



VICTORY

Overwhelmed by life and the responsibilities of being a parent, Kent Pate had an encounter with the Holy Spirit that transformed his life.

Today, he and his wife, Priscilla, are called to minister to incarcerated veterans.

**Semper
Fidelis—**

Always Faithful

P.16

Daily news you can trust—always
delivered in a spirit of faith.

VICTORY NEWS

Monday-Friday

Noon ET/11 a.m. CT and 5 p.m. ET/4 p.m. CT



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Editor's Letter



From Milk to Meat

"Improving your world starts with improving someone else's."

When I heard those words recently, I immediately thought: *That's what we do every day at KCM as we are bringing believers "from the milk of the Word to the meat."* Actually, it's what we've been doing as a ministry now for over 50 years. Sure, we show people that the way to salvation is to give their hearts to Jesus. But just as important, we teach them the next steps—how to become mature Christians by applying the principles of faith found in God's Word to their lives.

Kenneth Copeland explains it like this:

"The Bible teaches that man is a three-part being: We are a spirit; we have a soul; we live in a body. When we were born again, our spirit was made new. It was instantly re-created in the perfect likeness of God. Our soul (mind, will and emotions) was not. It is being changed through a process the Apostle Paul called "the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2). As we exercise our soul and train it to conform to His way of doing things, it is transformed more and more into His image.

"God has commissioned us, according to Hebrews 5:13-14, to bring people from religion to reality. He has called us to help believers renew their minds, taking them from the milk of The WORD to the meat, so they can become skillful in righteousness and their flesh can discern the difference between good and evil. How do we do that? By preaching the uncompromised WORD of God."

Taking believers from religion to reality—from *the milk to the meat*—one message at a time. That's what we do month in and month out, year after year, through the pages of this magazine and through every available voice God has opened to us. Along with Kenneth and Gloria Copeland, we have readily accepted our God-given directive to preach and teach the uncompromised Word of God and let the world know Jesus is Lord.

We appreciate that you have joined us as Partners, and as Friends, in this great effort.

Enjoy this month's issue as you read inspiring teachings that will encourage your faith. Then, consider sowing this magazine forward so others can be blessed. As believers, let's do all we can to help improve the world, and the lives of others so they "become skillful in righteousness and their flesh can discern the difference between good and evil."

Happy reading!

Ronald C. Jordan
Managing Editor



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"The first time we saw Kenneth Copeland speak in person, we felt connected. The things he said... the integrity and character were the core values we knew."

—Kent Pate

Pass 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 48 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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Managing Editor/Ronald C. Jordan
Assistant Editor/Deby Ide
Writers/ Melanie Henry
Gina Lynnes
Proofreaders/Jean DeLong
Michelle Harris Karen Wirkkala
Senior Designer/Michael Augustat
Project Manager/Deborah Bristler
Type Coordinator/Joyce Glasgow



**“What you
choose to eat, along
with other lifestyle
choices you make,
will impact your
lifespan.”**

by Kenneth Copeland



A Long, Satisfying Life!

HEAVEN IS A WONDERFUL PLACE. IF YOU'RE A BELIEVER, I'M SURE YOU'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO GOING THERE SOMEDAY. I'M ALSO FAIRLY SURE YOU'D RATHER NOT GET THERE SOONER THAN YOU SHOULD.

You don't want to leave this earth earlier than God intended. You want to stay here long enough to do everything He planned and be able to say before you take off for heaven, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith" (2 Timothy 4:7).

Otherwise, you'll miss out on things God has in store for you here. Plus, the Church will miss out on the fullness of THE BLESSING you are divinely called to be.

This happens in the Church all too often. The LORD told me so some years ago. I was reading in Genesis 6:3, where He said man's "days shall be an hundred and twenty years," and I heard Him say on the inside of me, *Kenneth, that's just as much My WORD as 'By My stripes ye were healed.'*

Pointing out to me how over the years His Anointing on me has continued to increase, He said, *There are 110-year, 115-year and 120-year-*

old anointings I don't have in the earth—and I need them! Then He asked if I would agree to stay the full 120 years.

"I'll do it, Sir!" I said and accepted the mission.

Some might call it a "mission impossible," and it would be if I were doing it on my own. But I'm not. I'm doing it by faith in God and with Him all things are possible. So 120 years, here I come!

I don't care how many changes I have to make in my diet. I don't care how many miles I have to run. I'm doing this for my Commander in Chief. He needs me, and I'm not going to back down.

"But Brother Copeland, doesn't Psalm 90 say we're only promised 70 or 80 years?"

