



BONUS ARTICLE by KENNETH COPELAND P.24

# VICTORY

BY MELANIE HENRY

## WHEN DREAMS COME TRUE P.10

As a high school standout in football, Ted Winsley dreamed of someday playing in the NFL and wearing a Super Bowl ring. Then, he broke his back. Not even God could resurrect his dreams. Or so Ted thought.

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KENNETH COPELAND

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HIS HIGHER WAYS P.20  
GLORIA COPELAND



by Kenneth Copeland



# PRAYER

— That Brings —

# Results

If you'd like to receive from God everything you ask for in prayer, here's some good news for you: According to the Bible, you can!

Instead of praying scattershot prayers, where you shoot a bunch of requests heavenward hoping that maybe some of them will hit the mark, you can pray in a way that is targeted and effective. By following certain steps, you can make sure your prayers produce the results you desire—not just now and then, but 100% of the time.

“Well,” someone might say, “isn't it true that while God always answers our prayers, sometimes His answer is *yes*, sometimes it's *no*, and sometimes the answer is *wait a while?*”

No, that's nothing but religious tradition. Good people have believed it due to a lack of knowledge of The WORD, but it's totally unscriptural. Nowhere in the Gospels did Jesus ever teach that God sometimes says no to us when we pray. Not one time did He ever tell any praying person that they had to wait a while to receive from God.

On the contrary! Jesus told us not just once but time and again:

“Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in

my name, he will give it you.... Ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.” John 16:23-24

“All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.” Matthew 21:22

“What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.” Mark 11:24

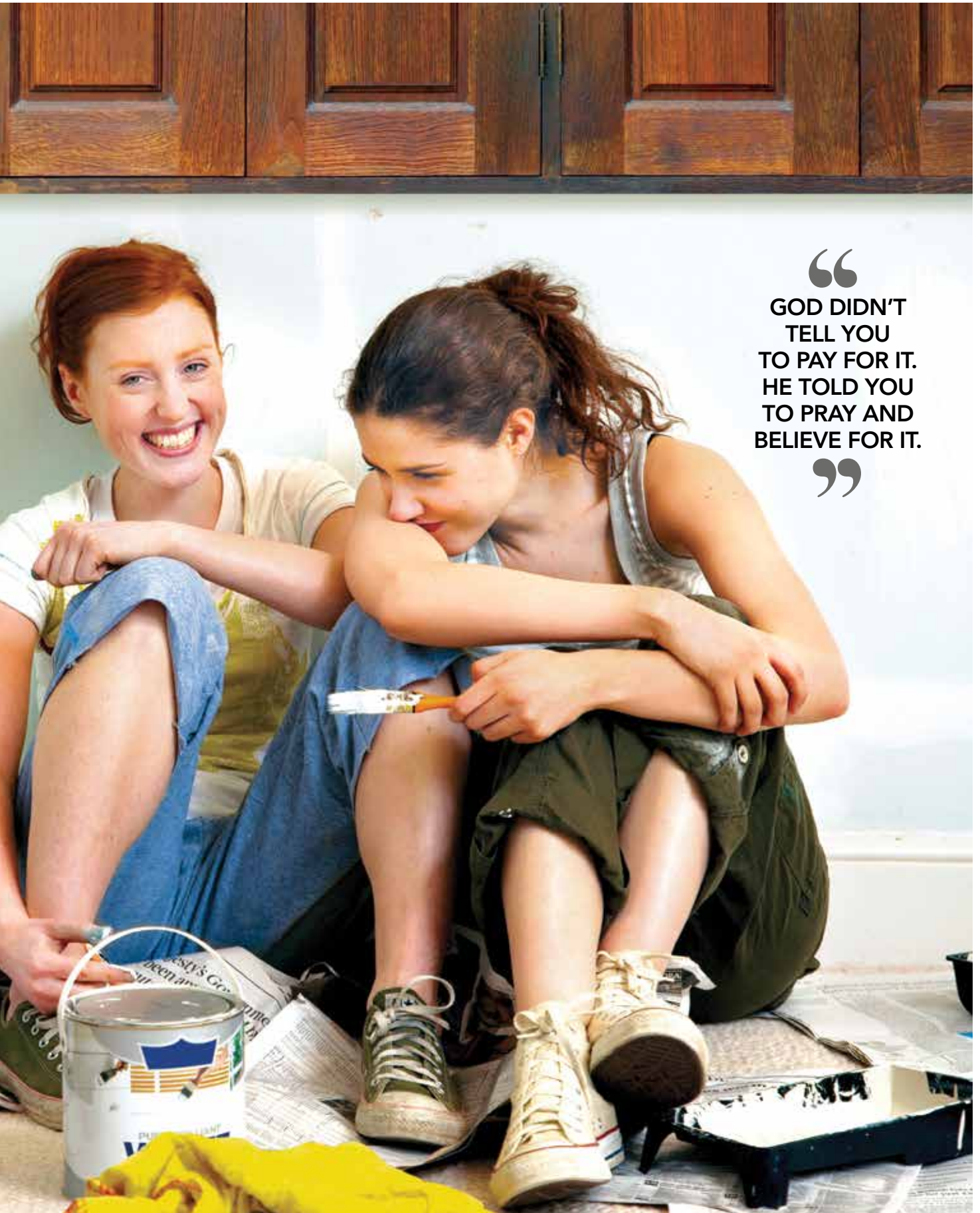
“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.” John 15:7, *New King James Version*

Look again at that last verse. It uses the word *you* five times. That indicates getting our prayers answered is more up to us than it is up to God. He's not holding out on us. It's His will to do for us all that we ask. He's just waiting on us to renew our minds to His WORD, believe Him and receive.

That's good news!

But it also involves some hard work.





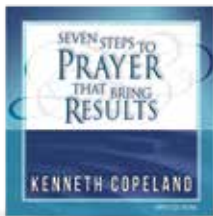
“  
GOD DIDN'T  
TELL YOU  
TO PAY FOR IT.  
HE TOLD YOU  
TO PRAY AND  
BELIEVE FOR IT.  
”



# “Getting our prayers answered is more up to us than it is up to God.”

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### *Fasting and Prayer*

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To pray like Jesus taught, you can't just pull a scripture out of a promise box and pray the first thing that comes to mind without giving it any thought. You must spend some serious time in the Bible and fellowship with your heavenly Father before you make your request. You must determine exactly what you want to receive from Him, prioritize and be specific.

That's the first step to prayer that brings results.

If you need a car, don't just say, "LORD, I need a car." Think through your priorities: What's your mission? Would it be best served by an all-terrain vehicle that maneuvers well on rough roads or a compact that fits into tight, downtown parking spaces? What make and model do you want? What color? What upgrades do you want on it?

"Well, Brother Copeland, I can't afford much."

So? God didn't tell you to pay for it. He told you to pray and believe for it; therefore, affordability isn't the issue. The issue is what car is right for you, and you find that out by fellowshiping with Jesus.

He knows more about cars than the best mechanic who ever lived, and as 1 Corinthians 1:30 says, He "is made unto us wisdom." If you'll seek Him, He'll reveal to you exactly what automobile you need. Then you can ask God for it by faith and receive.

Bill Winston tells about a time he and his wife, Veronica, did this back when Bill was just starting seminary at Oral Roberts University. With him going to school, they needed Veronica to get a job, so they sought God's wisdom and made a list of exactly the job they wanted. They wrote it all down on a card—the kind of work, the salary, the location and the car she needed to get there.

Then they prayed for it and believed they received.

Afterward, if someone asked Bill, "Has Veronica got her job yet?" he'd say, "Yes." If they asked where she was working, he'd say, "We don't know yet. But she has the job."

Sure enough, she got exactly the job they requested. It matched everything they wrote down on the card, and God provided it for them right in the middle of a recession.

## Be Ready to Go a Different Direction

On occasion, as you seek God about your request, He may show you something that surprises you. He may take your prayer in an entirely different direction, the way He did mine years ago, when this ministry was facing a million-dollar deficit. I'd gone to our cabin to fast and pray about it, and though I'd asked God for wisdom according to James 1:5-6, to me what I needed seemed obvious.

"God, I need a million dollars!" I said.

*No, you don't*, He answered.

Shocked, I blurted out, "You could have fooled me! What do I need?"

