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VICTORY

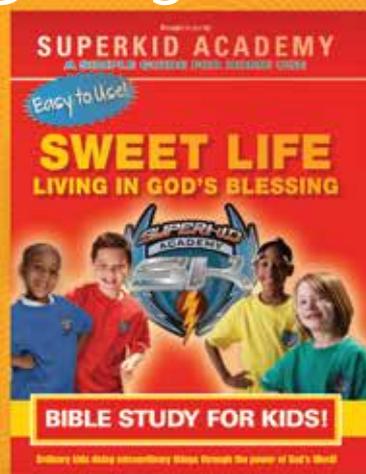
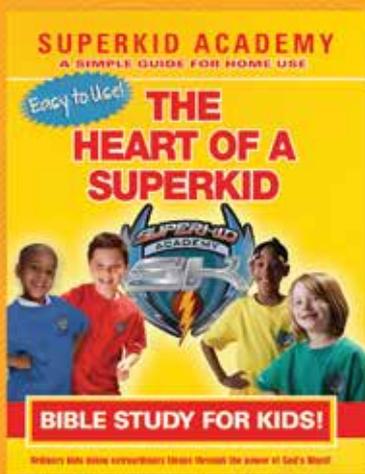
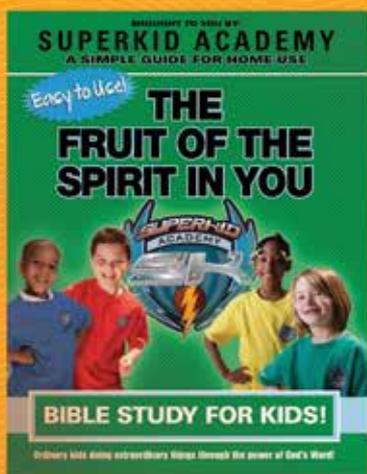
January 2015



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January



Good News! That's what *Believer's Voice of Victory* has been bringing to you each month since 1973. For 42 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 Ultimate Triumph

by Kenneth Copeland

The Bible talks about our new birth, as Christians, in the same way it talks about the birth of Jesus, revealing a divine union between Him and us that puts us on an equal basis—as identical twins.

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Olympic Champion: Still the Same Gabby

by Ronald C. Jordan

In 2004, 8-year-old Gabby Douglas began her quest for the Olympics when she enrolled at a gymnastics training facility in Virginia. Eight years later, as a member of the U.S. gymnastics team competing in the 2012 Olympics, Gabby made history winning two gold medals, and became an overnight global superstar. Now, she's inspiring other young people to follow their dreams.

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A Prosperous Life

German edition available

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V Pass this magazine on to a friend.

It's a great way to recycle!



The Cannon of Spiritual Warfare

by Kenneth Copeland

When the storms of life are thundering around you and the devil won't leave you alone, it's time to pull out the "big gun" in your spiritual arsenal—thanksgiving.

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The Untouchables: Protected in the Household of Faith

by Pastor George Pearsons

As Christians, we are in this world but we are not subject to it. We do not live under the dominion, rule, control or influence of the Babylonian world system. When we walk by faith and stand on God's WORD, we literally become immune to the chaos and turmoil that surrounds us.

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The Prosperous Life

by Gloria Copeland

When you seek first the kingdom of God, regardless of what happens to the world's economy, you can prosper and be a blessing.

Judging by the size of the package waiting for me under the Christmas tree Dec. 25, 1953, my dreams had not come true. The one gift I'd been hoping my parents would give me for 10 long years was nowhere to be seen. Christmas had come again, and though I'd wanted a motorcycle all my born days, at 16 years old I still didn't have one.

THE ULTIMATE

triumph

After my mother reminded us, as usual, that this was Jesus' birthday, and we prayed together, I reached under the tree and picked up my gift. No bigger than a book, the weight of it surprised me.

What in the world could be that heavy? I thought. Ripping through paper and ribbon, I found a stack of magazines with a note on top.

I'm in the driveway, it read.

For a split second I stared at the words in shock and my knees went weak. Then, heart

hammering, I ran to the door and opened it. What I saw literally knocked me off my feet.

There in the driveway sat a 1952 Triumph Thunderbird motorcycle.

Excited doesn't even begin to describe what I felt at that moment. Scrambling up from the porch where I'd fallen, I thanked Mama and Daddy, grabbed my jacket, jumped on my new motorcycle and hit the street. By the time I got back home that night I'd ridden more than a hundred frigid miles and my face was frozen into an ear-to-ear grin.





by *Kenneth Copeland*

Talk about a wonderful Christmas! I was so thrilled about that motorcycle I thought it would be the gift that topped them all. But I turned out to be mistaken. As I discovered some years later, God has given us all a gift that's far, far better.

He's given us His Son, Jesus—and what God has done for us through Him is a thousand times more thrilling than any other Christmas gift could ever be.

More Than You Ever Dreamed

"But Brother Copeland," you might say, "I've heard about the birth of Jesus all my life, and though I'm glad it happened, I just don't get that excited about it anymore."

That's probably because there are some things about it you haven't heard. You're like I was when I saw that present under the Christmas tree: You don't yet realize all that you've been given. You haven't fully discovered that in Jesus you've received more than you could ever dream.

You can get a glimpse of what I'm talking about in John 1, where the Bible describes the birth of Jesus like this: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men.... And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we

beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth" (verses 1-4, 14).

Those verses aren't usually associated with Christmas because they don't focus on the natural facts about Jesus. They don't depict Him the way people generally think of Him at this time of year, as a baby lying in a manger. Instead, they reveal who He truly was and is: an eternal member of the Godhead, the Creator of the universe, the divine light of mankind, and the living WORD of Almighty God.

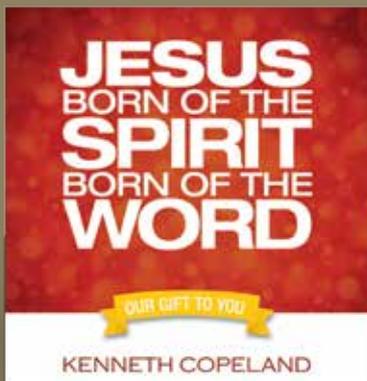
When Jesus was born, He might have looked small on the outside, like just an ordinary infant. But on the inside He was The WORD of God made flesh, as fully human as any man who ever lived, and yet at the same time the very incarnation of God.

The very thought of it is staggering—almost more than we can comprehend. But, amazingly enough, it's not the whole story. Tucked right into the middle of this passage in John is something about Jesus that's even more astounding. According to verses 12 and 13: "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."

Read those verses again and think about them for a moment. Do you see how they refer to those of us who are believers? They talk

free
gift

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about our new birth in the same way they talk about the birth of Jesus! They bring together those of us who are born of the Spirit, with Him who was born of the Spirit, revealing a divine union between Him and us that puts us on an equal basis.

“Why, that’s ridiculous!” someone might say. “We aren’t equal with Jesus!”

Yes, as startling as it might seem, the New Testament says we are. It declares in one place after another that even though Jesus is the King of kings and LORD of lords:

We who’ve been joined to The LORD through the new birth are “one spirit” with Him. (1 Corinthians 6:17)

We’ve put on the new man and been renewed “after the image of him that created him.” (Colossians 3:10)

We’ve been raised up together with Him, and seated together with Him in heavenly places. (Ephesians 2:6)

I’ve studied those scriptures and others like them for a long time, so I’m very familiar with them. In fact, I preach them all the time. But recently, The LORD said something to me about them that actually startled me. He said that we, as born-again believers, and Jesus are identical twins.

That’s right—identical twins.

In 48 years of ministry, I’d never before heard The LORD say such a thing. Yet I knew right away it was true, because 1 Peter 1:23 says we’ve been “born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”

Everyone knows that when two people are born of the exact same physical seed, they’re born as identical twins. So what The LORD was saying to me was that the same is true in the realm of the spirit. Although we, as believers, are physically and externally different from one another, on the inside our spirit being is exactly like Jesus. We’re all His identical twins—born of the same seed, conceived by the very same process, by the same Father...which means the Christmas story isn’t only about Jesus.

It’s also about us.

The Greatest Story Ever Told and the Question That’s Rarely Asked

You probably remember how the story begins. According to Luke 1, the angel Gabriel appeared to a virgin named Mary. He told her she was blessed and highly favored of The LORD.

And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end (verses 29-33).

Mary responded to this amazing announcement with a simple question. She said, “How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?” (verse 34). She didn’t ask this because she doubted what the angel was telling her. On the contrary, she had listened very intently and believed what he said.

She just wanted to be sure she fully understood what was going to happen. Was she going to have this Son after she was married? Or did God have something else in mind? Those were fair questions; and the angel answered them. He said: “The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.... For with God nothing shall be impossible” (verses 35, 37).

It’s important to note here that Gabriel wasn’t speaking on his own when he said these things. His words didn’t originate with him. As the archangel who stood in the presence of Almighty God, he was simply delivering The WORD of The LORD. He was just saying what the Father said.

That’s what Jesus did when He was on earth. As He said in John 14:10, “The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in

me, he doeth the works.” Here, Gabriel was doing the same. He was speaking not of himself but on behalf of God.

Upon hearing his words, Mary responded by saying, “Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word” (Luke 1:38).

