



KENNETH
COPELAND
MINISTRIES

BELIEVER'S VOICE OF

VICTORY

JULY 2023

P.10

*"I pray that
I'll be remembered,
not for my voice—
but for my love."*

The Sound of Miracles

When the devil tried
to destroy his ministry,
RayGene Wilson
recalled what
Kenneth E. Hagin once
told him: "He's after the
anointing.... Let the Lord
fight the battle. Keep your
love walk at all costs!"

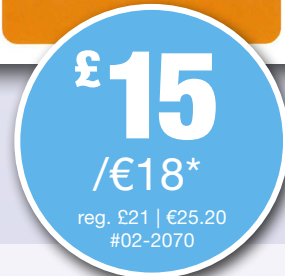
Living In The Blessing

6 Messages on 8 CDs
by Kenneth Copeland

God's perfect will for all people for all time is: "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish"—or fill up—"the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth" (Genesis 1:28). Everything else in the Bible relates to these words because God intended for every living thing to be blessed.

Living and walking in a Garden of Eden all the days of your life is God's will for you. This eye-opening series from Kenneth Copeland will help you understand what it takes to get there and stay there.

Learn to start living in The Blessing—TODAY!



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Editor's Letter



Come See a Man!

Likely, you're familiar with these words from John 4 in the story of Jesus' encounter with a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. In short, it relates how Jesus, tired and weary after traveling from Judea, was resting by the well near Samaria when a woman came to get water from the well.

Here's how John describes part of the encounter in verses 7-20, *New Living Translation*:

"Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Please give me a drink....' She said to Jesus, 'You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are you asking me for a drink?' Jesus replied, 'If you only knew the gift God has for you and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water.'

"But sir, you don't have a rope or a bucket... and this well is very deep. Where would you get this living water?....' Jesus replied, 'Anyone who drinks this water will soon become thirsty again. But those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again. It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life.'

"Please, sir,' the woman said, 'give me this water! Then I'll never be thirsty again, and I won't have to come here to get water.'

"Go and get your husband,' Jesus told her.

"I don't have a husband,' the woman replied.

"Jesus said, 'You're right! You don't have a husband—for you have had five husbands, and you aren't even married to the man you're living with now. You certainly spoke the truth!'

"Sir,' the woman said, 'you must be a prophet.'"

The Bible says the woman, who was surprised that Jesus, whom she had never met, knew so much about her, "left her water jar beside the well and ran back to the village, telling everyone, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did!'"

Here at KCM, we are connected to a great prophet of God in Kenneth Copeland. When you join us July 31-Aug. 5 at the Southwest Believers' Convention, you'll not only hear what God is saying to His people through Brother Copeland, but you'll also receive encouraging words from God delivered by a host of anointed ministers of the gospel.

That's why I hope you're planning to come be with us at the Fort Worth Convention Center in downtown Fort Worth, Texas, and become immersed in the blessed preaching, teaching and fellowship that always takes place in these six-day meetings.

Come see what the Lord is doing, and hear what He is saying to His people. I look forward to seeing you there!

Ronald C. Jordan
Managing Editor

KCM EUROPE



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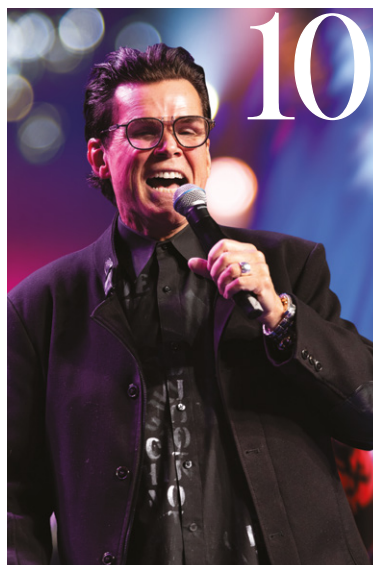
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"I thank God for the gift of music and the doors it opened for me."

—RayGene Wilson

Share this magazine on to a family member or friend.



When The LORD first spoke to us about starting the *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine, He said: *This is your seed. Give it to everyone who ever responds to your ministry, and don't ever allow anyone to pay for a subscription to it.*

For 50 years it has been our joy to bring you good news through the teachings of ministers who write out of living contact with God, and the testimonies of believers who took God at His WORD and experienced His victory in everyday life.

—Kenneth & Gloria Copeland

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Director of Communications/
Laura O'Brien
Managing Editor/Ronald C. Jordan
Assistant Editor/Ashley Ngole
Writers/Melanie Hemry
Gina Lynnes David S. Winston
Proofreaders/Jean DeLong
Michelle Harris Karen Wirkkala
Senior Designer/Michael Augustat
Project Manager/Deborah Brister
Type Coordinator/Joyce Glasgow




Plug Into the

Power



by Kenneth Copeland



I've never met a Christian who didn't believe God could **heal** them. Most will quickly agree that He has the power.

Usually, the only questions they have are: *Can I actually access that power?* and *Is healing always God's will?* Or more to the point, *Is it always His will to heal me?*

Those are important questions, and—praise God—the Bible answers each of them with an emphatic, resounding **YES!**

From beginning to end it tells us that God has always included healing in the covenants He made with His people. He even included healing in one of His seven redemptive Names. He said in Exodus 15:26, “I am the Lord Who heals you” (*Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*), or in other words, I am Jehovah Rapha.

If that was all He'd ever said about it (and it's not!) it would be enough. We'd be certain that it's His will to heal us because for Him to cease at any point to be The LORD who heals us, He'd have to change His Name—and that's not going to happen. It can't, because that would mean He'd have to change, and He said in Malachi 3:6, “I am the LORD, I change not.”

Jesus' brother James confirmed this

when he wrote that with God there “is no variableness, neither shadow of turning” (James 1:17). What did he mean by *shadow of turning*? Think about a sundial. Depending on the time of day, the shadows on it change. When there's no shadow on the sundial at all, you know it's noon.

With God, it's noon all the time! He is Light. In Him there is no darkness at all, and He never varies. So, if He was ever *The LORD who heals*, He still is!

To see more evidence of it, look in the Gospels at the ministry of Jesus. He is “the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.” He's the “express image” of the Father, so He never changes (Hebrews 13:8, 1:3). As the angel said to the disciples who witnessed Jesus' ascension, “This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go” (Acts 1:11).

For Him to be *this same Jesus* He must still be saying and doing the same things today by His Spirit that He did during His earthly ministry. What did He say and do about healing people then? Matthew 8 tells us.

When a man with leprosy came to Him and said, “Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.... Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will.” One translation of the Bible quotes Jesus as saying, “Of course I will!” (verses 2–3), and immediately the man’s leprosy was cleansed.

If it was Jesus’ will to heal then, it’s still His will to heal now. It has to be, because He’s still the same.

“But Brother Copeland, how do we know it wasn’t just His will to heal that particular man?”

By reading the rest of Matthew 8. It tells us that after the man with leprosy was healed, another man (a Roman centurion) asked Jesus to heal his servant. Using almost the same words He used before, Jesus said, “I will come and heal him” (verse 7).

After that, Jesus went to Peter’s house, where Peter’s mother-in-law was lying sick with a great fever, and healed her. Then, “when the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick” (verse 16).

Look at that verse again. It says Jesus healed all the sick people who came to Him for healing that day. All of them! He never turned away one person who came to Him to receive healing. Not one.

“Great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all” (Matthew 12:15).

Everywhere, Always, Heal the People

Why did Jesus heal all? Because, as He put it:

My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work (John 4:34).

I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me (John 5:30).

For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me (John 6:38).

Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God (Hebrews 10:7).