*You have a spiritual problem in your ministry*, He explained. *I told you to do something several years ago, and you let it slip. If I gave you a million dollars today, the same problem would eat it up and you'd still be a million dollars behind.*

I knew the instant He said it exactly what problem He was talking about, and we corrected it. After we did, the money came in, and the deficit disappeared.



God will give you the same kind of wisdom. If you're on the right track, like Bill and Veronica were, He'll help you fill out your card just like He did for them. If you're on the wrong track, like I was about that million dollars, He'll show you what you need to do. Either way, your prayer will be more effective because you will have determined exactly what you want from God, prioritized and gotten specific about it, which is the first step to prayer that brings results.

The second step is this: Find scriptures that promise what you're asking for.

Don't just rattle off a few familiar verses. Be deliberate about it and build a solid scriptural foundation for your prayer. Open your Bible and locate specific verses and promises that fit your case. Then write them down in the form of a petition.

Faith begins where the will of God is known. So, once you know your petition is based on Bible facts and promises, you can bring it before God with boldness. Given that in Christ all the promises of God are yes, and amen (2 Corinthians 1:20), and that God wouldn't promise you something He doesn't want you to have, be certain you're asking in line with God's will.

"And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him" (1 John 5:14-15).

"But Brother Copeland, what if I make my petition and I don't feel like God heard me?"

Faith isn't based on feelings; it's based on The WORD of God. The WORD is true no matter how you feel, so once you've prayed, keep The WORD as your central focus. Put your petition scriptures where you can see them all the time. Stick them on the mirror, on the refrigerator and on the dashboard of your car.

Then, as you continually rehearse them, take the third step to prayer that brings results: Fix those scriptures firmly not only in your mind but in your heart.

### **Meditate on God's Promises**

Meditate on them "day and night," as Joshua 1:8 says, "that thou mayest observe to do according to

all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

Notice that verse says to meditate on God's WORD that you may *observe*: that you may see, not with your physical eyes but with the eyes of faith, The WORD coming to pass in your life. The more you saturate your thinking with the scriptures, the more real they become in you. They move from your brain down into your spirit and enable you to see yourself with the answer to your prayer.

Once you can see it, you can have it. Your faith boils over, and suddenly you just know that you know that you know it's yours!

I remember one time in particular when that happened to me. I'd just started my traveling ministry, and our family was believing for a new Buick station wagon to carry all of our stuff with us on the road. We knew exactly what kind we wanted and even had pictures of it. We'd located our scriptures, sowed the seed for it and prayed.

As the days and weeks went by, we kept talking about it and getting more excited. One day, I was driving down the road in our old car, and my son, John, who was just a little boy at the time, was riding in the passenger seat. "Daddy," he said, "we have our station wagon!"

"We sure do," I replied.

"Well, let's go get it!" he said.

Even as young as he was, what we were believing for had become a reality to him. That station wagon had dropped down into his heart, and he believed it was ours. When he said, "Let's go get it," his faith sparked mine.

***"You can make sure your prayers produce the results you desire."***



# VICTORY LIVE

## 2020 EVENTS



### Word Explosion Military Salute

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update  
We are monitoring travel and event restrictions.  
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**KCM.ORG/EVENTS**

### VICTORYTHON™ Programmers' Event

Sept. 20-23 / Televised/Online Event Only

### Washington, D.C. Victory Campaign

Nov. 12-14 | Woodbridge, Va.

**Kenneth Copeland is also speaking here:**

Pathpoint Fellowship Church  
Sept. 11  
Amarillo, Texas  
pathpointfellowship.com

Greater Glory at Canaan Land  
Nov. 5 : Autaugaville, Ala.  
canaanland.com

2020 International  
Faith Conference  
Sept. 14-15  
Forest Park, Ill.  
billwinston.org or livingwd.org

New Year's Eve Service  
Dec. 31 : Newark, Texas  
emic.org

Word of Life Christian  
Fellowship Church  
Sept. 26-27  
Concord, N.H.  
wolfc.com/events

Schedule is subject to change without notice. Contact the host church for details!

“Yes, praise God! Let’s go get it,” I said.

Some hours later I got a call from a man I knew very well. He said The LORD had told him some time ago to send me some money to buy a car. After asking me to forgive him for not getting the money to me sooner, he told me the amount God had instructed him to give me.

It was \$3500. Exactly the amount I needed! We put that with what we already had, and the next day we went down and bought the Buick.

### Use the Sword of The WORD

The fourth step to prayer that brings results is this: Use the scriptures to “fight the good fight of faith” (1 Timothy 6:12). Drive out with the truth of God’s WORD every trace of doubt and fear that tries to enter your consciousness.

When the devil tells you that you’re not going to get what you’re believing for, remind him of the verses you have posted on your mirror and your refrigerator. Shut him down like Jesus did when He was tempted by the devil in the wilderness by saying, “It is written!”



**The more you saturate your thinking with the scriptures, the more real they become in you.**



Ephesians 6:17 calls the spoken WORD “the sword of the Spirit.” It’s “quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword” (Hebrews 4:12), and the devil has no defense against it. It will not only whip him every time, it will keep you standing strong while you’re waiting for what you’re believing for to manifest.

“I thought you said God doesn’t make us wait to receive from Him!”

He doesn’t. He responds instantly to our prayer of faith. But the devil still has to be dealt with. He, along with his principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this world, and spiritual wickedness in high places (Ephesians 6:12) are always trying to keep us from receiving from God. Even though Jesus has already defeated them, they do whatever they can to delay things and undermine our faith. Many times, however, The LORD’s response will be instant or very close to it.

Read Daniel 10 and you’ll see what I mean.



by Dennis Burke



There, Daniel asked God for revelation and got nothing for three full weeks. Of course, he didn't have the Name of Jesus to use like we do. But he was a prophet, so he heard from God all the time. Yet in this instance, he fasted and waited on God for 21 days and received no answer.

Eventually though, an angel of The LORD appeared to him and explained the delay. "Fear not, Daniel:" he said, "for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. Now I am come to make thee understand" (verses 12-14).

Don't you know, when Daniel heard that, he was glad he didn't give up on getting his answer? He must have had ample opportunity. During those three long weeks, the devil must have said to him the same thing he says to us: "God didn't hear you this time. You're waiting in faith for nothing because God is not going to give you what you asked."

If Daniel had listened to those lies and given in to discouragement before God's messenger got through to him, he would have missed out on a major revelation. But he refused to entertain such doubts. He kept believing God until the devil and his crew were dealt with. He fought the good fight of faith until the answer to his prayer got through.

If Daniel could do that under the old covenant, how much more can we do it under the new? We have the Name of Jesus, The WORD of God and the indwelling Holy Spirit to help us. We have the unchanging promise Jesus made to us in John 15:7: "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you."

Go ahead and take Jesus up on that promise. Instead of praying scattershot prayers and hoping something will stick, target your prayers and pray effectively.

Pray in a way that brings results, not just now and then, but 100% of the time! 📌

***"One of the enemy's tactics is to make us fearful of the fall, so we won't ever try to soar."***



# STILL IN THE NET

*They fly through the air with the greatest of ease....*

Have you ever seen a high-flying trapeze artist? I'm amazed at how they can soar into the air at great altitude—and then just let go!

Of course, it takes a long time for a trapeze artist to be able to do that with confidence. When they first begin learning their craft, they start out *much* closer to the ground. They're trained to swing out a little on a bar, then let go and fall into a net.

Time and again, they repeat that exercise: Swing out, let go, fall. As they get comfortable with the net, they climb a little higher and repeat the exercise.

The point isn't simply to learn how to fall correctly—it's to learn how to become *fearless* of the fall. It's about knowing they can soar with confidence because no matter what happens, no matter how high they go, they're going to be all right. The net will catch them every time. —>



Dennis Burke and his wife, Vikki, are co-founders of Dennis Burke Ministries in Arlington, Texas. For information or ministry materials visit [dennisburkeministries.org](http://dennisburkeministries.org).



### Sank, but Not Sunk

One of the enemy’s tactics is to make us fearful of the fall, so we won’t ever try to soar.

Peter knew about falling. In Matthew 14 (*New King James Version*), for instance, the disciples were crossing the sea late at night and there was a storm. Suddenly, they saw Jesus coming toward them—walking on the rough waters!

