







## Praise God and PROSPER

## Next

you're facing a problem so big there's no earthly way you can solve it, and you're wondering what to do, here's a recommendation for you: Read in 2 Chronicles 20 about the impossible problem King Jehoshaphat and the people of Judah faced. Study how they overcame it, then follow their example.

What they did is a model that, in any situation, guarantees 100% success. It enabled them to triumph over a threat that was far more dire and overwhelming than anything most of us will ever encounter. It not only preserved but prospered them at a time when their entire nation was about to be wiped out.

You probably remember the story. A vast enemy army had amassed on Judah's border and was about to attack. Their soldiers numbered in the multitudes and Judah's much smaller army had no hope in the natural of fighting them off.

Jehoshaphat, a godly king and experienced in battle, knew that militarily it was a deadly situation. For his nation to even survive, they had to win a naturally unwinnable battle and defeat an apparently undefeatable foe. So, what did he do?

"Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the Lord" (verse 3).

Did you get that? Right there is your first key to overcoming. When you're hit with a problem so big it scares you, don't just put up with the fear. Set yourself to seek God. Turn off the TV and open your Bible. Pray and fellowship with The LORD until you hear from Him.

"But Brother Copeland," someone might say,

"sometimes I don't know how to pray when I'm feeling overwhelmed by a situation. I'm not sure what to say or where to start."

Then look back at Jehoshaphat, and start where he did when he prayed about his dilemma. He began by praising God. Standing before the people of Judah who had gathered to pray with him, instead of focusing first on the problem and magnifying it, he magnified The LORD:

He praised Him for His mighty power and talked about how He rules from heaven over all the kingdoms of the earth and none can withstand Him (verse 6).

He praised Him for His faithfulness to His people in the past and for how He'd given them the land and driven out their enemies before them (verse 7).

He praised Him for promising to give them the land forever and for promising that if evil ever came upon them—whether by sword, judgment, pestilence or famine—they could come into His presence, call on Him, and He would hear and help (verses 8-9).

# You start by telling God how big and wonderful He is.

That's how you pray when you're in trouble!



That's how you pray when you're in trouble! It's how you pray when you get into financial difficulties and you're so deep in debt you don't know how to get out. Or when you're being attacked by the devil and only God Himself can keep you from going under.

It's also how you pray when you're doing just fine.

You start by telling God how big and wonderful He is. You worship Him and say, "LORD, You're so mighty that with You on my side I don't have to fear anything. You're so good and merciful, I can trust You to turn this situation that was meant by the devil to harm me and make it turn out for my good. You're so faithful and You've given me so many wonderful promises, I know that if I stand on Your WORD I cannot fail!"

Once you've given The LORD that kind of praise, you'll be ready to ask in faith for whatever you need. You can put the problem squarely in His hands and look to Him to provide the solution, just like Jehoshaphat did.

He finished his prayer that day by asking God to deal with the people of Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir that were about to launch an unprovoked attack against Judah. Reminding God that Judah had never harmed those nations but had left them in peace, he made this request: "Behold, I say, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us

to inherit. O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee. And all Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones, their wives, and their children" (verses 11-13).

### A Whole Lot of Praising Going On

What happened next?

God showed up! (He always shows up when His people praise Him and brag on Him.) He moved in the midst of the congregation. He came on one of the prophets there and gave him a message to deliver to the people:

Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's. To morrow go ye down against them.... Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the Lord will be with you. And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the Lord, worshipping the Lord. And the Levites, of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the Lord God of Israel with a loud voice on high (verses 15-19).

Notice again at what they did after God spoke. They praised with a loud voice on high. They believed what He said to them and praised Him as if the battle was already won—even before it had started.

And they didn't stop there.

The next day, before they set out to meet the enemy, Jehoshaphat spoke to them again and said, "Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the Lord, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth for ever" (verses 20-21).

I read those verses for years and came away thinking it was The LORD who told Jehoshaphat to appoint those singers. But it wasn't. It was the people. Jehoshaphat consulted them and they came up with the idea.



Once the worship team was in place, they led the way singing and praising God with the army behind them. And as they praised, God went into action. He dispatched the angelic hosts and they went out ahead and ambushed the enemy's forces. They turned the Ammonites, Moabites and people of Mount Seir against each other and they fought amongst themselves until they were utterly destroyed. Not one was left alive.

By the time Judah's army arrived, there wasn't anyone left to fight. They found the place littered with dead bodies, and what's more astonishing, "they found among them in abundance both riches with the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much" (verse 25).

Talk about strange! Why would those enemy soldiers have taken so much money with them into battle? What could possibly have prompted them to think, *Hey, we should take all our jewelry with us to the fight?* 

That's a hard one to figure. But my guess is the angels of God were involved in that too. They were setting things up so that, in addition to praising their way to a miraculous victory, God's people would prosper so wildly in the process that people like us would follow their example. We'd use the weapon of praise against the devil's forces and turn the angels loose to do the same kind of thing for us.

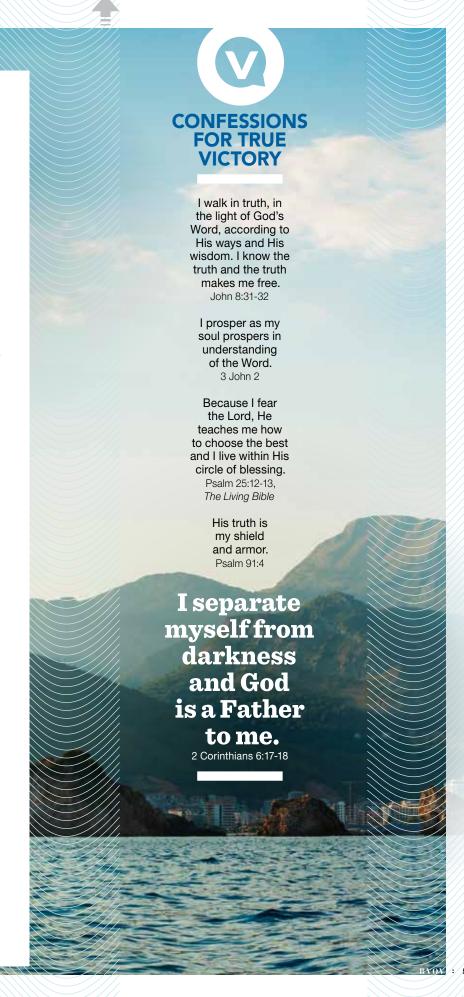
### Don't Neglect Your Angels

"But Brother Copeland, that's an Old Testament story. Can we really follow that model and expect God to show up and angels to fight for us as New Testament believers today?"

Sure we can. Remember what happened with Paul and Silas in Acts 16, and how they prayed and sang praises to God when they were locked up in a dungeon for preaching the gospel? The power of God hit that place so hard the earth quaked, the prisoners' chains fell off, and all the prison doors flew open!

Remember what Matthew 18:10 says about angels being assigned to every little child, and what Hebrews 1:14 says about angels being "all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation."

We have everything available to us today that Jehoshaphat and Judah did—plus more! We're born again and filled with God's Holy Spirit. We have God not only working for us but





"We're your prosperity angels. We've come to help with your situation," they answered.

"What are you waiting on?"
Ed asked.

