

BELIEVER'S VOICE OF



KENNETH
COPELAND
MINISTRIES

VICTORY

MAY 2018

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YOUR WORDS: THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS ON EARTH 99

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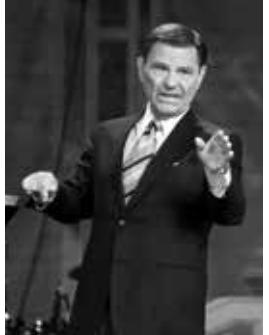
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Your Words:
THE MOST
IMPORTANT
THINGS
ON
EARTH

ON THE VERY FIRST PAGE OF GENESIS 1, THE BIBLE TELLS US THAT WORDS ARE BEHIND EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS ON THIS PLANET. THEY ARE WHAT CREATED IT.

THE REASON THE EARTH EVEN EXISTS IS BECAUSE IN THE BEGINNING GOD SAID, "LET THERE BE LIGHT" (GENESIS 1:3). BEFORE THOSE WORDS WERE SPOKEN, THIS PLACE WAS A TOTAL MESS.



"The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep" (verse 2). The Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters, yet despite the presence of His mighty power, nothing was happening.

THE SITUATION DIDN'T CHANGE AT ALL UNTIL GOD SAID.

Read through Genesis 1 and you'll see it's the same thing over and over:

"God said, Let there be a firmament... and it was so" (verses 6-7).

"God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together...and it was so" (verse 9).

"God said, Let the earth bring forth..." (verse 11).

"God said, Let there be lights in the firmament..." (verse 14).

"God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly..." (verse 20).

That's a lot of repetition. But it's there for a reason. It's there not only to reveal the who and the how behind Creation, but to make the point that this is a word-created, word-dominated universe. It's there so we can see very clearly that "the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear" (Hebrews 11:3).

Sometimes I hear people say God made this world out of nothing. But that's not true. He made it out of something that can't be seen. He made it with faith-filled words—and He's sustaining it by that same creative force. He is "upholding all things by the word of his power" (Hebrews 1:3).

God's WORD is what's holding the

whole universe together! His WORD is and always has been the dominating force on this earth.

Think about how the words of God dominated events surrounding the birth of Jesus, for instance. Think about how the prophet Micah said, centuries before it happened, that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem.

Those words dominated nations and kings for 750 years! They opened the door for the Holy Spirit to move on Caesar so that, at just the right time, he decided it was a good idea to send everyone in Israel home to pay their taxes. As a result, Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem.

What happened when they got there? Mary, a virgin, gave birth to Jesus—which in the natural was totally impossible. But it happened anyway because of the dominating power of God's WORD. You know the story:

Nine months before the trip to Bethlehem, the angel Gabriel had visited Mary and said, "You will conceive and give birth to a son, and...name him Jesus," (Luke 1:31, *New Living Translation*). She asked, "How shall this be?" and Gabriel said, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and...overshadow you" (verse 35, *NLT*).

Mary believed it, and said, "Be it unto me according to your word," and The WORD of the Living God went into her. It became the Seed, and the Holy Spirit hovered over her and caused The WORD to become flesh.

That was a holy moment! It was an amazing miracle—and the miracle didn't

POINTS TO GET YOU THERE:

1 Words are behind everything that happens on earth; they're what created it.
Genesis 1:2-3

2 God's WORD is still what's holding this whole universe together.
Hebrews 1:2-3

3 You, as a believer, are a living demonstration of the dominating power of God's WORD.
1 Peter 1:23

4 The words of faith you speak determine what you have in your life.
Mark 11:23

5 The same Holy Spirit who slung the universe into existence when God spoke at Creation, will move powerfully in your life when you speak words of faith.
Proverbs 18:21

stop there. It's still going on. All of us who have been born again have experienced it!

When we heard the gospel and said, "Jesus, I believe what God's WORD says about You and I receive You as LORD," a miracle of grace occurred in each of us that was just as holy as what happened to Mary. The same Holy Spirit who hovered over her hovered over us, and we each became "a new creation"—old things passed

God began, and it's how He intends for you to continue living. He wants you to receive everything from Him by speaking words of faith.

God's Holy Spirit is moving in you, over you and around you right now—desiring to release His mighty power and improve your life. He's there to heal your body. He's there to prosper you financially. He's there to bring to pass for you everything God has promised and provided you in His WORD.

will go to work in your body. God's WORD will dominate that weakened condition, and you'll become strong.

It doesn't matter how seemingly impossible a situation you may be facing, the Holy Spirit can change it. He still has the same power now that He had at Creation. He's still as mighty as He was when He moved on the words "Let there be light" and slammed this universe into existence with such force that within 24 hours

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS WAITING FOR YOU TO GIVE HIM SOMETHING TO WORK WITH.

away and all things became new.

What Are You Saying Now?

As a believer, you are a living demonstration of the dominating power of God's WORD! You're not just a forgiven sinner, you've been born again of the incorruptible seed of The WORD of God (1 Peter 1:23). Your spirit has been re-created by the same power and substance that caused Jesus to be conceived in Mary's womb.

Talk about proof that words are the most important things on earth! Words delivered you out of the kingdom of darkness and translated you into the kingdom of God's dear Son. Words spoken by faith enabled you to receive God's gift of eternal salvation.

Romans 10:10 says, "With the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." That's how your life in

But now, as at Creation, He's waiting on your words of faith.

Jesus said in Mark 11, "Whosoever shall say...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" (verse 23). So, whatever you're saying by faith is what you're going to get.

If your body is weak, and you just keep talking about how weak you are, you'll continue to be weak. The Holy Spirit won't have anything to move on to change the situation, so it will stay the same. On the other hand, if you obey the command in Joel 3:10, which says, "Let the weak say, I am strong," something entirely different will happen. As you say by faith, "I am strong in The LORD and the power of His might. He is my strength and my Redeemer" (Ephesians 6:10; Psalm 19:14), the power of the Holy Spirit

it spanned some 16 billion, 70 million, 400,000 miles.

Certainly, if the Holy Spirit can do that, He can handle whatever you need Him to do. He's just waiting on you to say The WORD!

One time I was struggling with pain in my body that seemed to be almost overwhelming. I got on the treadmill to work out and I was hurting so badly I could hardly walk. I shouted at The LORD with tears in my eyes: "How long am I going to have to put up with this?"

Down on the inside of my spirit He shouted right back at me.

Until you give Me something to work with!

If you've been in a similar situation, the same is true for you. The Holy Spirit is waiting for you to give Him something to work with. He's not holding back God's BLESSINGS

from you. He's waiting for you to stop talking about how bad your circumstances are and how bad you feel, and start saying what God says. He's waiting for you to believe and consistently declare God's WORD.

"I know, Brother Copeland, but I just don't have enough faith to do that. I need God to give me some more."

No, you don't. Every one of us, as believers, has the same "measure of faith" (Romans 12:3). We received it as the gift of God when we were born again (Ephesians 2:8). It's God's own faith and it is faith of the highest quality.

If it isn't getting the job done in your life, you just need to develop it. You need to feed on The WORD ("Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God," Romans 10:17) so that what the Apostle Paul said about the church at Thessalonica can be said about you: "Your faith growtheth exceedingly" (2 Thessalonians 1:3).

Depending on how much attention you give The WORD, your faith can become stronger or it can become weaker. It can shrivel up, or it can grow. The choice is yours. God has already done His part. He gave you the faith and He gave you The WORD.

What happens now is up to you.

Feelings Don't Have Anything to Do With It

"Well," someone might say, "I know faith is important, but my problem is my job. It doesn't pay me enough to get by—much less prosper. It's keeping me broke and making me poor."

No, your job isn't the problem. Your mouth is the problem. The Bible says:

"A man shall eat good by the fruit of his mouth" (Proverbs 13:2).

"A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled" (Proverbs 18:20).

"Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof" (Proverbs 18:21).

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Financially, as in every area of life, words are the most important things on earth. If you'll fill your heart with God's words about prosperity and consistently say them with your mouth, He can increase you no matter what your current job pays.

After all, He's the God who planned this universe! He planned your life before the foundation of the world, and He never planned for you to be poor. He planned for you to prosper and be in health even as your soul prospers (3 John 2). He planned for you to be rich (2 Corinthians 8:9). You just haven't been giving Him anything to work with. You haven't been speaking His WORD by faith.

Faith-filled words dominate the laws of sin and death!

They open the door for the Holy Spirit to move; and He can get you a better job. He can get you that raise, or that promotion. He can provide you with business opportunities that bring wealth and riches into your house (Psalm 112:3).

If you want Him to do that, though, you can't just leave your Bible sitting on the nightstand. You have to read it and meditate on it. You have to attend to it and get it in your heart in abundance. "For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matthew 12:34).

"Brother Copeland, I've been doing that, but sometimes when I'm speaking The WORD I just don't feel like it's doing any good."

Your faith isn't based on your feelings. It's based on what God's WORD says and on the faithfulness of Jesus. He's the Apostle and High Priest of your confession (Hebrews 3:1). He's been appointed by God to back your words of faith with His power, and you can count on Him to do it whether you feel anything or not.

He's done it for me time and time again. He's backed my words of faith when I had no good feelings at all. I remember a time when I was preaching in Jamaica, for example. I was ministering in a church in Spanish Town. The service started at 9:30 in the morning, and the people were

*Except where a fee is noted / Schedule is subject to change without notice. Contact the host church for details!

expecting me to preach to them all day.