Peter said, “Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water” (verse 28). You just have to love Peter! If Jesus was doing it, Peter wanted to do it too. He saw the supernatural and thought, *I’m made for this!*

The account continues: “So He said, ‘Come.’ And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, ‘Lord, save me!’ And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and

“  
**How many times do we let  
what really doesn’t matter**

# DISTRACT US

**from what God has told us to do?**

”

caught him” (verses 29-31).

It’s amazing to me that Peter got distracted by the wind and the waves. Really, the condition of the sea was irrelevant. *It was water.* He was walking on *water!* But the irrelevant things distracted him.

How many times do we get distracted by irrelevant things? How many times do we let what really doesn’t matter distract us from what God has told us to do?

A lot of irrelevant things get our attention: people’s opinions, past failings, what people think, how our hair looks. But sometimes you have to ignore the irrelevant things. To do that, you have to monitor not only what goes through your mind, but also what you’re doing that makes your mind entertain such thoughts. If all you’re feeding on is the news, or what people are saying about you, your thoughts will be toxic!

Peter was flying high, but then, distracted, he fell. Hard!

But Peter wasn’t done. He wasn’t over. His actions did not disqualify him from continuing to walk with Jesus and continuing to be effective. There was provision for him. Even though he sank, he was not sunk. Like a trapeze artist, he had a net.

### A Short-Lived Revelation

Another time Peter fell was right after he had the greatest revelation of his life.

Matthew 16:13-15 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?’ So they said, ‘Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’”

So Jesus asked, “But who do you say that I am?”

This is a revealing question because Jesus is to us who we say He is to us. To those who say He’s a good teacher from history—that’s all He is to them. To those who say He’s a wonderful leader of religious faith, that’s all He is to them. But to those who declare He is their Lord and Savior, their Healer, Baptizer, Restorer or Provider—that’s who He is to them. He is to us who we declare Him to be.

Peter had the right answer. He declared, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (verse 16). There it was! It never had been said like that before.

In verse 17, Jesus responded saying, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.”

Peter had to be flying high! He’d had revelation knowledge and Jesus acknowledged it in front of *everyone!*

A few verses later, in verse 21, Matthew writes, “From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.” When Peter heard this, he couldn’t believe it. The One He declared was Christ, the Son of the living God, was going to be *murdered?*

The Bible says Peter “took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, ‘Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!’” And Jesus responded, saying, “Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men” (verses 22-23).

Peter may have been flying high with revelation, but he fell *fast*.

I’m sure Jesus’ words hurt him. Even a loving rebuke is hard. But Peter wasn’t out of the discipleship club. He wasn’t excommunicated. He fell...right into the net of God’s grace.





### Flat-Out Denial

The third time Peter fell was right after Jesus had been arrested. Things were bad and Jesus was in court. The things He told His disciples would happen were happening.

Luke 22:54-55 says, “Having arrested [Jesus], they led Him and brought Him into the high priest’s house. But Peter followed at a distance. Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.”

Peter should have been following Jesus as close as he could, but instead he distanced himself. Not only that, he was hanging around the wrong crowd. Peter knew he belonged to Jesus, but now he was warming up with the wrong people. He wasn’t called to blend in, but to stand out.

Then, “a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, ‘This man was also with [Jesus].’ But [Peter] denied Him, saying, ‘Woman, I do not know Him’” (verses 56-57).

This wasn’t like Peter. He had set himself on a road and ended up in a place he never would have believed. He denied the Lord. And it was the first of three times! The third time the rooster crowed, and Peter realized Jesus had heard every denial. Peter was so ashamed, so guilt ridden, so heartbroken, he ran away and wept bitterly.

What happened to Peter happens to any of us who step over a line like that. The shame, the guilt, the disappointment. The very demons that drove Peter to stand in that place of compromise now worked to undermine him with condemnation to keep him there.

Peter ran, just like Judas had run after his betrayal of Jesus. But with Peter something was different. When Judas ran, he went to an isolated place. Finding himself alone, not knowing how to deal with the shame and guilt of what he’d done, he destroyed himself. The thief had come to steal, kill and destroy, and it had worked.

The same thief came after Peter. Like Judas, Peter could have destroyed himself at that moment. But there was one major difference between the way Peter and Judas reacted to their fall. The difference was *where* Peter ran.

The next time we see Peter, he’s in the house with all the disciples. He ran back to his family, to those who supported him. I’m sure he was uncomfortable there. He may have felt like he no longer belonged. He certainly no longer felt like he was still one of Jesus’ trusted disciples.

And because Peter was there, back with the family of God, he found himself in the right place at the right time. He was there on Resurrection Day.

When Peter got word that Jesus had risen

from the dead, he ran to the tomb like the wind (Luke 24:12). It was at that moment he realized, *he was still in the net*. He’d fallen, but the net of grace had caught him again.

### Make Your Declaration

If you have fallen, join the club.

Maybe you’ve fallen from your faith, fallen from your confidence in God, fallen from your marriage, fallen out with your kids, fallen out with other people in the Kingdom. Maybe you’ve gotten distracted by your own fears or your past. Maybe it’s present conditions or inadequacies rising up, or maybe you’ve just defaulted back to things from your old life that don’t seem to want



“If all you’re feeding on is the news, or what people are saying about you, your thoughts will be toxic!”

to let go. Whatever the fall looks like for you, I’m here to declare to you that *you’re still in the net*.

It’s time to rise up and declare like Micah 7:8, “Do not rejoice over me, my enemy; when I fall, I will arise; when I sit in darkness, the LORD will be a light to m

You’ve fallen, but be assured, you’ve been caught in the net of God’s grace. There’s always restoration no matter how hard you fell.

You’re in a safe place. It’s your time to soar with confidence.

It’s your time to be fearless of the fall! 🍷



“I can track the blessings in my life to learning to live by faith. KCM has been a game changer for me.”



by  
Melanie  
Henry

# WHEN Dreams COME TRUE

## A few lazy clouds drifted

across sunny skies as Ted Winsley took his place on the football field. The band played the school's fight song, but Ted didn't notice. Focused on the members of the opposing team, he looked at the towels hanging from their pants. Each bore his number.

He knew what it meant. Having been identified as the best player on his team, Ted's opponents had made him their target. Their message was clear.

*You're going down.*

It was meant to intimidate him, but Ted grinned.

*You've got to catch me first.*

Ted Winsley was fast. Faster than anyone on his team. Faster than any other football player in his hometown. He was so fast, in fact, that coaches and scouts were already taking notice—and he was only a high school sophomore. A sophomore with a dream of playing in the NFL.

Who knew? Perhaps he'd go to the Super Bowl one day.

The youngest of five children, Ted was used to fighting against impossible odds. While his older siblings had excelled in scholastics, he had failed in lower-level classes. But his



mother, a schoolteacher, had argued his case with school officials.

"I did not give you permission to put him in lower-level classes," she said.

"Well, ma'am, that's where he needs to be."

"Test him."

"He's *failing* in the lower-level classes!"

*"Test him!"*

Ted's IQ score was one point below a certified genius. He was removed from the lower level and put in classes for gifted children. He still didn't excel. Not because he wasn't smart enough. The problem was, he *identified* himself as dumb.

He also couldn't sit still. Hoping to run off some of his energy, he signed up for football. That changed everything. He was king of the field. So what if his siblings earned degrees in engineering? None of them had his athletic gift. He'd found his identity.

Ted's school was playing against a team in Smyrna, Del. They were in the second half, and up by a couple of points. The team made a sweep to the left. Playing the halfback position, Ted grabbed the ball and ran.

He got around the end and saw daylight. The only thing between him and a touchdown was a cornerback not much bigger than Ted. Dropping his head, Ted decided to run through him. What he didn't expect was for the cornerback to lower his



head and charge.

The two collided head-to-head. The cracking sound reverberated through the stands. Ted spun out of the hit and kept running. Except it felt as though he'd lost his legs. As he ran, he was hit again. The force of impact knocked him out of bounds and into a fence and the bar that supported it. Another hit flipped him to his back. It felt as though the entire opposing team had landed on him.

Ted was hurt!

His head hurt. His back hurt. Still, he wanted back in the game.

"Elmer, I'm OK," Ted told his coach. "Put me back in the game!"

Ignoring Ted's plea, the coach turned and spoke to someone.