Most people have heard or read this portion of the Christmas story many times, but there’s one question they rarely ask about it: When, exactly, did Gabriel’s words to Mary actually come to pass? At what point did the Holy Spirit hover over her, sow the seed of God’s living WORD in her womb and cause her to conceive?

I’ll tell you when it happened.

It happened the instant Mary yielded herself to The LORD, believed His WORD and released her faith with the words of her mouth. It happened when she said, in essence, “I’m all Yours, LORD! I belong to You. Be it done unto me, Sir, as You have spoken.”

In that moment, Mary gave herself in faith to God and He gave His Son. The Holy Spirit, who had been hovering there in that room, brought God’s WORD to pass and His WORD became flesh in Mary’s womb.

From the Only Begotten to the Firstborn

“Brother Copeland, I agree that’s a wonderful story. But it’s about Gabriel, Mary and Jesus, not about believers like you and me.”

Yes it is, and here’s why: The same thing that happened to Mary when she believed God’s WORD and gave herself in faith to Him happened to us when we got saved. The moment we believed The WORD and said, “Jesus, come into my heart; I receive You as my LORD and my Savior,” the Holy Spirit hovered over us and implanted the incorruptible seed of God’s eternal WORD in our spirit and we were born again.

That means we’re as much born of the Spirit as Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Our spiritual DNA is The WORD of the living God.

“But what about John 1:14?” someone might ask. “It refers to Jesus as the only begotten of the Father.”

Certainly it does—and He was the only begotten when He was born on the

earth. But once He was crucified and resurrected, He was never again called God’s only begotten Son. From that point on, He was called the “firstborn from the dead” (Colossians 1:18).

Why? Because through the work of the Cross and the triumph of the Resurrection, He made it possible for many sons and daughters to be born into God’s family. By destroying the power of sin that had dominated mankind since the Fall of Adam and reconciling the world to God (2 Corinthians 5:19), He became not only God’s Son but the Big Brother of all who would put their faith in Him.

As a result, ever since the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit has been hovering over the earth, just like He hovered over Mary. He’s been present, ready to bring God’s WORD to pass for anyone who will believe it and say like she did, “Be it unto me according to thy word!”

If you’re a believer, the Holy Spirit was there hovering over you the day you were born again, and now He’s not only hovering over you, He dwells within you. He’s never stagnant. He’s always moving. He’s always waiting for you to get God’s WORD in your heart and in your mouth so He can bring it to pass. Like Jesus said, it’s “the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works” (John 14:10).

If you need healing, you can speak The WORD of healing and the Holy Spirit will move on it and cause it to be made flesh in your body. If you’re in financial bondage of some kind, you can speak The WORD of prosperity and the Holy Spirit will move on it and make you free. If you’re a parent, you can speak The WORD over your children and the Holy Spirit will move on it and it will be made flesh in them.

This is the good news! It’s what the angel of The LORD was proclaiming to the shepherds who were watching over their flocks out in the fields of Bethlehem:

Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto

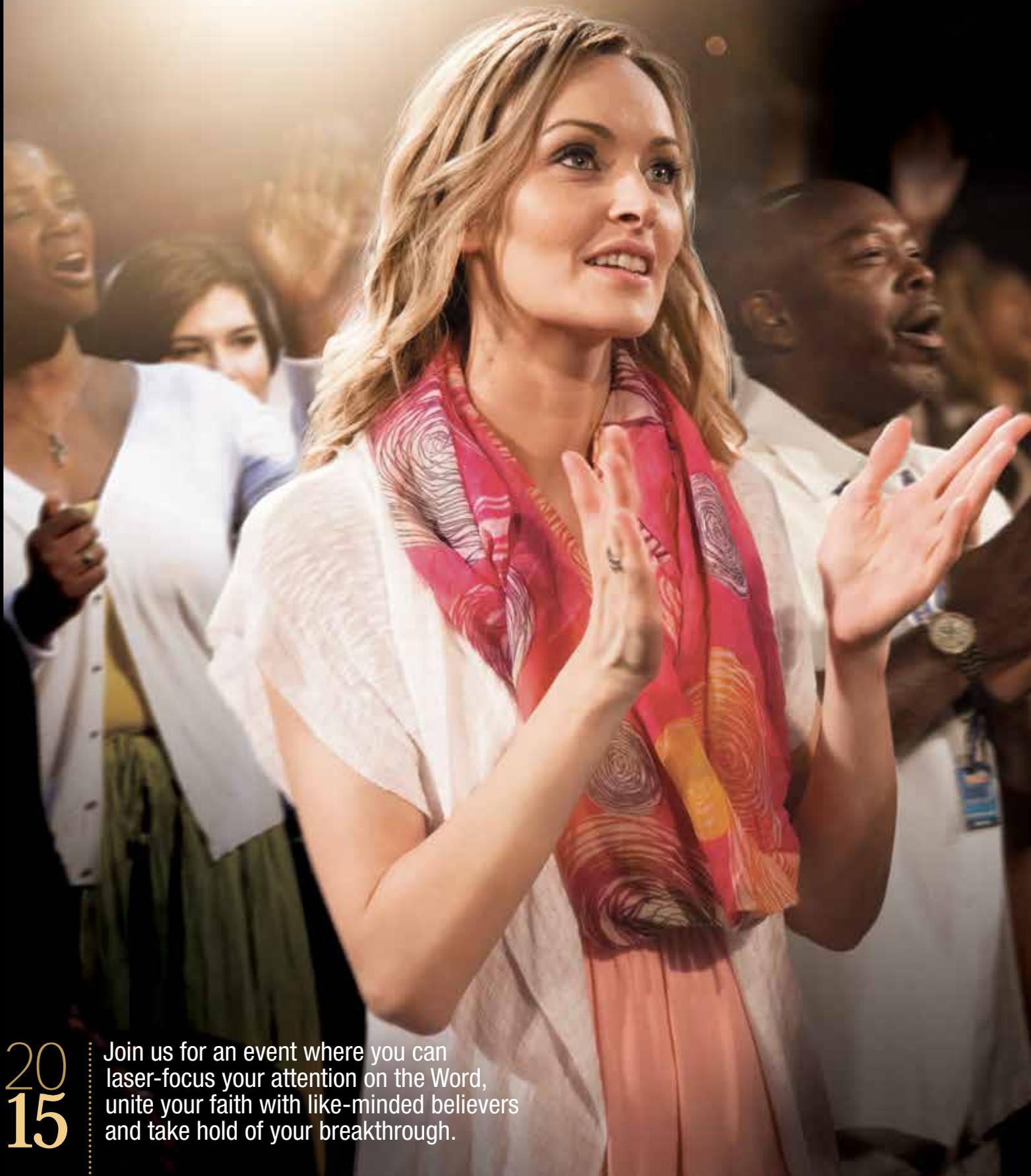
you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men” (Luke 2:10-14).

Personally, I believe the angels that showed up at the end of that passage were so excited about this message they just exploded onto the scene. They couldn’t contain themselves. They were absolutely delighted to be delivering the news that the war between heaven and earth was over; God had made peace with all mankind and released His goodwill toward them!

Of course, at the time, even the angels couldn’t understand the full extent of what was happening. Much of God’s plan was still hidden from them. But as we look back at it now, we can see the whole wonderful truth: On that first Christmas day, God’s perfect Sacrifice had been born into the earth. Jesus, the living WORD, had come to pay the sin debt for all men forever. Within 33 years, His blood would be shed; He would be raised from the dead; and any man, woman or child on earth would have the right to believe on Him and become a new creation. No matter how sinful a person had been, he could receive Jesus as Savior and his old life would pass away, all things would become new and in his spirit he could become exactly like Jesus—His identical spiritual twin.

Talk about thrilling! Just thinking about it makes me feel like it’s Christmas 1953 all over again. But there’s one big difference: The Triumph I found waiting for me in the driveway when I was 16 years old is now long gone. But the triumph I found in Jesus will last forever. I’ll be riding with Him through the ages to come, living by faith and speaking His WORD with a grin on my face that will never fade. “Thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ...” (2 Corinthians 2:14).

If Jesus is your LORD and Savior, you will too. So go ahead and get excited. Celebrate the birth of Jesus like it’s your own—and live for eternity in a dream come true. 🍷



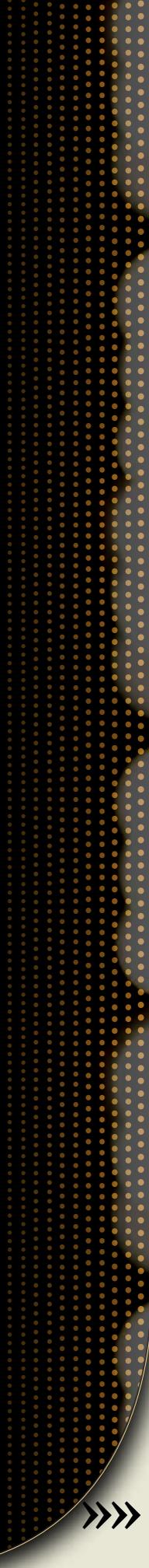
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Join us for an event where you can laser-focus your attention on the Word, unite your faith with like-minded believers and take hold of your breakthrough.