"Your command," they told him.

working in us and through us—AND we have the angelic hosts of heaven standing ready to service us, any time of the day or night.

We just haven't been giving our angels enough to do! We haven't spent enough time studying what the Bible says about them to fully utilize their ministry. We haven't been diligent to develop the faith to give them the necessary commands.

Why do we need to command them? Because they don't have the authority to do things just on their own. We're the ones with the authority. We have the Name of Jesus and the right to speak God's WORD by faith, and when we speak to our angels in accordance with that WORD, it releases them and they do what we say.

That's a tremendous BLESSING! Angels are powerful beings. As Psalm 103:20 says, they "excel in strength," and they can do amazing things.

Take what they did for my good friend Ed Dufresne, for example. He's gone on to heaven now, but years ago he and the church he was pastoring faced a seemingly impossible situation. They'd been told by the bank that they had to make a \$300,000 payment on their church building within a few weeks or it would be repossessed.

They'd already paid off a good portion of the building, so they certainly didn't want to lose it. But because the property had increased significantly in value over the years, the bank refused to negotiate. It stood fast on the deadline that had been set, and demanded the church pay \$300,000 of the \$500,000 they still owed on the building or else the bank would take it back.

One day when Ed was out of town, he was praying about the situation in his motel room. Suddenly, he heard what he thought was someone putting a key in the motel room door. Thinking someone had mistakenly been given a key to his room, he turned toward the door and with his eyes wide open he saw a startling sight.

Standing there with drawn swords were two

of the biggest men he'd ever seen in his life. Towering over him, they were so tall their heads were up where the ceiling should have been.

"Who are you?" he asked. "What are you doing here?"

"We're your prosperity angels," they answered. "We've come to help with your situation."

"What are you waiting on?" Ed asked.

"Your command," they told him.

"Go!" he said, and the angels disappeared.

Weeks passed after that...and the money still didn't come in. The day before the deadline, Ed and his attorney were in his office trying to figure out what to do when the church secretary knocked on the door. She said a man in a jogging suit had showed up asking to see Ed.

Although Ed didn't really want to meet with anyone, he reluctantly agreed, and the man came into his office.

"I heard you preach once," he told Ed, "and I didn't like it. You scare me. But I was out jogging this morning and suddenly I just knew I had to get this to you as quick as I could." Then he handed Ed a check—for \$300,000!

Can't you just picture that fellow out jogging that morning and those two big angels jogging alongside him? They lit such a fire in him he didn't even take time to change clothes before taking Ed that check!

Sometime later, that same man came to one of Ed's church services. When time came for the offering the person who was receiving it said, "There's someone here who needs to obey God," then he pointed to the man and said, "I believe it's you." *No! It's not him. He already obeyed God!* Ed thought. But the man surprised him again. He said, "Yes, that's right. I missed God on the amount of my previous check. The original figure I got was \$500,000." Then he wrote a check for the remaining \$200,000, which paid off the entire building.

The praise that broke out in that church service when he did that must have rivaled the praises of the people of Judah. They must have sung and praised God with voices loud and high. But I can tell you, because I knew Ed, that they would have been praising God all the way through that situation. They followed the 2 Chronicles 20 model and got 100% results, and you can too.

So, go ahead and start praising! Don't wait until you're facing an impossible situation. Make seeking God, praising Him and commanding your angels your continual lifestyle.

Position yourself for victory. Praise God and prosper every day!





Keith Moore is founder and president of Moore Life Ministries and Faith Life Church in both Branson, Mo., and Sarasota, Fla.

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That was my first revelation that idle words are a big deal to God...and a vicious tool of the enemy.

### **Playing With Fire**

When the Lord speaks, He creates. He never speaks just to let us know what He's thinking or feeling. He speaks for *effect*. As His children, we're made in His likeness. We're the only created beings to which He has given a similar ability to choose our words, speak them and release spiritual power.

Carnal people will say whatever they feel, letting loose whatever thought flitters through their minds without any consideration as to how it affects the hearers. But, as Christians, we need to be different. We need to make sure that when we speak it's *on purpose*. Our words carry weight, and with them we can do good...or we can do a lot of damage.

Jesus once said to the multitudes, "Whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire" (Matthew 5:22, *New King James Version*).

The word *Raca* means "empty one/worthless one." And the word *fool* can be defined as "morally worthless." In both cases, Jesus is clearly saying that when we speak words meant to demean and belittle, we put ourselves in grave danger.

This is why using profanity toward someone is so bad. Using a curse word against another is essentially a way of calling that person *worthless*. And doing so plays right into the hands of the enemy. He wants nothing more than to use us to demean and belittle others—because it will get people to think less of themselves.

But Jesus found *all* of us worth so much that He died for us! We mean so much to Him! That's why it's nothing short of evil to suggest someone is worthless.

Not long ago, I felt the Lord quicken this truth inside of me. He said, *Every word and every action that makes another person feel less is evil.* 

Those are strong words, but there's no way around it: How can we call ourselves Christians and followers of Jesus if we demean and belittle those He gave His life for? It not only brings into question the quality of our character, but it also brings into question our very salvation. If we do that, we're literally playing with fire.

### Be Nice

Paul speaks to this matter in his letter to the Ephesians:

Neither give place to the devil.... Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And **be ye kind** one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you (Ephesians 4:27, 29-32, emphasis mine).

In other words, follow your mother's advice:

\*Re nice\*\*

When God says we should be kind, He's not suggesting that we be weak. We should be strong and firm in what we believe. What's not OK is to be hard and harsh—that's ungodly.

Of course, we know the world doesn't give this kind of behavior a second thought. People live completely unaware of everyone around them. They're only thinking about where they need to go, what they need to do and what's on their schedules. They don't even realize how indifferent, rude and harsh they're being.

But, as believers, we should live differently.

Years ago, I was in an airport preparing for a commercial flight with a fellow minister. The attendants miscalculated and didn't have what we needed ready to go, and man, that minister got sharp with them. After berating them, he turned and noticed I wasn't smiling.

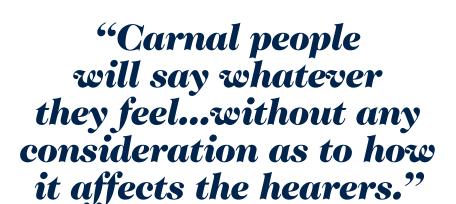
"Sorry," he said with a shrug, "that's just my prophetic anointing coming out."

I had to practice self-control right then and there!

Being sharp with someone has nothing to do with a "prophetic anointing." It has *everything* to do with being carnal and impatient and not walking in love. When someone's sharp like that, they're not thinking through—or even caring—about how their words affect anyone else.

This is important because it's a *big deal* to God. It's simply not the way He is. He is love, and love is kind (1 Corinthians 13:4-8).

After commanding us to be kind, Paul continues: "Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ



also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma" (Ephesians 5:1-2, *NKJV*).

Why should we be kind, tenderhearted and forgiving? Because we're to be *like Him*. We're to be imitators of God. That means being tenderhearted and compassionate to others, caring that they're hurting. According to Jesus, we're to "love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another" (John 13:34, *NKJV*).

### Love One Another

Walking in love takes maturity. Paul expanded on this when he said, "But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love" (Ephesians 4:15-16).