By noon, however, my voice was gone! I could hardly make a sound.

During the lunch break, I went into the speaker's room. All I could do was whisper, so I whispered words of faith. "Father," I prayed, "if I was to ask my voice if it was healed it would say no. But I didn't ask my voice. I asked Your WORD and it said by Jesus' stripes I am healed."

When I prayed that, I didn't feel a single goose bump. My voice didn't seem to improve at all. I could still barely talk. Yet I began the afternoon service by saying the same words to the congregation. "Good afternoon, everyone," I whispered. "If I were to ask you if I was healed, you'd say no. If I was to ask my voice if it's healed, it would say no. But I didn't ask you. I didn't ask my voice. I asked God and He said, *Yes, you are healed by My stripes.*"

By the time I got the last few words out my voice had completely come back! It sounded as strong as ever. I preached approximately 11 hours that day and then laid hands on about 500 people. Afterward, I was sitting in the pastor's car and a little woman came up to me and said, "Brother Copeland, thank you very much. I was blind but now I can see."

She seemed so calm that I asked the pastor, "Does she mean she was spiritually blind but now she can see?" He smiled and shook his head. "No, she meant it literally. Physically she was completely blind, but she got healed today and now she can see."

What if I had quit when my body wanted to? I sure felt like quitting. I didn't feel like I could preach another word. But that didn't matter. What mattered was what I believed and what I said.

That's what matters in your life too. So, don't ever quit speaking words of faith. "Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4). The same power that created this universe is within you. Say The WORD and let Him work miracles for you! 

WHO DO YOU SAY JESUS IS?

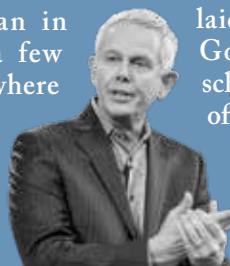
by
Dennis Burke



NOT LONG AGO, I TRAVELED TO IRELAND FOR THE FIRST TIME TO MINISTER TO BELIEVERS IN THAT BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY. WHILE I WAS THERE, MY FRIENDS TOOK ME TO THE SITE OF THE ULSTER REVIVAL OF 1859 IN NORTHERN IRELAND.

The site sits on the side of a nondescript road, where you will find a small memorial plaque that describes the supernatural outpouring that occurred there.

The memorial testifies of four men who united in prayer for God to move in their land. Their meetings began in a schoolhouse just a few hundred yards from where the plaque rests. Word of the meetings quickly spread, and soon others were joining them—



filling up that little schoolhouse. They held meetings every day, and the Spirit of God moved in miraculous ways.

Over time, tens of thousands of people came to know Jesus in Ulster. One record describes how, on one occasion, so many people dressed in black clothing were laid out under the power of God, the field outside the schoolhouse looked like a sea of black cloth.

Now that's what you call revival! >>>



Dennis Burke and his wife, Vikki, are co-founders of Dennis Burke Ministries in Arlington, Texas. For information or ministry materials visit dennisburkeministries.org.



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Outpourings like the Ulster Revival have occurred in recent years, too. The power of God showed up in the Brownsville Revival in Pensacola, Fla., and the Toronto Blessing in Canada. And while those outpourings were good and Spirit-led, I believe we're in a new time. In this latest move of God, I sense that you and I, as believers, are to be conduits of God's outpouring right where we are, wherever we are. Instead of going somewhere else in search of the move of God, we're to bring His presence with us.

How do we do that? I believe it starts by understanding who Jesus really is.

Who Is Jesus—to You?

In the Gospel of Matthew, there was an encounter between Jesus and His disciples in which Jesus posed two important questions. They're the same questions we should ask ourselves today. Matthew 16:13 (*New King James Version*) says, "When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, 'Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?'"

The disciples didn't hesitate to respond: "So they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets'" (verse 14, *NKJV*).

As you read through this chapter, you'll notice that Jesus did not respond immediately to those words. He knew His disciples didn't believe it. They were merely repeating what others had said. Instead, Jesus followed up with a second, more important question.

"But who do *you* say that I am?" (verse 15, *NKJV*, emphasis mine).

Jesus began by asking His disciples what *others* called Him, but He ended by asking what *they* called Him. As believers, we often point to the world and ask, "Who do they say Jesus is?" But a much more important question is "Who do *I* say Jesus is?" How we

answer this question determines who we allow Him to be in our lives.

We know what Scripture says about Jesus, and we know Scripture is truth. But each of us determines whether we allow the Word of God and the revelation of who Jesus is to change our lives.

How we answer the question "Who do I say Jesus is?" determines who we allow Him to be to us.

He is the Savior to those who receive and declare Him to be their Savior.

He is the Healer to those who declare Him to be their Healer and their healing.

He is the Baptizer in the Holy Spirit to those who declare Him to be that.

But He is none of those until we declare Him to be so.

For Every Member

God wants to reveal who Jesus is to the Body of Christ as a whole, but all believers must lay hold of the truth. It's not enough for pastors or spiritual leaders to believe. The Church must believe.

For example, many Christians believe in the gifts of the Holy Spirit such as the manifestation of tongues, prophecy and others. But sadly, they

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also believe these gifts operate only through certain persons—like their pastor, a worship leader, a spiritual mentor or a teacher. They don't understand or realize they can operate in those gifts *themselves*.

I sense so strongly that God is lifting the Body of Christ to a new place where every member—not just leadership—is functioning, flowing, hearing and expecting the supernatural. Imagine how that would change the world!

It doesn't matter who others say Jesus is. What matters is that we know what the Scripture says about who He is, and that we say so ourselves—not just because we're mindlessly quoting Scripture but because we believe it. We also have a responsibility to do our part to help people understand spiritual things they haven't yet grasped.

How to Impact the World

The good news is, the story in Matthew 16 isn't over yet. Read how the disciples answered Jesus' second question in verse 16: "Simon Peter answered and said, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.'"

It was the first time anyone had called Jesus "the Son of the living God." That was a new revelation, and a powerful one at that! Jesus responded to Peter, saying, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it" (verses 17-18, NKJV).

Jesus declared that He would build His Church on Himself and the revelation of who He is. If we don't get the revelation of who Christ is, and who we are in Him, then we won't have any real impact on the world.

It's Our Time

As born-again, Spirit-filled, faith-talking Christians, we've had decades of

great teachers teaching us who we are in Christ. We've learned that we are the righteousness of God in Christ—that we are the healed, the delivered, the voice, the hands, the leaders, the pinpoint that connects God to this planet.

But do we believe that's who we are?

It's time for the entire Body of Christ to learn who Jesus is. We must dig in, study the Word, and listen to anointed men and women of God. We must influence those around us by teaching them how to mature in faith and the Word. And we must provide a place for people to grow in their understanding of who God is and who they are in Christ.

Jesus is the Savior, but we are the Body of Christ—the Body of the Anointing. We carry the voice. We carry the authority. We carry the dominion.

We are in the days of outpouring where everything the Lord has been saying and telling us for centuries is available for every believer. We have the power of God's love, the gifts of the Spirit, the authority, the doctrines of the Church, and the prosperity that belongs in every household. And we live by faith.

The outpouring of God is not limited to a single location, like Ulster or Pensacola or Toronto. The outpouring of God is designed to be in the Body of Christ all over this planet. It's designed to be wherever you are.

When we have a revelation of who Jesus is, then we can expect these moves of God to break loose everywhere—because we are the ones who have the right to declare and release the kind of power that will change the world.

Who do you say Jesus is?

How you answer that question can change your life and, quite surely the world, for the good—forever! 



Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 30-May 4
The Will of God to Heal
Kenneth Copeland



Gloria Copeland

Sun., May 6
The Name of Jesus Carries His Power
Kenneth Copeland



George Pearson

May 7-11
What Is Uncommon Faith?
Gloria Copeland and Pastor George Pearson



George Pearson

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Believing God's Best for You and Your Children
Gloria Copeland

May 14-18
How to Develop an Uncommon Faith
Gloria Copeland and Pastor George Pearson

Sun., May 20
The Almighty and His Names Are One
Kenneth Copeland

May 21-25
How to Walk in Your Healing
Kenneth Copeland

Sun., May 27
What It Means to Inherit God's Name
Kenneth Copeland

May 28-June 1
How to Receive Signs, Wonders and Miracles Today
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LIFE TO THE FULLEST