No, it says that's how long the Israelites lived during the 40 years they wandered in the wilderness. Psalm 90 is Moses' prayer for them. Crying out to The LORD because their rebellion and unbelief were shortening their lives, he said, "All our days [out here in this wilderness...] pass

P POINTS TO GET YOU THERE:

1

God needs some anointed 110- and 120-year-olds on the earth. (Gen. 6:3)

2

The 70- or 80-year lifespan mentioned in Psalm 90 was just for the Israelites in the wilderness. (Ps. 90:9-10)

3

In Psalm 91 God promises protection and long life to those who live by faith in Him. (Ps. 91:15-16)

4

As a born-again believer, all the promises in God's WORD belong to you. (2 Cor. 1:20)

5

God's WORD is the best health and longevity manual ever written. (Prov. 4:20, 22)



away in Your wrath...we are doomed to die soon... The days of our years are threescore years and ten (seventy years)—or even, if by reason of strength, fourscore years (eighty years)” (verses 9-10, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

The *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition* adds a footnote to those verses. It says:

“This number [70 or 80 years] has often been mistaken as a set span of life for all mankind. It was not intended to refer to anyone except those Israelites under the curse during that particular forty years. Seventy years never has been the average span of life for humanity. When Jacob, the father of the twelve tribes, had reached 130 years (Gen. 47:9), he complained that he had not attained to the years of his immediate ancestors. In fact, Moses himself lived to be 120 years old, Aaron 123, Miriam several years older, and Joshua 110 years of age.”

In other words, we, as born-again believers, don't have any business thinking we've lived out our full earthly lifespan at 70 or 80 years old! We're not living under a curse like the Israelites in the wilderness. In Christ, we've been redeemed from the curse and THE BLESSING of Abraham has come on us.

How long did Abraham live? He walked on in faith, in the promises of God, past age 80 to the ripe old age of 175. Surely, if Abraham could make it to 175 then we, as heirs of His BLESSING, can believe for 110 or 120 years!

Why Settle for Less?

“But these are perilous days,” you might say. “Good people die young all the time, of everything from disease to accidents to violence to natural disasters. What gives me the right to expect I'll survive all those perils to live a long life?”

Psalm 91 gives you that right! It says: “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler” (verses 1-3).

The fowler is the devil. He's the one who's always fouling things up, the thief who comes to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10). By

promising to deliver you from him, God promises you total protection from anything that would threaten your life.

As Psalm 91 goes on to say, He promises to protect you from terrorism, the evil plots of the wicked, pestilence, destruction and sudden death. He promises that no calamity will come near you and that He'll send His angels to defend and preserve you in all your ways.

In the last three verses of Psalm 91, God says of the person who walks with Him and believes these promises: “Because he hath set his love upon me...he shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation” (verses 14-16).

What does God mean by “long life”? He told us in Genesis 6:3: It's 120 years. That means you don't have to settle for less. You can set your faith to live out the full length of your days. When satan says you'll never make it that long, you can remind him of 2 Corinthians 1:20. You can tell the lying devil that ‘all the promises of God in [Christ] are Yes, and in Him Amen’ (*New King James Version*). Claim your 120 years (or whatever you and The LORD have agreed on) and refuse to take no for an answer!

Some years ago, while we were in his city, a friend who was a U.S. Army Special Forces commander came to Gloria and me for prayer just before he was about to be deployed. The unit he'd been assigned to had experienced extremely high casualty rates and he wanted us to agree with him in faith for divine protection.

I instructed him to do the same thing I had heard a company commander had done during World War I: He had every man in his unit memorize Psalm 91. He ordered them to learn every verse so well that if he walked up to one of them and said, “Verse 2!” or “Verse 6!” every soldier would be able to quote it.

That commander made it all the way through World War I without losing a single soldier. Every man in his unit went right through the middle of combat and came out alive.

“Keith, I want you to follow that example,” I said. He agreed and promised to let me know when he returned from his deployment how things went.

Two years later, about 2:30 one morning the telephone rang. Jarred awake, I grabbed it and heard Keith's voice. “Brother Kenneth! I