I've heard Christians be harsh with one another and then say, "Well hey! It's just my job to speak the truth."

Wrong! Wrong! Wrong!

According to these verses, the mark of maturity isn't when we speak the truth. It's when we speak the truth *in love*. Speaking the truth in love causes growth, and the body is built up and edified *through love*.

Love makes all the difference. As Proverbs 16:21 says, "The sweetness of the lips increaseth learning." When our words are filled with love, it can be the difference between someone receiving and embracing what we tell them, or having them get mad and shut us off. Our tone alone can make or break whether someone receives the truth.

The good news is, we're not in this alone. God has put His love inside us. Romans 5:5 says the love of God has been shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit. But it's up to us as to whether we release that love in every word we speak.

### Set a Watch

Jesus said, "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned" (Matthew 12:36-37). That's serious.

Years ago, I had an office across from Doc Horton. He was a powerful minister who had fought four major battles in Europe during World War II. Time and again, he'd talk about how God spared his life despite bullets zipping all around him.

He once told me a story about how other soldiers would dive into the trenches and say, "Don't worry! You're OK until a bullet comes along that has your name on it!"

Doc would reply, "I'm not so concerned about *that* bullet. I'm concerned about the ones marked, 'To Whom It May Concern!""

Docknew that for every bullet specifically aimed at someone, the enemy haphazardly shot thousands of bullets. Every bullet in that barrage was still deadly...and like idle words, the enemy can use them for an effective kill.

Words are containers. They can be filled with life, or they can be filled with death. They can be filled with peace, or they can be filled with fear. They can be filled with kindness, or they can be filled with hate.

When you speak, check your words and set a watch on your lips (Psalm 141:3). Don't allow idle words to escape your mouth. Allow the Spirit of God to warn you. Say, "Holy Spirit, stop me. Check me, in case I utter a word that would demean a brother or hurt a sister. Let my words be filled with love, creating and building others up. I want to be like You!"

Don't give place to the enemy and play with fire. Imitate the Lord.

Be kind!

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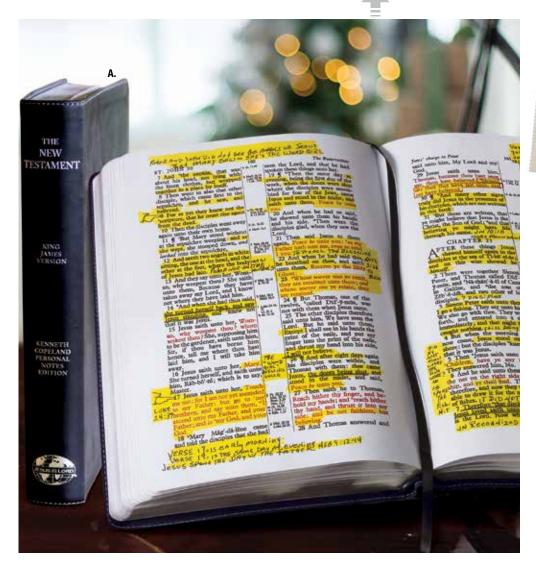
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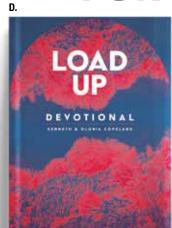
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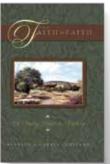


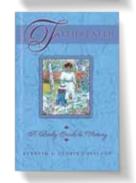
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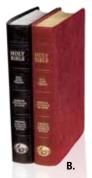
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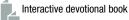
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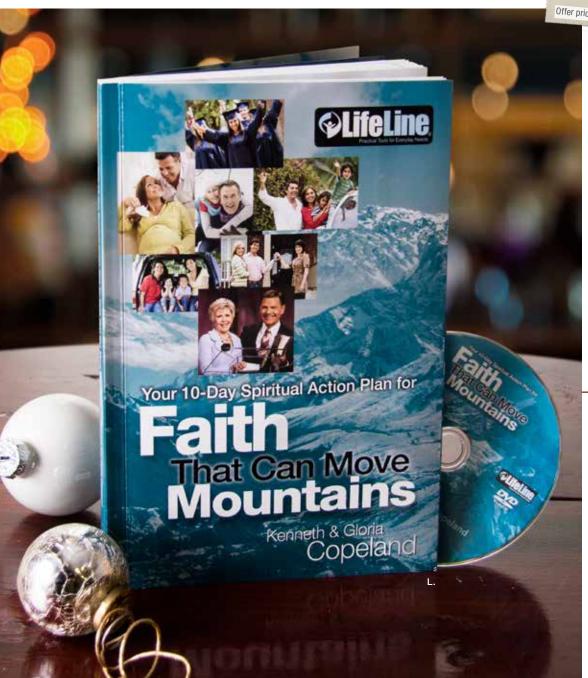
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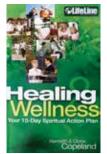
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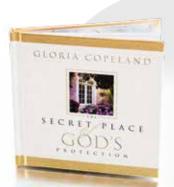
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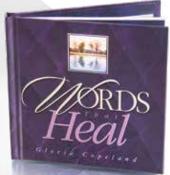




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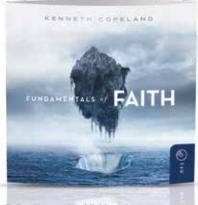


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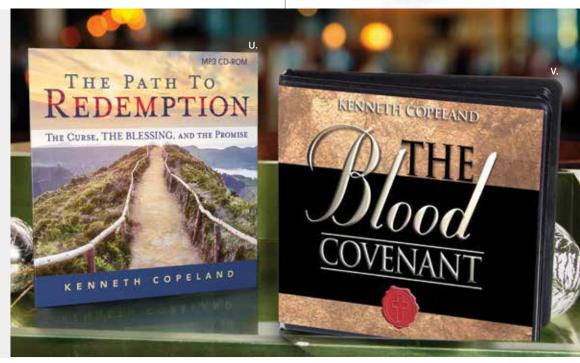
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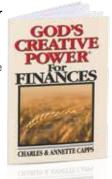


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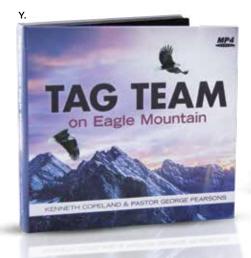
by Gloria Copeland minibook

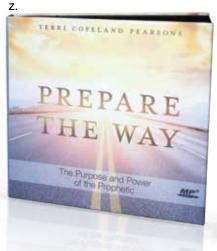
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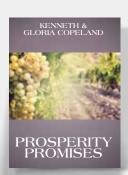
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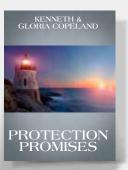