***"Lord, 47 years isn't long! I stand firm on
Your Word that I will enjoy long life!"***

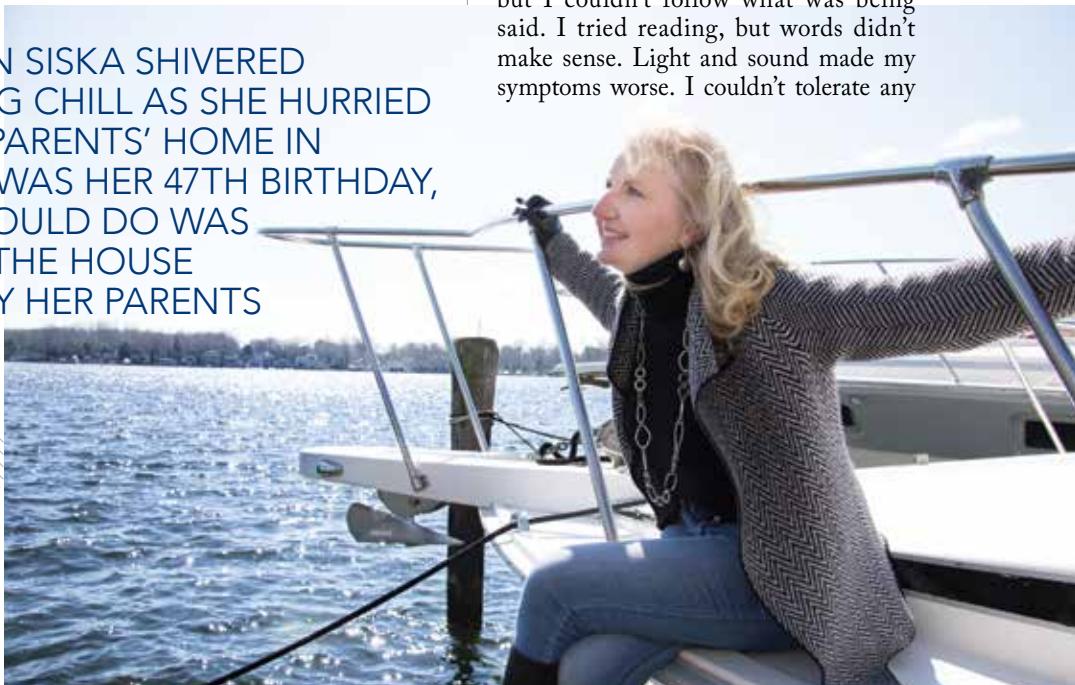
ON FEB. 11, 2013, KAREN SISKA SHIVERED AGAINST THE MORNING CHILL AS SHE HURRIED UP THE STEPS TO HER PARENTS' HOME IN SEVERNA PARK, MD. IT WAS HER 47TH BIRTHDAY, AND THE LEAST SHE COULD DO WAS TO HELP STRAIGHTEN THE HOUSE FOR THE DINNER PARTY HER PARENTS WERE HOSTING FOR HER THAT EVENING.

A public health nurse, Karen was director of nursing, responsible for 84,000 students at schools in 126 locations in Maryland. She loved her job but had taken the day off to celebrate her birthday. Ralph Creel, a retired policeman she was dating, was taking her on a daytrip to the picturesque harbor town of St. Michaels, known for its quaint waterfront restaurants and boutique shops.

Humming as she worked, Karen busied herself straightening the fireplace hearth. Lifting her head, she saw stars as it hit the underside of the mantle. Rubbing her jaw, Karen wondered if she'd cracked her teeth from the violent jolt.

Straightening up, Karen's head and jaw hurt and she felt lightheaded—like she was in a fog. Looking in the mirror, the image was blurred and fuzzy. Everything was blurred and fuzzy. A while later, she and Ralph left for St. Michaels. Over the next hour, her symptoms increased in intensity and she started to feel nauseous.

"Ralph," she said, "I hit my head. Now I don't feel well. I think I have a concussion."



"Let's get you to the emergency room," Ralph said, turning around. Rather than wait all day in an ER, they went to an urgent care walk-in clinic where Karen was given papers to fill out. The first question was her name. She knew her name, but they asked her to spell it. Karen felt as though her brain was a rusted engine that wouldn't turn over and spark to life. Struggling, she finally remembered—K! It was the first letter of her name!

Try as she might, she couldn't remember what came next.

Brain Freeze

"After three hours and an X-ray, they told me they didn't treat concussions," Karen recalls. "By morning, when I went to see my primary care physician, I had a terrible headache, was lightheaded, sensitive to light and sound, and had a lot of pain in my neck at the base of my skull. My doctor confirmed that I had a

concussion and told me to stay home and rest for a week.

"I didn't think I needed a week off. I felt sure I'd be fine in a day or two, but my symptoms persisted. I couldn't concentrate and my brain actually hurt when I tried to think. I had trouble sleeping and continued to have terrible pain in my neck, so I obeyed the doctor's instructions. I tried watching television, but I couldn't follow what was being said. I tried reading, but words didn't make sense. Light and sound made my symptoms worse. I couldn't tolerate any

stimuli. Lying on a pillow also worsened my pain. I couldn't register what people were saying to me."

After a week, Karen returned to work.

"My co-workers told me they thought something was still wrong," she recalled. "They said I wasn't acting like myself. I took their advice and went back to my doctor. This time, she told me to stay home and rest for a month.

"I'm a workaholic, but I felt so bad that I didn't fight her. I could tell my brain wasn't working right. Thinking hurt, and I had trouble remembering words. As week after week passed with no change, I felt discouraged. I knew I wasn't in danger of dying, but I couldn't help wondering if I would ever get my brain back. Was I doomed to this forever?"

Born the third of four children, Karen had been raised in the Roman Catholic Church where she learned to love God. When Karen was about 10, her mother

prayed the prayer of salvation in a book she'd read and was born again. The experience was so profound, she told her husband about it when he got home from work.

"I want to be born again too," he said. Soon the whole family had given their hearts to Jesus. Not long afterward, Karen's mother took her to attend Kenneth Copeland Ministries' Washington, D.C. Victory Campaign in Virginia. It was her first introduction to the message of faith.

Reconnected

Later, as a young adult, Karen had flipped through television channels and stumbled across a televangelist.

MAY READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

		Old Testament	New Testament
Tue	1	Jdgs. 20-21	John 19
Wed	2	Ruth 1-4	John 20
Thu	3	1 Sam. 1-3	John 21
Fri	4	1 Sam. 4-7	Acts 1
Sat	5	1 Sam. 8-10	
Sun	6	Ps. 56-59; Prov. 11:24-12:11	
Mon	7	1 Sam. 11-13	Acts 2
Tue	8	1 Sam. 14	Acts 3
Wed	9	1 Sam. 15-16	Acts 4
Thu	10	1 Sam. 17	Acts 5
Fri	11	1 Sam. 18-19	Acts 6
Sat	12	1 Sam. 20-21	
Sun	13	Ps. 60-63; Prov. 12:12-28	
Mon	14	1 Sam. 22	Acts 7
Tue	15	1 Sam. 23-24	Acts 8
Wed	16	1 Sam. 25-26	Acts 9
Thu	17	1 Sam. 27-29	Acts 10
Fri	18	1 Sam. 30-31	Acts 11
Sat	19	2 Sam. 1-3	
Sun	20	Ps. 64-67; Prov. 13	
Mon	21	2 Sam. 4-6	Acts 12
Tue	22	2 Sam. 7-10	Acts 13
Wed	23	2 Sam. 11-13	Acts 14
Thu	24	2 Sam. 14-15	Acts 15
Fri	25	2 Sam. 16-17	Acts 16
Sat	26	2 Sam. 18-20	
Sun	27	Ps. 68; Prov. 14:1-14	
Mon	28	2 Sam. 21-22	Acts 17
Tue	29	2 Sam. 23-24	Acts 18
Wed	30	1 Kgs. 1	Acts 19
Thu	31	1 Kgs. 2	Acts 20

Another television preacher after money, she thought.

She watched the entire program, waiting for it, but it never came. The man never asked for money. She enjoyed the program so much that she recorded it and watched it on a regular basis. Only later did she realize that the television preacher she was watching was Kenneth Copeland, the same man her mother had taken her to hear as a child. Soon after, Karen became a Partner with KCM and began regularly attending the meetings in Virginia.

Over the years, she learned to live by faith, and to keep God's Word in her heart. It was a good thing she had learned those things, because now Karen couldn't even read the Bible. The letters on the pages all swam together, making no sense to her at all.

After a total of five weeks of rest, Karen was no better, so she went to see a neurologist in Baltimore.

"You've got occipital neuropathy," he told her. "It occurs when the occipital nerves at the base of your skull are pinched."

"Why do I have so much trouble using my brain?"

"Your brain has almost shut down from the pain."

Looking her in the eye, the doctor told her, "Karen, I will fix you. You will have your life back."

Karen sighed, relieved that, finally, there was an end in sight.

A Surgical Repair

The neurologist prescribed pain medication and other prescription drugs. Over several weeks, he injected large doses of steroids into her neck, hoping to reduce the inflammation.

"I took so many steroids that I developed a moon-shaped face, which is a side effect of the drug," Karen remembers. "When that didn't work, he referred me to a surgeon at George Washington Hospital in McLean, Va.

"Before I went to surgery, I called KCM's prayer department and asked them to pray with me. The surgeon told me I might have to have multiple surgeries. He cut most of the nerves, twisting them so they couldn't grow back, and he saved a couple of the large occipital nerves."

Four days later, Karen was at home resting when she noticed she was a little short of breath. She also had mild left chest pains that seemed to come and go. That night, the shortness of breath worsened. By morning, the pain was so severe she felt like she was suffocating. She called Ralph, who took her to her primary care physician.

"I think you have a blood clot," the doctor told her.

A CT scan was ordered, and afterward the radiologist showed Karen the scan. Her lungs should have been white, the radiologist explained, but instead they were black.

"You have extensive bilateral pulmonary emboli. There is no oxygenated blood going into your lungs. You need to get to the hospital and you're going to be there for a few days" the radiologist said.

No wonder she hurt and felt like she was suffocating.

She was.

"I can get her to the hospital faster than waiting on an ambulance," Ralph said.

"Go, take her now."

Choosing Life

Ralph rushed Karen to Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis, Md. Her primary care physician had called ahead and given the emergency room physician Karen's diagnosis. They whisked her past the waiting room and straight into emergency care. Suffering incredible pain, Karen gasped for air 40 to 50 times a minute. Oxygen didn't seem to help.

