watching some form of "entertainment" that promotes sin and makes it look attractive, turn it off. Open your Bible or tune in to the *Believer's Voice of Victory* broadcast. Spend time looking at and listening to the Word.

Your eyes and ears are a gateway to your heart. If you fill them with the devil's stuff, trouble comes. If you fill them with the Word, faith comes—and faith is what you want! When you have it you can run like the winner God created you to be. You can conquer anything the devil tries to throw at you. You can triumph over every problem. Because "this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith" (1 John 5:4)!

## Moving Everest May Take Time

Another vital instruction from Hebrews 12:1 that will go a long way toward helping you in your spiritual race is this: "Run with patience,"

Patience is a fruit of the spirit (Galatians 5:22-23, *The Amplified Bible*). Along with love, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control, it was born into you when you were born again. Patience is a spiritual force that keeps you from succumbing to negative circumstances. Patience will prevent you from giving up or giving out when you're under pressure, and cause you to stay steady and strong.

Ken calls faith and patience "the power twins," because patience undergirds faith and keeps it going. It keeps our faith in force until what we're believing for comes to pass. That's important because, although faith always brings results, they aren't always instantly visible. If they were, everyone in the world would be living by faith.

But that's not how it is. Faith projects often take time.

Ken and I found this out back in the early days when we were just getting started in the faith life. One of the first things we believed God for was to get out of debt. Talk about moving a mountain! To us, that debt looked as big as Mount Everest!

Creditors were calling, threatening to sue us over unpaid bills. We were driving an old, broken-down car. We had children to feed and hardly any money to live on. It was a pressurized situation. But we took our faith stand and stayed with it. We not only quit borrowing money, we faithfully declared the Word over the situation. We spoke to that mountain of debt and we called it paid, in Jesus' Name!

Months went by and it didn't look like much was happening. But we didn't give up and say, "This faith junk just isn't working. Let's go buy a new car on credit." Instead we let patience undergird our faith and, in a little less than a year all those bills were paid. We were debt free!

What's more, we've been free of debt ever since. We've bought houses and land, built ministry buildings, and

spent millions of dollars preaching the uncompromised Word of God around the world, but we never could have done it if we hadn't learned to run our faith race with patience.

We also wouldn't have been able to do it if we hadn't put the Word of God first place in our lives. Time in the Word is what keeps faith and patience strong. That's another thing Ken and I discovered in the early days of our faith life. We found out God's Word is like food, you can eat the same thing over and over and it will still be good for you. It will always strengthen you and cause your faith to increase.

The year we started believing God to get out of debt, when we

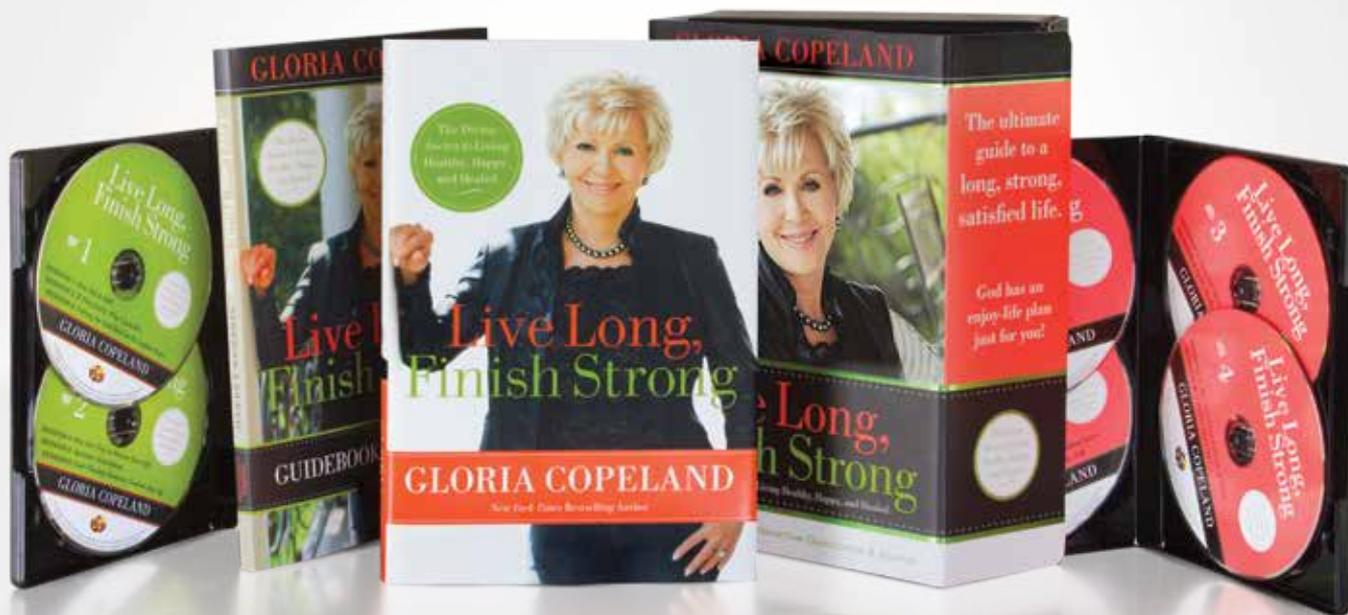
were living in Tulsa, Okla., we went to hear Brother Kenneth E. Hagin preach the Word every chance we got. Sometimes we'd go every night for three weeks straight and in every meeting Brother Hagin would read Mark 11:22-24. Again and again, he would teach on how to believe God, how faith works and how faith talks.