When we gather, faith erupts.

Experience Faith





Marissa Boggs
Edinburg, Texas

"That [Southwest Believers'] convention gave me hope that we could get out of the financial hole we had dug for ourselves. As I listened to Gloria tell about their financial struggles and their debt as a young couple, it sounded very similar to what we were going through. Looking at where they started and how far they'd come, I knew that if we could learn to live by faith for prosperity, God would do the same thing for us. It also blessed me to hear how Gloria walked by faith for her children, confessing the Word over them and refusing to worry. She inspired me to do the same."

Experience Faith in Action!



Rhodonna Boyd
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Watch Rhodonna's story
kcm.org/testimonies

Bombarded by bills from every direction, Rhodonna Boyd was in desperate need of a financial

breakthrough when a friend introduced her to KCM and suggested she listen to Kenneth and Gloria Copeland's teachings. Following that advice, Rhodonna discovered a wealth of free resources offered by the ministry online and began listening to them.

"During one of his messages," recalls Rhodonna, "I heard Brother Copeland say something like, 'If you're struggling financially, you need to get under the Anointing of God where this message is being taught, and even if you have to sleep on the porch to get into the church, do whatever you need to do.'"

"The words 'do whatever you need to do' went off in me and I knew that was my word from God.

"When I heard about the Washington, D.C. Victory Campaign to be held that November, I knew I had to get there. I thought I had a place to stay, but it fell through and I didn't have money for a hotel. My car had been repossessed, but my sister gave me a 13-year-old Saturn. I had enough money for gas and a few dollars for food.

"In November, I drove three and one-half hours to the meeting and parked in the Potomac Mills Mall parking lot. Kenneth and Gloria Copeland spoke from a different mindset than anything I'd ever heard. I was witnessing people who lived at a level of confidence in God's Word that was beyond anything I'd ever known. It seemed as though Brother Copeland was unaffected by the world's system."

During lunch breaks,

Rhodonna sat in her car and snacked on chips while she pondered what she had just heard. At night, following the evening sessions, everyone else left for their hotel rooms or to go home while she climbed into the driver's seat of her old Saturn and reclined the seat.

"I covered myself with my coat and ran the heater to dispel the chill," she said. "Each morning I went back to the meeting thrilled that I was basking in the Word. I was so excited, that not having a place to stay or much money for food didn't bother me. I knew I wouldn't starve physically, but I was starving spiritually for a breakthrough. I was beyond desperate. I didn't have any money to buy books or tapes, but I had \$3 which I sowed into the offering. I soaked up every message and went home knowing my mind had begun to change."

Indeed, a change had occurred in her life.

After returning home,

Rhodonna, who had worked in management, stepped out in faith and switched to sales. By the end of the year, she had earned over \$20,000 more than the previous year. The following year, in 2006, she returned to the Victory Campaign.

"This time I didn't have to sleep in my car," said Rhodonna.

"I realized my problem hadn't been about money. My problem had been about revelation. I was getting a revelation of my covenant with God and that God's blessing was upon me. I had heard it before, but a light finally went on and I was really getting it, and my priorities changed. More than anything else, I wanted to fund God's end-time harvest. I wanted to sow money into the Kingdom that would result in a harvest of souls worldwide."

In 2007, Rhodonna saw her annual income increase by \$25,000. The following year, she received a promotion and earned an additional \$25,000, and a year later she was able to buy a home. In 2010, during the worst economy the company she worked for had ever seen, Rhodonna made the biggest sale in her division's history.

"Brother Copeland has been my mentor for financial breakthrough. He just believes what God said is true and acts on it. That's what I've learned to do. I know today I could never be poor again, because no one can take from me the revelation of my covenant with God and that God's blessing is upon me."

Experience Faith... *together*



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June 29-July 4

Columbia, S.C.

Word Explosion Sept. 17-19

Washington, D.C.

Victory Campaign Nov. 12-14

by Ronald C. Jordan



the first

American gymnast to win gold in both the individual all-around and team competitions at the same Olympics





“That I can make an impact on someone else’s life is just a wow moment for me.”

attention to Gabby’s hair than her athletic prowess.

But on this day, in July 2012, in front of thousands of spectators inside London’s North Greenwich Arena, and millions watching around the world, 16-year-old Gabby Douglas had chosen not to reflect on those things. Instead, she remembered the encouragement from her mother, Natalie Hawkins, in the months leading up to the competition—particularly when Gabby decided she wanted to quit.

“Mom reminded me that I was living out my dream, and that if I quit, I would never get this moment back again, that it would be gone forever,” recalls Gabby. “She told me that life was not easy, and that I had to fight and refuse to quit.”

There was one other thing that came to Gabby’s mind. It was a prophecy someone had sent to her that was given

by Kenneth Copeland at the end of 2011 that spoke about the year 2012.

“It’s going to be a year of great joy for those who know joy,” the prophecy said, in part. “It’ll be a time of marvelous breakthroughs. This is a time of victory. It’s a time when people begin to realize that My WORD is a living WORD, that My Spirit is the living Spirit, and that you are My voice in the earth. And your voice is the voice of victory.”

Gabby had taken those words to heart, realizing that God had a plan for her life. She even underlined portions of the prophecy that she said “related directly to things that were going on in my life.” Little did she know that before the day was over, she would see much of what was spoken through Brother Copeland come to pass in her life.

In her final performance, Gabby captivated the crowd as she flipped and twisted her way through a near-perfect

floor routine. When the scoreboard lit up, she had garnered an overall score of 62.232. Five minutes later, Russia’s Viktoria Komova delivered an equally impressive performance. But with an overall score of 61.973, about three-tenths less than Gabby’s score, it would not be enough to take first place.

Triple Honors

Gabby Douglas had just made history, becoming the first African-American gymnast to become the individual all-around champion; the first American gymnast to win gold in both the individual all-around and team competitions at the same Olympics; and the only American all-around champion to win multiple gold medals.

While Gabby and her teammates celebrated their victory on the floor of the arena, her mom, sisters Arielle and Joyelle, and brother Johnathan, rejoiced in the stands.

Standing humbly to accept top honors as a representative of her country, Gabby couldn't help but remember something God had reminded her of a month earlier, after she placed first in the all-around rankings at the 2012 Olympic Trials in San Jose, Calif.

"The hardest part in all of this is making the team," Gabby says. "So when I made it, it was a big relief. The pressure was gone. The funny thing is, it didn't really sink in that I had won a spot on the team until I stepped out onto the Olympics floor. I looked around and there were Olympic ring signs everywhere. The commentating was so loud, and the stadium was jampacked. There were flags from so many countries and people were cheering for their representatives.

"At that moment, I remember thinking, *Wow, God really did have a plan for me!*"

Almost overnight the 16-year-old became a global superstar, whose victory had instantly led to several endorsement deals with such sponsors as Nike, Kellogg, Procter & Gamble and AT&T. She received invitations to appear on several TV shows, including Disney's *Kickin' It*, *Oprah's Next Chapter*, *Live with Kelly and Michael*, *The Queen Latifah Show*, *The Arsenio Hall Show*, *Late Show with David Letterman* and *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, where she appeared along with first lady Michelle Obama. And her face appeared on the covers of half a dozen national magazines, including *People*, *TIME*, *JET*, *Sports Illustrated* and *ESSENCE*.

The Associated Press named Gabby "Female Athlete of the Year," and *Essence* included her in its "Women of the Year" awards for 2012, a group that included Michelle Obama and *Good Morning America* anchor Robin Roberts.

In December 2012, Gabby released her autobiography, *Grace, Gold, and Glory: My Leap of Faith*, which debuted at No. 4 on the New York Times Young Adult

Best Seller List. Her second book, *Raising the Bar*, also a best-seller, was released in July 2013, and in early 2014, Lifetime Network aired a two-hour special called *The Gabby Douglas Story*.

'That Could Be Me'

It's been a whirlwind ride for sure for Gabby and her family who, in 2014, moved from Virginia to California to make managing Gabby's new career easier. But for anyone who has followed the story of this child prodigy over the past two years, it's no secret that life has not always been easy for Gabby and her family, who for years suffered through extreme poverty.

When she was 3, Gabby learned how to do cartwheels from her older sister Arielle, who was a gymnast. Gabby soon perfected the skill and began teaching herself other tricks. Arielle soon realized her baby sister's athletic abilities and urged their mother to sign Gabby up for gymnastics. In October 2002, after four years of persistent persuasion, Arielle finally convinced her mother to sign her almost 7-year-old sister up for gymnastic classes.

"I always had a passion to just do flips, but watching the 2004 and 2008 Olympics is what inspired me to want to go to the Olympics," Gabby remembers. "Before that, I didn't really know I was doing gymnastics. I was just doing flips for fun. Then, one day I was watching the Olympics and saw a girl doing a particular skill that I was doing and I thought, *That could be me at the Olympics.*"

"I remember sitting there in front of the TV in awe. I said to myself, 'That could be me.' I believed it 100 percent."

In July 2004, Gabby began training at another facility in Virginia Beach, Va. Because the gym's training regimen consisted of a morning workout schedule, it made attending regular school difficult for Gabby. So, Natalie

Kenneth Copeland's Partner Letter

In a world filled with counterfeits, the Partners of Kenneth Copeland Ministries have had something genuine to count on month after month, year in and year out for the past 28 years: *Kenneth Copeland's Partner Letter*. It's timely, it's real and it's personal... because as far as Brother Copeland is concerned, he's writing to his closest friends.