"If her vitals change at all, we're going to airlift her out of here. We aren't used to dealing with situations like this," the physician told Ralph.

Karen was in tremendous pain and fighting to breathe. Every breath increased the pain. Closing her eyes, she focused on her breathing—trying to survive the pain while she felt like she was suffocating. She heard monitors beep and alarms sound, and felt the squeeze of an automatic blood pressure cuff. People and noise swirled around her in a sea of confusion. Her aching brain and lungs needed oxygen.

Catching snatches of conversations, she realized what the doctor had said. She didn't just have blood clots in her lungs. She also had them in her liver. In a moment of clarity, she realized that she might die. Both conditions could be fatal. If the emboli in her lungs didn't get her, the ones in her liver just might. She monitored her own vital signs to see if they were fluctuating. She wanted to know if her body started showing signs of distress.

She needed to speak—to declare God's Word over her situation. But she was too busy fighting the pain and gasping for air to be able to talk. Her oxygen-deprived mind pulled up one verse—Psalm 91:16, "With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation."

Barely able to talk through the pain, Karen realized she needed to stop focusing on what was happening and focus instead on God's Word. She needed to stay rooted and grounded in the Word of God. Those words

needed to be more real to her than what she was experiencing. Karen sent God a cry from her heart. *Father, Psalm 91:16 says that You will satisfy me with long life! Lord, 47 years isn't long! I stand firm on Your Word that I will enjoy long life!*

She willed herself to keep meditating on those words.

A few minutes later, her younger brother, John, slipped into the room.

"The Lord told me to leave work, come lay hands on you and pray," he said.

She nodded in agreement, and he prayed.

Counterattack

"Blood clots in the lungs often dissolve with blood thinners," the doctor explained. "But that's often not the case with blood clots in the liver. Sometimes they don't dissolve and do damage to the liver, which is why we're keeping an eye on her liver enzymes. If they elevate, it means her liver is in trouble."

Morphine took the edge off the pain, but Karen continued meditating on Psalm 91:16. Her respirations slowed, and her blood pressure stabilized. They'd already started her on a fast-acting blood thinner. She improved so fast that in less than a week, she was discharged from the hospital.

"I saw a hematologist in the hospital who told me that my condition was very rare," Karen recalls. "Normally it happens when you develop blood clots in your legs which break off and travel to your lungs. But they found no evidence that I'd had any blood clots in my legs, or anywhere else."

Karen continued to see the hematologist as an outpatient. He worked hard to figure out what had caused all those blood clots to develop, checking for blood disorders and for cancer, and did a bone biopsy.

Taking a Stand

Because all those blood clots had to pass through Karen's heart before they got lodged in her lungs, the doctor ordered an echo cardiogram of her heart to make sure it hadn't been damaged. The results were normal.

"He found one troubling thing," Karen recalls. "My liver enzymes started elevating. Suddenly, everyone was worried about my liver. That wasn't good. I knew I had to take another stand on God's Word. I asked the Lord what to stand on and He gave me Proverbs 4:20-22, 'My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.' I confessed those verses, declaring that the Word was health to my flesh, including my liver."



"I'm so grateful for KCM. They taught me how to stand on God's Word and live by faith.... Without their teaching, I would be dead."

"My doctor ordered a sonogram of my liver. I called KCM's prayer department again, and we agreed in prayer that the blood clots were gone, that my liver was undamaged and my enzymes were normal. When the results came back, there were *no* blood clots in my liver. My enzymes were normal!"

Karen continued to improve over the next few weeks. In early August, however, she developed mild chest pain. Her doctor referred her to a pulmonary specialist, who said what every doctor said after reading her medical record: "Do you know how lucky you are to be alive?"

"I'm very blessed," Karen replied.

"Because I was still having mild chest pains, and my lungs had gone without oxygen, there was a real possibility that some of the tissue in my lungs had been damaged. In order to determine the extent of the damage, my pulmonologist ordered a nuclear medicine lung scan."

The scan was scheduled for Aug. 9, 2013. Before going for the scan, once again Karen phoned the prayer department at KCM. They agreed in prayer that her lungs were healed.

Following the scan, the radiologist came out to the waiting room and looked at Karen with a puzzled expression.

"You had blood clots in your lungs?" he asked.

"Yes, extensive bilateral blood clots."

"When?"

"May 22nd—about 10 weeks ago."

"That's amazing."

"Why?"

"Because you'd never know it by looking at your lungs. Your lungs show no evidence of you ever having blood clots. Your lungs are perfectly healthy."

The nurse, who walked out with the doctor, looked at Karen. "That's a miracle," she said.

And Karen said, "I'll take it!"

Whole Again

"I was out of work from February until late June," Karen explains. "I was unable to drive for almost five months. Over time, the pain just fizzled out. They never found the cause of the blood clots."

"I'm so grateful for KCM. They taught me how to stand on God's Word and live by faith. They also stood with me in prayer through the entire ordeal. Without their teaching, I would be dead."

In December of that same year, Ralph Creel proposed to Karen and they were married in May 2014. Although doctors never discovered *where* the blood clots came from, Karen never doubted *who* caused them.

Jesus said it best in John 10:10: "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (New International Version).

The devil tried to kill her, but Jesus made her whole. Even in a brain freeze, her spirit pulled up the Word of God and her heart took a stand. Today, Karen Siska-Creel is healed and whole, living a wonderful and full life.

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GoodNEWS Gazette

GOD IS OUR PROTECTOR

Years ago, Gloria wrote a prayer of protection from Psalm 91 in one of the magazines. Since then, I've been praying that same prayer for my children and grandchildren who live in the Caribbean. When Hurricane Irma hit Antigua and Barbuda, it did not affect my loved ones except for the power outage. They were all safe and sound. Thanks, Gloria, for that prayer! God bless you, your family and ministry, and the prayer team.

P.S. | Ontario

KCM IS GOOD SOIL

Two weeks ago I was blessed with \$1,000 to get my car fixed and a sewer line taken care of. Then when the mail came, I got a letter from one of my creditors. I opened the letter and it was a debt cancellation of over \$5,000! I'm close to becoming debt free. I testify to everyone I can. I'm believing to be totally debt free this year. Thank you, KCM, for all your teachings on prosperity. I know that when I do my part by believing and trusting God, He does His. You are good soil for my seed.

Cheryl H.
Waterloo, Iowa

'THE WORD OF GOD WORKS!'

Just thought I would share my testimony of how God healed my eye. I was diagnosed at the beginning of the year with a detached retina in my right eye. The eye specialist told me that more than likely I would need surgery to correct it. As far as I was concerned, surgery was not an option because it came with quite a few restrictions I would have to live with for some time. I have been a Partner with KCM for a year now. I had listened to Kenneth and Gloria teach that Jesus had ALREADY healed me when He went to the cross. All I had to do was believe that I was healed, take it, praise Him and thank Him for my healing. I read the healing scriptures over and over and over. I praised and thanked Him daily that

He had already attached that retina.

A little over a week ago I had a follow-up appointment with the eye specialist. After looking at the scans of my eye, he told me that I would not need surgery, that the retina is where it should be and he would not need to see me again. I was so happy, I cried and praised Him over and over—thank You, Jesus. I am now claiming healing for my eyes to have perfect vision so I will no longer need to wear glasses. Thank you to all at KCM for praying for me as a Partner. The Word of God works!

Glenda F. | Australia

'I NOW HAVE A NEW CAR'

Last month, I named my gift to your ministry "seed for a new car." I received the letter from you saying God promises that if we pray according to His will, He will absolutely grant our requests. I am happy to inform you that I now have a new car. It is a Mazda 3 SP25 GT—the model I was praying for. Thank you for standing with me in prayer and for teaching me about naming my seed and how to stand on the Word of God. R.W. | Australia



'REWIND AND LISTEN'

In August 2016, my 19-year-old son had a seizure. God gave me Nahum 1:9 for him. As I was watching a BVOV taping from April 2017 that I had recorded, I was fast-forwarding past the music and opening prayer when I felt led to rewind and listen. Before the taping began, and during Kenneth's prayer, he had a word for someone. It was confirmation for me and for my son. He said, "The message about your son... STOP worrying right now! It

was a mistake—it's a case of mistaken identity. Stand on your faith and start praising Him right now! Shout and run around the room." I did that! And all praise and glory to God! It's been a year and four months with no seizures, and they will not return in Jesus' Name! Praise God!

Thank You, God and KCM prayer warriors, for being there for us, ready to pray and agree with me. We serve an awesome God. He is faithful and I am SO grateful for KCM. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Susie A. | Riverside, Calif.

'WITHIN TWO WEEKS, I WAS WORKING'

At the end of November, I had phoned to order a product and mentioned that I was going to a job interview that day. Right away, the gentleman prayed with me. I had also sent in a small seed offering toward a job, and within two weeks, I was working at a job that pays a little more than my previous position. Praise the Lord! Thank you so much to you all for serving the King of kings and doing so much for us by standing on the uncompromised Word of God! I am now able to tithe happily again. May the Lord continue to bless and increase KCM worldwide. Looking forward to seeing all He will do for and through all of us in this Year of the Holy Ghost and Fire!

M.P. | British Columbia

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).