In other words, Jesus healed all because it’s God’s will for all to be healed! Although not everyone will reach out to Him by faith and receive it, healing is God’s will for everyone, especially His covenant people. As The LORD said to Gloria many years ago when He first told her to begin teaching Healing School at our Believers’ Conventions, *I want My people well!*

In the Gospels, not only do we see God heal people through the ministry of Jesus, but we also see His healing will revealed in what Jesus told His first disciples. When He sent out the 12, Matthew 10 says, He gave them power “to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease,” and said to them, “...go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give” (verses 1, 7–8).

When the job got so big the first 12 disciples needed help, “The LORD appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.” Before they went, He gave them the same command: “Into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you... heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you” (Luke 10:1, 8–9).

God’s will and Jesus’ instructions in those verses are crystal clear: *Everywhere, always, heal the people. Get someone well!*

That’s a lot like the mandate God originally gave Brother Oral Roberts.



POINTS
TO GET
YOU
THERE:

1

God is so committed to healing you that He included healing in one of His covenant Names. (Ex. 15:26, *AMPC*)

2

For God to cease to be The LORD who heals us, He’d have to change His Name, and that’s not going to happen. (Mal. 3:6)

3

Jesus healed everyone who came to Him for healing and He never changes. (Heb. 13:8)

4

When you received Jesus as LORD, the same Holy Spirit who empowered Jesus to heal the sick came to live in you. (Acts 10:38)

5

It doesn’t matter what’s wrong with your body, the power of God’s Spirit within you is more than able to fix it. (Eph. 3:20–21)

Before God spoke to him as a teenager, he was dying of tuberculosis. Lying on his bed, next to a wall spattered with blood he'd coughed up; he'd wasted away to practically nothing but skin and bones. Despite his illness, however, and the stuttering that made it difficult for him to talk, his praying mother kept saying, "This boy is going to be a preacher!"

So, when a minister named Brother Muncey came to town, preaching healing inside a tent, Oral's brother, Baden, carried him to the car and took him to the meeting. On the way, Oral heard the voice of The LORD. *I am going to heal you*, He said, *and you are going to take My healing power to your generation*.

Sure enough, Oral Roberts left that meeting healed, without a stutter and with healing on his heart and mind.

For a while, he pastored a small church in Enid, Okla. He preached healing to the people there but, although they listened and loved him, nothing happened. The only person healed was a man who had dropped a piece of machinery on his foot. When those who witnessed the accident saw blood pouring out of the man's boot, they sent for Brother Roberts, who rushed over to pray. The moment Brother Roberts touched the man's foot, the power of God came on him, and the man stood up completely healed.

"Oral, what did you do?" the man asked.

"I don't know!" he said.

He eventually became so desperate he could hardly sleep. The desire to see people healed totally took over his being. He dreamed about it. He cried for it. He prayed night after night about healing and nothing else until God's word to him came to pass. He preached to millions, laid hands on over 2 million people, and took God's healing power to his generation.

Above-All-You-Can-Ask-or-Think Power

Where did Brother Roberts get that burning desire to see people healed? Why was he so passionate about it? Because God is passionate about it. He is so committed to getting His healing power to us that He

included healing in the price Jesus paid for our redemption. As Isaiah 53 says:

Surely He has borne our griefs (sicknesses, weaknesses, and distresses) and carried our sorrows and pains [of punishment].... He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our guilt and iniquities; the chastisement [needful to obtain] peace and well-being for us was upon Him, and with the stripes [that wounded] Him we are healed and made whole (verses 4-5, *AMPC*).

Think of it! The God who calls Himself *The LORD Who Heals You* included healing in the New Covenant and backed that covenant with Jesus' blood! Then He had that covenant of healing written down for you in the Bible, so the same thing can be said of you that was written about the people in Psalm 107:20: "He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions."



Jesus hasn't changed, and neither has the Holy Spirit.

God's healing power operates today the same way it always has—only now it operates in and through us as believers.



What's more, when you were born again, God sent His own Spirit to live inside of you. That means you have access to the same healing power Jesus walked in when He was



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Victory Campaign
Nov. 9-11 | Omaha, Neb.

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speaking here:**

Word of Faith Convention
Aug. 9-11 | Southfield, Mich.
wordoffaith.cc

Upper Midwest Faith Explosion
Aug. 18 | Brooklyn Park, Minn.
lwcc.org

Schedule is subject to change without notice.

on earth. Jesus Himself said you do. Just before He went to the Cross, He told His disciples:

Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.... Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.... And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter (John 14:10, 12, 16).

The Comforter is the Holy Spirit! The third member of the Trinity, He brings the Father's power on the scene. Even Jesus couldn't heal people and work miracles until, after being baptized in the Jordan River, the Holy Spirit came upon Him. That's when, as Acts 10:38 says, "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil...."

Do you see it? It was by the power of the Holy Spirit that Jesus healed the multitudes!

"But Brother Copeland, that was thousands of years ago."

So? God hasn't changed. Jesus hasn't changed, and neither has the Holy Spirit. God's healing power operates today the same way it always has—only now it operates in and through us as believers.

In fact, let me share with you a recent testimony.

A while back, a little white spot about the size of a grain of rice showed up on my hand. I didn't pay any attention to it at first. But when it became itchy and sore, I went to the doctor to get it checked out. He did some tests and said, "It's malignant."

Totally unconcerned, I said, "OK, what do we do now?" He told me to go see a specialist, which I did. In the meantime, however, I called my pastor, George Pearsons. He and Terri came over to the house, we had Kellie and John on the phone so, along with Gloria and our very close friend Bebe, we could pray in agreement

together, and everyone was just as happy as could be.

Why were we happy? Because we know it's God's will to heal. We know He's provided us with a healing covenant that's backed up in Jesus' blood. We know the power of the Holy Spirit is within us; and we know how to plug into that power by faith.

After we all prayed in the spirit together and praised God, Pastor George opened his Bible to James 5:14-15. It says: "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him."

Acting on those instructions, Pastor George took the bottle of oil and put some on his finger. The instant he touched that spot on my hand, an electric shock shot through it. "Ha, ha, ha!" I said. "That did it!"

After that I didn't give it any more thought.

When I went back to the doctor, his plan was to shave fine layers of skin off that spot on my hand and keep testing them for cancer cells until they could find no more cancer. They'd told me to be prepared to stay for several hours.

After they shaved off the first sample and tested it, however, they came back in about 20 minutes.

"Mr. Copeland," they said, "there are no more cancer cells." So, they sewed up my hand, and that was the end of it.

God has healed me like that over the years, time and again—and He's willing and able to do the same for you. It doesn't matter what's wrong with your body; as the Apostle Paul said, God "is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us" (Ephesians 3:20).

Keep meditating on that until you are as sure that healing is yours as you are that two plus two equals four. Then take what belongs to you. Plug in by faith to the exceeding, abundant, above-all-you-can-ask-or-think power of the Holy Spirit within you and receive your healing... because God wants you well! 🙏

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Jesus and the Children!

Commander
Kellie's
Corner

"Picture Jesus expressing Himself fully through you. What would that look like?"

Being Commander Kellie isn't just a role or character I play. I believe part of God's assignment on my life is to think about you, pray for you, encourage and teach you.

There is a story in Isaiah I want you to know, because Jesus wants you to understand how important you are to Him—especially in the days ahead. Let me give you a little background.

Isaiah was an Old Testament prophet in the days before Jesus was born. God would speak to people through His prophets, and express not only His love and care for them but also His correction and displeasure. Many times, God would give the prophet instructions for the people but they would stubbornly refuse to listen.

To convince King Ahaz of His promise, the Lord used Isaiah's sons to let the king know that God would be with him in battle and that he would win. Isaiah said, "Behold, I and the children whom the LORD hath given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion" (Isaiah 8:18).