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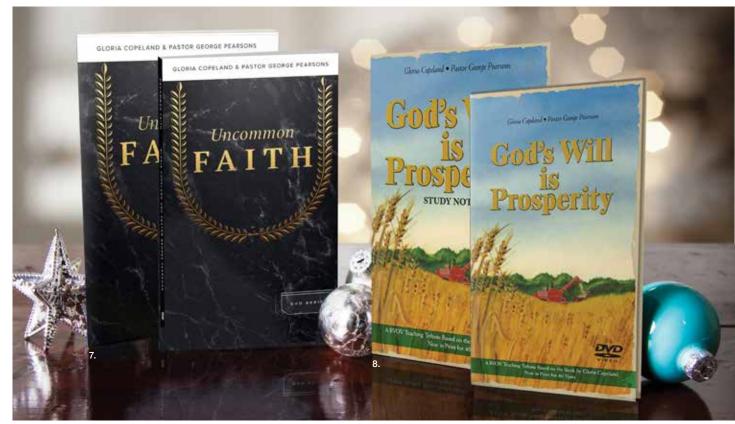
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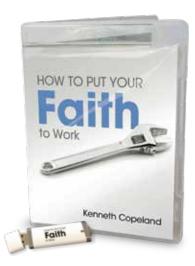
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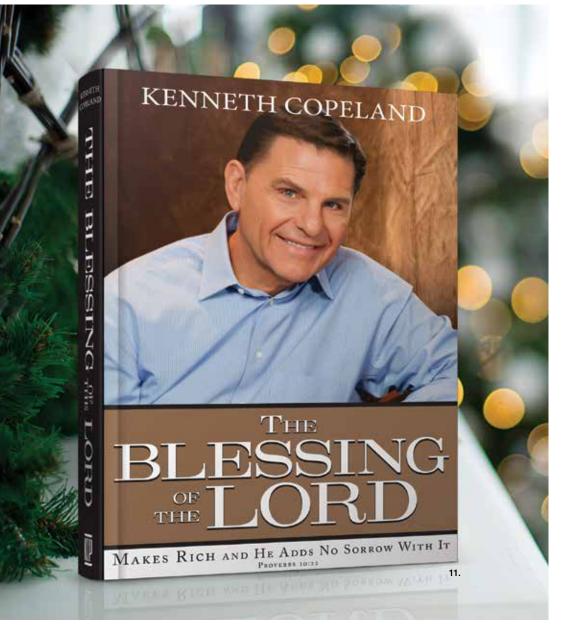


### 13. How to Reap Your Harvest

by Gloria Copeland and Pastor George Pearsons 2 DVD set It would be ridiculous for a

It would be ridiculous for a farmer to allow a crop to be left standing in the field to rot. Every farmer knows that a harvest doesn't jump into the barn by itself. It is his responsibility to reap the harvest. Join Gloria and Pastor George in this 10-part series and be encouraged today to get up, get into the field, and start reaping your harvest!

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### I DARE YOU

This is my gift to You, Jesus. I give You ME! My life, my thoughts, 24/7, every beat of my heart, my skill, my talent, my good and my bad, my strongths and my sand strengths and my weaknesses, I give to You now.

### My gift will be just as daily as Yours is, Jesus.

Whaaaat? Do you realize what we said we would do? Can we really give this gift that has taken a whole year to give, and give it as DAILY as JESUS gives His life? Superkid, many people would say that's impossible! He gives His life to us every day! Psalm 121:3-6, The Living Bible, is very clear about that, "He will never let me stumble, slip, or fall. For he is always watching, never sleeping. Jehovah himself is caring for you! He is your defender. He protects you day and night."

He is there for us every minute of every day, never even sleeping. He always has His eyes on us and takes care of us, day and night.

"But Commander, that's Jesus! He's the Son of God! Who would dare to make that promise to Him?" Psalm 15:1, The Passion Translation, seems to agree, "Lord, who dares to dwell with you? Who presumes the privilege of being close to you, living next to you in your shining place of glory? Who are those who daily dwell in the life of the Holy Spirit?"

Do we dare dwell with Him?

The word dwell means "to live or stay permanently, all the time, DAILY." The idea behind this Bible question is this: Who would dare to think they are good enough to live and dwell in the same place as God Himself? Who could daily dwell in the life of the Holy Spirit? This sounds like another question but it is actually the answer! Who can dwell with God Himself? Answer: Those who daily dwell in the life of the Holy Spirit! Psalm 15:2-5 goes on to describe these people who

amazing Christians: They are passionate

sound like pretty

and wholehearted, always sincere and always speaking the truth-for their hearts are trustworthy. They refuse to slander or insult others; they'll never listen to gossip or rumors, nor would they ever harm another

with their words. They will speak out passionately against evil and evil workers while commending the faithful ones who follow after the truth. They make firm commitments and follow through, even at great cost. They never crush others with exploitation or abuse and they would never be bought with a bribe against the innocent. They will never be shaken; they will stand firm forever.

As you read this description of these DARING kids (people), you may think, I can't be like that all the time. I love Jesus but I make too many mistakes. Or, I am just not bold enough to stand up like that at school! Maybe that means I can't live in His house every day! Superkid, thinking like that is thinking backward!

Being great at all those things isn't what lets you in the door of His house to live with Him daily. That's the description of what YOU BECOME when you dwell in Him (which is simply letting HIM dwell in you). Letting HIM into YOUR house transforms you into all those things!

### After all, Superkid, YOU ARE His house!

When He lives in you and you set your thoughts on Him and His Word, you ARE living in the power of His Holy Spirit. Little by little vou change and begin to look like Him. In other words, living that kind of holy life is not what ALLOWS you

to live in Him. Living in Him allows YOU to become like Him.

Second Corinthians 3:16-18 (New International Reader's Version) says it like this: "But when anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Holy Spirit. And where the Spirit of the Lord is, freedom is also there. None of our faces are covered with a veil. All of us can see the Lord's glory and think deeply about it. So we are being changed to become more like him so that we have more and more glory. And this glory comes from the Lord, who is the Holy Spirit."

The veil is simply what happens to us when we look away from Jesus. But when we look to Him we become like Him. I understand that you don't want to make a promise to Jesus to give yourself daily and not be able to keep it. But WE can do this, Superkid. I DARE you to believe it! We cannot, however, do it on our own. Last month we gave Him our strengths AND our weaknesses, because even when we feel strong, we can't live life without HIS STRENGTH. So of course, we need Him and we need His strength to be as daily in our devotion to Him as He is to us.

So, back to what Psalm 121 said about Jesus: He is paying attention to us day and night and He doesn't even sleep. Superkid, these are not just words. This is God's Holy Word to YOU! We can be just as daily AND nightly as He is.

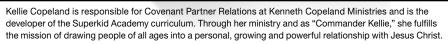
"So that means we have to stay awake all night?"

### I KNEW YOU **WOULD ASK THAT!**

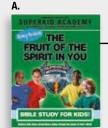
Don't try to tell your parents that Commander Kellie savs you need to stay awake like Jesus. YOUR nights should be spent SLEEPING! He's the only One who needs to be awake. When you're afraid to sleep at night, remember to ask Him to give you good dreams and talk to you. This makes us 24/7, daily devoted to our Jesus. The best part? The more we live this life daily, the more people will see Jesus shining through!

Will you do it? I DARE YOU!

Commander Kellie, OUT!

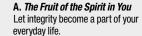






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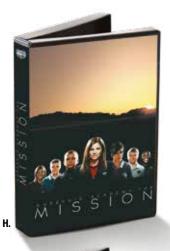
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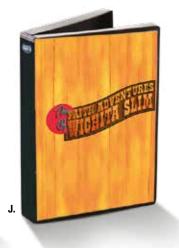












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### GoodNEWSGazette



'The Voice of the Good Shepherd'

In the April magazine, the article "Settle It" by Kenneth Copeland really spoke to me, but not in the context in which it was written. Nonetheless, I definitely "got" something specifically for me.