*Cooperate with
God's laws of
abundance and
you can live a
rich, rich life!*

**BE FAITHFUL
WITH THE WORK
GOD HAS GIVEN
YOU TO DO
AND HE WILL
PROMOTE YOU.**

Matthew 25:21

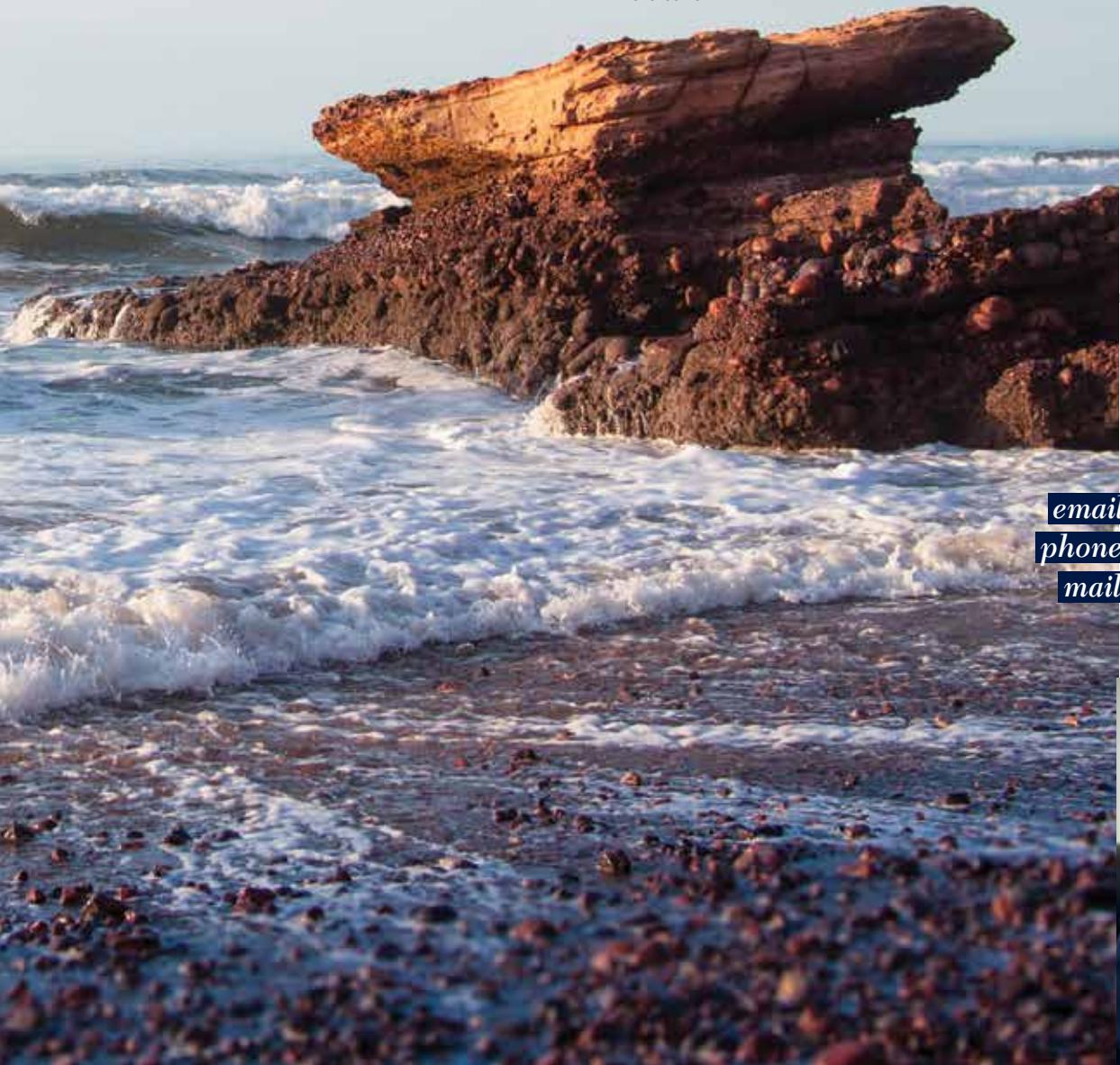
by Gloria Copeland

WHEN YOU RECEIVED JESUS AS LORD, YOU INHERITED THE BLESSING OF ABRAHAM.
Galatians 3:29

THAT BLESSING MADE ABRAHAM FINANCIALLY WEALTHY AND IT HASN'T LOST ANY OF ITS POWER.
Genesis 13:2

THE WORLD GOES AFTER MONEY, BUT, AS A BELIEVER, YOU GO AFTER GOD, AND MONEY COMES TO YOU. Matthew 6:33

DILIGENCE IS ONE OF GOD'S FOUNDATIONAL LAWS OF ABUNDANCE AND IT'S PART OF WHAT MAKES YOU INCREASE.
Proverbs 13:4



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How to: BELIEVE GOD FOR A

HOUSE

"There's no place like home!"

My wife, Terri, and I have often declared that statement while walking through the back door of our home after a long, hard day at work. Sometimes after dinner, we will just plop down on the couch, kick up our feet and sigh a breath of relief. I appreciate The LORD for providing the peaceful, warm atmosphere of our home. After all, He was the One who got us there in the first place!

The LORD is interested in every detail of our lives, including where we live. Our homes should be places where we can be refreshed and receive from Him. Isaiah 32:18 (*New International Version*) says, “My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest.”

Consider the Garden of Eden.

It was God’s original intent for our earthly dwellings. The word *Eden* in Hebrew means “the region of Adam’s home; a house of pleasure.” THE BLESSING that God spoke over Adam empowered him to establish the Garden of Eden wherever he went.

That same empowerment belongs to us today.

Many do not realize that a beautiful home is part of God’s wonderful plan for their lives. He is our loving, heavenly Father who knows the very desires of our hearts. He is well-aware of what kind of home will minister to us. His heart is to do everything possible to fulfill that desire.



God's Will for Your House

Faith for a house begins where the will of God is known.

First John 5:14-15 (*Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*) says:

And this is the confidence (the assurance, the privilege of boldness) which we have in Him: [we are



sure] that if we ask anything (make any request) according to His will (in agreement with His own plan), He listens to and hears us. And if (since) we [positively] know that He listens to us in whatever we ask, we also know [with settled and absolute knowledge] that we have [granted us as our present possessions] the requests made of Him.

As you can see, great confidence comes when we are assured of God's will. God's WORD is His perfect will and the very foundation to your house. Luke 6:48 says, "He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock."

That "rock" is God's WORD.

In the course of my study, I have researched over 20 specific "house scriptures" that prove it is God's perfect will for us to live in beautiful, debt-free homes.

For instance, Proverbs 24:3-4, (*AMPC*) says, "Through skillful and godly Wisdom is a house (a life, a home, a family) built, and by understanding it is established [on a sound and good foundation], and by knowledge shall its chambers [of every area] be filled with all precious and pleasant riches."

There it is! Your beautiful, completely furnished, debt-free house.

A Debt-Free Stand of Faith

Terri and I made a very crucial decision concerning our house.

It was the same decision Kenneth and Gloria Copeland had made many years before.

In 1967, Kenneth and Gloria determined they would immediately obey whatever they saw in God's WORD. Shortly thereafter, they discovered Romans 13:8 which says, "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another."

They thought they were doomed!

"How will we ever have a car, a house or even an airplane?"

Perhaps the *Amplified Bible, Classic*

Edition would give them an "out."

On the contrary. It was even stronger. "Keep out of debt."

They had already dedicated themselves to The LORD, and they were determined to act on whatever He said. In spite of the seeming impossibility of ever having anything, they made their quality, uncompromising decision of no retreat, no return and no turning back. They committed to live debt free. That debt-free decision included both their personal and ministry lives.

The very first thing Gloria believed for was a house.

I Hung My Faith on That Scripture'

"Satan would come to me," Gloria writes in her book *God's Will Is Prosperity*, "with thoughts of doubt and say, 'There is no way that you can buy a house without going into debt.' When he would do that, I would trust in and continually confess 2 Corinthians 9:8 (*AMPC*). 'And God is able to make all grace (every favor and earthly blessing) come to [me] in abundance, so that [I] may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need be self-sufficient [possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation].'

"It gave me the comfort and strength I needed to stand in faith," she writes. "I hung my faith on that scripture... believing God was the only way I could have my home."

They took their stand of faith, refusing to be double-minded. They meditated on The WORD until their house became a reality in their hearts. They believed God's WORD more than what they could see or feel, never underestimating the creative power of their faith-filled words.

They released their faith while living in Tulsa, Okla. According to Gloria, she did not realize that the construction of her first dream house in Fort Worth started the very moment she began believing God.

"Let there be a house! And there was a house."



We should refuse lack just as quickly as we refuse sickness.

Gloria's Three Revelations

It took a while before they received that house.

In the meantime, The LORD gave Gloria three revelations. This scenario fits perfectly with Proverbs 14:1 that says, "Every wise woman buildeth her house."

The first was *The Revelation of Divine Prosperity*.

The LORD showed Gloria that she could believe for divine prosperity in the same way she could believe for divine health. Both blessings already belonged to her. Jesus bore her poverty and lack in the same way He bore her sickness and disease.

We should refuse lack just as quickly as we refuse sickness.

Gloria writes, "If you make up your mind—make a quality decision—that you are not willing to live in lack, but that you are willing to live in divine prosperity and abundance, Satan cannot stop the flow of God's financial blessings."