King Ahaz was too afraid of his enemies to believe that God could help him. He did not receive the word of the Prophet Isaiah or Isaiah's sons God had sent to him, as signs that he would win the battle. God had earlier offered him another special sign that he would win: God had said, through Isaiah, that a son would be born to a virgin and He would be called Emmanuel, God with us (Isaiah 7:1-14).

Anybody know who that baby was? Yes, it was Jesus!

King Ahaz refused to believe the sign of the Son of God, much less the sons of Isaiah and, you guessed it, he lost the battle.

Superkids, God sends His words by messengers, prophecies, signs and wonders so we will believe that He will do great things through His people. One other way He speaks to us about His plans is to point back to things that have already happened. We can read the Bible about the past and God will show us His plans for the future. For instance, the promise the Lord made to King Ahaz wasn't only for him. It was bigger than him. God's promise to send Jesus to the world was for all people!

That makes me realize that Isaiah's sons being called to be a sign and wonder wasn't just about King Ahaz. Isaiah and his children were a picture, or a prophecy, of Jesus and His children. The Bible says in Hebrews 2:11-13, *The Passion Translation*:

Jesus, the Holy One, makes us holy. And as sons and daughters, we now belong to his same Father, so he is not ashamed or embarrassed to introduce us as his brothers and sisters! For he has said, "I will reveal who you really are to my brothers and sisters, and I will glorify you with praises in the midst of the congregation." And, "My confidence rests in God!" And again he says, "Here I am, one with the children Yahweh has given me."

Jesus came so that you and I would be one with Him as sons and daughters of Father God. In reality, you and I are the children of God! Jesus claims us as His own when He says, "Here I am, one with the children Yahweh has given me." Just as Isaiah claimed his sons, Jesus is claiming us as His own. God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit put Their love, Their glory and Their light on you and marked you as Their own for all to see.

Picture Jesus expressing Himself fully through you. What would that look like? Write down some things you can see you and Jesus doing together. Remember why He uses a sign? To convince people of His love for them, to show them the way to come to Him. You are called to bring people face to face with the Jesus in you.

Superkid, I believe we have so much to learn and to do—not only *for* Jesus, but *with* Jesus. Psalm 71:18 is my prayer over my ministry to you (though He won't walk away and I'm not old!): "God, now that I'm old and gray, don't walk away. Give me grace to demonstrate to the next generation all your mighty miracles and your excitement, to show them your magnificent power!"

Everybody say AMEN!

Commander Kellie 📌

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

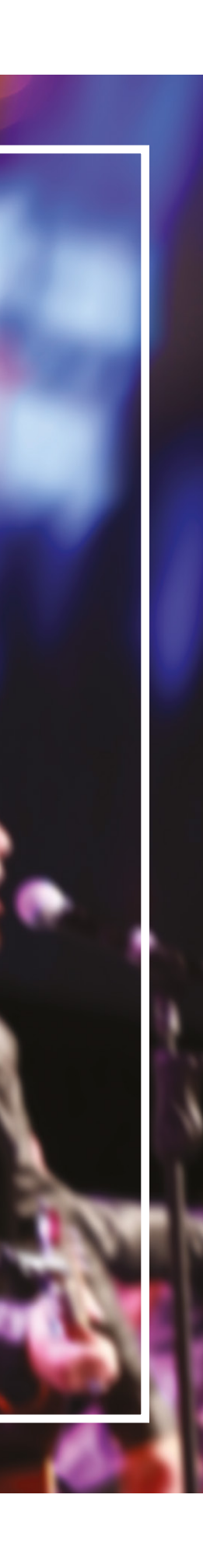


A full-page photograph of Ray G. Wilson, a man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a black suit jacket over a black shirt. He is singing passionately into a microphone, with his mouth open and eyes closed. The background is a blurred stage with colorful bokeh lights in shades of blue, purple, and pink. The title 'The Sound of Miracles' is overlaid in large white serif font on the left side of the image.

The Sound of Miracles

At age 14, RayGene Wilson had music coursing through his blood. His family's roots were in the rich, dark soil of the Appalachian Mountains in eastern Tennessee. Clannish and Southern, they'd always played music. Many times, using homemade instruments.

The Hensley family settlement in Cumberland Gap, Tenn., was now a state park. All the cabins and schools still stood among the American beech, yellow birch and maple trees. Although not open to the public, the park rangers let the family visit.



RayGene's immediate family had transplanted from the Cumberland Gap to Delphi, Ind. His dad was a newspaper man. His mother worked as a seamstress. He and his four sisters were raised in the Baptist church.

At the tender age of 13, RayGene had started singing country music. Still in school, he traveled, singing at public events. At 14, he'd given his life to Jesus. That's when his music morphed. The majority of his music was still country, but he added gospel.

Lonzo and Oscar were a country music duo and members of the Grand Ole Opry. RayGene had heard them live when he was 7. Now they had a talent contest, which he entered. The winner would get a recording contract and record at the House of Cash, a music studio owned by the legendary country music singer Johnny Cash. RayGene could only hope that a 14-year-old boy might have a chance to win.

The day the winner was announced, RayGene almost passed out. He'd won, and his singing career had been launched!

RayGene paced the floor as his parents read the contract. Blood pounded in his ears. His palms felt wet and sweaty. He could relax and celebrate, he thought, the moment the contract was signed.

His parents walked toward him with serious faces.

"Did you sign it?" RayGene asked, breathless with excitement.

"No, son," his dad said as his mother circled him with her arm. "It's not a good contract. We won't sign it."

In an instant, the bottom fell out of RayGene's world. He knew better than to argue. *But really?*

He wasn't going to record with House of Cash?

Life as he knew it was over.

A New Direction

"Looking back now, I know that my parents did the right thing," RayGene explains. "I certainly didn't think so at the time. However,

being a child, I had no options except to continue doing what I'd been doing."

Soon afterward, RayGene began singing with the Bobby Helms Band. Helms had become famous after recording his 1975 Christmas hit, "Jingle Bell Rock."

"Singing with his band put me on the right track," RayGene recalls.

For RayGene, the "right track" meant a conversion from country to gospel music.

"When I was 18, the entire direction of my life changed," he explains. "I was filled with the Holy Spirit and called into the ministry. I started traveling with The Spurrllows. Thurlow Spurr was the director for music on the PTL Club. We were on that show quite a bit. In addition, we performed at 350 concerts a year. We were given a week off for Christmas. I sang with them for several years. Afterward, I traveled with Karen Wheaton, who had a show on TBN."

In 1984, RayGene was invited to join the Rhema Singers and Band, the worship ministry of Kenneth Hagin Ministries in Tulsa, Okla.

The group was made up of graduates from the ministry's Rhema Bible College, but although RayGene was not a graduate of the school, the group needed a tenor and asked him to join, he explained.

"I started traveling with Brother Kenneth E. Hagin that year," says RayGene. "I was fortunate to spend a lot of time with him on the road and at home. I was dating Beth, who later became my wife. She was a Rhema student at the time. When we weren't on the road, Brother Hagin often invited us over to play games and have a good time together. I never took that for granted.

Music Creates an Atmosphere

"The thing I'd learned early was that God knew long before Hollywood made movies that music creates an atmosphere. In a movie, the music will create the atmosphere for what's about to happen.

"All the way back in Old Testament days, the prophets called a psalmist to inspire

them. The music created an atmosphere for the prophet to hear God. Those of us who traveled with Brother Hagin were very aware of this and played music that inspired him, rather than the audience.”

In each meeting, Brother Hagin knew where the anointing rested. Most of the time, it rested on him. As the prophet of the house, he was the primary one to operate in miracles, healings and deliverances.

Many times, though, he turned to the musicians.

“The anointing is upon you tonight,” he would say. “Just keep flowing in the Spirit.”

On nights like these, the musicians kept worshipping the entire service. There was no prayer line and no laying on of hands.