"Call an ambulance."

"Elmer! I don't need an ambulance! Why won't you put me back in the game?"

"Because my name's not Elmer."

### Things Aren't What They Seem

"In the emergency room, the doctor asked me my parents' names," Ted recalls. "I knew I had parents, but for the life of me I couldn't remember their names. I had a serious concussion."

Beyond that, Ted also had a broken back, and a crack in one of his vertebrae.

"That was 1984, and my football career was over," Ted recalls. "Worse than losing football was the feeling that I'd lost myself. My identity was so tied to football that I had no idea who I was without it."

"I'd been raised in church and believed in God, but I'd never been born again. When I was 17, I heard the voice of God for the first time. He spoke my true identity to me. He'd called me to be a pastor."

"I went to college on an academic scholarship, determined to prove to God that I wasn't pastor material. For the next several years, I made the worst choices. I never smoked, drank or did drugs. But I took cheating to a new art form. I was also a womanizer. I had a huge hole in my heart that I thought love could fill. Of course, it just left me feeling more needy."

"I was seeing a woman who was bisexual. We were on the phone and I was setting up a time to be with her when God spoke. This was the second time I'd heard Him. He said, *You're about to go to a place from which you won't return.*

"I apologized to the young lady and told her that she would never hear from me again. A few years

later, she died of AIDS.

"When I was first in college, I saw a young woman dressed in leather and swearing like a sailor. A few years later, I saw her again. Her name was Dawn and she'd changed. She invited me to a Bible study and led me to the Lord. During all those years running from God, I'd never been convicted of sin. Once I was born again, I was so convicted that I wept over my sin."

### Accepting the Call

Ted's aunt, Gloria Cherry, pastored a Pentecostal church that he and Dawn attended. "I'm ready to acknowledge the call of God on my life," he told her.

"Next week, you're going to preach a trial sermon," she replied.

Born again only about two weeks, Ted didn't know how to preach. So he asked God for a message, and God gave him one: "Send Me, I'll Go." As part of his message, Ted gave his testimony. During the altar call, 35 people gave their hearts to Jesus.

Ted and Dawn married and remained at that church for three years until his job promoted him and they moved to New Jersey. Dawn's uncle, who lived in New Jersey and had been a drug addict for years before becoming clean and sober, urged them to attend his church, Living Faith Christian Center. There they discovered that the pastor, Lamont McLean, was a Partner with Kenneth Copeland Ministries.

Ted had heard the faith message preached, but says he had never been taught faith like he learned it at Living Faith Christian Church, and by listening to Brother Copeland when he came to the church or spoke at meetings in the area.

"The first time I had a conversation with Pastor McLean he said, 'You need to know that I see the call of God on your life. I'm going to teach you everything I know. What God has put in me, I'm going to put in you.'"

From that point on, Ted took notes and studied every sermon Pastor Lamont preached. Meanwhile, in his personal life he became national sales manager for FUBU (For Us, By Us), a black-owned, American hip-hop apparel company. The job came with a six-figure salary.

### Learning to Live by Faith

"I studied Kenneth Copeland too," Ted remembers, "his ministry, his teaching and faith. I'd never understood faith because I didn't live by it. I lived by



talent and gifting. But when Pastor Lamont asked me to give up my six-figure salary and to go on staff for \$40,000 a year, I realized I had to learn to live by faith. I also had to humble myself to leave corporate America and serve my pastor as he served God’s people.

“By that time, I had a wife and two children. Dawn was a schoolteacher, so together we didn’t make much money. Pastor Lamont was the chaplain for the Philadelphia Eagles, and I was his assistant. He got tickets to the games and took me with him. One day he said, ‘Hey, would you go get me a cheesesteak, some fries and a soda?’

“Yes, sir,” Ted said.

one car. The Lord told me to go to a car dealership and pick out the car I wanted and buy it. I didn’t even have money for a down payment. I bought the car for \$25,000 and drove away with a car payment of \$580, which I also did not have.”

Meanwhile, Pastor Lamont drop-passed the baton to Ted as chaplain of the Philadelphia Eagles.

“He came to me and said that he wasn’t supposed to be chaplain to the Eagles—I was,” Ted recalled. “Two weeks after buying the car, I taught my heart out at the team Bible study. We had a new player who had come to us from the [New England] Patriots. He came up to me afterward and said, ‘I’ve



But he had no money. “God, this is Your man I’m serving. He asked me to get him something to eat. So Father, I need You to provide so I can serve Your son.”

As he walked toward the concession stand, Ted looked down and saw a \$20 bill stuck to a piece of gum on the sidewalk. He blinked back tears while buying the food.

### Baby Steps

“I was taking baby steps learning faith,” Ted says.

“One of the hardest things about leaving corporate America was the loss of my company car. My sister had given me her old BMW. I took care of it and treated it like an idol. Then, I heard the Lord tell me to give the car away. That car had no debt. I’d painted it and babied it. Giving it away was one of the hardest things I’d ever done.

“My wife thought I was crazy. Now we had to share

never heard anyone minister the Word like you did. That blessed my life today.’

“He pulled out a folded check and put it in my pocket, and told me, ‘The Lord told me to give this to you.’

“I left hoping it was \$580. When I unfolded the check, I saw it was for \$25,000. I heard the Lord say, *Enjoy your company car.* I just wept.”

Learning to live by faith hadn’t been just for Ted and Dawn. It had also been so that he could teach the team faith. Ted had never thought he would be involved with football again. Now that he was, his goal was to touch the players’ hearts and allow God to change their lives.

### The Power of Influence

With only a brief window of time to influence them, the most important thing Ted wanted to teach the players was to stop allowing football to be their

Ted Winsley (left) and former NFL linebacker Don Davis baptize Nick Foles and his wife, Tori.

Philadelphia Eagles head coach Doug Pederson celebrates his team’s Super Bowl LII win in February 2018.



READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

SEPT

		Old Testament	New Testament
Tue	1	Isa. 1-3	Phil. 1
Wed	2	Isa. 4-6	Phil. 2
Thu	3	Isa. 7-9	Phil. 3
Fri	4	Isa. 10-12	Phil. 4
Sat	5	Isa. 13-15	
Sun	6	Ps. 105; Prov. 22:1-16	
Mon	7	Isa. 16-19	Col. 1
Tue	8	Isa. 20-24	Col. 2
Wed	9	Isa. 25-27	Col. 3
Thu	10	Isa. 28-29	Col. 4
Fri	11	Isa. 30-32	1 Thess. 1
Sat	12	Isa. 33-35	
Sun	13	Ps. 106; Prov. 22:17-29	
Mon	14	Isa. 36-37	1 Thess. 2
Tue	15	Isa. 38-41	1 Thess. 3
Wed	16	Isa. 42-43	1 Thess. 4
Thu	17	Isa. 44-45	1 Thess. 5
Fri	18	Isa. 46-48	2 Thess. 1
Sat	19	Isa. 49-51	
Sun	20	Ps. 107; Prov. 23:1-28	
Mon	21	Isa. 52-55	2 Thess. 2
Tue	22	Isa. 56-59	2 Thess. 3
Wed	23	Isa. 60-63	1 Tim. 1
Thu	24	Isa. 64-66	1 Tim. 2
Fri	25	Jer. 1-2	1 Tim. 3
Sat	26	Jer. 3	
Sun	27	Ps. 108-109; Prov. 23:29-24:22	
Mon	28	Jer. 4	1 Tim. 4
Tue	29	Jer. 5-6	1 Tim. 5
Wed	30	Jer. 7-8	1 Tim. 6

identity. He taught them their identity should be in Christ.

“Football isn’t your *purpose*,” he insisted. “It’s your *platform*.”

In June 2016, the Lord shoved Ted out of the nest. The baby steps he and Dawn had taken to learn how to walk by faith had grown into giant steps, as the couple became pastors of The Family Church in Voorhees, a 120,000-square-foot facility on 11 acres in New Jersey.

Ted is also now in his 19th year as a volunteer chaplain with the Philadelphia Eagles.

“It hasn’t always been easy,” Ted admits. “I’ve been discouraged at times, but the Lord never released me. Some chaplains are on staff, but I’m a volunteer with a day job. I like volunteering my time because the players don’t have to doubt my loyalty to them. I teach a Bible study and couples classes, and do individual mentoring. Inside the church or outside, my goal is to be an influence.