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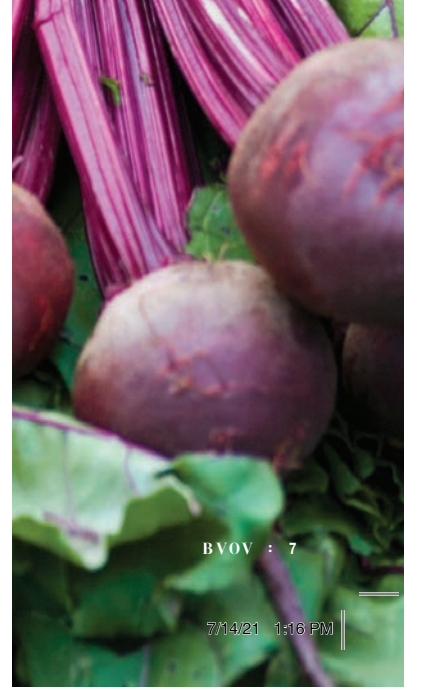
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“
 I’VE DECIDED TO USE MY FAITH
 TO EAT THE FOOD ON GOD’S
 GOOD LIST AND TO STEER CLEAR
 OF THE BAD LIST.... BECAUSE I’M
 BELIEVING TO LIVE AND SERVE
 GOD FOR 120 YEARS.
 ”

apologize for calling so early but I just got back, and I couldn’t wait to call you. I didn’t lose one soldier! No one even got seriously hurt!”

Commands, Not Suggestions

As believers, we are all soldiers in the army of The LORD and we ought to start acting like it. We ought to learn every verse of Psalm 91 just like the men in Keith’s unit did.

Part of any soldier’s basic training is to learn and obey the orders of the day, and we have certain commands by which we’re to operate all the time. First and foremost is the one Jesus

gave us in John 13:34. There, just before going to the Cross, He said, “A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.”

Notice, that’s not a suggestion. It’s a commandment. It’s an order issued by The LORD Advocate General of the Church. I learned a long time ago during my stint in the Army, when your commanding officer gives an order you follow it. It does not make one bit of difference how you feel about it. You obey.

Exactly what must we do to obey Jesus’ command of love? For one thing, we must do what He said in Mark 11:25: “When ye stand

2021 EVENTS

Word Explosion Military Salute

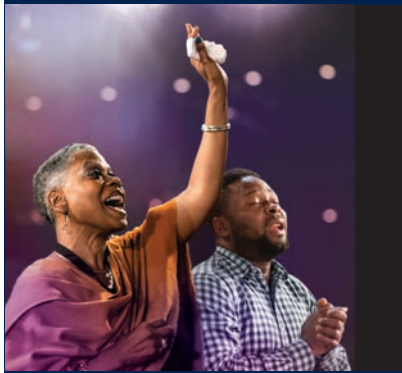
Sept. 2-4 | Columbia, S.C.

Omaha Live Victory Campaign

Oct. 28-30 | Omaha, Neb.

Washington, D.C. Live Victory Campaign

Nov. 11-13 | Woodbridge, Va.



Kenneth Copeland
is also speaking here:
(Contact the host church for details.)

Upper Midwest Faith Explosion
Aug. 19-20 : Brooklyn Park, Minn.
lwcc.org

Healing of the Nations Motorcycle Rally
Aug. 27 : Hidden Springs, Ariz.
cofaz.org

International Faith Conference
Sept. 13-14 : Forest Park, Ill.
billwinston.org or livingwd.org

Pathpoint Fellowship Church
22nd Anniversary
Sept. 17 : Amarillo, Texas
pathpointfellowship.com

Redeeming Love Christian Center
40th Anniversary Celebration
Oct. 3 : Nanuet, N.Y.
redeeminglevecc.org

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

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

For updated event information visit:

KCM.ORG/EVENTS



“
WE’RE NOT
BOUND BY
RELIGIOUS FOOD
LAWS.... BUT THAT
DOESN’T NEGATE
GOD’S DIETARY
GUIDELINES.
THEY’RE STILL HIS
WISDOM!
”

praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any.”

If you’re not willing to do that, you’re going to have problems, my brother or sister. You’re going to have a hard time receiving your healing or deliverance or whatever else you need. So, always be willing and quick to forgive.

You don’t have to feel good about it to do it. You can just obey. You can stop whining about how wronged you’ve been, brace yourself like a soldier before your Commander and say, “Sir, I forgive so-and-so! They are forgiven. Permission to receive my healing, Sir. Thank You very much. I’m healed, glory to God!”

Eat Things on the Good List

Just as forgiving is key to living a long, strong life, so is everything else God’s WORD tells us to do. His Book is the best health and longevity manual ever written.

In Leviticus, for example, it provides us with lists of foods that identify which ones are good to eat and which aren’t. Those lists are designed to support a 120-year lifespan. Under Old Covenant law, eating only according to those lists was one of the ways the Israelites maintained right-standing before God.

Under the New Covenant, of course, we’re not bound by religious food laws. We’re made righteous by the blood of Jesus. But that doesn’t negate God’s dietary guidelines. They’re still His wisdom!

Many believers, though, ignore this wisdom. They eat whatever their flesh wants and think it’s OK because 1 Timothy 4:4 says, “Every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving.” They don’t realize that according to the previous verse that statement refers only to the meats “which God hath created to be received,” or eaten (verse 3).