RayGene recalls a particular time when

the Rhema Singers and Band traveled to Birmingham, Ala., for a meeting at the convention center. Paramedics brought someone to the meeting on a stretcher. Four people were rolled into the wheelchair section. One man had been shot and paralyzed.

After more than an hour, the man who’d been shot and paralyzed stood to walk... and fell. He tried standing again...and fell. Although he was very weak and unstable, each time he fell he got up and tried again.

By the end of the service, the man was running back and forth across the stage with great strength.

Countless other miracles took place during the meeting.

Three of the four people in wheelchairs walked, and then ran. Even the paramedics gave their lives to Jesus.

New Songs

During services like this, the musicians received new songs from heaven. They sang and played under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Often, Keith Moore sat at the piano and sang new songs.

“We didn’t *write* music,” RayGene remembers. “We *got* music. We heard it in the spirit and sang it. We added those new songs to our repertoire.

“One of my major contributions, however, was a little different. Early in my career, I began digging up the old Pentecostal camp meeting songs from the meetings of A.A. Allen when his singers were R.W. Shambach and Nancy Harmon. I spearheaded bringing that music back. That’s what I became known for.

“In addition to singing with A.A. Allen, Nancy Harmon wrote ‘The Blood Bought Church.’ One time she said, ‘RayGene, I think I wrote that song for you.’ I’d sung it with The Spurrllows, and I introduced it to Brother Hagin’s Campmeeting in 1985. That’s when the music changed, and that old Pentecostal music kicked into gear.

“When we sang it, the place just came unglued. People wouldn’t stop jumping, shouting and praising God. Brother Hagin kept saying, ‘Sing it again.’ We sang it for



RayGene with daughter, Sophia (left), and wife, Beth



RayGene and Gavin MacLeod



Kenneth Hagin (left), and RayGene

about 45 minutes that first night.

“It became Brother Hagin’s favorite song. Years later, we were setting up for a Campmeeting when we were told, ‘Don’t sing “The Blood Bought Church.” Everybody is tired of it. Sing new, modern songs.’

“We did what we were told, but Brother Hagin stopped us.

“That’s all great,” he told us, “but I’d rather hear “The Blood Bought Church.”

People screamed with joy, RayGene recalls.

“He loved that song so much that many years later, we sang it at his memorial service.”

The Motivation Behind the Ministry

In 1979, RayGene had seen a plaque in a pastor’s office that had marked his life. It read: *Do you feed sheep because you love them? Or do you just love to feed sheep?*

“In other words, what do you love more—

the people or the ministry?” RayGene explained. “Did you fall in love with your gift, your anointing or your ministry? Or did you fall in love with the people?”

RayGene had already decided early on that his motivation would always be love for the sheep. To that end, he was a nice guy. A kind and loving person. He wouldn’t do anything to hurt anyone.

Yet, when he and Beth started their own ministry, out of nowhere, some people came against them. He went to talk to Brother Hagin about it.

“The devil doesn’t really care about you,” Brother Hagin told him. “He’s after the anointing. He’ll do anything he can to stop it because the anointing is what breaks the yoke.

“The devil doesn’t care about your job. He

“I thank God for the gift of music and the doors it opened for me. However, by God’s grace, I pray that I’ll be remembered, not for my voice—but for my love.”

doesn’t care about your faith. He wants to take that supernatural ability to break the yoke and stop it. Your battle is not flesh and blood. Don’t even try to fight it. Don’t try to defend yourself. You just go on doing what God called you to do. Let the Lord fight the battle. Keep your love walk at all costs!”

That’s exactly what RayGene and Beth did—choosing to guard their love walk with all diligence.

God’s Definition of Judging

“Brother Hagin had learned this early in his ministry,” RayGene explains. “Once he was with some other ministers, when one of them mentioned a man who’d suffered a moral failure.”

“Yeah, that’s bad,” Brother Hagin said.

Later, the Lord corrected him for judging the man.

“I didn’t judge him,” Brother Hagin said. “I felt sorry for him. I just agreed that what he did was wrong.”

Is he your servant?

“No, Lord, he certainly isn’t my servant.”

Why are you judging him?

“I wasn’t judging him. What he did. You call sin in the Bible. I just agreed that it was wrong.”

Is he your servant?

Over and over, the Lord kept repeating the

same question until Brother Hagin got the message: Just acknowledging the sin was passing judgment.

“Oh, I see,” Brother Hagin said.

From that day forward, Brother Hagin never so much as acknowledged anyone’s sin, says RayGene. He refused to say anything negative about anyone. He also refused to try and defend himself.

“If I was accused of killing my own grandma, I would never defend myself,” he once said. “Why argue? You can win an argument and lose the person. Being right isn’t the most important thing.”

In every crusade he ever preached, Brother Hagin always spent the last day teaching on love. What good would it do to have faith if you didn’t walk in love? Faith works by love, he had contended.

Love: The Most Powerful Force on Earth

“One of the most powerful things I ever heard Brother Hagin say was about love,” RayGene recalls. “He said, ‘I owe my health over all these years more to my love walk than I do my faith walk.’”

“That’s from a man who lived in divine health most of his life. It’s also why I’ve always tried to make sure my love walk was more intact than anything else in my life.”

“When Brother Copeland found out that I’d started my own ministry, he invited me to start singing at his Believers’ Conventions. I’ve had the honor of traveling with him for 27 years. He’s one of the best examples of a love walk that I’ve ever seen.

“I put both men in the same category. Brother Hagin didn’t have a big persona in the world. Brother Copeland is on worldwide television. He has notoriety everywhere. I’ve never experienced the kind of adversity he gets. But he handles it just like Brother Hagin did. He walks in love no matter what.

“He refuses to say anything negative about another person, and he refuses to defend himself. He won’t let strife win.”

Over the past 20 years, RayGene and Beth have pastored churches in California. In 2005, they also started a Sunday night Bible

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study in Los Angeles. Who should attend but Gavin MacLeod, the ship's captain on the 1970s TV show, *The Love Boat*.

Gavin and his wife, Patti, were Christians who became part of RayGene's church. Still acting in Hollywood, Gavin received invitations to many events. He would often take RayGene with him, introducing him as his pastor. One of the first of those he attended was a birthday party Julie Andrews gave for her husband Blake Edwards. It opened a door and people in the entertainment industry would begin calling for prayer and counsel.

Two years ago, when Gavin MacLeod went home to be with the Lord, RayGene preached his memorial service. It was attended by some of the most famous men and women in film and television. The gospel was preached in multiple ways. Today, people who attended that service still call RayGene for prayer and counsel.

"Brother Hagin used to tell me that I had no way of knowing how a person was raised, what they'd been through or what battles they'd fought. He said that neither of us might do as well in their shoes. That's what prepared me for working in Hollywood. Unconditional love. Like everyone, they appreciate it."

Today, RayGene and Beth pastor West Coast Life Church in Murrieta, Calif. Their 18-year-old daughter, Sophia, plays the piano, sings and leads worship in the church. She is also involved in Hillsong, a praise and worship collective in Orange County, and Sydney, Australia.

"Partnership with KCM has been a lifeline for Beth and me," RayGene explains. "That partnership grants us access to their same increase, blessing, anointing, health and prosperity. Brother Copeland has been a wonderful example of great faith and a great love walk that makes it work.

"I'm so grateful to have had mentors like Brother Hagin and Brother Copeland. They have marked my life and ministry. I thank God for the gift of music and the doors it opened for me. However, by God's grace, I pray that I'll be remembered, not for my voice—but for my love." 📌



by Billye Brim

HOW TO *walk in love*

Most Christians know to walk in love. But they struggle with how to do it.

In the early 1970s I learned the *how to* of it. It came as a revelation. In one moment I realized I was not walking in love.