“NFL players are creatures of habit, which is why the owners prefer that I travel with them. If they’re used to having Bible study on a certain day, they get it. If one of them is used to meeting with me at 5:30 a.m., I’m there.”

**Revival in the Team**

One thing Ted says he has discovered while working with the players, is that the life of the team is often tied to the player who is the spiritual leader. In 2016, quarterback Nick Foles was that spiritual leader.

“An outstanding quarterback, he was also strong spiritually,” Ted said. “Things jelled that year and revival broke out among many team members. They were sold out to God.

“Nick and several of the other players asked me to baptize them. I explained that I would schedule a time at the church, but they didn’t want to wait. They wanted to be baptized in the cold tub. I baptized five players that year.

“The team played so well in the 2017 season that everyone thought we were headed to the championships—and maybe even the Super Bowl. Then a number of our first-string players, who were in our Bible study, suffered season-ending injuries. Our starting kicker was out, our special-teams captain and linebacker were

hurt. One after another, five starting players were injured—out for the season. Nick Foles had been traded to another team. Our starting quarterback, Carson Wentz, was on track to be named MVP. Then, in a game against the Los Angeles Rams, he tore his ACL. He was out. Everyone was so negative. They thought without Wentz, we didn’t have a chance. But the players in our Bible study knew God was up to something big!

“I got excited, knowing that if we won now, God would get the glory. Nick Foles had been brought back to the team to be our starting quarterback.

“I was in Minneapolis on Feb. 4, 2018, when the Eagles played against the Patriots in the Super Bowl. They were our giant, having won five Super Bowls. We were the underdog who’d never won one.”

That year, the Eagles won their first Super Bowl.

When the team was awarded their coveted Super Bowl rings, Ted was included.

“I was handed a Super Bowl ring with my name engraved on the side,” Ted said. “Diamonds glittered in the light as I stared at it. Normally, only staff chaplains got Super Bowl rings. The players had demanded that I get one.

“I never imagined that God was going to make my childhood dream come true. It was over abundantly above anything I could ask or think. Looking back, I can track the blessings in my life to learning to live by faith. KCM has been a game changer for me. I’m grateful to say that those teachings have been game changers for many players in the NFL.”

JOIN TED & DAWN  
IN TEACHING BELIEVERS  
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USE THEIR  
FAITH.**

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Commander  
Kellie's Corner

# Master Your Mouth

Beware, Superkid! Danger! Danger!  
There is a trap nearby!

# It's a MOUTH trap!

And it's right under your nose!

**Superkid, what if we could guide our lives by controlling ourselves in one area?** James 3:2, *The Passion Translation*, says: "We all fail in many areas, but especially with our words. Yet if we're able to bridle the words we say we are powerful enough to control ourselves in every way, and that means our character is mature and fully developed."



It may not seem like a kid's words could matter much, other than getting us in trouble with Mom and Dad or at school. But Almighty God created us with power in our words. Proverbs 18:21 says, "Your words are so powerful that they will kill or give life, and the talkative person will reap the consequences."

So you can use your mouth to bring good things to you or to bring things into your life that you don't want. It's up to you—it really is your choice. How do you choose? How do you change what you say?

James 3:3-4 says, "Horses have bits and bridles in their mouths so that we can control and guide their large body. And the same with mighty ships, though they are massive and driven by fierce winds, yet they are steered by a tiny rudder at the direction of the person at the helm."

**Can you control a big horse or a big ship?** Yes! And the controller—a bit in the mouth or the rudder of a ship—is small in comparison.

Our lives are BIG! God's plans for us—BIG, and all controlled by that little thing under

our noses. Verse 5 says, "The tongue is a small part of the body yet it carries great power!" Our tongue, or mouth, is like the small match flame that can start a fire that can burn a whole forest down. One small match can light a candle or burn down a house, give light or destroy.

Verse 6 sums it up, "And the tongue is a fire! It can be compared to the sum total of wickedness and is the most dangerous part of our human body. More dangerous than your hand that can push someone or your feet that can stomp on something? Yes, Superkid, our words are that powerful!"

**We can't control our mouths by ourselves, but the Lord is here to help us.**

Our part is to choose to let Jesus help us say good things. Verses 9-10 explain, "We use our tongue to praise God our Father and then turn around and curse a person who was made in his very image! Out of the same mouth we pour out words of praise one minute and curses the next.... This should never be!"

Can you choose with me, Superkid? Let's do this!

**Step 1, You Choose:** How will I use my words, my mouth? I will use my words to create good things in my life and in the lives of others.

**Step 2, You Give:** Give your mouth, your tongue, your words to Jesus to bring life. Allow Him to use **your** mouth to bless, to help, to bring joy and laughter to others.

**Step 3, You Submit:** Jesus, You are my Teacher, Lord and Master. Correct me when I start to say things that tear down. Give me words to say that build up.

**Step 4, You Think:** Get in the habit of thinking before you speak. What will these words do?

Your words are like building blocks that snap together to make things. Day after day we use 7,000 to 20,000 words! What could you build with that many blocks? Let's build great things with our words!

**I'm sure your parents or siblings can help you catch yourself speaking negative or hurtful things.**

When I was a kid, we "helped" each other in our family to use our words on purpose. It became like a game to us! My brother, John, and I loved it when we got to correct our parents when they made bad word choices.

That doesn't mean just when someone uses a curse word. It also means when something is said that you **don't** want to happen, but you say it anyway like, "I never get to have fun" or "I can't do my math right" or "I'm so stupid!" These statements may not seem evil, but your enemy will use them, day after day, one block after another, to bring trouble into your life.

**But Superkid, WE SAY, "NO MORE!"** Our words belong to Jesus and we use them for good! We are masters of OUR mouths!

**Word!**

COMMANDER KELLIE



*Me with my parents, Kenneth and Gloria, and my brother, John*



# Testimonies of Real-Life VICTORY™

## The Blessing of Partnership

My wife and I contacted the KCM prayer line for agreement that we would get an offer on our home. The person prayed that Jesus would be our realtor. We also sowed a seed that night to KCM. Just four days later, we had an offer on our house and have now closed on the sale. Thank God for the blessing that comes through partnership.

M.J. | Grovetown, Ga.

## More Bulldog Faith

I've been watching *Bulldog Faith* by Gloria and Pastor George for a second time, and it's having an even greater effect on me. Thanks so much for your faith and encouragement.

J.W. | Wimauma, Fla.

## 'Liver Transplant From the Lord'

The liver specialist said that my wife had received a new liver according to the test and liver scan. We knew this when I laid hands on her and took authority over 30 years of hepatitis C and B, commanding them to leave in Jesus' Name. A liver transplant from the Lord Jesus!

We praise and thank God for you. We are continually in the Word of God with the CDs, MP3s and books we've received from you, and have been growing in faith as we keep immersing our spirits with the Word. Jesus is our Lord and Savior, and the faithful High Priest of our confession.

S.L. | Canada

“Jesus never reminds you of your sin. He wiped it out.”

—Kenneth Copeland

## God's Truth Brings Blessings

In January 2020, my wife and I started to tithe correctly and give financially to KCM. We decided to stand in faith for a new roof. My wife ran into a friend and mentioned what we were believing for. God kept us in her mind for days and she felt the Lord was leading her and her husband to pay for it. Praise Jesus! We got a new roof and two new garage doors—all fully paid! God has blessed us so much financially in just a few months. Thank you for being faithful to teach God's truth on prosperity! C.A. | Katy, Texas

## Set Free!

My parole board hearing went amazing—Jesus was with me for sure. I am leaving prison soon, and am thinking Bible college is in my future. Thank you for all the encouragement along the way. Jesus is Lord! C.W. | Utah

## On Fire for God

Many years ago, I was in a dark place and didn't think anyone would care. But I wrote to participate in your Bible study and you mailed me information faithfully. I felt the love of God through those mailings, and

started learning and believing more and more. Today, I'm on fire for Christ, evangelizing everywhere I go. God is the reason I live. I love your ministry.

C.C. | Highland, N.Y.

## Living in THE BLESSING

I've been living in a homeless shelter for the past six months. I began to get hold of the Word and started confessing Deuteronomy 28, THE BLESSING, over my life, and things started happening. I reached out and partnered with KCM in prayer, and the next day I received word that I am signing papers to move into my new apartment! God is amazing, and I know my best days are yet to come!