Next was *The Revelation of Peace and Prosperity*.

Isaiah 53:5 says, "The chastisement of our peace was upon him." God tells us in Isaiah 48:17-18 (*AMPC*) that He is "the Lord your God, Who teaches you to profit, Who leads you in the way that you should go. Oh, that you had hearkened to My commandments! Then your peace and prosperity would have been like a flowing river."

Peace and prosperity go hand in hand.

Gloria realized that her prosperity had already been provided. It was hers now.

"By faith, we need to rest in the receiving of our homes."

The third thing The LORD showed her was *The Revelation of Dominion and Authority*. He revealed to Gloria that she had the same authority over the earth that Adam had in the Garden of Eden. Genesis 1:28 (*AMPC*) says, "And God blessed them and said to them, Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it [using all its vast resources...]."

"While we were standing in faith for the money to pay for our first house, the Lord reminded me of this scripture and revealed to me that every material thing here came from the earth's vast resources—every piece of lumber, brick and glass, the concrete, and the mortar. There was nothing in the makeup of our house that had not come from the earth's resources. I had the right to take authority over it and receive it as mine in the Name of Jesus."

Stand Your Ground

It took six years of standing their ground and continually acting on The WORD. But the day finally came when their faith paid off. They took possession of their "beautiful, debt-free house."

As for Terri and me, our circumstances were different, but the faith principles remained the same. Here is the short version.

We owned a home, paid it off and sowed it into a family.

We then borrowed the money to buy our next house.

On a worldwide TV broadcast of *Believer's Voice of Victory*, Brother Copeland asked me why I went back into debt. As a result, Terri and I made the quality decision to live debt free. We eventually sold the house and bought another.

The LORD worked out a way for us to purchase the new house without having to borrow the money. It took less than one year to pay off the house. And, it took four more years to renovate it by using cash. In the meantime, we lived in several rental properties.

Throughout our five years and the Copelands' six years, we all had to stand our ground. Galatians 6:9 (*AMPC*) tells us to "not lose heart and grow weary and faint in acting nobly and doing right, for in due time and at the appointed season we shall reap, if we do not loosen and relax our courage and faint."

There were times when we would get discouraged, wondering if we would ever move into our house. But we determined to "not lose heart and grow weary." We continued to stand on The WORD and keep our eyes focused on the desired result.

We refused to give up and quit.

We were thankful for the quality decision to pay for and renovate the house debt free. We averted a 30-year mortgage, having to pay thousands of dollars in interest, and did not have to bow our knee to a lender.

You are only one decision away from your debt-free house.

Simply make the same quality decision that Kenneth and Gloria, Terri and I made years ago. Take your strong stand of faith in God's WORD. Believe and receive Psalm 107:7 (*The Message*) that says, "He put your feet on a wonderful road that took you straight to a good place to live."

Say this out loud right now. "I speak to my house in the Name of Jesus and command it to come to me! No matter how long it takes, I am standing my ground, walking by faith and holding fast to The WORD. I refuse to give up and quit. I believe I receive my beautiful, debt-free house NOW!" 



George Pearson is CEO of Kenneth Copeland Ministries and senior pastor of Eagle Mountain International Church, located on the grounds of KCM. For more information or ministry materials go to emic.org.



Diligence

MAKES THE
DIFFERENCE

by Gloria
Copeland

Imagine for a moment you belonged to the wealthiest family on earth. Imagine your parents were the Rockefellers, for instance, and that you'd grown up surrounded by limitless abundance and extravagant riches. Think about what your financial perspective would be!

You'd always expect to have plenty of money.



You'd think in terms of abundance, not lack. You'd never expect to have to go without or wonder how you're going to afford a new car. You'd have all the cars and planes and boats and whatever else you wanted.

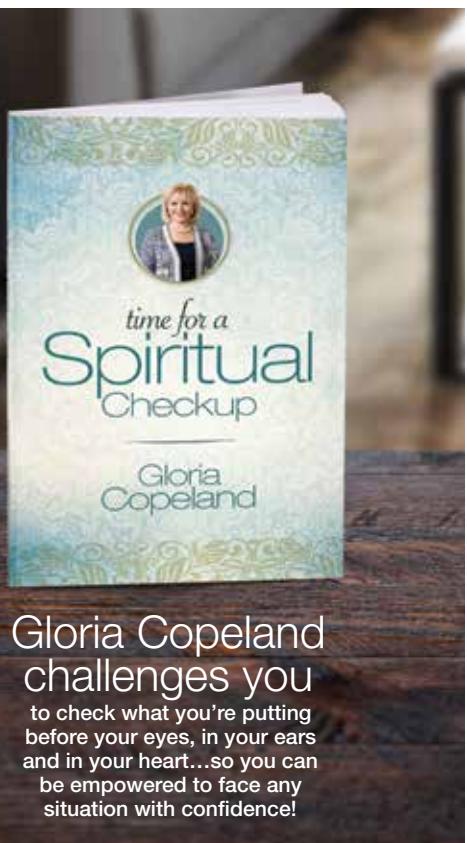
Having never known anything but wealth, your attitude would be, *Hey, this is just the way it is in my family. We are very, very rich.*

That's the attitude you should have as a believer!

Although in the natural your last name may not be Rockefeller, you've been born into the wealthiest family there is. You've been born again into God's spiritual family, and it's just as real as any natural family, only it's richer and more powerful.

No other family even comes close to God's family!

He owns the whole earth and all of its fullness (Psalm 24:1). He owns the cattle on a thousand hills (Psalm 50:10).



Time for a Spiritual Checkup paperback £3 reg £5 #30-0576

All the silver and gold in the whole world belong to Him. All the buried treasures and hidden riches are His and He knows where they all are (Isaiah 45:3).

Our Father is a rich, rich God! He created all the wealth on this entire planet and put it here for His family to enjoy. In other words, He put it here for us!

"Well," someone might say, "I think that's an extreme point of view. It's just an idea you prosperity preachers came up with."

No, we didn't come up with it. Our good and gracious God came up with it. Prosperity has always been God's plan for His people. All through the Scriptures, as long as His sons and daughters would obey Him they walked in superabundance.

Think about how wealthy Adam and Eve were in the Garden of Eden. Until they decided to disobey God and do things their own way, they had everything good they could possibly desire.

Think about how prosperous Abraham was. He believed God, did what He said and wound up wealthier than the kings of nations. He walked faithfully in his covenant with God and became "very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold" (Genesis 13:2).

The same was true with the Israelites.

Even though they lived under the Old Covenant, when they obeyed God they had every need met. They were the head and not the tail. They had victory everywhere they went. They had a surplus of prosperity and THE BLESSING of Abraham was manifested in their lives.

Now we, as believers, are Abraham's seed (Galatians 3:29) and that same BLESSING has come on us. It's just as powerful as it ever was, and we can walk in it more easily than the Israelites did because we have a better covenant: We've been made the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. We have His Spirit inside us, and He's given us a heart to obey Him.

All that's left now is for us to learn

how to cooperate with Him. We just need to look in the Word and find out how to do things His way so we can live according to His laws of abundance.

Don't Fatten Your Bank Account by Starving Your Soul

God's laws of abundance are wonderful! They're as dependable as the law of gravity. They work the same way all the time, and anyone in the family who walks in them can live a superabundantly prosperous life.

Believers who don't walk in those laws, on the other hand, will live far below their financial privileges. They'll just have to try to get by in the natural the best they can. God won't be able to do much for them financially because, even though they're His children, where money is concerned they still believe and operate much like unbelievers.

When they get in a financial bind, they worry and fret and try to figure out ways to get more money. When they want things they can't afford, they get frustrated and rack up more debt. If their bank account isn't as big as they want, they cut back on their giving and hoard up every cent of their income they possibly can.

From the world's perspective those sound like normal things to do. But it's not the way God's family operates. We don't go after money and material things. We go after God, and things come to us. That's the foundational law of supernatural abundance. It's what Jesus taught in Matthew 6:33. He said: "Seek (aim at and strive after) first of all [God's] kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these things taken together will be given you besides" (*Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

Talk about a great way to prosper! That's the best way to do it—by living for God and putting His Word first place in our lives.

There's no downside to that way of prospering like there is to the world's way. When people get wealthy the world's way, they end up like the rich

“

We don't go after money and material things.

We go after God, and things come to us.

”

man in Luke 12. Remember him? He amassed a great fortune by his own fleshly efforts. Then he stored it up, fully intending to spend it on himself. But because he never paid any attention to God, in the end his wealth didn't do him any good. He wound up dying before he could enjoy it. (See verses 16-20.)

That's not an example we want to follow. Jesus said people who lay up treasure for themselves but are not rich toward God are fools! Their bank account gets fat but in the end their soul ends up starving. The only answer they have is money and it won't get them into heaven. It won't heal them of a terminal disease. It won't break the power of the addictions that have enslaved them.

When you seek God first, however, you prosper “as your soul prospers.” You increase financially as “you walk in the truth” (3 John 2-3, *New King James Version*), and the truth makes you free (John 8:32).

What exactly does it mean to walk in the truth?

It means you live a godly life: You make God's Word your final authority and do whatever He says to do. It means you keep His Word in your heart and in your mouth. You believe and say what He says about you. When you're facing financial difficulties, you don't go around talking poverty and lack. You don't say things like, “I just don't see how I'm going to pay all these bills.” You put your faith in scriptures like Philippians 4:19 and say, “My God shall supply all my need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus!”