When there weren't any meetings going on, Ken and I would listen to tape-recorded messages of Brother Hagin's sermons at home. I listened to some of them so many times and took so many notes on them I almost wrote down the entire message.

When we moved to Fort Worth, Texas, and started our ministry, we

still traveled back to Tulsa to hear Brother Hagin preach about faith. We didn't do it because we necessarily thought he was going to tell us something new. We did it because we were facing obstacles and we needed to feed on the Word.

Most of the time—especially during our first years in ministry—we'd come dragging into those faith seminars needing a lift. We had impossibilities staring us in the face and we were feeling the pressure of them. Although we knew the Word of God could overcome those impossibilities, the circumstances had worn us down and we needed our faith stirred up!



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But then Brother Hagin would read Mark 11:23 to us again. As we listened for the umpteenth time to his wonderful, Word-filled messages, our faith would be refreshed. Our thinking would be straightened out.

The Word of God has awesome power to get you back on track and keep you there!

When the seminars were over, we'd go back home believing God stronger than ever and saying, "Yes! We can move the mountain! We can do it by faith. We just have to say what God says, do what He tells us to do, and refuse to quit until what we're believing for comes to pass!"

Ken and I are still that way, even after more than 45 years in ministry. We still love hearing people preach about faith. We get as much out of going to Believers' Conventions as everyone else does. There's just something special that happens to us when we get together with other believers to hear God's Word.

We don't just feed on the Word at believers' meetings though. We also read and meditate on it by ourselves at home. Both Ken and I spend time in the Word every day because "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17).

### A DAILY DOSE OF GOD'S WORD IS THE KEY TO LIVING AN OVERCOMING LIFE!

So don't ever slack off on the Word. Stick with it. Keep feeding on it, speaking it and acting on it. Lay aside everything that might hinder you, and put the power twins of faith and patience to work in your life.

God has big things for you to do. He has an exciting race prepared for you. It's a race that will satisfy your heart's deepest desires, bless you beyond anything you could ask or think, make all things possible, and make you a blessing to others in ways beyond your wildest dreams.

It's a race you were born to run. 🏃

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July 28-Aug. 1

### The Blessing of Abraham—Part 2

Gloria Copeland and George Pearsons

Sun., Aug. 3

### The Power of God's Anointing in You

Kenneth Copeland



Kenneth Copeland

Aug. 4-8

### The Power of the Name of Jesus

Kenneth Copeland

Sun., Aug. 10

### Following God's Path to Find Your Place

Kenneth Copeland



Gloria Copeland

Aug. 11-15

### Unlocking the Favor of God

Jeremy Pearsons

Sun., Aug. 17

### Living in God's Perfected Love—Part 1

Kenneth Copeland



George Pearsons

Aug. 18-22

### A Collision Course With Kindness

Jeremy Pearsons

Sun., Aug. 24

### Living in God's Perfected Love—Part 2

Kenneth Copeland



Jeremy Pearsons

Aug. 25-29

### The Holy Spirit in You

Kenneth Copeland

Sun., Aug. 31

### The Transforming Power of God's Love

Kenneth Copeland

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