God didn’t create all meats to be eaten! Leviticus makes it clear: He didn’t create snakes for us to eat. He didn’t create alligators and bats and shrimp and catfish for us to eat.

“Oh, Brother Copeland, don’t take away my catfish!”

I’m not taking anything away from you. I’m not preaching the law. I’m preaching faith. I’m just sharing with you that as for me, I’ve decided to use my faith to eat the food on God’s good list and to steer clear of the bad list. Why? Because I’m believing to live and serve God for 120 years—and I’m going to do

by Creflo Dollar



GO WHERE THE SECRETS ARE KEPT

I know when God calls me to do something for Him, I am already equipped to do it. Why? Because I have the Spirit of God living on the inside of me.

Now it's one thing to know that we already have the power of God to do any task He calls us to do. But it's quite another to know how to tap into the anointing—the burden-removing, yoke-destroying power of God (Isaiah 10:27)—and walk in what is rightfully ours. Causing the anointing to manifest in the natural often requires that we tap into what the Bible calls “the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began” (Romans 16:25).

Even though the Bible says the mysteries are hidden, God is not keeping them from us—rather, He is keeping them for us.

They are not kept secret to keep us from understanding how to tap into the power we need to do God's work. In fact, they are mysteries He intends to reveal to us (Romans 11:25; Matthew 10:26). But if we are ever going to find out what they are, we must learn to go where the secrets are kept.

Contrary to what some may think, it's not a hard place to find. Psalm 91:1 tells us that the secret place is in the

presence of the Most High. When you need wisdom to do something beyond your natural ability, simply go to God in prayer. His wisdom can be found by spending time in His Word. It can also be found by praying in tongues, because when you pray in other tongues, you pray the answers to the mysteries. Ask God for the understanding of what you have prayed in the spirit and receive your answers by faith.

Remember, it's one thing to know *about* God—and another to *know* Him. And you'll never know Him without spending time with Him in the secret place. If you continue to rely on your wisdom rather than seeking God's wisdom, you will only create limits for yourself. 📌



Creflo Dollar is the founder and senior pastor of World Changers Church International in College Park, Ga.; World Changers Church-New York; and several fellowship churches across the country. For more information, visit creflodollarministries.org.

it without cancer or heart trouble or any other kind of disease.

You make your own decision about it. Eat whatever you and Jesus agree on. But remember this: What you choose to eat, along with other lifestyle choices you make, will impact your lifespan.

Even doctors agree about this. They say that 98% or more of all chronic diseases are self-induced. Medical experts have also concluded that, just like God's WORD says, the human body is supposed to live 120 years. They just don't know yet how to get it to live that long.

God knows though. So, the best way to live out your full life is to get with His program. Find out what He says in the Bible, believe Him and act on it.

“But I'm not very familiar with the Bible,” you might say.

You don't have to be. Just trust that the Greater One who's inside of you wrote it, and look to Him to help you. Say, “LORD, show me in Your WORD what I need to see and teach me what I need to know.” Then start reading and don't stop.

You'll be amazed at what happens. You'll find yourself bouncing from one place in the Book to another. You'll open to one passage and think, *Oh! That applies to the situation I've been dealing with!* Then you'll turn to another passage and the Holy Spirit will speak to you through that one.

You might find yourself in Psalm 127:2, for instance, reading about how God “giveth his beloved sleep,” and the Holy Spirit might say to you, *You're staying up too late at night. You need to get to bed earlier and get more rest.* Or you might read in Proverbs 17:22, “A merry heart doeth good like a medicine,” and hear the Holy Spirit tell you to laugh more.

Those may seem like simple instructions, but they can make a big difference in your health. Lack of sleep impairs your immune system. Laughter strengthens it. Medical science has even proven that laughing relieves pain and cures disease.

It's no accident that Philippians 4:4 says, “Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.” The joy of The LORD is your strength! It takes strength to live 110 or 120 years. It takes strength to finish your race here on earth and do everything God has called you to do.