I have been hearing, "You will only become effective when you realize you are in this world, not of it."

I had been trying to make decisions by the world's standards, but it wasn't working and certainly wasn't what I wanted. I know I have a call on my life, and while my husband is very supportive and encouraging, others don't understand. I have had to get to the place that I don't care what other people think anymore.

Every Wednesday I drive an hour to attend an awesome Spirit-filled church, because that's where my heart is. I took a leap of faith and started Bible college on very little income. I didn't think I'd be able to continue, BUT God has graciously opened doors for me to continue on! When I think about these things, my heart leaps! So, I thank you for helping me realize that I really do know the voice of the Good Shepherd, and I am determined to follow Him!

Lisa C. | Saint Augustine, Fla.

### 'My Faith Has Increased'

I just wanted to say how truly awesome God is! I'm a Partner with Kenneth Copeland Ministries, and through watching *BVOV* my faith has increased so much. I had a medical bill for \$385 that God miraculously turned

into \$22! Praise God for His faithfulness and mercy. Thank you for teaching the principles of seedtime and harvest. I declare that I am living in the overflow!

R.B. | Akron, Ohio

### **GOD SAVED US!**

A big pine tree came crashing down right in front of our truck as we were driving in a storm. Five seconds more and we would have been crushed. Thank You, Lord, for watching over us! T.M. | Tennessee

### Restored

Two years ago, we prayed for God to restore our niece's body-to free her from any and all addictions and to help her see her own worth in life. She's a cancer survivor who felt at 35 she had nothing. Praise God! Today, she is addiction free, going back to school to get accreditation to help others in recovery. Thank You, Jesus!

L. & J.G. | Alaska

### Answered Prayer

Thank God for Gloria and Pastor George's teachings. We had to sell our truck. I prayed to the Lord for another. My mother and brother-in-law combined their efforts, and we now own another truck.

L.G. | New Ellenton, S.C.





### 'I watched every meeting'

I couldn't attend Sacramento Victory Campaign this year. Instead I watched every meeting on BVOVN®/Roku®. What a blessing to invite all of you into my home. The Holy Spirit filled my house and healed my spine. I could feel the presence of the Lord! Please apply the designated amount to BVOVN.

S.P. | Grover Beach, Calif.



### **EARLY MORNING** PRAYER PRAISE GOD! Now. I called on a Wednesday morning to request she's gone back to work. prayer for my daughter The doctors want her to who was experiencing follow up to make sure severe shortness of there was no damage to breath. I took her to the her heart. The large clots had caused one side of emergency room where they diagnosed large her heart to work much harder than the other blood clots in both her side. But we know: ALL lungs. They immediately prepared to transfer her IS WELL! to Mercy Hospital in Thank you so much St. Louis, Mo. for being there for us My daughter was so early in the morning. astonished when the I truly love you guys. email package they gave her upon arrival, had a V.D. | Edwardsville, III. phone prayer on the front of mail

it for anyone who was having surgery, and another one for anyone who needed healing. Every night before

bedtime, they prayed for everyone over the intercom, and then again every morning.

Wow! I had never heard of anything like that! She was able to come home Saturday morning.

<sup>44</sup>TODAY, YOU ARE A PICTURE OF WHAT YOU SPOKE FROM YOUR HEART IN THE PAST.77

### **SALVATION**

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.

### connect with us

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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Your Ground!

Joe Weiss looked out at the stunning vistas

In 2003, Joe was hired in engineering by Hyatt Hotels Corporation in San Diego, despite not having an engineering degree. Back home in Minnesota, his dad owned a construction company, where Joe learned to read blueprints. While in San Diego, Joe had met and married Jessica, who also worked for Hyatt. He had tried to advance his career by applying for a position in Denver. That didn't happen.

In 2007, a position at a Hyatt in Vancouver came open. Though it seemed the job would be more like a demotion than a promotion, Joe applied and was hired. His first challenge—get the hotel ready for the 2010 Winter Olympics.

Two months after his arrival, Joe's boss quit. Two days later, Joe was made director of engineering. "Corporate doesn't know it yet," the general manager told Joe. "They want someone more seasoned. I want you to do this for a couple of months. If you keep the ship afloat, then it's yours."

At 26, Joe had become the youngest director of engineering in Hyatt history.

Suddenly, Joe was in a good place. He loved

his job. He loved Vancouver. And he loved his family, which by now included Jessica, daughter Joslyn and a new baby on the way. He didn't know how life could be any better.

### A Knock-Out Punch

Joe's phone rang.

"Honey, the strangest thing happened," Joe heard Jessica say. "I think I had an accident in bed









Caleb in NICU and at 6 months old

and wet myself. I don't think it's any big deal."

Joe insisted Jessica see her doctor to be sure.

"Your membranes have ruptured," the doctor told her. "You'll go into labor within the next 24 hours. The baby can't survive. You're only 19 weeks along. Viability for an infant is 24 weeks. If you don't go into labor, you'll develop an infection within 72 hours."

Then, she delivered the most staggering blow. "We'll have to deliver the baby to save your life," the doctor said. "Your baby won't survive."

"Those were very dark days," Joe recalls. "We'd never faced anything like it."

The only good news was that 24 hours passed, and Jessica didn't go into labor. After 72 hours, there was no sign of infection.

"Her doctor sent her for a consultation at the British Columbia Women's Hospital," Joe recalled. "Their Maternal Fetal Medicine Department handles all the high-risk pregnancies for Western Canada. After an additional ultrasound, we met with two doctors. One who had just become a doctor and was still in training, seemed to radiate light. When she heard the baby's heartbeat she said, 'What a beautiful, healthy baby!"

Then the other, a more experienced doctor, told them: "The ultrasound shows that you have only 2.5% of your amniotic fluid. At this facility we don't recommend continuing a pregnancy unless there is at least 10%. You have a condition called placenta previa. That means your placenta is attached in the wrong place. It covers your cervix. If you go into labor, you run the risk of bleeding to death.

"Thirty percent of the placenta is already detached," the doctor explained. "It's sheering off, and there is a large blood clot behind it. Your son is receiving 30% less nutrients and oxygen than he needs. If he was born full term, which he won't be, he would only have a 15% chance of survival. He would only have a 3% chance of being healthy and normal. He could have club feet, facial deformities, be born blind, deaf, and be confined to a wheelchair and dependent on a lifetime supply of oxygen. His lungs can't grow, and he could suffocate without oxygen."

Then came the most heart-wrenching words:

"We recommend a medical termination," the doctor said. "Do you have family you could call?"

Surprised, and in disbelief, Joe responded: "We don't have any family in Canada, but we have a church family."

"We have a termination team on standby," the doctor said. "Do you need 15 minutes alone?"

"No," Joe replied, "we need to go home and pray."

At home, Joe and Jessica prayed for direction. After speaking with both their families, they called and scheduled termination for the following week.

### Life and Death

Neither Joe nor Jessica had ever heard of Kenneth Copeland Ministries. But a co-worker of Joe's, who was a strong believer, was a Partner with KCM. When she heard about their situation, the Lord gave her scriptures to share with the couple, one of which was Jeremiah 1:5: "I knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb. Before you were born I set you apart and appointed you as my prophet to the nations" (New Living Translation).