J.P. | Sandusky, Mich.

## 'Just Believe'

I had a cyst on my ankle for years. I could have had surgery on it, but believed God would heal it. I was watching you on TV when Billy Burke said, "Believe, just believe." It dropped into my spirit, and I heard God say, *Your ankle is healed!* I have had pain for years in that ankle. Not anymore! Praise the Lord forevermore!

K.H. | Chandler, Texas

## God of the Impossible

We were in a court battle for 3½ years for our goddaughter. As a Partner, I was watching a teaching by Kenneth Copeland when, in the midst of his message, he said: "God did not give you those children for them to be taken away from you." I knew that word was for me. God did just what He said. The judge signed the decree for adoption and now our goddaughter is permanently our daughter. What we were told was impossible, God made possible.

D.S. | Waycross, Ga.





## SALVATION PRAYER

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

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

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

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UK time: 9.30 - 16.20



### **Increased in Many Ways**

We have been listening to George and Gloria's broadcasts since they began. My husband and I made a decision to get out of debt, and eventually we did. We also built and gained income from a rental home, while my husband began a new career. Almost 10 years later we

are out of debt and have increased our income. And our family, once broken apart, is healing and being restored back to us. We thank God every day for the teachings that we have received from KCM.

D.M. | Issaquah, Wash.

by Terri Copeland Pearsons



# PRAYERS WITH PUNCH START WITH POSITION

**IMAGINE** getting up early one morning to get away to your prayer closet.

You slip out of bed, feel your way through the dark and somewhat sluggishly settle in to that familiar place where you “meet with God” for a few quiet moments before the sun comes up.

This morning, however, is not the same.

You gently turn the knob, as you’ve done so many times before, and open the door for a time of intimacy with Him. But this time you’re met with a blasting voice that knocks you to your face.

When you finally come to your senses, that same voice—which sounds like the waters of a rushing, mighty river—beckons you, “Come up!”

*Come up...to where?* your mind asks.

Suddenly, you’re jolted again. Intense, blazing torches and flashes of lightning fill the air, followed by peals of thunder and lingering rumblings. Visions of kingly men in golden crowns and science-fiction-like creatures cause you to blink your eyes to see if this is all real.

But you know it’s real the moment your eyes settle on the one central figure, as described by the Apostle John:

Clothed with a robe which reached to His feet and with a girdle of gold about His breast. His head and His hair were white like white wool, [as white] as snow, and His eyes [flashed] like a flame of fire. His feet glowed like burnished (bright) bronze as it is refined in a furnace....



Terri Copeland Pearsons, the eldest daughter of Kenneth Copeland, is chief of staff of Kenneth Copeland Ministries and president of Kenneth Copeland Bible College™. Along with her husband, George Pearsons, she is also senior pastor of Eagle Mountain International Church at KCM in Fort Worth.

And from His mouth there came forth a sharp two-edged sword, and His face was like the sun shining in full power at midday (Revelation 1:13-16, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

That’s right. It’s Jesus. And He’s standing right in the middle of *your* prayer closet.

Is it a dream? Maybe a vision?

Not quite. Read Revelation 4.

It’s simply a “day in the life” of the throne room of God.

## Take Your Place of Authority

Imagine having an experience as dynamic as this every time you open the door to your prayer closet. Think of how it would revolutionize not only your prayer time, but especially the results that would follow! Knowing your place of authority, and taking it, make a world of difference when it comes to praying.

Ephesians 2:6 explains that place of authority like this: “And [God] raised us up together with [Jesus] and made us sit down together [giving us *joint seating with Him*] in the heavenly sphere [by virtue of our being] in Christ Jesus (the Messiah, the Anointed One).”

God has given us a real seat, or place of authority, in Him. And it’s not just a place for us to sit so we don’t have to stand. No, it is a position of authority and dominion from which we are to rule.

We often hear about someone having a “seat” on a board of directors. We say that person *sits* on the board. It could be for a school, a corporation or maybe a church.

The same applies to state and federal legislators. In the United States we say they have a *seat* in the House or a *seat* in the Senate. It is a position or place of authority from which those elected officials exercise their authority.

It’s no different for us, as believers. In fact, we hold a seat of even greater authority because Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father, which is the seat of *all* authority, and we are seated with Him.

Before He left this earth, Jesus told His disciples, “All authority (all power of rule) in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go then and make disciples of all the nations” (Matthew 28:18-19). In other words, all that authority and power to rule was invested in Jesus. Then He turned around and handed it over to us, which was God’s plan from the very beginning.

What’s more, when Adam walked this earth, his God-given authority only covered this earthly realm. And he only exercised very little of that, because it

“The position you take in prayer determines the outcome of your prayers.”



wasn't long before he relinquished his authority to the devil by disobeying, thus rebelling against God.

But when Jesus came on the scene, and paid the price to take back that authority, He not only recovered Adam's authority over the earth realm—He also went into the pit of hell and seized authority over that realm, as well.

Before He was through, Jesus regained authority over the heavens, the earth and hell itself. Then He empowered us with that same authority, which we are to exercise under His direction.

### Squeezing Out the Fear

So, how do we exercise this awesome authority to rule in heaven and on earth—especially in prayer?

Like everything else in the kingdom of God, we do it by faith.

Some believers think they take their highest place of authority in prayer when they march around in their prayer closets, stomp the floor and yell at the devil, *"I take authority over you, you wicked spirit!"* And certainly, authority can be released in that.

But exercising the authority that Ephesians 2:6 describes goes much further than that. It is a knowing not so much in the head, but by the spirit. And it has everything to do with *position*.

Let's say the Holy Spirit brings a situation to mind that He wants you to pray about—the nation's economy, for instance. Just the week before, your spouse was laid off work and the pantry is nearly empty. So, sure, you are more than glad to pray about the national economy.

The challenge is, will you pray from the right position?

You could easily find yourself praying from a place of being *under* the pressure of the situation—a position *beneath* your God-given authority. Or, by an act of your faith, you can pray from a place *above* the pressure—where you belong. Then the circumstances must change to fall in line with God's will because someone in a position of authority—that's you—says so!

Obviously, this is the time when *faith-filled* words need to pour out of your mouth—not *faith-sounding* words that are really full of fear, words that get squeezed out of you once panic sets in over a situation.

The point is, the position you take in prayer determines the outcome of your prayers.

Any time you pray *faith-sounding* words that are actually motivated by fear, you are praying from a position that is beneath your true seat of authority. And that will get you nothing. Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24 describes your position like this:

You have not come [as did the Israelites in the wilderness] to a [material] mountain that can be touched, [a mountain] that is ablaze with fire, and to gloom and darkness and a raging storm, and

Some believers think they take their highest place of authority in prayer when they march around in their prayer closets, stomp the floor and yell at the devil.

to the blast of a trumpet and a voice whose words make the listeners beg that nothing more be said to them.... You have come to Mount Zion, even to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to countless multitudes of angels in festal gathering... and to the God Who is Judge of all...and to Jesus, the Mediator...of a new covenant.

God has authorized us to sit in heavenly places with Him in the Anointed Jesus. So the call to us today is, *Come up!*

*Come up* to a higher awareness of your rightful position at the very throne of God.

*Come up* and begin to pray from a position that is *above* the circumstances of this world—and not beneath. ▼

## WORDS OF FAITH

Whatever is in your heart in abundance comes out of your mouth, so keep your heart filled with God's Word.  
John 15:7

For God's will to manifest in your life, you must speak His Word by faith. 2 Cor. 4:13

When you complain and speak unbelief like the world does, your words work against you.  
1 Cor. 10:10



God's will is for you to walk in the BLESSINGS of heaven even while you're still living in this world. Deut. 11:21



by Gloria  Copeland

“  
*We don't have any  
business thinking and  
doing things the same  
way the wicked and  
unrighteous do! We're  
from above.*  
”



# His Higher Ways

DID YOU KNOW THAT IF YOU'VE BEEN BORN AGAIN,  
YOU ARE NOT OF THIS WORLD?