Hagin showed me *how to do it*—and I did it. It saved my marriage, my ministry, my life. Now I can tell you how to do it, and it will do the same for you.

How It Happened

In 1967, a newly born-again friend told me she was going to receive the Holy Spirit and speak with tongues.

"Oh, no you're not," I said. "That is of the devil." I simply parroted a headline in our denominational magazine, "Speaking in Tongues Is of the Devil."

The next week my friend and I were speaking in tongues. Someone took us to a seminar where Kenneth E. Hagin was teaching on what the Bible says about the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. He'd seen a vision



READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

JULY

		Old Testament	New Testament
Sat	1	2 Kgs. 10:1-12:8	
Sun	2	Ps. 79-81; Prov. 17:1-18	
Mon	3	2 Kgs. 12:9-14:22	Rom. 14
Tue	4	2 Kgs. 14:23-16:20	Rom. 15
Wed	5	2 Kgs. 17:1-18:16	Rom. 16
Thu	6	2 Kgs. 18:17-20:11	1 Cor. 1
Fri	7	2 Kgs. 20:12-22:20	1 Cor. 2
Sat	8	2 Kgs. 23-24	
Sun	9	Ps. 82-85; Prov. 17:19-18:9	
Mon	10	2 Kgs. 25- 1 Chr. 1:33	1 Cor. 3
Tue	11	1 Chr. 1:34-2:41	1 Cor. 4
Wed	12	1 Chr. 2:42-4:23	1 Cor. 5
Thu	13	1 Chr. 4:24-6:30	1 Cor. 6
Fri	14	1 Chr. 6:31-7:12	1 Cor. 7
Sat	15	1 Chr. 7:13-8:40	
Sun	16	Ps. 86-88; Prov. 18:10-24	
Mon	17	1 Chr. 9:1-11:3	1 Cor. 8
Tue	18	1 Chr. 11:4-12:22	1 Cor. 9
Wed	19	1 Chr. 12:23-15:15	1 Cor. 10
Thu	20	1 Chr. 15:16-16:43	1 Cor. 11
Fri	21	1 Chr. 17-19	1 Cor. 12
Sat	22	1 Chr. 20-22	
Sun	23	Ps. 89; Prov. 19:1-17	
Mon	24	1 Chr. 23-24	1 Cor. 13
Tue	25	1 Chr. 25-26	1 Cor. 14
Wed	26	1 Chr. 27:1-29:9	1 Cor. 15
Thu	27	1 Chr. 29:10- 2 Chr. 2:18	1 Cor. 16
Fri	28	2 Chr. 3:1-6:11	2 Cor. 1
Sat	29	2 Chr. 6:12-8:10	
Sun	30	Ps. 90-92; Prov. 19:18-29	
Mon	31	2 Chr. 8:11-11:4	2 Cor. 2

of denominational people coming into the fullness of the Holy Spirit. And he was instructed to teach them.

In 1970, I became an editor for Brother Hagin. An early book I edited was *The Woman Question*. I'd known from childhood I was called to preach. But my denomination did not allow women to preach. Over the typewriter, I wept to the Lord, "You mean I can do what I've felt called to do and not get in trouble at the judgment seat of Christ?"

Yes. And one day you will leave here and preach around the world. But right now you don't know much. This is your Bible school.

A Seminar on Love

I thought I knew more than I did. My Christian upbringing provided a good foundation. I felt qualified to bring my husband, Kent, into the paths of righteousness. Kent and his father were born again when Kent was 16. His family, a loving one, hadn't regularly attended church. I pressured him into tithing and church attendance by begging, accompanied with tears.

And when Brother Hagin announced he was going to teach on walking in love and I was to put it into print, I felt qualified. Steno pad in hand, I came to the seminar with confidence.

To sum it up, Brother Hagin taught that the love we are to walk in is not natural, human love. It is the God kind of love. Natural human love is selfish. The God kind of love is God Himself. For God is love (1 John 4:8).

At the new birth, the God kind of love is shed abroad in the newly created spirit by the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5). It is not in the mind or the body. It is in the heart, the spirit. To walk in love, the spirit must dominate the flesh.

I remember what he taught as if there were steps.

1. Be born again. Walking in the God kind of love is possible only to children of God.

2. Know Romans 5:5. "The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." The love

in our hearts is released by faith through words and deeds.

3. Know the definition of the love of God in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. The *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition* has the fullest revelation of the Greek.

4. Judge yourself to see if you are walking in the God kind of love.

I can almost hear his voice as he taught from the AMPC phrase by phrase. "Love endures long and is patient and kind' (verse 4). Some people endure long, but they're not patient and kind while they're enduring. A husband or wife may be putting up with a lot of things, but they want everyone to know, including their spouse, what they're suffering."

His comments on every phrase were enlightening. You can read them in his book *Love: The Way to Victory*.

I felt pretty good about myself until he said, "Now this is the divine love gauge—love's thermometer. 'Love...is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong]' (verse 5)."

What! I thought. *My beloved grandmother is touchy; and she's Holiness. My mother is touchy. Sometimes one needs to notice what others do in order to get them to do right.* I'd practiced this, particularly with Kent.

For instance, Kent never remembered my birthday. Almost every year, beginning with our anniversary a short while before that, which he also never remembered, I'd start building up steam. One Dec. 6 morning, I remember slamming his breakfast down on the table. He didn't seem to notice. When he came home at noon, lunch was on the table, but I was in our bedroom with the door shut. That night, there was no supper. I was still in the darkened bedroom where I'd cried all day saying, "He doesn't love me. If he did, he'd remember my birthday."

Kent opened the door and said, "What's wrong with you? Is it your birthday or something?" Then came the old excuse, "I thought it was Dec. 8."

Space doesn't permit me to tell other such incidents, or to say how loving, giving and

faithful Kent was. But until I heard Brother Hagin comment on the love thermometer, I thought I was so right and Kent was so wrong. When the light dawned, I saw that I was wrong for noticing. My heart convicted me. I wanted to walk in love. I wanted my faith to work (Galatians 5:6). So I listened intently to what Brother Hagin said and I did it.

Victory

He said, “You will locate your problem area in one of these verses. When you do, write that verse on 3-by-5 index cards and put them in your places of attack.”

I wrote out several cards and strategically placed them. One I placed inside my kitchen-cabinet door.

Our old house had a big country kitchen where much of our family life took place. It was here that my love walk knew attack. I shall tell you about two attacks.

One evening when Kent came in the back door, a pot of vegetable soup was simmering on the stove. After sampling it, he wrinkled up his nose and asked, “What did you put in this soup, anyway?”

My flesh wanted to react, but I ruled over it. I opened the cabinet door and read silently, *Love is not touchy...it pays no attention to a suffered wrong*. Then I answered him with a smile. Victory!

He took another bite and said, “I wish you’d call Mom and ask her what she puts in her soup.” Counterattack! I opened the cabinet door, read the card again and assured him I would do that. Victory!

I especially remember another attack that came on a cold wintry night. I’d made chili. Kent thought my chili was better than his mother’s. I’d also made cornbread, pouring the batter into a hot iron skillet so the crust would be dark brown. I timed it to come out of the oven when Kent walked in the door.

“Oh good, chili!” he exclaimed. I was about to walk out the door to go teach a class at Victory Bible Institute, when Kent called after me, “Where are the crackers?”

“We don’t have crackers,” I said nicely, “I made hot cornbread. You like that with chili.”

“Somehow,” he said, “I just don’t feel like cornbread.”

What! How could anyone not feel like



“Natural human love is selfish. The God kind of love is God Himself. For God is love.”

cornbread? My flesh wanted to tell him he had two good legs and a new pickup. If he wanted crackers he could go get crackers. But I didn’t. I ran to the cabinet door, opened it and silently read what I’d written there.