When you're walking in truth you also put God first in your finances. You make tithing a priority. You give cheerfully to others whenever the Lord leads, confident that the Lord will BLESS you in return because, as Galatians 6:7 says, “Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”

A Precious Possession

“But Gloria,” you might say, “I do all those things. I spend time in the

Word every day. I believe and confess the Word over my finances. I tithe and give. Yet I'm still not prospering and increasing!”

Then maybe you need to check up on yourself in another area. Maybe you need to see how you're doing when it comes to being diligent. *Diligence* is another one of God's foundational laws of abundance. It's defined as “steady application to business of any kind; constant effort to accomplish what is undertaken.”

Diligence is perseverance. It's doing wholeheartedly whatever job you've been given to do. It's part of what causes you to prosper.

You might not hear as many sermons about diligence as you do about other things, but God tells us time and again in the Scriptures how valuable it is. In Proverbs, for instance, He says:

“He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich” (Proverbs 10:4).

“The hand of the diligent will rule, but the lazy man will be put to forced labor” (Proverbs 12:24, *NKJV*).

“Diligence is man's precious possession” (Proverbs 12:27, *NKJV*).

“The soul of a lazy man desires, and has nothing; but the soul of the diligent shall be made rich” (Proverbs 13:4, *NKJV*).

“The [sluggard] will not plow because of winter; He will beg during harvest and have nothing.... [but] the plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty” (Proverbs 20:4, 21:5, *NKJV*).

“How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man” (Proverbs 6:9-11).

This is just the way it is in God's

family: Sluggards don't do well. People who sleep late every morning and spend their days lazing around don't prosper.

God isn't like the government. He doesn't have programs that pay people for not working. In His system, if you want to prosper you're expected to work and be productive. Whether you're a full-time mother and homemaker, a student, a business owner or an employee, you're expected to give it your best effort and do a good job.

What if you have a job you don't like, or you have one that doesn't pay very well?

Be diligent anyway! Believe God for a better job if you want, but in the meantime treat the one you have with respect. Don't just do as little work as you can without getting fired. Be the best employee that company ever had. Show up at work every day with a smile on your face and do everything you can to be a blessing in that place.

“But you don't understand. My job is just menial. It isn't very important.”

Yes, it is! For one thing, it provides you with an income to tithe on and the ability to sow into the kingdom of God. It gives you the opportunity to

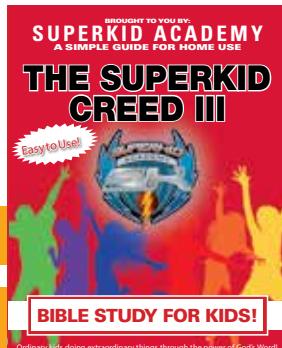
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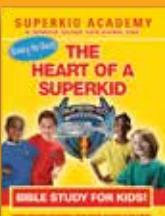
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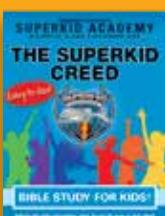
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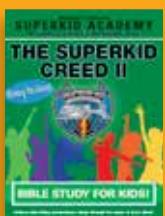
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go to work every day thinking, *I'm doing this as unto the Lord, and I'm getting seed for a harvest out of it.*

For another thing, even if your job doesn't pay very well it gives you the opportunity to be faithful. And if you're faithful, God can increase you. He's not limited by where you start. He can take you from the bottom rung of the ladder all the way to the top!

That's what happened to the first two servants in the parable Jesus told in Matthew 25. They started out as slaves and ended up as rulers. You've probably read the story...

In the beginning, each of the servants was given the job of stewarding a certain amount of money for his master. One servant was given five talents of money; the second got two talents; and the third got one talent.

Afterward, the master went on a journey and while he was away the servant who "received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money" (verses 16-18, NKJV).

What happened when the master returned? He gave the two faithful servants identical promotions! Even though they started out at different levels financially, he blessed them both equally and said, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord" (verses 21 and 23, NKJV).

The unfaithful servant, however, received a demotion. The master said to him, "You wicked and lazy servant... [at least] you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away" (verses 26-29, NKJV).

This is one of the key principles in God's system of prosperity: Faithfulness brings increase. Unfaithfulness results in decrease.

God wants you to increase! He's not just your master, like the man in the parable—He's your loving heavenly Father. He takes delight in prospering you (Deuteronomy 30:9). So, give Him the opportunity by walking in His laws of abundance!

Put Him and His Word first place in your life and your finances. Keep that Word in your heart and in your mouth. And when He puts something in your hands, even if it seems small, be faithful with it. Work diligently with what you've been given and "whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward" (Colossians 3:23-24).

Jesus Knows MY Name!

Report in, Superkid! How is your journey into Jesus going?

We are on a great adventure with the greatest person who ever has or ever will walk this planet!

HE IS AMAZING! And He calls YOU by name! We talk about adventures with Jesus and the marvelous things He does, but how often do we stop and think about what that REALLY means? Well, we are doing it now. In fact, all year we will be thinking about Jesus and diving deeper into our everyday walk with Him. Let's make up our minds to receive these truths from the Word of God as an invitation from the Lord.

Last month, I told you He was calling you closer. This month I want to challenge you to ask yourself, "Do I really think He knows MY name?" Superkid, I believe that if I show you in the Word of God that the answer is yes, you'll believe it and act on it. So let's do it!

John 10:3 (*New Living Translation*) says: "The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep recognize his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out."

We've all heard this scripture many times but it has some amazing promises in it:

1. His sheep recognize His voice. Are you one of His sheep? You are, if you have asked Him into your heart. The promise here is that you recognize His voice. Start thinking of yourself as a follower (sheep) who knows His voice.

2. What is He saying? The first thing you hear is "COME!"

He IS and has been calling you to come to Him.

3. This verse says the sheep COME.

4. He calls to you by name.

5. As you come in response to His call, He leads you. Leads you where? Deeper into Him, and from there, ANYWHERE!

Think about it, Superkid. Jesus is calling you by name. Kellie...He calls me. That really helps me realize that His love and His plan for each one of us is very unique—as unique as you or me. As I think about answering His call, it excites me to consider what He has in store for me. He has already given me a very full and amazing life filled with actual adventure and great excitement, but I know He has more. And, Superkid, He will always have more for you than you can imagine. All you have to do is say, "Yes, Jesus. I am coming." This is the start. Then what?

We put our eyes on Him and we don't look away—NO MATTER WHAT. Eyes on Jesus! Hebrews 12:2 (*The Passion Translation*) puts it like this: "We look away from the natural realm and we fasten our gaze onto Jesus who birthed faith within us and who leads us forward into faith's perfection."

Fasten your eyes on Him. Find Him in His Word. Talk to Him during the day. Let Him be the last person you



speak to at night and the first person on your mind

in the morning. He wants to be the biggest part of your

day—of your life! Maybe this sounds extreme, and I guess it is. Jesus, the Savior of the whole WORLD, is calling YOUR name and He wants to hang out with you ALL day. Yep. That IS extreme. But He is the One calling you, not me. I am just here to say that at any age and on any day, answering His call is the very best thing you can do. As I have come to know Jesus more, I see His love not only for me, but I see how much He loves others, and it changes ME! I warn you, Superkid, change is definitely coming. You can't be in His presence and not be changed. But it is the BEST!

I challenge you this month: Go for it! Go for Jesus 100%. You won't regret it. ❤️

Tuned In!

Commander Kellie



Kellie Copeland is an outreach minister at Kenneth Copeland Ministries and is the developer of the Superkid Academy curriculum. Through her ministry and as "Commander Kellie," she fulfills the mission of drawing people of all ages into a personal, growing and powerful relationship with Jesus Christ.

BY KENNETH COPELAND



put out THE FIRE



"If THE BLESSING is ours through Christ Jesus, how come we're not experiencing more of it?" >> That's the question some believers are asking these days—and they're asking it for good reason. They've spent enough time studying the Word to know the benefits of THE BLESSING. They've stood in church and declared, more times than they can count: "God meets my needs according to His riches in glory! By Jesus' stripes I am healed! THE BLESSING of the Lord makes me rich and adds no sorrow with it! I am the head and not the tail, above and not beneath! No weapon formed against me shall prosper!" >> But when they examine their lives to see the fruit of those confessions, they can't find much. By all appearances, the Word of God (which they thoroughly believe) is not working. >> Why is that? >> "God works in mysterious ways," someone might say. "You just never know what He is going to do."

Fill your mouth with the Word until it gets down into your spirit and starts flowing out of you like a fountain. **If you'll do that, you won't have to bite your tongue when someone acts ugly toward you.**

Forgive me for being blunt, but that's a bunch of baloney. I know many people think that's in the Bible, but it isn't. In Matthew 13:11, Jesus said, "It is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven," and Romans 11:25 says we should not be ignorant of the mysteries. When it comes to how He treats His children, God is the most *unmysterious* Person you'll ever meet. He always does for us exactly what He said in His Word. So whenever we need to find out why something He promised is not happening in our lives, all we have to do is go to the Bible.

Everything we'll ever need to know about THE BLESSING is there. God didn't leave anything for us to figure out on our own. He spelled out in such simple and straightforward terms how to live a blessed life that we can sum it up in one sentence: *Live by faith and walk in love.*

Gloria and I learned a long time ago that those two things—faith and love—are the keys to victory in every situation. We found out that if we would go to the Word and believe what God has said, and if we would keep the law of love, we could triumph over any challenge. We could experience God's goodness in every area of life.