YOU'RE *IN* THE WORLD, CERTAINLY. YOU HAVE CONTACT WITH IT IN THE NATURAL BECAUSE YOU'RE LIVING ON THE EARTH. BUT SPIRITUALLY YOU'RE NO LONGER UNDER THE WORLD'S DOMINION. YOU'RE NOT SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS AND IMPOSSIBILITIES OF ITS SIN-DARKENED SYSTEM.



You're a citizen of heaven! You've been delivered from the darkness of this world and translated into the kingdom of the Son of God's love (Colossians 1:13). Your Father is Almighty God and He is unlimited. All things are possible to Him, and by faith in Him all things are possible to you too. You just have to believe it and operate according to His system.

God's system is nothing like the world's system. The world is all messed up. It follows after the devil, so its ways are as twisted as he is.

Where finances are concerned, for example, God says, "Give Me the first 10% of your income and I'll see to it that you prosper richly. Give and it shall be given to you again!" But the world says the exact opposite. It says, "Put yourself first, get all you can and then hang onto it. Take care of yourself above all because if you don't no one else will."

I remember one time when Ken and I were driving through a big city during the lunch hour. I looked at all the people hurrying along the sidewalk, going to and from their jobs, and I realized that without God people have no other alternative than to keep pushing to make the world's system work for them. They spend their whole lives working for things like food, clothing and shelter. Then, they wake up one day and realize their life is almost over.

*When was I ever supposed to live?* they think. *All I've done all these years is go to work and come home, go to work and come home. Shouldn't there be more to life than that?*

Of course there should. And in God's system there is!

He has a wonderful plan for our lives. His plan is for us to focus on Him, do what He's called us to do and be a BLESSING to others. Rather than us having to spend all our time trying to meet our own needs, His plan is for us to fulfill our divine destiny, while trusting Him to see to it that we are abundantly BLESSED.

That's what Jesus was telling us to do in Matthew 6 when He said:

Do not worry and be anxious, saying, What are we going to have to eat? or, What are we going to have to drink? or, What are we going to have to wear? For the Gentiles (heathen) wish for and crave and diligently seek all these things, and your heavenly Father knows well that you need them all. But seek (aim at and strive after) first of all His kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these things taken together will be given you besides (verses 31-33, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

Notice the phrase, **HIS WAY OF DOING AND BEING RIGHT**. That's a good definition of God's system. His system is how He does things. It's how He operates and how His kingdom works.

Sadly, a lot of believers don't know much about that. They're citizens of God's kingdom because they've been born again. They love God and go to church, but because all they've ever heard is religious tradition, they've never learned God's kingdom ways.

As a result, although they look forward to going to heaven when they die, they don't experience "days of heaven upon the earth" (Deuteronomy 11:21). Thinking they're still subject to this world's sin-cursed system, they just keep slaving away under it. They keep trying to make it work for them just like unbelievers do.

That's not how Christians are meant to live. We're supposed to live like Jesus did when He was in this world.

He did things His heavenly Father's way! He said what He heard His Father say, did what He saw His Father do, and got His Father's results. He operated in a completely different way than the unbelievers around Him, and when they wanted to know why, He told them it was because "you are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world" (John 8:23, *New King James Version*).

### Separated by the Word

"But Gloria, Jesus could say that because, as the Son of God, He really is from above."

Yes, and you are too if you're a believer. Jesus said so Himself. In John 17:14, when He was praying for all who would ever believe on Him, He said, "I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world" (*NKJV*).

Think about that! According to Jesus, you're not of this world any more than He is. Like Him, you are from above. Why? Because He gave you His Word and you received it. You heard and acted on what Romans 10:8 calls "the word of faith, which we preach." Verses 9-10 continue: "That 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. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

That's not just how the new birth is received. It's how we receive everything from God. We receive healing, prosperity and everything else we need to live a BLESSED life by believing, speaking and obeying God's Word.

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# “You’re not subject to the limitations and impossibilities of [the world’s] sin-darkened system.”

His Word is the basis of His entire system. He does everything by speaking faith-filled words. We see in Genesis 1, that’s how He created this universe. When there was nothing but darkness on the face of the deep, God said by faith, “Let there be light: and there was light” (verse 3).

We still have light today, thousands of years later, because God’s words are eternal. Once they come out of His mouth, they’re like a blood-sworn oath. They’re true forever.

Hebrews 4:12 says, “The Word that God speaks is alive and full of power...active, operative, energizing, and effective” (*AMPC*), and it never loses that power. So, when we get His words on the inside of us in such abundance that they come out of our mouths by faith, they work for us just like they do for Him. They change our circumstances. They change our relationships. They drive sickness out of our bodies. They overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles in our lives.

Ken and I can testify to this!

When we first heard about living by faith in God’s Word, we were in pitiful shape. Financially broke and in debt, we’d done everything we knew to make the world’s system work for us and had failed miserably. As soon as we got on God’s system, however, things started to change. We started believing and saying what Jesus says about us in the Bible, and even before anything changed outwardly, on the inside we began to see ourselves with our needs met.

We replaced what had been in our hearts, minds and mouths with what the Word says belongs to us. So we began to envision ourselves moving out of that dumpy, little house we were living in and moving into something better. With the eye of faith, we saw ourselves driving a car that wouldn’t quit on us, instead of driving an old clunker.

It didn’t happen overnight, but in a surprisingly short span of time, what we’d seen in our hearts became a physical reality. We literally saw, in the natural, the Word come to pass in our lives.

Praise God, we’ve come a long way since those early days! Back then, we were believing for food on our table and money to pay the light bill; now we’re believing for millions of dollars to broadcast the gospel around the world. Yet we’re still doing it the same way—by believing, speaking and obeying God’s Word.

That’s God’s system, and it always works. No matter what challenges you may be facing or what your situation, if you put God first and do things His way, He can get you whatever you need.

He isn’t confined by natural constraints like the world is. His ways are supernatural. What the world sees as impossible, He is well able to do. Isaiah 55:8-11 says:



**1**

**The system of this world is corrupt because it is under the influence of the devil.**

(Rev. 12:9)

**2**

**As believers we have been redeemed from that devilish system by God.**

(Col. 1:13)

**3**

**You’re from above just as Jesus told the unbelievers He was, when He was on the earth.**

(John 8:23)

**4**

**God’s Word enabled you to be born again, and will enable you to live and operate like He does.**

(John 17:14)

**5**

**When you keep God’s Word in your heart and in your mouth, it always comes to pass in your life.**

(Isa. 55:11)

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

### Live Like a Member of God's Royal Family

"But isn't that passage saying that because God's thoughts and ways are higher than ours, we can't operate like He does?" you might ask.

On the contrary, it's actually telling us to do so. As verse 7 puts it, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD."

As believers, we don't have any business thinking and doing things the same way the wicked and unrighteous do! We're from above. We're born to operate like God does because we're His children.

Imagine you were the child of the queen of England. Wouldn't you expect to learn the ways of royalty? Wouldn't you expect to live a royal lifestyle?

Sure you would. You don't envision Prince Charles having to be concerned about his light bill. So, as a child of God, you shouldn't envision yourself having to be concerned about yours either.

You're a member of God's royal family. You don't have to worry about things like what you're going to eat or drink or wear. You don't have to put up with lack like the world does. You can live in God's system.

You can put Him first and cast all your care over on Him, knowing that He cares for and watches over you affectionately. You can continue in His Word, and as Jesus said, "If ye continue in my word...ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32).

I like being free! I like being able to live according to the truth of God's Word and not having to depend on myself for all my answers. I like having a God in heaven who loves me and

is always in the throne room, ready to respond when I call on Him in faith.

That's something the world doesn't offer. Its system is so cold and impersonal, that these days, when you try to do business over the telephone, you can't even talk to an actual human being. Instead, you get a recording. If you want this, "Press 1." If you want that, "Press 2."

You'll never get that from God.

He's always on duty. He's always listening for the Name of Jesus and for the Word of faith to come out of our mouths. For that matter, so are His angels. Assigned to us by God (Hebrews 1:14), they're always with us, "hearkening unto the voice of [God's] word" that comes out of our mouths (Psalm 103:20).

In God's system, everything begins and ends with His Word! First, we receive His words and believe them (which means we accept them as truth and treat as lies everything that contradicts them). Second, we bring our words into agreement with His words.

We don't speak God's words half the time and then the rest of the time speak words of doubt and unbelief. We talk the Word consistently in faith, without wavering. For as James 1:6-8 says: "...he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways."