Kenneth Copeland learned the importance of letter writing from his spiritual father, Oral Roberts, who, after explaining the importance of writing letters to his partners, told Kenneth:

"I want you to commit to God that every 30 days, for the rest of your life, you will pray in the Holy Ghost until you have something anointed to write to your Partners, just the way Paul wrote to his."

"From that time until now," says Kenneth, "I've written a letter every month to my friends who are in partnership with me. They aren't money-raising letters. I don't write them for that reason. God is my source, and *He* meets all my needs. I write the letters because I want to bless my Partners. Since they are partakers of my grace (Philippians 1:7), I want to share with them the revelations God has given me.

"I agonize over those letters. I pray, and pray, and pray and pray. Then I go back to prayer until I hear what's on God's heart.

"Sometimes it comes to me in the middle of the night. But one thing's for sure—I wait until I hear from heaven. I don't just sit down and put something on paper. As a result, those letters have changed lives—my Partners' and mine. Thanks to God, and to the Holy Spirit working through the Apostle Paul and Brother Roberts, we have all been blessed!"

Today, the Partner Letter is one of the most important ministry tools extending from Kenneth Copeland Ministries. It travels the world, providing strength and resulting in thousands of testimonies of salvation, healing, deliverance, restoration and increase.



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JANUARY

| | | Old Testament | New Testament |
|-----|----|---------------|---------------|
| Thu | 1 | Gen. 1-3 | Matt. 1-2 |
| Fri | 2 | Gen. 4-5 | Matt. 3 |
| Sat | 3 | Gen. 6-7 | Matt. 4 |
| Sun | 4 | Gen. 8-9 | Matt. 5 |
| Mon | 5 | Gen. 10-11 | Matt. 6 |
| Tue | 6 | Gen. 12-13 | Matt. 7 |
| Wed | 7 | Gen. 14-15 | Matt. 8 |
| Thu | 8 | Gen. 16-18 | Matt. 9-10 |
| Fri | 9 | Gen. 19-20 | Matt. 11 |
| Sat | 10 | Gen. 21-22 | Matt. 12 |
| Sun | 11 | Gen. 23-24 | Matt. 13 |
| Mon | 12 | Gen. 25-26 | Matt. 14 |
| Tue | 13 | Gen. 27-28 | Matt. 15 |
| Wed | 14 | Gen. 29-30 | Matt. 16 |
| Thu | 15 | Gen. 31-33 | Matt. 17-18 |
| Fri | 16 | Gen. 34-35 | Matt. 19 |
| Sat | 17 | Gen. 36-37 | Matt. 20 |
| Sun | 18 | Gen. 38-39 | Matt. 21 |
| Mon | 19 | Gen. 40-41 | Matt. 22 |
| Tue | 20 | Gen. 42-43 | Matt. 23 |
| Wed | 21 | Gen. 44-45 | Matt. 24 |
| Thu | 22 | Gen. 46-48 | Matt. 25-26 |
| Fri | 23 | Gen. 49-50 | Matt. 27 |
| Sat | 24 | Ex. 1-2 | Matt. 28 |
| Sun | 25 | Ex. 3-4 | Mark 1 |
| Mon | 26 | Ex. 5-6 | Mark 2 |
| Tue | 27 | Ex. 7-8 | Mark 3 |
| Wed | 28 | Ex. 9-10 | Mark 4 |
| Thu | 29 | Ex. 11-13 | Mark 5-6 |
| Fri | 30 | Ex. 14-15 | Mark 7 |
| Sat | 31 | Ex. 16-17 | Mark 8 |

worked split shifts and nights so she could home-school her daughter.

Despite a few challenges, which included struggles with fellow athletes as well as her coaches, Gabby excelled at the gym, entering and winning a number of state and national competitions. But as time passed, and with her sights set on competing in the Olympics, she realized she would need a different style of training to take her

to the next level.

While watching the 2008 Olympic Games, Gabby saw gymnastics coach Liang Chow, the man who coached 2007 World Champion and 2008 Summer Olympics balance beam gold medalist Shawn Johnson. Instantly, Gabby knew Chow was who she wanted as her new coach.

Problem was, the training gym was in West Des Moines, Iowa, over 1,000 miles away from Gabby's home in Virginia. At first, Natalie was not receptive to sending her 14-year-old child so far away. But with some pleading from Gabby, backed up by her two sisters, Natalie finally agreed. In October 2010, Gabby moved to Iowa where, for the next two years, she lived with a host family while in training.

Over the next two years, Gabby excelled in her training. In March 2012 at Madison Square Garden Arena, New York City, she performed exhibition routines at the American Cup, an international competition that brings in top competitors from around the world. Although she was competing as an alternate, which means her scores didn't count toward the official results, Gabby posted the highest all-around score. She competed in the June 2012 U.S. National Championships in St. Louis, Mo., where she won the gold medal in uneven bars, silver in the all-around and bronze in floor. And in July, she competed at the 2012 Olympic Trials in San Jose, Calif., placing first in the all-around rankings, and securing the only guaranteed spot on the women's Olympic gymnastics team.

'You Are Not Coming Home!'

Seven months before the Olympics, it appeared that Gabby's dreams of competing were about to self-destruct when the young gymnast informed her mother that she was homesick and wanted to quit. Understanding her daughter's dilemma, but realizing she was living her dream, Natalie told Gabby she could not come home.

"She just said, 'You are not coming home,'" Gabby recalled. "We have all given up so much. We've all sacrificed so much. You're almost there. You

don't want to have regrets, so just keep pushing it and don't give up.'

"At first I was upset that she would say that to me," says Gabby. "I wanted to ask: 'How could you not want me home? You don't understand. This is hard. Why do you want me to stick it out? I can't.' But the truth is, I really did understand. They just wanted what was best for me.

"This was something I wanted, and I made the decision to leave home to get it. When I did, I was so ready to take on this new journey and have fun and train with this new coach. I was ready for a new chapter. But when it actually happened and my family wasn't there, I realized what I had done. My mom and my siblings were right. I just needed to focus and keep pushing.

"The next day, something clicked in my spirit and I heard these words: *God has a plan for you. Don't give up,*" Gabby said. "I got my Bible and read Jeremiah 29:11. Then I thought, *God knows what He's doing and I know He has a plan in store for me. There's something greater. His thoughts are higher than my thoughts. His ways are higher than my ways.*"

Gabby picked up her phone, called Natalie and told her, "I'm going to give it everything I've got, Mom."

"I just had to believe God and apply my faith," she said.

Applying her faith. That's what Gabby has continually done to get through the rough patches which have come while she's been chasing her dream. It's what she's been doing ever since she was a small child living in Richardson, Texas, and learning about God as a member of Superkid Academy, the children's ministry at Kenneth Copeland Ministries, while her family were members of Eagle Mountain International Church.

"When [the Superkids] were going through hard times, they would put their faith into action and believe God to deliver them from the situation," Gabby remembers from watching videos of *Commander Kellie and the Superkids™*. "That's how my mom taught me to respond."

Early last year, along with her mom and two sisters, Gabby returned to Texas and KCM, where she got to



YOUR VOICE. YOUR VICTORY. YOUR MINISTRY.

GoodNewsGazette

The BVOV Magazine Opened My Eyes

Thank you so much for my Partner Package. This is not just a package or just a ministry, it is life to me and my family.

I came to know of KCM in January 2014. I was on my way to hospital for my clinic [visit] as I was eight months pregnant, and living on an island in Fiji called Kadavu. This day I was staying at my sister's place (her husband is a Partner), and before I left for hospital I was looking for a book or magazine to take so I can read while waiting for the doctor, when I came across a *Victory* magazine. When I reached the hospital I read through the magazine. It was as if I was called to an altar during worship. It really opened my eyes, thoughts and ears about the Lord Jesus.

I do go to church but it's just been something to do on Sundays. I listen to the pastors and go back home without even feeling there is any more to it. I am so happy that I have found the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour again after being astray for the last 19 years.

R.N. | Fiji

es
Hablamos Español

Paula M.,
prayer minister

“There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden eight years and was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, ‘Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed.’ Then he arose immediately. So all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.” Acts 9:33-35, *New King James Version*

Part-Time Work, Full-Time Income

I watched the *Get Out of Debt* series and heard the request for testimonies. I am the treasurer at my church part time and I am also a part-time realtor. A few years back it was very challenging in the natural with the financial crisis, etc., and I was standing on the Word to provide. I called the prayer line and the minister prayed, “Lord, let Nancy have more sales as a part-time realtor than the full-time realtors.” Like Sarah in the



Bible, I laughed—that struck me as very “pie in the sky.” But rather than dismiss it as impossible, I decided to receive it and make it my confession. My pastors and church family joined with me in agreement, speaking the same thing over me as well. Last year I made the top producer category, still working part time. The Lord is good and His favor has abounded toward me. Thank you, KCM, for standing with me in faith!
Nancy M. | Chicago, Ill.

To order this product, go to kcm.org.uk

Healed From Hepatitis C!