So, rejoice, rest and eat from the good list! Lay claim to the promises in Psalm 91, refuse to let the devil talk you out of them, and live a long, strong, satisfying life! 📌

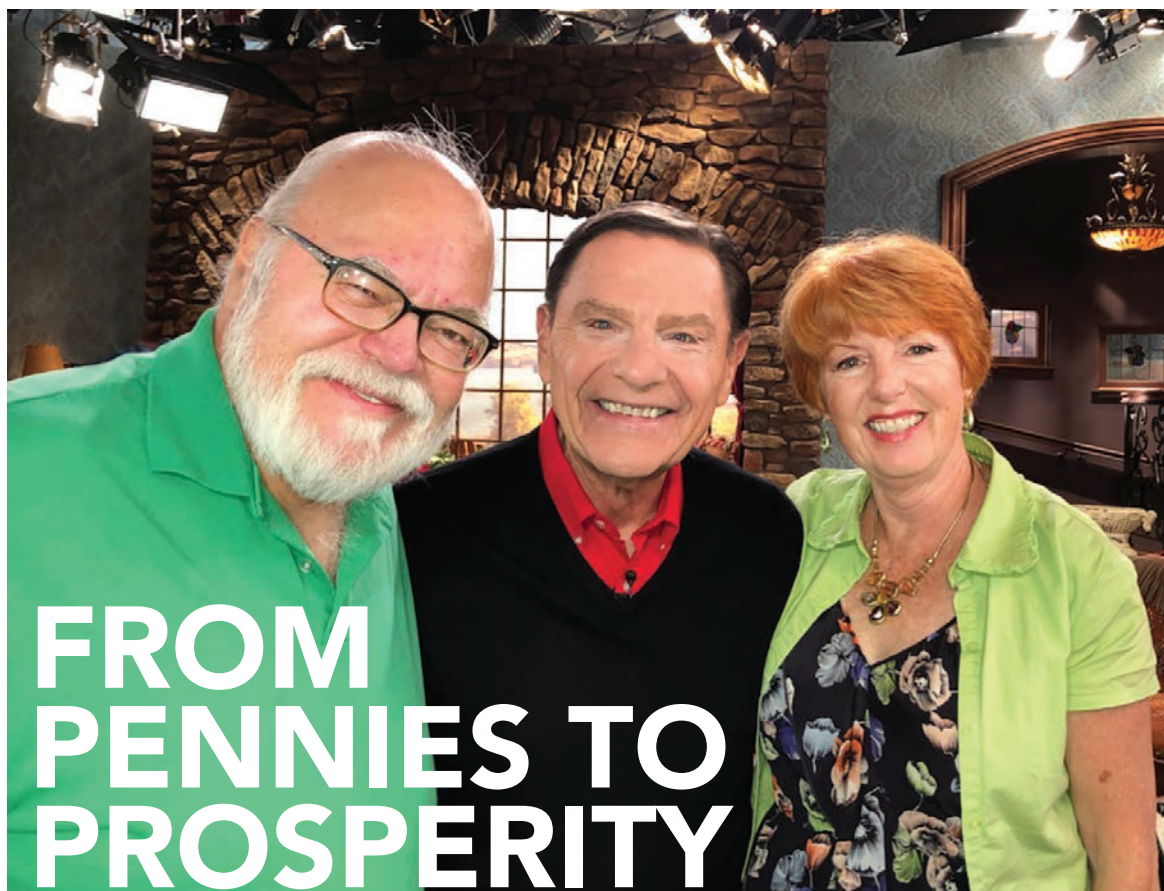
A Tribute to Dick Ervasti

In the fall of 1990, as Dick Ervasti was praying and seeking God about the big dreams he shared with his wife, Mary—one of which was to someday become a world-renowned voice-over actor—the Lord gave Dick a simple solution. *Give your voice-overs,* He said.

A year later, after contacting Kenneth Copeland Ministries, Dick became the official “voice” of KCM, doing voice-overs for the *Believer’s Voice of Victory* TV broadcast, as well as the ministry’s then-radio broadcast—for free. From that time until this past June, when our beloved friend and Partner went home to be with the Lord, that relationship continued. In addition, Dick went on to become one of the world’s most renowned voice-over professionals. Not only was he the onetime voice of the NFL on the FOX network, but his voice has appeared in more than 50 major movie trailers, including *Les Miserables*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Star Wars-Clone Wars*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *Spiderman 3* and *Pirates/At World’s End*.

In November 1995 we wrote about Dick and Mary Ervasti’s amazing journey, and the trials they encountered on their way to receiving God’s victory. As a tribute to our Partner and dear friend, Dick Ervasti, we’re sharing that testimony again.

—The Editors



FROM PENNIES TO PROSPERITY

by Melanie Hemry

IT WAS A HOT, STICKY, HUMID JULY DAY IN MINNEAPOLIS WHEN MARY ERVASTI HAD TURNED HER BACK ON GOD.

What had years of serving Him gotten her? Nothing. She’d had enough. Enough of unanswered prayers. Enough of creditors hounding her day and night. Enough of scrimping to survive. Enough of never having enough.

Her nerves, stretched taut from weeks of stress, recoiled at the shrill jangle of the telephone. *Another bill collector; she thought bitterly, I won’t answer it.* Slamming the door behind her, she felt the stinging wind bite her cheeks as she trudged down the street.