Is it easy to be stable and single-minded in standing on the Word when you're facing contrary circumstances? No. To do it, you must keep hearing and hearing the Word of God until you hear more of the Word than you hear unbelief—and in this world, that's a job!

People all around us are talking negatively. They're speaking fear and doom, and they have no answers. When we turn on the news, the reporters and pundits are telling us how bad things are and warning us they're going to get worse. And in a sense, they're right. Things will get worse in this world before Jesus returns, because this world is yielding to the devil and he's taking things downhill.

But thank God, as believers, we are not of this world. We're from above, so we can live in an entirely different system. We can seek first the kingdom of God and His way of doing and being right. We can fill our hearts and our mouths with His words and mount up on wings like eagles by living in God's higher ways. 🕊



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# JOY



**Whether you realize it or not,** you need the joy of The LORD. Everything in you is crying out for it. You may have tried to satisfy yourself with superficial substitutes like money, social position, success, even drugs, alcohol, illicit sex or overeating. If you have, you know that ultimately those things leave you unfulfilled. The happiness they bring quickly vanishes. And you're left once again with that deep inner longing for something more.

Joy. Your entire being craves it. Why? Because if you're to keep on living, you need strength, and the joy of The LORD is your strength (Nehemiah 8:10). Every fiber of your being is crying out for strength because you live in a world that is flowing in a negative direction.

The human race without Jesus is going toward death. In order to reach toward life, you must turn around to go upstream. And it takes a lot of strength to row upstream. It takes effort not to live the way the world lives—in doubt, fear, poverty and failure.

All you have to do to get in doubt and unbelief is relax your faith in God a little. The negative tide of this world will just sweep you downstream.

Poverty comes just as easily! All you have to do to be poor is to go to bed. The Bible says, "A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to lie down and sleep—so will your poverty come like a robber..." (Proverbs 6:10-11, *Amplified Bible*). Prosperity takes hard work and diligence. You can't get it by sleeping your life away.

To resist poverty, fear, doubt and disease demands strength—lots of it! That's why your entire being continually cries out for strength.

If you don't stay alert, Satan will take advantage of

that need and lie to you. He'll tell you that strength is in dope. He'll tell you it's in alcohol. He'll tell you it's in food. He'll tell you that it's in sex.

Now sex is a good thing, but God didn't design it to live on. When people get it out of its proper perspective, it'll destroy them like a rattlesnake.

“

***To resist poverty, fear, doubt and disease demands strength—lots of it!***

”

Death is connected to adultery. It doesn't bring life and peace. Adultery produces death and destruction.

The strength you really need can only come from one source: the joy of The LORD. Joy is the strength you need to go upstream in a downstream world. So now the questions arise, where does joy come from, and how do I release it?

Joy comes from The WORD of God. Galatians 5:22 shows us joy is a fruit of the spirit. It is a spiritual force born into the spirit of man at the time of conversion along with faith, love, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, meekness and temperance. It's really not something we have to "get." It's already in every born-again believer.

Because of its kinship to faith, it's easy to apply many of the same verses that talk about faith



There is no condition of the body, no mental condition...no social situation, no political problem that will be able to keep you down.



to joy. Romans 10:17, "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Joy also comes by hearing The WORD. First John 1:4 lets us know that. So, joy is a product of The WORD like everything else that comes from God. Don't look for it to come from other sources. It's inside you—look there as you meditate The WORD.

Joy comes from a revelation of Jesus, which is a revelation of the Father—Almighty God. I discovered this vital truth by meditating the things Jesus told His disciples just before He went to the cross.

At the end of His earthly ministry, The LORD made the following statement to His disciples. He astounded them by saying, "It is expedient [or more profitable] for you that I go away" (John 16:7).

You have to understand why those men were so astonished by this statement. It was difficult for them to believe that it was better for them if Jesus left. While He was in their midst their every need was met. He calmed the storms. He fed the multitudes with a few loaves and fishes. He raised the dead and healed the sick. Obviously, while He was with them everything was better than it had ever been before. Yet, Jesus said, "It is better for you that I go away."

Let's continue reading and find out why. Beginning again with John 16:7, "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter [or Helper] will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you." Now, verses 13-15: "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and

shall show it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall show it unto you."

Then in verses 22-25:

And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you. And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall show you plainly of the Father.

Notice in these statements how Jesus connected knowing the Father with the joy of The LORD. He knows that joy is the result of the Father being revealed. And when joy rises, there is strength (Nehemiah 8:10).

So, how are we going to know and understand the Father? Philip asked Jesus this very question. He said, "How are you going to show us the Father?" And Jesus replied, "If you have seen Me, you have seen the Father." To get a revelation of the Father, you need to look at Jesus.

The LORD spoke to Oral Roberts several years ago and said, *You'll know Me better than you know any man if you will read Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and the book of Acts three times in 30 days, and do it on your knees.* And 30 days later Brother Roberts said, "I know Jesus Christ of Nazareth more intimately than any person on earth."

Jesus revealed Himself to Brother Roberts in and through The WORD of God. When he saw



Jesus, he saw the Father.

You can come to know Him in that same way. Jesus has made that promise to everyone who keeps His WORD. In John 14:21-23 He says, “He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest [or reveal] myself to him.... If a man love me, he will keep my words.”

God’s fundamental method of revealing Himself is through *The WORD*. “And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full” (1 John 1:4). If you will purposely search The WORD of God for a revelation of Jesus and a revelation of the Father, the joy of The LORD will arise in your heart. And if you will stay with it, there is no condition of the body, no mental condition, no spiritual condition, no social situation, no political problem that will be able to keep you down. People every day are searching for this kind of victory and strength. They seek it everywhere except where it can really be found—in The WORD of God, fellowshiping with Jesus and the Father.

God also reveals Himself through the gifts of the Spirit. Didn’t Jesus say that the Spirit was coming to reveal the Father? So, that means that when the Spirit manifests Himself, the Father is revealed.

A doctor friend of mine was operating on a young boy who had a tumor on his brain stem. This doctor approached the operation in an attitude of prayer. He was praying in other tongues the whole time he was in surgery. When he started to make an incision to remove that tumor, he heard the voice of God. The LORD said, *Wait, don’t do that. You’re cutting in the wrong place.*

Right there in the midst of an operating room a word of wisdom was manifested! The Father revealed Himself! He told the doctor exactly how far he needed to move his knife over in order to make the incision in the right place. The doctor said later that if he had made the incision where he had started to, the boy would have died.

That word of wisdom made the surgery a success. It brought great joy to that boy and his parents. The Father revealing Himself through that gift of the Spirit made the difference between life and death, and the result was joy. Hallelujah!

How do I release joy? Since it’s already in my spirit and The WORD feeds it and energizes it, then it must be released. How? One way is through praise. God inhabits the praise of His people.

Psalm 16:11 says, “In thy presence is fulness of joy.” Psalm 42:4 says, “I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise.” Joy is released with the voice. Like faith, it is released with words. God’s words of joy spoken with our mouths stir and release *His* joy from within us, bringing the strength that we must have from the Spirit of God.

Jeremiah 31:13 says, “Rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together: for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow.” Joy is released when we dance before God in praise and worship. Joy is also released in prayer. The Apostle Paul said in Philippians 1:4 that he made request with joy. When we find the answer in God’s WORD to what we are about to pray and then meditate on it until it penetrates our hearts and minds, the joy of The LORD begins to be stirred up in us. As it is being stirred, we release it in prayer and supplication along with faith. Then comes the thanksgiving and praise. Then comes the shout for joy. Then the dance of joy. Strength is being applied in many directions to solve many problems. No wonder Satan falls back at the presence of God.

So then, joy is not only a great blessing, but it is also a weapon of tremendous strength. However, like all



***God’s words of joy spoken with our mouths stir and release His joy from within us, bringing the strength that we must have from the Spirit of God.***



weapons of our warfare, it must be used as an act of faith in Jesus’ WORD rather than how we might feel at the time. He said His joy was ours. I believe it! It is fruit born in our inner man. I believe it! It’s mine! So, I’ll praise whether I feel like it or not—all the while expecting joy to do its work. Let’s put this mighty force to work in our lives and bring strength not only for ourselves but others as well.

Rejoice! And again I say, rejoice! 🎉

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