When I turned around toward Kent, something supernatural happened; *the Lord let me feel love*. From deep within, I felt love rise like hot lava in a volcano. It bubbled up from my spirit, and flowed through my flesh, out my arms, out my legs, out my eyes. As I looked at Kent, I was totally possessed with divine love toward him. Overcome with desire to get that man crackers, I dramatically proclaimed, “I’ll get you some crackers.”

Oblivious to what was going on in me, he said, “Oh, by the way, we’re out of coffee.”

When I arrived at the store, I saw a butcher-paper sign taped in the window. Two items were offered as loss-leaders, advertised below cost to get you into the store. They were, crackers and coffee. A sign from God!

Life’s Victories

I’ve put these simple steps into practice many, many times. Learning how to walk in love has blessed my family, saved my ministry, and helped me walk in health and strength. I’m not perfect at it, but I know how to do it. Thank God! 🙏



Billye Brim
is president and
founder of Billye Brim
Ministries aka Prayer
Mountain in the Ozarks.

For information
visit her website at
billyebrim.org.



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TESTIMONIES OF REAL-LIFE VICTORY

Healed All Along

I went to the Southwest Believers' Convention in 2021. I had been having burning-like fire all the way up my throat with everything I ate or drank. At Healing School, Brother Copeland called out burning in the throat and I said, "Thank You, Lord. I receive that healing." By the night service I was feeling great. The Lord asked me, *Have you had any of it all week?* I thought about it and realized He had actually healed me before the convention. Brother Copeland just got me to notice it. I thank God for godly men like him. Jesus is Lord!

C.O.

Cool Answer

Thank you for praying with us concerning our A/C system. God gave us the wisdom to fix it! He provided a way for us to stay at a nice hotel for free, then gave us instructions on what to pray, what to declare, and what to do. It's fixed and cooling so well—hallelujah! M.F. | Texas

Healing Info

Thank you for having info available online concerning healing, growing your faith and Communion. I have been seeking God for healing but had no one to pray over me. I was able to use Communion as a point of contact, so to speak, and received my healing.

S.M. | Nevada

Life-Changing DVDs

Your BVOV DVDs have changed my life. On one, Brother Copeland said that God put on his heart not to speak anything that goes crosswise of God. I have been trying to only speak words that God would approve, calling things that be not as though they were and calling myself prosperous.

I received a \$1500 Christmas bonus. Yesterday, I went through a drive-thru, and the people ahead of me paid for my breakfast. My next stop was the feed store

for horse feed; that bill was paid, and I still have a credit. Instead of "there is more month left at the end of the money," I have an abundance of money at the end of the month, and I am able to give to others.

Your teachings are right on. Many thanks to all of you for walking with God and teaching us to do the same.

L.R. | Illinois

Growing in God

I thank God for the prayers of KCM—they have been answered. Since we have had our devotions with KCM, I am a better person and more spiritual. The more we read the KCM devotional, the more we learn of God and get closer to Him.

C.H.

with my performance. I see God's help constantly because I am way out of my comfort zone. God just keeps showing me skills He put in me I never knew about.

J.G. | Iowa

Standing Against the Odds

God provided me with a full-time position that I'd been believing for during the pandemic. From the teachings I received from KCM, I learned how to use my authority to believe and stand in faith for the promises of God in my life. When I graduated from college in May during the pandemic, most companies were shut down with employees laid off, and applications were not being looked at. So, the availability of jobs for graduates was very limited. While consistently learning and declaring the Word of God, I continued to stand, believing I had received my full-time job. I was interviewed and received my job offer in December 2020.

I want to thank the Lord and share this testimony to encourage others to understand that God will supply all their needs plus more according to His riches in glory.

D.M. | New York

'Healed—No Pain'

I was in a minor car accident and hurt my ankle. The next day, while I was watching BVOV, my ankle was healed—no pain, no swelling. Bless everyone at KCM and a special thank-you to Sister Gloria for all her healing CDs, which I listen to consistently.

H.B. | South Carolina

Refreshing News

VICTORY News, FlashPoint and America Stands are such a blessing. They share faith-filled information/news that is so uplifting, and are the only news we listen to. This morning, Proverbs 25:13

jumped out at me concerning these programs: "Like the cold of snow [brought from the mountains] in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to those who send him; for he refreshes

the life of his masters" (Amplified Bible, Classic Edition). Thank you so much for these programs.

G.G. | Arkansas

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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BVOV-19

'Morning Prayer'

A week apart, both of my parents were hospitalized—a trying time for my faith. I sent my prayer request to *Morning Prayer*. My father's biopsy for cancer was negative, a remarkable miracle! My mother was also released and breathing on her own without an oxygen tank, and able to use a walker at home without assistance. I thank God for her full recovery and wholeness. This is my testimony to the glory of Abba. He always hears us.

M.O. | Illinois



by David S. Winston

Unlock Your Identity

ON MINISTRY TRIPS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES, MY DAD, BILL WINSTON, WILL OFTEN USE THE MORNING SESSIONS TO TEACH ENTREPRENEURS AND BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS ABOUT LEADERSHIP. HE TELLS THE STORY OF AN EAGLE'S EGG THAT ACCIDENTALLY FELL OUT OF THE NEST.

The egg rolled down the mountain until it finally found its way into a chicken coop. Soon, the egg hatched and the brown eagle came out. But the eagle did not know that he wasn't a chicken. So, the brown eagle grew up learning to live like a chicken. He went to chicken school and had chicken friends. He played chicken games and ate like a chicken.

But there was one problem—he was an eagle acting like a chicken!

One day, a big eagle spotted him from above and swooped down to ask, “Why are you here in this chicken coop with all of these chickens?”

The brown eagle responded, “What do you mean? I'm a chicken just like them.”

The big eagle laughed as he explained to the brown eagle his true identity. After some debate, the big eagle convinced the brown eagle that he could fly. It was hard for the

brown eagle to believe, since he had not seen any of his chicken friends or family do it before, but he decided to give it a try. He backed up, gave himself some space, and got a running start before taking off.

BAM! Instead of flying high, he hit the fence face-first.

“I told you I couldn't fly! I told you that I'm not an eagle. I'm a chicken!” he exclaimed.

He demanded that the big eagle leave him and his chicken family alone. The big eagle tried to convince him to try again, but to no avail. So the big eagle had no choice but to oblige and leave. The brown eagle continued to live, and eventually died, in that same chicken coop with his chicken family.

The chicken-eagle fable shows us this truth: You will live life according to your identity. *Misunderstanding your true identity can keep you separated from the life God wants you to live.* It can keep you locked into mediocrity and locked out of destiny. Instead of flying high, where you are supposed to be, it will have you living the low life.

Maybe a few people around you see the potential in you. They encourage you to escape the confines of comfortability, but stepping out feels almost impossible. The good news is, everything is about to change. The things you once thought were impossible are now possible with God's help. Graduating from college, having a strong marriage, starting a new business or organization, living a prosperous life, getting that big promotion, living your lifelong dream—all of it is possible. The Bible says that with God all things are possible (see Matthew 19:26). Identity is always based on what we choose to identify *with*. What makes the difference is how we choose to identify *ourselves*.

What Will Your Identity Allow?

In the book of Genesis, we read the story of a man named Abram (later called Abraham). Abram was married to a woman named Sarai. When the story starts, God promises Abram that He will make him a great nation, or people group (see Genesis 12:1–4). Abram was 75 years old at the time, and the scripture tells us that Sarai was unable to have children (Genesis 11:30). But God was not discouraged



**God can only
do in your
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by their age or physical condition. Eight years later, the dialogue between God and Abram picks up again. Even though Abram is still childless, God tells Abram that he will have as many descendants as there are stars in the sky (Genesis 15:1–7).