My son is 100 percent healed from hepatitis C. Thank you very much for believing with me for his healing. Thank You, Jesus! I.F. | Canada

Mortgage...Paid Off!

While watching the *BVOV* broadcast on debt freedom the last week of May 2013, I made a quality decision to be debt free, in accordance with the Word of God. Given that my self-employment business had failed, I had almost no income coming in, no savings account and not enough on hand to pay my bills, I continued tithing and sowing offerings into several ministries including KCM, believing for God's promised harvest on my financial seed. It seemed

to my natural mind a strange and unlikely time to commit to being debt free! However, that is exactly what I did, making that decision in agreement with Pastor George and Sister Gloria.

Praise God, on June 17, I received an unexpected gift in the mail—a check for \$2800. The remaining balance on my home mortgage loan was \$2705.52, so I took that money and paid off my mortgage. I now own my home debt free! Thank You, Father! Thank you, KCM, Pastor George and Sister Gloria! Susan P. | Colorado

Thank You for Praying for Me

Thank you for your email and concern. During my most difficult moments in life, I have always relied on KCM for prayer. Ever since my mom died in 2005—she was a Partner with KCM—I was a total wreck as my dad had passed away six months before her in 2004. The only person I turned to during those difficult years was my Lord and Savior.

I can remember like yesterday how I phoned one of your prayer warriors and asked him to pray with me. With God's grace, He has lifted me up out of my sorrow and I have been blessed and many miracles have taken place. I am now married to the love of my life. That too through prayer, as God led me to the right partner. We married in August 2013. God has been so good to me, because my husband was not a devout Christian, but through prayer he was led to Christ. He gave his heart to Jesus last year at a Christian program we both attended called ALPHA. So there have been many happy moments along this journey of mine amidst the sorrow.

Thank you to all who have prayed for me in the past. It is because of you all and Jesus' grace I write this testimony. Blessings to all!
I.K. | Sri Lanka

UK Time
730-17.15

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God Provides

I am pleased to send you my seed. I had not worked in five years, and God helped me to get back into work. I stayed at home to raise my sons. In those five years God provided all my needs. I did not take [any] benefits from the government. All my needs were met by the great Provider.

E.U. | U.K.

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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If you have just prayed this prayer, please let us know of your decision. We have a **Free Gift** to help you begin your new life in Jesus!

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by Kenneth Copeland

THE CANNON OF Spiritual Warfare

All spiritual battles are not created equal.

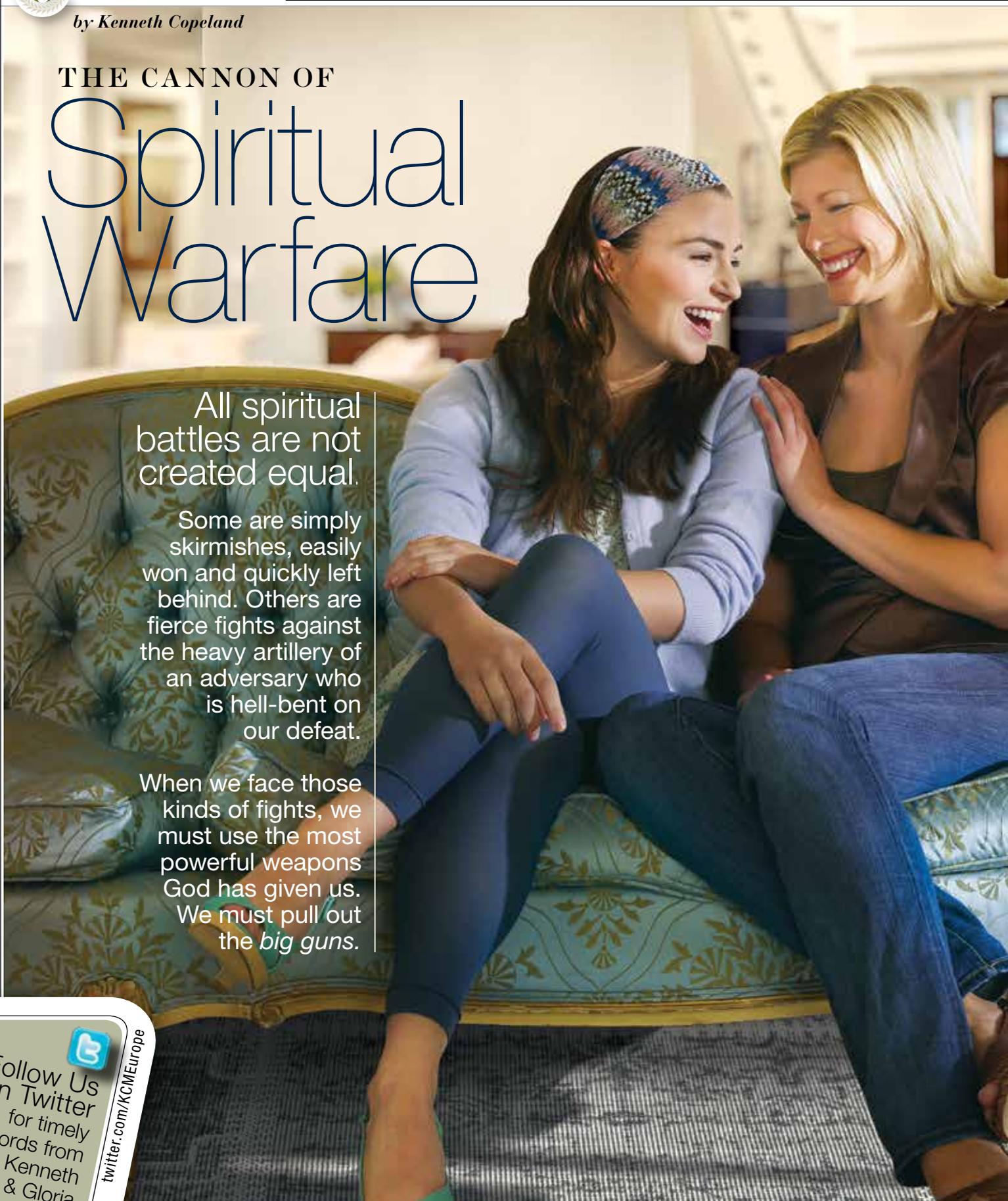
Some are simply skirmishes, easily won and quickly left behind. Others are fierce fights against the heavy artillery of an adversary who is hell-bent on our defeat.

When we face those kinds of fights, we must use the most powerful weapons God has given us. We must pull out the *big guns*.



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Kenneth
& Gloria





Thanksgiving is the “big gun” in our spiritual arsenal.

“

ig guns?” you ask. “Aren’t all the weapons of our spiritual warfare mighty through God?”

Yes, they are all mighty and effective. All of them fire the ammunition of faith so they’re all powerful. But they’re not all the same. For instance, if we compared them with natural weapons, we might say that one is like a pistol, another like a rifle and another like a cannon.

If we’re in a spiritual battle and we’ve already used the pistol and the rifle, but the devil just keeps hanging on, only the cannon will do—the cannon of thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving is the “big gun” in our spiritual arsenal. It keeps us connected to God and receiving from Him even when circumstances are dark. It keeps us in an attitude of faith even when the devil is assaulting our senses and giving us a thousand natural reasons to doubt The WORD and the power of God.

When the storms of life are thundering around us, if we’ll just stop right in the middle of it all and give thanks, it will keep us standing strong.

Don’t Wait Until Things Get Better

“But Brother Copeland, I don’t feel like giving thanks at times like that.”

Neither do I. But it doesn’t matter how we feel. The Bible says, “In every thing give

people ignored those works, and not only that, they actually accused Jesus Himself of being demon possessed!

If most of us were in that situation, we’d get mad and quit the ministry! We’d throw our hands up in disgust and say, “What’s the matter with this ignorant bunch of people? Don’t they know God is moving in their midst? Can’t they hear a word I’m saying? I give up! I’m not messing with this bunch anymore!”

But Jesus didn’t do that because it would have broken His connection to the Father. And He knew that in the heat of that spiritual battle, He had to keep His connection strong. So He pulled out the big gun and gave thanks!

Silencing a Sinister Enemy

He did the same thing when He went to Lazarus’ tomb. Talk about a major spiritual battle! Lazarus had been mummified by the time Jesus reached him. The embalming chemicals were already working on his body. If that weren’t enough, he’d been dead four days and his body was beginning to decompose.

A major miracle was needed to raise Lazarus from the dead.

We know from reading the Scriptures that Jesus had already prayed about the situation. He had received direction from the Father before He ever arrived on the scene. But when the moment of truth came and He stood in front of that tomb surrounded by a crowd of unbelieving people, the first thing He said was, “Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me” (John 11:41).

Why did He say that? Because He knew The WORD of God. He knew

that Psalm 8:2 says, “Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength [or praise] because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.”

At Lazarus’ tomb, Jesus was facing one of Satan’s most sinister weapons—the enemy of death. That enemy was boasting and bragging of its triumph. It was taunting that grieving crowd, challenging anyone to break its grip.

Jesus accepted that challenge. But before He did, He moved the big gun into position. He used the weapon that Scripture guarantees will silence every enemy of God—the weapon of thanksgiving and praise.