How naive she and Dick had been when they married. Dick with his great dream of becoming a world-renowned, voice-over actor. And *her*. She shook her head, embarrassed at the memory. “Someday,” she’d told Dick earnestly, “I want to have a television ministry.”

A television ministry! The bank was already foreclosing on her house. She’d be surprised if she even had a *television* when her creditors were through.

What had she been thinking? That if she went to church and prayed, God would grant her wishes like Cinderella? Well, it was midnight, and her dreams had not come true.

Shaking off that memory, a long shiver traveled up Mary’s spine as she huddled in her jacket. It wasn’t the whisper of an approaching Minnesota winter that chilled her. It was a thought. A thought more chilling than creditors. A thought more chilling than mountains of debt. A thought more chilling than losing her home.

I’ve reached the midnight of my life, she admitted, so where do I go from here? If God’s power



isn't real...where can I turn for help?

"Those 24 hours were the darkest of my life," Mary remembers. "But when they were over, I had come to the realization that without God—I had nothing.

Learning To Trust God

"From that point on, Dick and I started digging deep into Scripture. It was 1989, and the Copelands had started their daily broadcast. I remember listening to Kenneth teach that God would supply seed to the sower."

Mary knew that if they were going to plant financial seed, God would have to provide it. She was working at a temporary job, and Dick was a weekend disc jockey. Their \$800-per-month income didn't even cover their debts, much less supply them with enough to give.

Fighting depression, Mary took a brisk walk around the neighborhood. Something glinted in the sunlight, and she stooped to find four pennies. *Seed!* Mary didn't have much at home, but she had envelopes...and stamps.

Mary addressed one envelope to Kenneth Copeland Ministries. *Dear Kenneth and Gloria*, she wrote, *This is my seed. I plant it in your ministry.* She mailed the three remaining pennies to three other ministries.

"I thought Mary was crazy to mail those pennies to ministries," Dick admits. "I wanted to plant big things. I didn't realize we had to start where we were."

As Mary began to grasp the law of sowing and reaping, Dick became convicted about their words. "I listened to the Copelands and Charles Capps teach on the power of positive confession," he says. "Our situation was desperate. I knew we were missing it somewhere, and I was determined to get us on course with God. I got a copy of *Prosperity Promises*, and other booklets with scriptural promises. Then I began searching the scriptures. I typed up 200 confessions based on Scripture. I took 100 to confess each day and gave Mary the other 100."

Dick customized his confessions to support his dreams. "Father, I thank You," he said, "that I'm the king of voice-overs in this world. I have an abundance of work, and my voice is heard the world over. I praise You and thank You for it."

While Dick enthusiastically called those things which be not as though they were, Mary floundered.

"I didn't know what I was talking about when I made those confessions," Mary admits. "I had no idea what it meant to inherit the blessings of Abraham. My mind balked."

Finally, Mary realized that, just like the pennies she planted, she'd have to begin right where she was. Each day she summoned up the strength to say, "I believe I have faith to say my confessions."

Knowing that they would see a change soon, Dick began planning their income. After one month—it had *decreased*. Dick studied the figures, then walked into the kitchen.

"Do you have anything against me?" he asked quietly.

Mary looked at her husband. Did she have anything against him? Suddenly she felt a pang of bitterness as she thought of the time she had listened to his advice about a business venture and ended up losing her house...and the time he refused to let their friends help them move—and then went to work, leaving her to unpack alone.

"Yes," Mary said, "I do." That night, they took their hurts and offenses to the Lord and forgave each other. From that time forward, their income slowly began to increase.

"I learned an invaluable truth," Dick says, "when things go wrong, don't look around—look in the mirror."

Roadblocks Behind Them

They started their confessions in March of 1990. On July 6, Mary wrote in her Bible, *I was afraid a month or two ago to make all those positive confessions. Now my faith is at a place where I want to work on them all.*

No longer did Dick and Mary confess 100 scriptures each day. Instead, they each began confessing all 200 every day.

"I got a full-time job as a disc jockey in the fall of 1989," Dick recalls. "In 1990, I began praying and believing God for voice-over work—basically being the unseen voice that narrates on commercials, movie previews and TV previews. In the spring of 1990, after we began our confessions, I got work being the voice of three radio stations making \$25,000. One year later, I was working on 12 radio stations, making \$35,000."

Clearly, God was blessing the small amount of seed the Ervastis had been able to plant. But they had big dreams. That meant they needed to plant more seed. But how? They were already giving all they could afford.

In the fall of 1990, Dick began praying about



Our situation was desperate. I knew we were missing it somewhere, and I was determined to get us on course with God.



it. The Lord provided a simple solution. *Give your voice-overs*, He said.