When the co-worker called to tell them, Joe politely told the woman, "Thank you, but we've scheduled a termination."

The woman hung up in tears, and the Lord gave her two more instructions. First, He told her to encourage them to attend an upcoming healing seminar at their church. Then, He told her to give Joe and Jessica a tape series by Gloria Copeland called *God Can Turn It Around*.

Three days before the scheduled termination, Jessica was on strict bedrest. While she tried to keep still, the baby did not. He kept moving around, making his presence known. Joe had never experienced anything so bleak. That was

his son. What would he have been like? he wondered.

The phone rang. It was some members of their church Life Group.

"Can we come over?" the caller asked.

"Sure," Joe answered.

"Buzz us up. We're downstairs."

### Taking a Stand

"We've just come from the first day of the two-day healing service at church," one of the visitors explained. "It was all about miscarriages and pregnancies. When it was over, we felt led to come here. We think you should be there tomorrow night."

Despite being on bedrest, Jessica and Joe decided to attend the healing service the following evening. On the way, Jessica told Joe: "I feel like we have a card in our back pocket."

"What do you mean?"

"Regardless of what we hear, see or feel tonight, we need to trust that we have received our miracle and cancel the termination." Right then, the two came into agreement, prayed and told the Lord they would not terminate the pregnancy.

During the healing service, a woman touched Jessica's back and said, "I don't know you, but I sense the enemy has an attack on you. Do you know Psalm 91?"

"No."

That was all the woman said.

The message preached that night confirmed their resolve.

Later, Jessica was called up front, where ministers anointed her with oil and prayed over her.

"We knew we'd received our miracle," Jessica says. "On Monday, we went to the hospital for an ultrasound. We expected the ultrasound to show amniotic fluid in my womb. It would document our miracle."

Instead, things were worse. The amount of amniotic fluid wasn't even measurable.

"We don't recommend proceeding with the pregnancy," the doctor explained once again.

"We've decided to continue on with the pregnancy," Joe responded.

"I need to know why," the doctor asked.

"You've already told us there's nothing you can do," Joe answered. "There's nothing we can do, so we're going to put our faith in God."

"Regardless of your faith, you can't change the fact that your wife's water broke at week 19," the doctor retorted. "We weren't going to tell you this because you were going to terminate. But now, we must let you know that your son has the markers for Down syndrome."

In the car on the way home, Jessica collapsed into tears, sobbing uncontrollably. She wanted to speak to no one but their pastor.

"Our pastor came to visit, and we told him everything," Joe said.

"He told us: 'Make no mistake, you're in a spiritual battle. We'll be fighting with you. But I can tell you that when I'm with God, I really believe I'm in that 3%."

Jessica remained on strict bedrest, with orders to call 911 at the first sign of bleeding.

"I started reading and confessing Psalm 91 morning and night," she recalled. "I also started listening to *God Can Turn It Around*. Through that, I learned the power of standing on God's Word as final authority."

Viability for the baby occurred at Week 24. Jessica smothered a sigh when she woke up the morning of Week 23, Day 6, thanking the Lord for another day! That evening, however, she passed a large blood clot. Fear tried to grip Jessica as she dialed 911. As she was being loaded into the ambulance, Psalm 91 began to minister to her: "A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee." Supernatural peace and joy began to well up in her.

The next morning, Jessica woke up knowing that the baby was now viable. Still, she prayed for more time. Every day, the doctors would come in, surprised she was still there, and remind her that she wouldn't be taking a baby home. Prompted by a scripture given to her by her pastor, Jessica began to journal and write down a new verse to stand on each day. After 2½ weeks, she went home—her pregnancy still intact.

### A Praise Fest

At home, nurses came by every day to check on her and every Monday she went for an ultrasound.

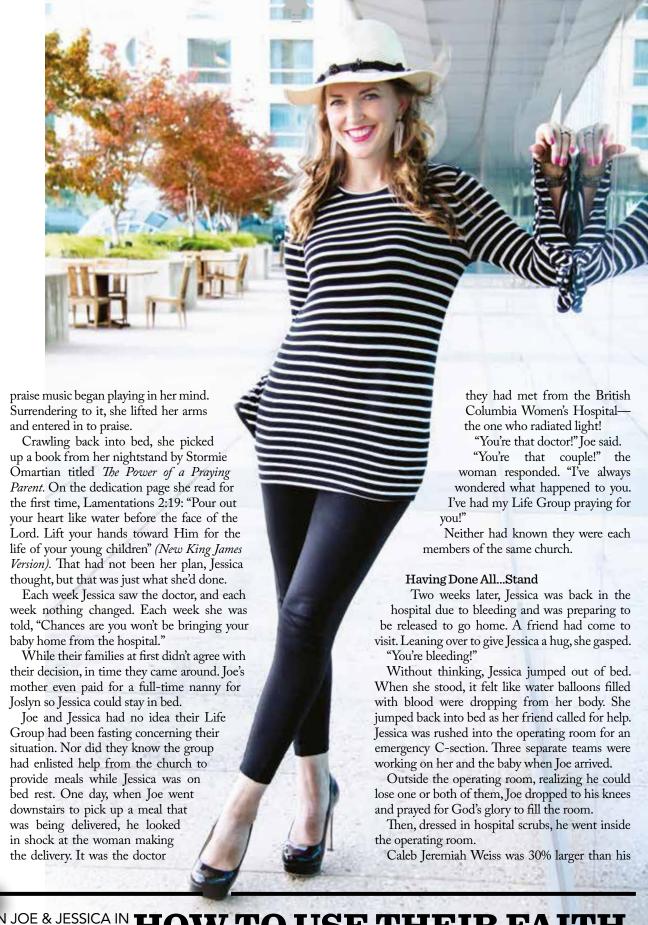
Still, the day came when the reality of Jessica's situation caught up with her. Exhausted and overwhelmed, she stepped into the shower planning a pity party. Instead,

### NOV READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

		Old Testament	New Testamen
Fri	1	Lam. 4-5	Jas. 2
Sat	2	Ezek. 1-2	
Sun	3	Ps. 119: 89-1 Prov. 27:1-22	,
Mon	4	Ezek. 3-4	Jas. 3
Tue	5	Ezek. 5-7	Jas. 4
Wed	6	Ezek. 8-10	Jas. 5
Thu	7	Ezek. 11-12	1 Pet. 1
Fri	8	Ezek. 13-14	1 Pet. 2
Sat	9	Ezek. 15-16	
Sun	10	Ps. 119:137- Prov. 27: 23-	-,
Mon	11	Ezek. 17-18	1 Pet. 3
Tue	12	Ezek. 19-20	1 Pet. 4
Wed	13	Ezek. 21-22	1 Pet. 5
Thu	14	Ezek. 23	2 Pet. 1
Fri	15	Ezek. 24-26	2 Pet. 2
Sat	16	Ezek. 27-28	

Sun	17	Ps. 120-126;		
		Prov. 28:15-28		
Mon	18	Ezek. 29-30	2 Pet. 3	
Tue	19	Ezek. 31-32	1 Jn. 1	
Wed	20	Ezek. 33	1 Jn. 2	
Thu	21	Ezek. 34-35	1 Jn. 3	
Fri	22	Ezek. 36	1 Jn. 4	
Sat	23	Ezek. 37-38		

Sun	24	Ps. 127-132; Prov. 29:1-14		
Mon	25	Ezek. 39	1 Jn. 5	
Tue	26	Ezek. 40	2 Jn.	
Wed	27	Ezek. 41-42	3 Jn.	
Thu	28	Ezek. 43-44	Jude	
Fri	29	Ezek. 45-46	Rev. 1	
Sat	30	Ezek. 47-48		



JOIN JOE & JESSICA IN HOW TO USE THEIR FAITH.

gestational age when he was born. He weighed 2 pounds, 14 ounces. He was also born dead.