Get MORE

Not Just Gratitude, but Faith



You can do the same thing. When you’re praying for someone to be healed, for example, and you’ve loaded your faith pistol and rifle by praying and standing on The

WORD, just before

you walk into the hospital room to lay hands on that person, load your cannon. Start praising God and say, “Father, I thank You that You have already heard me and I go into this room victoriously. I thank You that this work is already complete and this person is healed!”

Don’t wait until you see the person raised up. Fire your thanksgiving gun before you ever go in there. Stop the enemy and the avenger, bring him to

a standstill before—not after—the miracle takes place.

Of course, it takes faith to do that. Anyone can give thanks after God moves. No doubt, all the unbelieving folks around Lazarus’ tomb were praising and thanking God after their once-dead friend came walking out in his grave clothes. But Jesus gave thanks beforehand. And if we’re going to see the miraculous power of God in our lives, that’s what we too must do.

We must do more than just give thanks after we receive the answer to our prayers as an act of gratitude. We must give thanks before we receive the answer as an act of faith. That means we must learn to thank God in the midst of what may seem like hopeless, terrible situations. We must thank God when it looks like the devil has just won the fight.

How can we possibly do that? Because we know what the Bible says. We know that no matter how things may appear, the devil hasn’t won the fight. Jesus defeated him once and for all 2,000 years ago. And if we’ll dare to stand on His victory and give thanks, we can win every time.

Don’t Dig Up Your Seed

We can also find ourselves receiving marvelous answers to our prayers. Read the following two verses about prayer and you’ll quickly see why.

“What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them” (Mark 11:24). “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your

requests be made known unto God” (Philippians 4:6).

When you put those two scriptures together, you can see how prayer and thanksgiving work together. When we pray, we believe we receive what we ask for. Then we demonstrate our faith by giving thanks—not after but *before* we see the answer!

Look at 1 Timothy 2:1-3: “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour.” Thanksgiving is right in the middle of supplications, prayers and intercessions.

If we fail to follow this prayer concept, the devil will mess us up. The day after we pray—when the pressure gets worse and it looks like all hell is breaking loose in the situation we prayed about—he’ll tempt us to cast aside our confidence. *Maybe God didn’t hear me yesterday when I prayed*, we’ll think. *I’d better pray that prayer over again.*

So, we start over. Pray the prayer of faith. Believe we receive. But the next day things look even worse so we end up going back and praying that prayer again... and again...and again.

Do you realize what we’re doing when we do that? We’re digging up our faith seed! Because we think it isn’t working, we’re planting it one day and digging it up the next.

You know as well as I do, if you treated a natural seed that way it would never be

able to grow. It would never produce any fruit.

The same is true with spiritual seed. You have to leave it in the ground and give it growing time. You have to protect it, watch over it and water it with The WORD until it sprouts.

Once you make your request known to God, believe you receive it and thank Him for it. If you wake up the next morning and the situation hasn't changed say: "I'm not moved by what I see. I'm not moved by what I hear. I'm moved by what I believe. So I give You thanks, Father, for answering my prayer!"

Load Your Weapons

When you do that you're obeying the instruction God gives us in Colossians 4:2: "Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving."

You're watching over your prayer to make sure the devil doesn't come in and steal the answer. You're like a security guard continually stopping the enemy and the avenger with your big gun of thanksgiving and praise.

"But does that really work, Brother Copeland?" you might ask.

Absolutely. I've seen it work miraculously in my own life many times. On Aug. 1, 2000, for example, I stood with some other ministers of God who laid hands on me and I believed I received restoration in my back. It had been damaged over the years through things like football injuries, a car accident and being thrown from a horse, and it had deteriorated until it was causing me excruciating pain.

In that area of my body, I needed a fulfillment of Psalm 103:5. I needed my youth renewed like the eagle's. Since that's one of the benefits God promises me in His WORD, I believed I received it that day.

But the full manifestation of that benefit didn't come instantly. My complete restoration has been a process.

During the past few years, there have been days when I'd get on the treadmill and within a few minutes, I'd hurt so badly I'd cry out to God! But I'd still say, "LORD, I thank You for a pain-free body. I thank You that on Aug. 1, 2000, at 7:20 p.m., I received restoration in my back. I thank You that the job is done, in Jesus' Name! I'm a free man! I'm free of back pain!"

It wasn't easy. I had to watch and be continually alert, guarding against discouragement and staying in an attitude of gratitude. But I'm sure glad I did because today, my back is 98 percent restored (and still improving). In fact, in some areas of my body, I'm stronger than I was 30 years ago. Like I said, I'm a free man!

God desires to do the same kind of thing for you. Healing belongs to you. He longs to deliver you and answer your prayers. He is looking for every work of the devil in your life to be destroyed.

So load your weapons. Bring the cannon of thanksgiving onto the battlefield of faith. Keep your eyes on Jesus and, "By him offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually... giving thanks to his name" (Hebrews 13:15).

He has won the victory—receive it now! 



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by
Pastor
George
Pearsons

The Untouchables: Protected in the Household of Faith

**“The world is on fire.”
A news anchor
recently made this
comment after listing
a number of the
critical situations
around the world.
Watching, I could tell
he wasn’t reading
from a teleprompter.
It was definitely an
unrehearsed response
to his own news copy.**

It is true. The world IS on fire. We have all noticed an escalation of world calamities over this past year. People are overwhelmed and fearful as they witness these events. God’s WORD accurately describes the times in which we live.

Second Timothy 3:1 (*The Amplified Bible*) tells us, “in the last days will come perilous times of great stress and trouble [hard to deal with and hard to bear].” Luke 21:25-26 says, “And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men’s hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth:

for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.”

So, how do we as believers in Christ approach this end-time turmoil?

We must take our stand on The WORD of God. We must exercise our authority and dominion. We must refuse fear and be determined to live by faith and not by sight. Second Corinthians 2:14 (*AMP*) must become a living reality: “But thanks be to God, Who in Christ always leads us in triumph [as trophies of Christ’s victory]....”

We must also stand on 1 John 5:4 (*AMP*), “For whatever is born of God is victorious over the world; and this is the victory that conquers the world, even our faith.”

Not Subject to This World!

Every time a crisis takes place, I am reminded of what Jesus prayed for us in John 17:14-17. “I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even



as I am not of the world. Sanctify [or separate] them through thy truth: thy word is truth." We may be in this world but we are not subject to it. We do not live under the dominion, rule, control or influence of the Babylonian world system.

Second Peter 1:4 reminds us that it is through God's WORD that we have "escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." First John 5:18 tells us, "that wicked one toucheth him not." As we walk by faith and stand on God's WORD, we literally become "The Untouchables."

I am also reminded of a very significant word from The LORD delivered through Brother Kenneth Copeland during the 2010 Southwest Believers' Convention.

It begins, *The world is in serious trouble. But for the household of faith, everything is going to be all right.* Right away, we see the wall of protection that has gone up around us. In spite of all the "breaking news," those of us who live in the household of faith are going to be all right. The devil can't touch us.

The LORD continues by saying, *Some very hard things are coming in different places around the world. Very difficult times in a lot of places. They're that way now, but they'll not get better. They will continue to get worse and worse and worse. It is on a downhill run that the world cannot stop. But for the household of faith, everything is going to be all right.*

No matter how bad it gets around us, everything is going to be all right in the household of faith. Just look at Psalm 91:7: "A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee." Verses 10 and 11 assure us that, "There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways."

Live Above the Danger

We should not be surprised by what is happening in the world today. We should not be fearful either. We are given explicit instruction on what to do.

You'll have to make a stand. You'll have

to fight the good fight of faith. But, when did you not have to do that? These are dangerous times. They're dangerous times financially. They're dangerous times in the earth because the earth is weighted under a gross weight of sin. There are things and places and situations underneath the earth, in the oceans, in the heavens. Things are being rattled and shaken. The earth is trying to break in different places.

Once again, we are given godly direction of how to live above the danger and remain untouchable.

Stand on My WORD and it will not come nigh you. Praise and worship My Name. Don't feed fear and trouble into your life and into your mouth. Quit living in that house. Get on back over here in the household of faith. Feed on My WORD, not on the bread of sorrow. Feed on My WORD.

Look in My face. Praise and worship and preach The WORD. Everything is going to be all right.

The reason everything is going to be all right for us is so we can help others. The stronger and bolder we are in faith the more we are able to minister faith to this fearful world. The household of faith is a refuge, a safe harbor, a protected shelter and a strong tower.

As the new year begins, let's make a renewed stand of faith on God's indestructible WORD. Together, let's begin 2015 with a deep resolve to refuse fear, walk in our authority and live in our covenant of protection. Even though the world is on fire, like the three Hebrew children—we remain untouched.

Declare this prayer of faith out loud.

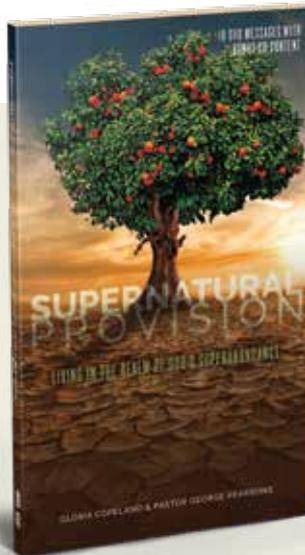
Father, in the Name of Jesus, I make the quality decision to stand on Your WORD and refuse to fear. No matter what is happening around me, I choose to believe Your WORD.