"I sent a demo tape to Kenneth Copeland Ministries offering to give my voice-overs," Dick explains. "For a year they didn't take me up on my offer, but God honored the seed anyway. That year I went from 12 radio stations to 112!"

In the fall of 1991, Dick began doing voice-overs for KCM's television and radio ministry—free. "The value of one commercial that airs worldwide is

\$20,000," Dick explains. "I've done hundreds of these for the Copelands. They offered to pay me, but I didn't want to be paid. I wanted to give my services to them and believe God for a hundredfold return. I knew that would be more profitable!"



Word-Based Confessions

As the months passed, Dick and Mary each continued

to spend 30 minutes a day confessing scripture: "As we give, our gifts are measured back to us in a full and overflowing measure, pressed down and shaken together to make room for more—and running over!" they'd say. "The measure we use to give is the measure used to measure back to us. We look for ways to give and we find them.

"We decide for ourselves what we can give cheerfully, and we are not forced. Because God prizes cheerful givers, He is able to make it up to us by giving us all we need and more so that we have enough for ourselves and plenty to give others."

As time went by, the Holy Spirit prompted them to add to or change certain confessions. For example, instead of simply saying they had all things in abundance, He instructed them to say that they have *abundantly increasing, continuously flowing supply*.

"We added that to all our confessions," Mary says. "We confess abundantly increasing, continuously flowing, prosperous weekly tithe... abundantly increasing, continuously flowing, weekly offering...weekly income, financial assets, collections, financial resources, relationships, and health and wisdom. We also confess that we live totally and completely debt free in all things and in every way. We pay cash up front for everything we buy."

In 1993, those confessions were put to the test. Dick moved his business to Los Angeles—the home of 50,000 actors, 4,000 of whom specialize in voice-overs. A voice-over actor who gets any job with an

agent the first year is considered very talented. Yet Dick got work the first week—and within a month, he was working with the Walt Disney Company. By the end of 1993, Dick's business was bringing in as much as \$25,000 a month.

Dick soon realized, however, that despite his financial success, he still had to stay on his spiritual toes. "In 1994, I hit a brick wall," he says. "My income had dropped to a fraction of what it had been in 1993. I was so discouraged, I considered moving back to Minneapolis."

Instead, Dick fervently sought the Lord. What he found out surprised him. The Lord revealed to him that his confessions had become so routine that he'd unintentionally stopped reverencing the Word. *Wait on Me*, the Holy Spirit cautioned. *Stop confessing completely unless I tell you what to say*.

Dick obeyed and made adjustments as the Lord directed. Then, just a few months later, he got the opportunity of a lifetime—he auditioned to become the voice of Fox football.

Once again, the Holy Spirit spoke to Dick's heart. *It's yours!* He said. Dick called Mary and asked for her agreement.

Today, Dick is the voice of sports for Fox television. That one contract pays him more *per month* than he made his first two years in radio as a disc jockey.

"Last year I looked at my tax returns," Dick says. "I gave more in tithes and offerings than I made in radio in 1989."

What about Mary? She too is standing in her dream. After working full time for two and a half years helping Dick at no salary ("Plant it as seed in your ministry!" Dick urged), the tables have turned. Now, Dick sows his time and talent as producer of Mary's radio ministry, "The Practical World of Faith."

Mary believes that living by faith is the most practical thing in the world. She is reminded daily of that fact. It isn't so much the big things that make her pause: their home in Southern California, healthy bank statements, the shiny new sports car they bought with cash. It's not even so much the flashing red light that signals she's recording her next radio show.

Certainly, those things are nice. But what really matters to Mary is the One who provided them. The One who was there for her at the midnight hour. The God of Abraham who gave her seed to sow...and then supplied the power to make it grow.

Mary thinks of Him each time she sees a penny on the ground.

Mary doesn't pick up pennies anymore. Now she leaves them for someone else who may need that seed to plant for himself. ♻️

by Kenneth Copeland



THE ABCs OF Abundance

RIGHT NOW, MANY OF US ARE FACING NEEDS. BIG NEEDS. NEEDS SO GREAT THAT WITHOUT THE DIRECT INTERVENTION OF GOD, THEY CAN'T POSSIBLY BE MET. BECAUSE OF THAT, WE NEED TO BE MORE CERTAIN THAN EVER BEFORE THAT WE UNDERSTAND—AND ABIDE BY—GOD'S LAWS OF ABUNDANCE. THOSE LAWS ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT—BUT, PRAISE GOD, THEY'RE NOT COMPLICATED. IN FACT, THEY'RE AS SIMPLE AS ABC.