No one except Joe and Jessica had expected him to be alive. Hospital staff moved Caleb's lifeless body out of the way while they worked on Jessica.

Then, something happened.

God started Caleb's heart and the baby showed signs of life! Despite the odds, Joe and Jessica's son was alive!

Just then, a nurse pointed to the security camera.

"Do you have family here?" she asked.

Looking up at the camera, Joe and Jessica saw that their Life Group members had gathered in the hallway.

"One of my prayers had been that the head doctor of the NICU would be there when Caleb was born," Jessica recalls. "He had told us, 'I know you're in a negative situation, but if you get your baby into my hands, I'll be aggressive.' He wasn't there when I went into labor, but while I was in recovery, he showed up and said, 'Sign this. I just gave your baby a blood transfusion without your approval."

Caleb was the sickest baby in the NICU. While most nurses cared for four babies. Caleb's condition was so critical that he had one nurse assigned only to him. He was medically paralyzed for two days so he wouldn't fight the machines that were keeping him alive.

### Against All Odds

"When I was discharged, we knew we couldn't always control what was said over him," Jessica remembers. "So, we posted the Word of God over him on his whiteboard: 'The child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him' (Luke 2:40, New International Version).

"Every day, I met with the doctor and asked, 'What are your concerns today?' One day, he said he was concerned about his heart, another day it was his brain, another day his kidneys. Everyone in our Life Group prayed for each concern as it arose and without fail, the following day that was resolved. On day six, the doctor reported, 'I have no more concerns. Today we're removing his breathing tube. Now, he just needs to grow, then he can go home."

Ten days before his actual due date, Joe and Jessica brought little Caleb home—a healthy, normal 7-pound baby.

"Once we got him home, Caleb continued



Christmas 2018

Once we got him home, Caleb continued to grow strong.

Not only was he physically strong, but testing showed that his cognitive ability was superior.



to grow strong," said Jessica. "Not only was he physically strong, but testing showed that his cognitive ability was superior. Everything the doctors said would happen to him, never happened. They were all amazed. One of them even offered to be in a documentary our church made."

Since Caleb's birth, Jessica and Joe have had two more children: Levi, now 7; and Zoe, age 4. Today, at age 10, Caleb is a downhill ski racer.

"I taught him to ski the bunny slopes," Joe explains. "When we signed him up for skiing lessons, the coach said, Tve been a coach for 10 years, and today has been my best day. What Caleb is doing, he shouldn't be able to do at his age.' We enrolled Caleb in a ski club when he was 6. Then Joslyn and Levi joined. At 10 and 7, Caleb and Levi are both ski racers. They love speed. Caleb won the Abby Award, which is given to one child out of 180."

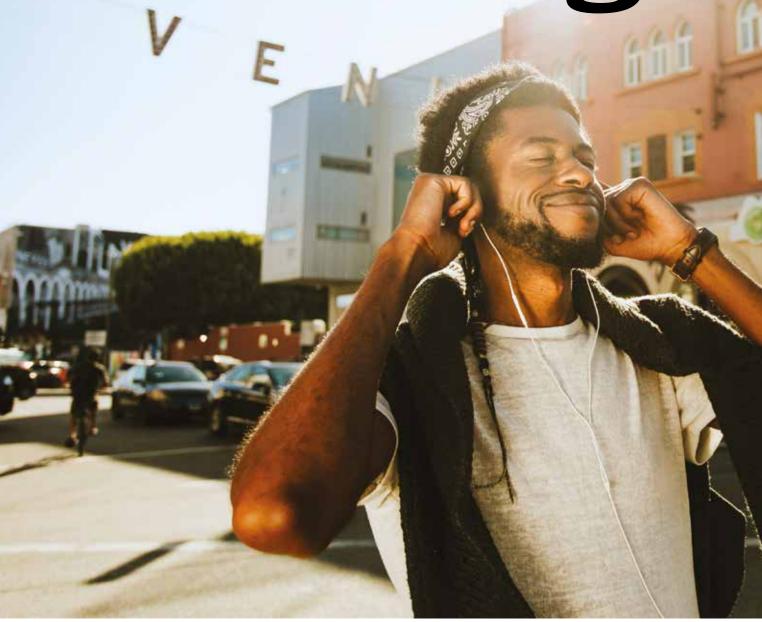
After seeing God move in such a powerful way for them, Joe and Jessica determined to learn more about faith by attending KCM meetings and sitting under the teaching of Brother Copeland. Not long after, Joe resigned his position with Hyatt to start his own business. Meanwhile, he couldn't ignore the tug he was feeling to become involved in ministry and help spread the gospel.

In the spring of this year, Joe's pastor told him about a director's position that had come open at KCM's office in Canada. After a series of interviews, Joe was flown to Fort Worth to meet with Kenneth and Gloria Copeland. Soon after that, he was given the position.

"I enjoy being a Partner with KCM," Joe says. "I know we are prayed for daily, and I love being linked to their anointing. Now, as director of KCM Canada, my dream is to make a positive impact on people's lives the way it was made on ours. I want other people to experience their miracles."

"That Kingdom isn't just out there in heaven someplace. It's everywhere that we are. It's not visible to the natural eye, but we're in it and it's in us wherever we go."

## Take of Gloria Copeland Charse







what it looks like when God answers the prayer, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven," just look in the Gospels at Jesus. He lived out the answer to that prayer every day He ministered on this earth!

Not only did He proclaim to people that "the kingdom of God is at hand" (Mark 1:15), but He brought that kingdom into manifestation so that everyone could see it. In His own life, and in the lives of others who came to Him for help, He consistently caused heaven to break through into this natural realm.

That's also what we, as believers, are called to do! We're called to tell people the good news that through faith in Jesus the kingdom of God is now available to everyone on earth. We're to put that Kingdom on display in our own lives and on behalf of others, by going about, as Acts 10:38 says, "doing good, and healing all" who are oppressed of the devil.

"But Gloria," you might say, "Acts 10:38 was written about Jesus. It describes His ministry, not mine!"

If you're a Christian, Jesus' ministry is your ministry. You're part of His Body. You're a member of His Church, and when He went back to heaven, He left His Church in charge. He delegated His ministry on earth to us.

What exactly does that mean?

It means that, in a sense, Jesus has done with us much like what Ken and I have done with our staff in KCM's offices overseas. We've put other people in charge there. Because we don't live in those countries ourselves, we've authorized them to represent us. We've equipped the staff there with the resources they need and delegated the work of this ministry to them.