Since Abram and Sarai couldn't figure out how it was going to happen, they took matters into their own hands. They decided together that Abram would sleep with Sarai's servant, Hagar, and the child born would be their son. So, Hagar became pregnant and gave birth to Ishmael.

But God still insisted that Sarai would bear them a son.

Fast forward 16 more years, and both 99-year-old Abram and 90-year-old Sarai are well beyond their childbearing years. But this doesn't faze God one bit. He is finally ready to deliver the promised son to this couple that has waited 24 years. I am telling you this whole story because of what happened next.

Before Abram and Sarai could have the child God promised, some things had to change.

For many years, they had seen themselves as a couple who could never have children. The barren mindset affected how they viewed God's promise. God then changed their names to change how they saw themselves.

One day He said to Abram, "No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations" (Genesis 17:5, *New King James Version*). Abram's name change not only signified a shift in his identity, but also what he was to identify with.

A Change in Identity

For further clarity, let's look at what the two names mean.

Abram means "exalted father," which is fitting because he had one son, Ishmael. But *Abraham* means "father of a multitude." From now on, his family, servants and all legal documents referred to him as the *father of a multitude*.

When his name changed, so did his identity. Abraham began to mentally reclassify himself. I believe that changing his identity eventually altered his physical body, reversing the effects of time, making it possible for him to have another son and make good on the Lord's promise.

“Abraham began to mentally reclassify himself. I believe that changing his identity eventually altered his physical body, reversing the effects of time.”

What about Sarai? She was 90 years old and barren. God knew she needed a name change, too, and He said to Abraham, "You shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. And I will bless her and also give you a son by her...and she shall be a mother of nations..." (Genesis 17:15–16, *NKJV*). This divine name change eventually led to her bodily functions being supernaturally restored, and she received strength to conceive (see Hebrews 11:11). The couple soon conceived and had their promised son, Isaac. Even though they'd been told they would have a child long before, they couldn't conceive their promised child until their identities were in alignment with the promise.

The story of Abraham and Sarah highlights the importance of how we see ourselves, especially while patiently trusting in God. Here is the point: God could only do in them what their identity would allow. God can only do in your life what your identity will allow. If you think you are a loser, it will be hard to find victory, even when God has already promised it to you. If you think God has somehow mismanaged your uniqueness or "dealt you a bad hand," you will fail to see the value in how you are made, regardless of the situation.

But if you think you are a champion, then you will see God putting you into position to win every time. If you think you are significant, you will find opportunities that affirm your significance.

Your behavior is usually an indicator of what you believe on the inside. Believe God! If your self-image is wrong, allow God to recalibrate it. Ask Him to help you see yourself the way He sees you. He will do it, because you are His child, and He loves you. God is completely committed to your success. But that success starts with your decision. 🙏



This article is adapted from the book by David S. Winston titled *Authentic*.

David is pastor of Go Hard for Christ Youth Ministry at Living Word Christian Center in Forest Park, Ill.

For more information, or to order your copy, go online to davidswinston.com.



by Gloria Copeland

*I'm totally convinced
the revival the Lord has
planned for us in these
days is going to be talked
about for all eternity.
In the ages to come it's
going to be remembered
as—*

The Big One

ONE THING I'VE LEARNED OVER THE YEARS ABOUT THE
HOLY SPIRIT IS THAT HE'S NOT PUSHY. HE DOESN'T JUST
BARGE IN ON OUR LIVES OR OUR CHURCH SERVICES AND
DO WHATEVER HE CHOOSES.

If we want Him to move among us in power, we have to recognize His ministry and be willing to wait on Him.

We have to invite Him into our midst and give Him place.

He doesn't do things just between 11 o'clock and noon on Sunday mornings. It just doesn't work that way with God.

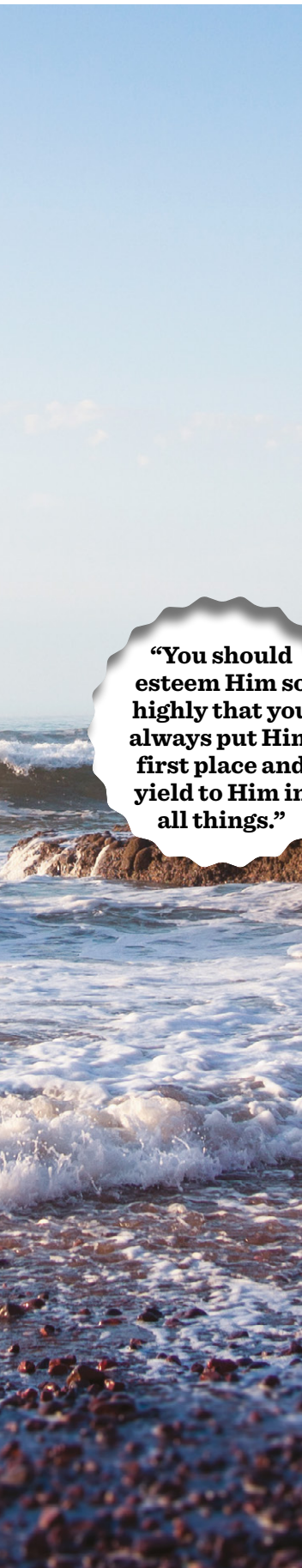
The Lord knows what people really need, and what it takes to get it to them. So, when He's ministering to us by the Spirit (whether it's on Sunday morning or any other time), He expects us to be

patient. Rather than us always being in a hurry, He expects us to allow Him to finish His work.

A praying friend of mine once told me this is why we have to pray and intercede for the spiritual outpouring God has for us in this day. It's not because we have to talk God into giving it to us. It's because the Body of Christ must be prepared to receive it. We must come to the place where, more than anything else, we desire to let the Holy Spirit move.

As the Lord explained to my friend, *If I'm*





“You should esteem Him so highly that you always put Him first place and yield to Him in all things.”

moving during a service and people get restless, if they start thinking about getting to the cafeteria before it gets too crowded, or getting home to watch the evening news, it grieves My Holy Spirit.

It puts limits on Him and He's not free to do all that He wants to do.

You might wonder, *What exactly does the Holy Spirit want to do in this hour?*

He wants to pour out God's power and manifested presence in the greatest measure this earth has ever seen. He wants to work signs, wonders and miracles in unprecedented numbers. He wants to come upon all flesh and bring into God's kingdom the end-time harvest of souls that's been prophesied about for years.

I'm totally convinced the revival the Lord has planned for us in these days is going to be talked about for all eternity.

In the ages to come it's going to be remembered as *The Big One!* It's going to be more astounding than the parting of the Red Sea and even more magnificent than the events recorded in the book of Acts.

God has saved His best for last—and we have the opportunity to be in on it!

To take full advantage of this opportunity, however, we have to learn to keep our attention on the things of God and stir up our hearts so that we desire Him more than we desire the things of the world. We have to open the door for the Holy Spirit to have full liberty among us by treating Him with the utmost reverence.

In our generation, we sometimes forget the importance of reverence. We think of God only in very familiar terms as our heavenly Father. We major on the facts that we are His children and He loves us very dearly. Yet, while those are thrilling and absolutely true, we need to remember that our heavenly Father is also the Lord God Almighty. He's the Great I Am, and we should come before Him with honor and great, reverential respect.

Walking in the Fear of the Lord

Often in the Bible this kind of reverential respect is referred to as “the fear of the Lord.” That's actually a wonderful phrase! When properly understood, it doesn't carry a negative connotation. It doesn't mean you should be

frightened of God. It simply means you should esteem Him so highly that you always put Him first place and yield to Him in all things.

When you combine the fear of the Lord with faith in His Word, the Holy Spirit can work powerfully in your life. He can move on you, for you and through you in marvelous and supernatural ways.