I believe that everything is going to be all right in my household of faith. The wicked one touches me not. I stand untouchable under Your covenant of protection. And, thank You for helping me bring Your victory to a world in crisis. 2015 is going to be the greatest year yet for Your glorious Church. We are taking our stand, exercising our authority and winning more to the Kingdom than ever before.

Jesus is LORD and He is coming soon! 🙌

About

George Pearsons is senior pastor of Eagle Mountain International Church, located on the grounds of Kenneth Copeland Ministries. For more information or ministry materials write to KCM, P.O. Box 15, BATH, BA1 3XN, U.K.



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 ... for the
 ...duct. It's
 ... God, and He's
 ... yesterday, today
 ... and forever. His resources
 never run out and He never
 tires of pouring them out on
 His people.

depression.

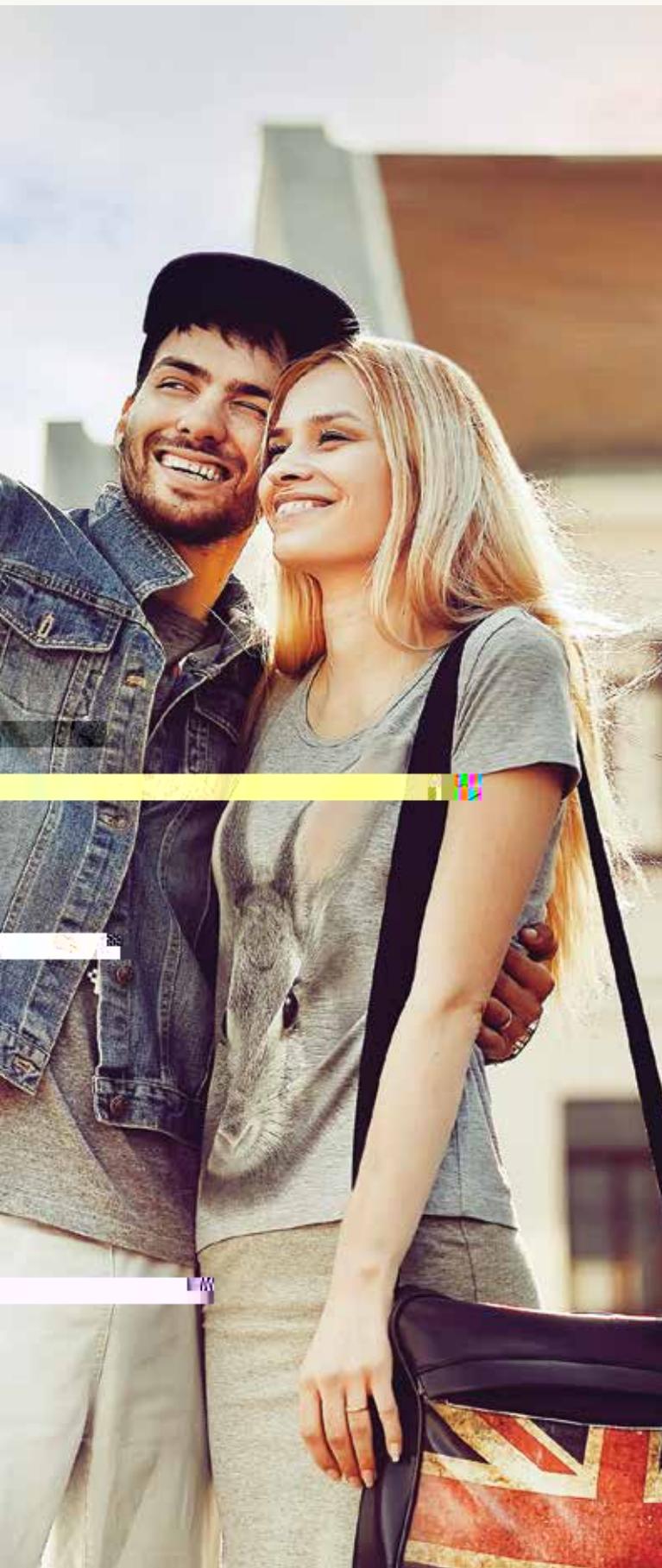
I'm glad you and I are dependent on heaven's economy. I'm a citizen of heaven—and heaven's economy is doing just fine!

God always has been, and always will be, the God of abundance. He's never skimped on anything. Ever since the Garden of Eden, He's shown Himself to be a generous Father. When He created Adam and Eve, He didn't just give them barely enough to get by; He gave them plenty of everything good. Then He BLESSED



No matter how long you've been walking with Him or how good things get, He'll keep giving you more in every area of life.





them and told them to multiply and increase even more!

He's still doing the same for us, as His people, today. He's still saying to us, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth" (3 John 1:2).

Ken and I can testify to this from experience: There's nothing stingy about the Lord! When we first started learning how to receive from Him, we were in very bad financial condition. We needed everything. We lived in a little rent house down by the river in Tulsa, Okla., and though we were grateful to have it, it was in such pitiful shape I didn't unpack for two weeks after we moved in.

For me, having a nice house was high on my list of priorities, so when I found out God wanted to prosper us, a house was the first thing I started believing for. Ken, on the other hand, began by believing for an airplane. (Houses are important to women. Airplanes are important to men. Ken is a pilot, so as far as he was concerned, he could live in an airplane!)

That was back in 1967, and I don't remember what the world economy was doing in those days. But I can tell you this: The Copeland economy was looking up. The Lord began to increase us, and after a while, we not only had a nice home and an airplane for our ministry, but much more as well.

Now, some 48 years later, I can say that everything

we've believed for we've received. It didn't all come overnight, but over time. As we kept standing in faith and let patience have her perfect work, all the things we asked God to give us manifested. Better yet, we kept increasing all the time. Because God is a good God, He just keeps on BLESSING us.

He'll do the same for you. No matter how long you've been walking with Him or how good things get, He'll keep giving you more in every area of life. He won't say, "OK, you have enough now. You have a car, a house and a job, so don't ask Me for anything else."

No, your parents might have said that kind of thing when you were a kid. People might say such things. If they hear you talking about believing for a new car, they might say, "You don't need a new car. Your old car still runs." But that's not how God thinks. For Him it's not about need. It's about BLESSING—and His BLESSING always brings increase!

Which One Will You Choose?

As much as God desires to increase us, however, He can't just pour out prosperity on us indiscriminately. If He gives us more than we're ready to handle, it could harm us. That's why He prospers us as our "soul prospers."

"Well," you might say, "how does our soul prosper?"

According to 3 John 1:4, it prospers when we "walk in truth" by living according to the Word of God.

Jesus talked about this in John 17:16-17. As He was praying for His disciples, He said, “They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”

Those verses actually apply to all of us as believers. The truth of God’s Word sanctifies us by separating us from the ways of the world. Such separation is vital because, just like those first 12 disciples, we don’t belong to this world anymore. Although we live in it, we’re not of it.

That means we’re not supposed to act like the world anymore. We’re not supposed to think and talk like the world. We’re supposed to act, think and talk like who we really are—citizens of heaven!

We learn to do this by renewing our minds with God’s Word. As we conform our lives to that Word, we find we can do what we couldn’t do before we were born again. We can

live in victory. We can live healed. We can prosper supernaturally.

When we do things God’s way, He is free to move in our lives, BLESS us and do us good. So the more we obey His Word, the more prosperous our lives become.

This is how it’s always been. Increase has always come through faith and obedience! From the Garden of Eden to the Israelites, all the way through the Bible, God consistently set before His people THE BLESSING and the curse. They had the freedom to choose one or the other.

Since THE BLESSING includes everything good and the curse includes everything bad, making the right choice looks like a no-brainer. But there’s one hitch. The curse, although it’s hard to live with, is easy to come by. We don’t have to do anything to get it. We can laze along

and just do what everyone else in the world is doing.

Choosing THE BLESSING, however, takes more effort. We can’t live in THE BLESSING and just go with the world’s flow. We have to do things God’s way.

That’s OK, though, because God’s “commandments are not grievous” (1 John 5:3). What He tells us to do is for our own good. He wants us to do things His way because His way works. It keeps us walking in THE BLESSING.

Matthew 6:33 puts it this way: “Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

Get Rid of That Mangy Dog

Much can be said about what it means to seek first the kingdom of God, but the first thing that comes to my mind is this: If we’re truly seeking God first, we will give His Word priority in our lives. We won’t just read our Bible once a week in church on Sunday. We’ll read and meditate on God’s Word every day.

“But Gloria,” someone might say, “I just don’t have time to do that!”

Then you’re going to be in deep trouble because “faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17, *New King James Version*). If you don’t listen to the Word, you won’t have any faith. If you don’t have any faith, you won’t be able to believe for and receive the prosperous life God has stored up for you.

You also won’t have the strength to resist Satan. When he starts telling you you’re going to get laid off your job and go bankrupt, you’ll just fall apart. You’ll start wringing your hands in fear, worrying about how you’re going to survive.