Once we understood that, we made some quality decisions that we have honored ever since. Among them was the decision to keep strife out of our lives at all costs. Settling that one issue has done more to keep us in THE BLESSING than almost anything else.

Forty years ago, when Gloria and I sat down together at the kitchen table and declared that we would never allow strife in our home or ministry, we didn't know many of the things we know now. We didn't have as much revelation of THE BLESSING and how it operates as we do today. We simply knew the Bible says, "Where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work" (James 3:16), and that was enough to convince us it was no longer an option for us.

Because strife opens the door to every evil work, as far as we were concerned, indulging in it would be like turning a rattlesnake loose in the house. That was something we simply would not allow.

FUSSING AWAY THE ANOINTING

Over the years, I've never once regretted that decision. In fact, the more I study the Bible, the more I see how dangerous strife actually is. The Word of God reveals it from Genesis to Revelation: Strife stops THE BLESSING and activates the curse.

"Well, Brother Copeland, I just don't see why a little strife is such a big deal. It goes on all the time."

It's a big deal because it's a direct violation of the one commandment that we, as New Testament believers, have been given by the Lord. It's a violation of the law of love.

Strife is the exact opposite of the lay-down-your-life-for-each-other kind of compassion in which Jesus told us to walk. It's a manifestation of selfishness and hate. All you have to do is skim the book of Proverbs to see that. It says:

- Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins. (Proverbs 10:12)
- A wrathful man stirreth up strife: but he that is slow to anger appeaseth strife. (Proverbs 15:18)
- A foward man soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends. (Proverbs 16:28)
- An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression. (Proverbs 29:22)
- He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife: but he that putteth his trust in the Lord shall be made fat. (Proverbs 28:25)

The last verse in that list is particularly interesting. It uses the word *fat* to refer to anointing oil. So it's telling us that the person who trusts the Lord shall be *anointed*. The one who stirs up strife, however, will not! It is also translated *opulent* meaning "to have a large estate or property or wealth." So the person who trusts the Lord is anointed to get wealth (Deuteronomy 8:18).

That's something the Christians in Corinth found out firsthand. They argued and fussed away the anointing until they got to the point where they couldn't understand spiritual things anymore. According to 1 Corinthians, strife reduced them to the condition of unsaved men. Even though they were born again, the discord among them so darkened their minds they couldn't hear the voice of God.

What Jesus warned about in the parable of the sower actually happened to Corinthian believers. They got offended with one another and that spirit of offense robbed them of their revelation of the Word (Mark 4:17). They became such spiritual babies that the Apostle Paul had to write them and say: "I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?" (1 Corinthians 3:1-3).

DON'T LET STRIFE ROB YOU

Let me ask you something. Is being able to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit a big deal? Is being able to understand the Word of God a big deal? Of course it is! We can't live a successful Christian life without those things, and strife robs us of them. Look at John 16:13 to see what we miss by engaging in strife.

What's more, strife hangs around in very bad company. The New Testament calls it a "work of the flesh" and lists it with such things as: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, wrath, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness and revellings (Galatians 5:19-21). Most of us have enough sense to run from that kind of stuff. We don't pal around with folks who live in adultery or practice witchcraft and we don't buddy up with murderers or drunkards.

We should be the same way about strife carriers. We should turn a deaf ear or just walk away when someone comes up to us and says, "Now, you know I love Pastor, right? But I've been wondering why he's been spending so much money lately. I've been wondering why he's made this decision or that one."

That kind of talk leads to strife and it will bring THE

BLESSING to a screeching halt in our lives. It will mess us up before we realize what's happening. We don't have any business wondering about other people's motives and decisions—much less gossiping about them. The minute we catch ourselves doing it, we should stop and repent on the spot, right in front of the person we're talking to.

The Word of God commands it. It tells us to avoid "foolish and unlearned questions, knowing that they do gender strifes." It says, "The servant of the Lord must not strive..." (2 Timothy 2:23-24). Notice that doesn't say strife is OK sometimes. It says we must not engage in it. Do you understand *must not*? It means never, ever, ever do it. Instead, "... be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves [*or get into strife*]; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; and that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will" (verses 24-26).

It's serious business to be taken captive by the devil to do his will! When you're in that condition, Satan has access to your innermost counsel and God can't get through to you. If you stay that way long enough it won't just cost you THE BLESSING, it will cost you your life.

THE TONGUE STARTS THE FIRE

"Oh, Brother Copeland, surely a few words spoken when we're upset can't cause that much trouble."

Oh yes, they can. When offended tongues start to wag, the fire of hell itself breaks loose. According to the book of James, words of strife work like kindling wood. They seem small but they start big fires.

If you're not familiar with fire-building, let me explain that you can't start a campfire by sticking a match under a log. Big logs don't burn that easily. You have to gather up some brush or little, dry sticks and use them as kindling to ignite the rest of the wood. One of the best sources of such kindling is an old pine-tree stump. The sap in those stumps turns to a kind of turpentine that's extremely flammable. If you dig a few sticks out of it, you can put a match to them and they'll burn in a heartbeat. They'll start a blaze that, if you keep stoking it, will get bigger...and bigger...and bigger.

The Apostle James wrote: "Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth

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the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell" (James 3:5-6).

Words can light fires that will absolutely destroy people's lives. They can kindle a bonfire so big that no natural force can stop it. The tongue is what ignites the fire. It's what starts breaking up the marriage before you even know it's in danger. It's what puts things in your life on a downhill slide. That's why hell is after it.

If the devil can get your tongue, nothing in your life is safe. You can spend hours and days and years building your faith in THE BLESSING. You can confess that you're blessed every hour of every day. But if you go around starting fires of strife with your mouth, those fires will eventually burn up the good things THE BLESSING brings your way; and if you don't repent, one of these days you'll find yourself sitting in an ash heap wondering what hit you. The power and authority of life and death is in the tongue!

MAKE THE WORD OF LOVE YOUR PRIORITY

Of course, most Christians think that could never happen to them. They figure, because the good things they say outweigh the bad, it will all balance out and they'll be all right. But that's not how it works. According to James, a few words of cursing ruin everything. When we say loving things one moment and strife-filled things the next, it's like pouring bitter water and sweet water through the same fountain. The bitter will contaminate the sweet and ruin the whole stream.

"If that's the case, I'm sunk!" you might say. "I can't possibly hold back every unkind word."

No, in your own natural strength, you can't. Neither can anyone else and here's why: "Every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison" (verses 7-8).

Don't let those verses throw you. They aren't saying the tongue can't be tamed at all, just that it can't be harnessed with natural forces. It can't be managed with fleshly power like an animal can. It takes spiritual power to control the tongue. It takes the power of Love.

"But I don't have enough of that power to get the job done."

Sure you do. When you made Jesus the Lord of your life, Love, Himself, came to live in your spirit. If you're a born-again believer, God's own love is shed abroad in your heart by the Holy Ghost (Romans 5:5). You just need to develop it and bring it to a place of maturity. You need to strengthen your spirit to the point where love rules your thoughts, words and actions instead of allowing your old, carnal flesh to control you.

How do you do that?

By putting the Word of God first place in your heart and mind. According to 1 John 2:5, "Whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected." So if you keep the Word alive in your heart and mind; if you keep it in your

mouth and make obeying it your first priority, God's love will become the governing principle of your life.

HOW TO HAVE HEAVEN ON EARTH

Fill your mouth with the Word until it gets down into your spirit and starts flowing out of you like a fountain. If you'll do that, you won't have to bite your tongue when someone acts ugly toward you. You'll be ready to reach out to that person in love. You'll be able to respond with "the wisdom that is from above." Go right back to what we read in James 3:7-8, only read on down to verses 14-18. The Word is that wisdom from above which also "is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. The fruit of righteousness...sown in peace of them that make peace" (James 3:17-18). Make the quality decision to be a maker of peace and the Word will rise up and do the rest.

I've learned from experience, you can turn the most irritating situations into heaven on earth when you do that. A group of us saw it happen when we were on a motorcycle trip some time ago. We walked into a restaurant and the waitress started grumbling at us before we could even sit down. When we asked for a specific table, she took offense and started jerking chairs around, just making things miserable.

In a situation like that, your fleshly knee-jerk reaction would be to just cut her off. But don't give in to that. Just wait a minute. Be gentle. You don't know what she's going through. She may really be hurting.

When the waitress came to take our order, I was aware of that so I said, "You're really having a tough day, aren't you?"

"You have no idea!" she said. The next thing I knew she was telling me all about it. As it turned out, she wasn't upset at us. She was in strife about something else altogether, and she didn't realize that by yielding to it she was going to mess up her business and finish the day without any tips.

That's what would have happened if we had gotten irritated with her, but we didn't. Instead, we said, "Hey, can we pray with you about this? We believe the Lord can work it out."

"You know, I believe He can, too!" she said.

After that, she was the nicest person you've ever seen. It was amazing.

The only one who left the restaurant in strife that day was the devil. He went away in a huff because we refused to let him take us captive to do his will. By walking in love, we shut the door in his face and helped that waitress get out from under his control.

When the meal was over, we left that dear lady with a smile on her face and a tip in her hand as big as Texas so she'd know we really cared about her. Then we rolled on down the road laughing, loving, enjoying each other and living in THE BLESSING of God. ☺