It's a great system and our overseas offices run smoothly because our staff members are wonderful. But if they never went to work, nothing would get done there. If the people we put in charge didn't act on the authority we've given them, KCM's work in those nations would come to a halt.

It's the same way in the kingdom of God.

Jesus has put us, as believers, in charge of bringing that Kingdom into manifestation on earth. He's taught us in the Word how to operate according to its principles, given us His authority, and made us joint heirs of all His resources. But for anything to get done, we must show up for work. We must believe and act as if Jesus meant it when He said, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations...to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:19-20). Notice Jesus made it clear that we don't have to carry out His ministry on our own. He's right there with us every moment. He's there by His Spirit, in the kingdom of God.

That Kingdom isn't just out there in heaven someplace. It's everywhere that we are. It's not visible to the natural eye, but we're in it and it's in us wherever we go. As Luke 17:21 says, "The kingdom of God is within you [in your hearts] and among you [surrounding you]" (Amplified Bible, Classic Edition). In other words, it's closer than our very breath, which means we're just a breath away from a miracle all the time.

### Reasonable Expectations

If that's the case, then why aren't more miracles happening among us? you might wonder.

Because, for the most part, we've thought and acted too naturally. Instead of being aware of God's

## like it's true by putting your foot down and telling the devil what he can't do...in your nation."

kingdom, expecting it to manifest in our lives in miraculous ways, we've kept our expectations reasonable. Even in our prayers, we've tended to just ask God to do what we think could logically happen under the circumstances. We've reasoned things out and thought, Well, I see how God could do this, but I don't see how He could do anything more. It would be impossible.

Impossible?

"With God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26)! He is able to do exceedingly, abundantly, above all that we can ask, think, dream, hope for or desire. We just haven't been giving Him much opportunity.

We've limited Him by trying to figure things out with our heads instead of simply believing His Word with our hearts. And that's cost us, just as in Jesus' ministry it cost the Pharisees and doctors of the law.

Have you ever read about them in Luke 5? They were in Jesus' house the day He healed the man with palsy who was lowered down through the roof. They witnessed that great miracle, heard Jesus teach, yet even though "the power of the Lord was present to heal them" (verse 17) not one of them got healed!

Why? They were too busy being "Pharisees and doctors of the law" to give God any place to work in them. They were too busy being experts and trying to figure out whether Jesus was being religiously correct to simply receive from Him by faith.

When Jesus told the man with palsy he was forgiven of his sins, instead of rejoicing and believing what Jesus said, "the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?" (verse 21).

### Beware of the Experts

Can I just warn you about something? If you want heaven to break through in your life, you have to watch out for the experts! You have to beware of people who have a lot of religious

information and yet they doubt and dispute God's Word.

You're not going to find the power of God moving among such people! You'll find His power moving among people like the palsied man and his friends. They simply believed and acted on the good news they'd heard about Jesus. They cast reasoning aside and decided they were going to get a miracle from Him even if they had to rip the roof off His house to do it.

What happened as a result? Jesus saw their faith and responded. He forgave the sick man of his sins, and said to the Pharisees and doctors of the law: "What reason ye in your hearts? Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house. And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God" (verses 22-25).

That palsied man was not an expert! He was the kind of person we see a lot of times in Healing School at our conventions. They're just sick and need healing. They don't come to argue about doctrine. They don't care if we pray in tongues or whatever, if we can get their bodies healed, that's all that matters to them.

I remember one man some years ago, for instance, came to Healing School and he'd never been in a Pentecostal-type meeting before. He came up in the healing line, and before I could lay hands on him and pray he laid down on the floor. "What are you doing?" asked the usher. "Well," he said, looking down the line at the people who'd fallen under the power of God, "I thought this is what you had to do to get healed."

I think that's the kind of humble attitude the palsied man had in Luke 5. He didn't mind looking undignified. He just believed and did what Jesus told him to do.

### Be the One Doing 'Strange' Things

We don't just want to experience heavenly breakthroughs ourselves, though. As born-again, Spirit-filled believers we want to go a step further and minister such breakthroughs to others. When someone tells us they're sick or in need of a miracle, instead of just sympathizing with them, we want to take charge of the situation and bring the power of God's kingdom into manifestation so they can receive whatever they need.

That's what Jesus did for the palsied man!

He took charge and brought that man's situation into line with the will of God. He ministered forgiveness to him, told him to rise up and walk, and did the impossible right there in front of a whole room of experts.

How did the experts respond? "They were all amazed, and they glorified God, and were filled with fear, saying, We have seen strange things to day" (verse 26).

Some Christians today still consider miracles to be strange. But Jesus never thought they were. He considered them to be normal. Because He knew the kingdom of God was continually present in the realm of the spirit, He worked miracles all the time.

Take the one He worked for Peter and his fishing partners right there in Luke 5, for instance. They'd fished the entire night without catching anything. So after Jesus borrowed their boat to preach from, He took them on a supernatural fishing trip. He told them to launch back out into the deep, brought the kingdom of God into manifestation, and they hauled in a boat-sinking, net-breaking load of fish.

When a man came along who was full of leprosy, a few verses later, Jesus worked a miracle for him too. The man said, "Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And [Jesus] put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will: be thou clean. And immediately the leprosy departed from him" (verses 12-13).

What would have happened in those situations if Jesus hadn't taken charge? Nothing! If He hadn't spoken by faith and acted on the authority God had given Him, even though the kingdom of God was present, there would have been no heavenly breakthroughs. Peter and his buddies would have gone home fishless and the man with leprosy wouldn't have been cleansed.

### We Carry God's Authority

The same holds true today—only today we, as believers, are the ones who carry God's authority. We're the Body of Christ, so now it's our responsibility to release God's



1

As a part of the Body of Christ, Jesus' ministry is now your ministry, so you're called to do what He did.

Acts 10:38



All authority in heaven and on earth belongs to Jesus and He has delegated that authority to you as His disciple.

Matt. 16:19



Jesus hasn't left you on your own, He's right there ministering with you every moment by His Spirit.

Matt. 28:19-20



The kingdom
of God isn't just
off in heaven
someplace. Even
though you can't
see it, it's in you
and around you all
the time.

Luke 17:21, (AMPC)



As you proclaim the good news about Jesus and tell people, as He did, "The kingdom of God is near!" God will work wonders through you.

Mark 16:17-18



miracle-working power.

We have Jesus' Name! We're anointed with His Anointing, and that Anointing is still as strong as ever. It didn't wane when Jesus left the earth. It can do through us, as believers today, the same works that He did and even greater.

The book of Acts proves it's true! As Acts 5:12, 15-16 says: "By the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people.... Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one."

Doesn't that sound just like what happened when Jesus ministered? Sure it does, because those believers were operating under His Anointing. The same Holy Spirit that was upon Him was working through them causing the kingdom of God to manifest, so just as He did, they went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed of the devil.

You've been born into the same Kingdom they were born into. You've been washed by the same blood. You have the same heavenly Father, all the same heavenly resources and the same spiritual authority. Because you're "in Christ" and all authority has been given to Him in heaven and on earth (Matthew 28:18), you can take charge whenever and however He tells you to.

Get a revelation of that! Spend time meditating on it. Believe it and then act like it's true by putting your foot down and telling the devil what he can't do in your circumstances, in your family and in your nation.



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