The book of Proverbs even connects the fear of the Lord with divine healing. Proverbs 3:5-8 says: “Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.”

Although those verses apply to each of us personally, they can also apply to the Body of Christ as a whole. In meetings and church services when we come together as a group, we become the “habitation of God” (Ephesians 2:22). We provide a place where He can dwell and work not only within us, but among us.

During our Believers' Conventions, for example, when people come together for Healing School, in every single service the Holy Spirit moves and people get healed. Afterward they often testify that they'd been struggling with sickness for years. For some reason, just at home on their own, they couldn't get a breakthrough. But during the meeting, the Word they heard preached, and the collective faith of their fellow believers, opened the door for the Holy Spirit to go to work on them and they were able to receive their miracle!

I'm convinced we'd see even more of those miracles if the Holy Spirit had His full way. But sometimes He doesn't. Sometimes He's hindered because, while He's moving, especially if the service goes a little long, people in the congregation let their flesh distract them and they start thinking about going to lunch or whatever. A few of them will even leave their seat, go out to the convention center snack bar, and come back carrying a hot dog and a soda, as if they're at a ballgame.

Bless their hearts! I'm not being critical of those people. I'm just saying that tells me we have a problem in the Body of Christ. Not everyone realizes that, although we're supposed to have a good time when we get together, church meetings and services are



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Sun., July 2
The Healing Power
of God Responds
To Your Faith
Kenneth Copeland

July 3-7
Bulldog Faith—Part 1
**Pastors George
and Terri Copeland
Pearsons**

Sun., July 9
Keep Your Attention on
God's Healing Promises
Kenneth Copeland

July 10-14
Bulldog Faith—Part 2
**Pastors George
and Terri Copeland
Pearsons**

Sun., July 16
THE BLESSING of
The LORD Has Provided
for Your Healing
Kenneth Copeland

July 17-21
The WORD of
God Is Medicine
Kenneth Copeland

Sun., July 23
Healing Is a
Manifestation of God's
Goodness to You
Kenneth Copeland

July 24-28
God's Covenant
Promises Belong to You
Kenneth Copeland

Sun., July 30
Jesus Has Redeemed
You From the Curse
of the Law!
Kenneth Copeland

July 31-Aug. 4
How To Release Faith
Kenneth Copeland

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the Spanish
broadcast
Enlace or
es.kcm.org

WATCH ON
VICTORY
CHANNEL

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video



not just for our entertainment. They're sacred assemblies where we honor God and participate with Him as He carries out His plans and purposes in people's lives. They're gatherings meant to be marked by a corporate sense of the reverential fear of the Lord.

"But Gloria," someone might say, "I've always thought of the fear of the Lord as an Old Testament concept. Does it really apply to us as New Testament believers?"

Absolutely! It not only applies to us, but we should be known for it. We should be like the believers in the early Church. Acts 9:31 says they were edified and multiplied, "walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost."

Notice, according to that verse, even in New Testament times the power of the Spirit and the fear of the Lord go together. They work hand in hand. Therefore, if we want to experience an increasing measure of the Holy Spirit's supernatural comfort and power, we must make sure we're walking in the reverence of the Lord.

"How do we cultivate that kind of reverence?" you might ask. How do we overcome the pull of our flesh and its tendency to distract us? How do we discipline our physical body so that, whether we're in our prayer time at home or assembled with other believers at church, we can give God the honor and the undivided attention He deserves?

One way we do it is by practicing.

An Uncomfortable Dilemma

Our physical body is trained by practice. It's naturally wired to develop habits as a result of doing things over and over. Think about what you were like before you were born again and you'll understand what I mean. As an unbeliever, you had a habit of sinning. You didn't have to try real hard to do it. You could sin without even thinking about it because you'd practiced all your life. You were well developed in it.

When you put your faith in Jesus, although your spirit instantly became a new creation, your body didn't. It still had the same old bad habits you'd practiced when you were in your

unsaved condition. As a result, in the early days of your Christian life, while your heart was pulling you toward the things of God your flesh was still pulling you in the opposite direction.

That's a very uncomfortable way to live! When we're first born again, it presents all of us as believers with a real dilemma. The Word of God, however, gives us the solution. It says, "Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh" (Galatians 5:16).

When we practice walking in the spirit, we turn the habit-forming bent of our body to our advantage. By spending time every day in fellowship with God, praying and feeding on His Word and doing what He says, we retrain our flesh. We bring our natural, physical body into subjection and develop new habits that reflect the righteousness that's in our reborn spirit.

This is the way we, as believers, are designed to operate! It's the reason God gave us the New Covenant. As Romans 8:4-5 says:

So that the righteous and just requirement of the Law might be fully met in us who live and move not in the ways of the flesh but in the ways of the Spirit [our lives governed not by the standards and according to the dictates of the flesh, but controlled by the Holy Spirit]. For those who are according to the flesh...set their minds on and pursue those things which gratify the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit...set their minds on and seek those things which gratify the [Holy] Spirit (*Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

To be clear, those verses don't say we'll get to the point where we've spiritually arrived and we don't have to deal with the flesh anymore. No, as long as we live on the earth we have to keep practicing putting spiritual things first. Otherwise, we'll get our attention back on natural things and fleshly desires, and we'll lose some of our hunger for God.

I'll never forget the moment back in 1977 when I realized that very thing had happened to me. At the time, I was listening to a prophecy given by Kenneth E. Hagin. He was prophesying about believers in the last days

who will march out into the world like a great spiritual army, doing the works of Jesus.

“You can be part of that army if you desire,” he said. “So purpose in your heart that you’ll not be lazy, that you’ll not draw back. Purpose in your heart that you will rise up and march forward and become on fire.”

When I heard those words, I realized something about myself I hadn’t previously noticed. After 10 years in ministry, I wasn’t as on fire for the Lord as I had once been!

In 1967, when Ken and I had first started learning about faith and the integrity of God’s Word, I’d been so spiritually hungry that the things of God had absolutely consumed my thinking and my life. I didn’t give my attention to anything else. Partly because we were in such a desperate situation back then—broke and saddled with a mountain of debt—I saw God as my only hope. So other than taking care of my children and doing my duties at home, I spent my time with Him in the Word.

By 1977, however, we had grown some in the Lord and our situation had changed. We were blessed, debt free and prospering. Busy with ministry matters and life in general, natural things had increasingly begun to absorb my attention. As a result, my passion for the things of the Lord had cooled off. Although I was still putting the Word in my heart every day, I was doing it out of discipline instead of desire.

That day, as I was listening to Brother Hagin, I decided to make a change. I purposed in my heart to do what he said and become spiritually on fire again. I made a commitment to give less of my time to all the other things I’d been doing—things that, although they weren’t wrong, had begun to occupy too important a place in my life—and give more of my attention to prayer and God’s Word.

Sure enough, before long the hunger in my heart for things of God began to return!

My desire for Him increased. My passion for the move of His Spirit heated back up again. Why? Because it’s a principle: Our desire follows our attention. The more we

attend to the things of the flesh, the more we desire and follow after the flesh. The more we attend to the things of God, the more we wholeheartedly desire and follow Him.

Colossians 3:1-2 says: “If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.”

Those are God’s marching orders to us as believers—and they are especially vital for those of us who are living in the last of the last days. We don’t have time anymore to straddle the fence between the flesh and the spirit. The biggest spiritual outpouring this earth has ever seen has already begun. God wants to reveal His glory through the Church as never before.

So, let’s invite Him into our midst and let Him do it. Let’s give Him first place in our lives and our church services. Let’s reverence Him above all, bring our flesh into submission, and throw the door wide open for the Holy Spirit to do everything He wants to do! 🙏



“Church meetings and services are not just for our entertainment. They’re sacred assemblies where we honor God and participate with Him.”

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—Psalm 25:14, TPT

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