Such behavior is typical for someone in the world. But as a believer, you’re not supposed to engage in it. Jesus made that very clear, He said: “Do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What



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shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things” (Matthew 6:31-32, *New King James Version*).

As a citizen of heaven, you don’t receive things by worry and anxiety. That will bring you nothing but more trouble. What you want to do, when you find yourself under financial pressure and you need money to manifest supernaturally, is believe the Word and resist the devil.

How do you resist him?

Use the Word of God to exercise your authority over him. Tell him in no uncertain terms exactly what the Bible says about your situation. Say, “Devil, I rebuke you in Jesus’ Name.

You will not put lack on me! My God will supply all my needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. He is my Shepherd and I shall not want.”

Don’t be nice about it, either. Think about how you’d talk to a mangy, old dog that got into your house. You wouldn’t say, “Oh, look. There’s a scroungy dog. He’s dirty. He has fleas and he’s lying right in the middle of my bed. What am I going to do? I guess I’ll have to call the church and ask them to pray.”

No! You’d get after that dog and give him what for. You’d take a stick to him and chase him off your bed and out of your house!

That’s how you should treat the devil. Don’t give him any place!

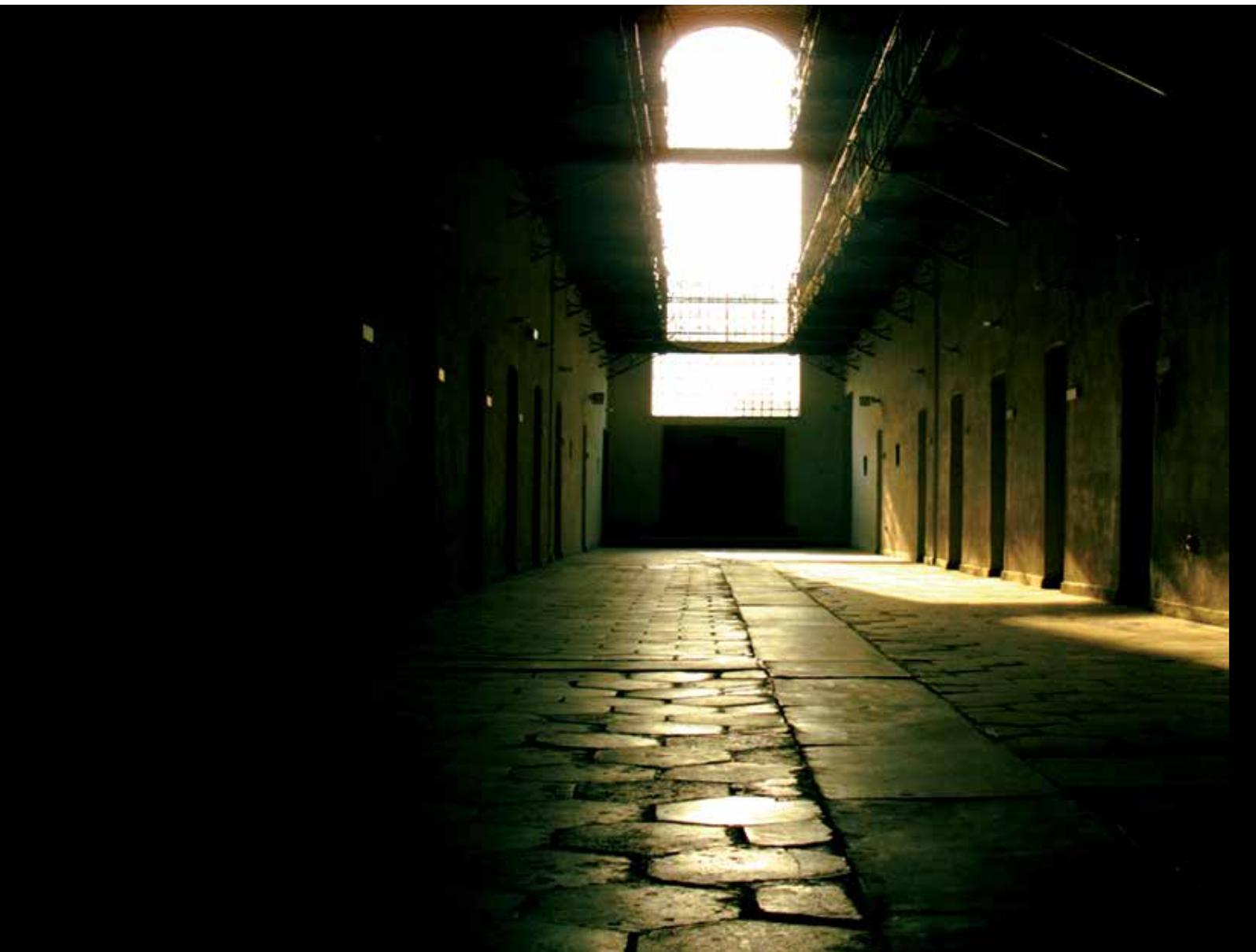
DON’T GIVE HIM YOUR WORDS BY SAYING NEGATIVE THINGS.

KEEP SAYING WHAT GOD SAYS UNTIL THE DEVIL CAN’T STAND IT ANYMORE AND RUNS FOR COVER.

A Financial Partnership With God

Another thing you’ll want to do to seek first the kingdom of God—or, as *The Amplified Bible* puts it in Matthew 6:33, to seek first “His way of doing and being right”—is tithing. Tithing is a very important element of supernatural prosperity. It’s one of the things that separates us, as believers, from the world.

Worldly people think tithing is



crazy. They say, “You can’t increase by giving money away. That’s the worst thing you can do in the middle of a bad economy!” But as citizens of heaven, we know better. We understand that the best thing we can do for our finances is let God get involved in them. We aren’t giving our money away. We are giving it to God! He can do more with it than we ever could on our own.

What’s more, all it takes to open the door to Him is 10 percent of our income. That’s all God asks. We get to keep the other 90 percent—which is more than fair since, without God, we wouldn’t have anything at all.

The way I see it, tithing is a privilege! It’s an act of faith that ties us, as believers, securely into heaven’s economy. It puts us in financial partnership with God so that no matter what comes down the pike—recessions, depressions or whatever—nothing can stop us from prospering!

Here’s something else exciting. Although we give our tithes and offerings to the work of God on earth, Hebrews 7:8 says that Jesus actually receives them in heaven.

I’m telling you, tithers are BLESSED! So don’t pass up the opportunity. Honor God with your tithe!

Love Is Not Optional

The third thing you’ll want to do to live a prosperous life is walk in love. Why? Because in the Bible, God said this is our commandment, “That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment” (1 John 3:23).

That means, for those of us who are citizens of heaven, love isn’t optional. It’s mandatory. We can’t live like God intends without it.

For one thing, “faith worketh by love” (Galatians 5:6), so without love your faith won’t function—and you need your faith all the time! Because the devil knows this, one of the ways

he’ll try to stop your faith and keep you from prospering is by getting you off your love walk. He’ll use someone who’s acting ugly to try to provoke you into getting into strife.

But don’t let him do it. Strife is bad. “Where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work” (James 3:16). So do whatever it takes to stay out of strife.

“But that’s hard,” you might say. “Some people just irritate me!”

Well, you probably irritate them too. So forgive them and walk in love toward them anyway. Rather than fuming about how they’ve done you wrong, meditate on what 1 Corinthians 13 says:

Love endures long and is patient and kind; love never is envious nor boils over with jealousy, is not boastful or vainglorious, does not display itself haughtily. It is not conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); it is not rude (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love (God’s love in us) does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking; it is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong]. Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening]. Love never fails... (verses 4-5, 7-8, *AMP*).

Remember, faith works by love!

The love of God is powerful! Even when the whole world seems to be falling apart around you, the love of God working in you and flowing through you toward others will never fail. So stick with love, stick with the Word and keep tithing.

In other words, seek first the kingdom of God. Then, regardless of what happens to the world’s economy, you can enjoy a prosperous life! ♣

points to get you there

A prosperous life

The world’s economy has a lot of problems. But as a born-again believer, you don’t have to worry about them because you’re not of this world. You’re a citizen of heaven, and by staying connected to heaven’s economy—no matter what happens in the world—you can continually live a prosperous life. Here are some points to get you there:

- 1 There’s nothing stingy about God. He wants to prosper you.**
3 John 1:2: “Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”
- 2 The more you walk in God’s truth, the more prosperity He can safely give you.**
3 John 1:4: “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.”
- 3 God’s Word helps you prosper by separating you from the ways of the world.** John 17:16-17: “They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”
- 4 Putting God first place in your life keeps you connected to heaven’s economy.** Matthew 6:33: “Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”
- 5 A supernaturally prosperous life is a life of faith and love.**
1 John 3:23: “And this is his commandment, that we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.”



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- Sun., Jan. 11** **The Burden-Removing Power of Love**
Kenneth Copeland
- Jan. 12-16** **Your Brain Is Wired for Love, Not Fear**
Kenneth & Gloria Copeland and Dr. Caroline Leaf
- Sun., Jan. 18** **Your God-Given Ability**
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- Jan. 19-23** **How to Detox Your Brain**
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- Sun., Jan. 25** **God Has Something to Say... Through YOU!**
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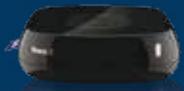
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