A: Decide To Plant

In Mark 4, Jesus compared the workings of the kingdom of God to planting seeds in the earth. "When [the seed] is sown," He said, "it grows up and becomes greater..." (verse 32, *New King James Version*).

Notice, He didn't say that when the seed is sown it occasionally grows up and becomes greater. Or it grows up and becomes greater if it's God's will. He said, "It grows up and becomes greater." Period.

God's economy isn't like ours. It isn't up one day and down the other. It's always the same and it always works perfectly. If you have good earth, good seed and good water, you will have growth. It's inevitable. The laws of God will produce that increase every single time.

So, if you're facing a need, don't panic—plant a seed!

That seed may take the form of money, time or some other resource you have to give. But, no matter what form it takes, you need to understand that the gift itself isn't really your seed. There's no life in it.

It's just the husk.

There are people who've planted husks for years. But, because they didn't put any life in them, nothing ever came up. So don't just plunk a husk in the offering bucket when it goes by. Put life in it first. Praise and worship God over it. Say, "LORD, I'm offering You my goods to do Your work with, and as I bring You my goods, I bring myself. I give myself to You spirit, soul and body."

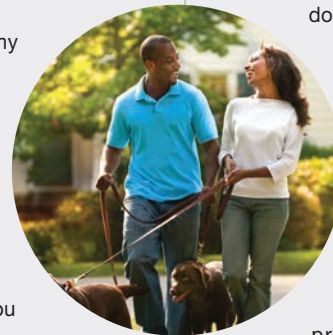
Pray over that seed. Fill it with faith, worship and The WORD. Then it will be ready to plant.

B: Find Good Ground

Out in West Texas on my grandfather's farm, there were big white patches of caliche. It's the most worthless dirt in the world when it comes to planting seed. It won't grow anything. I don't care how fine your seed is, if you plant it in caliche, you won't get a crop.

There are some ministries that, spiritually, are just like caliche. They aren't good ground for your seed. So before you give, pray about where that gift should go.

Don't rely on your own judgment. Don't reason it out and say, "Well, this preacher over here is screaming and crying and saying he's going under, so I guess I'll give to him." You go to The LORD of the tithe and find out where He wants you to put your money. He's the only One who can direct you to truly good ground every time.



C: Water!

Once your good seed is in good ground, keep watering it with The WORD of God. Speak faith over it all week long. Call forth the growth of that seed by calling "those things which be not as though they were" (Romans 4:17). It may just be a little seed, but you need to start calling it grown.

You may say, "Well, Brother, I believe in telling things like they are."

You won't ever see any growth in your life then, because spiritual things grow as words are released. That's God's way.

Charles Capps said the one who "tells things like they are" is like the guy who went out on the porch to give his dog a bone. When he got out there, he found the dog wasn't there—just the cat. So he started saying, "Here kitty, kitty, kitty."

His neighbor said, "I thought you wanted to give that bone to the dog."

"I did," answered his friend, "but I like to say it like it is—and the cat, not the dog, is the one that's here."

Don't be like that guy. Call the dog. He'll come. Water your seed with words of faith. Don't call poverty if you don't want poverty. Call yourself prosperous. Call that need met. Before long, you'll be so full of joy and so full of expectancy that even the watering will be fun!

Find good soil. Plant the seed. Water it. Then as Mark 4:27 says, all you have to do is "sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up..."

"But I don't understand how that works!" you say.

It doesn't matter. Just do it. Plant and water. Sleep and rise. Sure enough, one of these mornings you'll wake up to an abundant harvest! 🌱



TESTIMONIES
OF REAL-LIFE
VICTORY

Sowing and Reaping

I praise the Lord for His faithfulness and for *The Prosperous Life* program! After months of consistently sowing, I received a \$400 health-and-wellness gift card from my insurance company. This truly is a blessing; I can use it for groceries and other household items. Thank you for your prayers!

K.E. | High Point, N.C.

Migraine—GONE!

I have dealt with migraines for 40 years. I woke up with one this morning. While watching Sister Copeland's program *God Wants You Well*, I recited the prayer she gave. And when I finished—the migraine was GONE! Thank You, Father!

D.B. | Oregon

'Richly Blessed'

I want to thank you for the CDs I received in the mail. What a lovely gift. Kenneth, your voice was so anointed as you glorified our Lord in word and song, and I was richly blessed. Gloria, I want you to know how much I enjoyed you when you gave the message with Billye Brim, and recently as you had the Bible study with your son-in-law.

F.W. | South Dakota

Celebrating Victory

Thank you so very much for remembering my birthday (82 years). Thank you even more for the scripture cards. I shall celebrate another year of victory, in Jesus' Name. A.P. | New Jersey

Harvest Time!

I prayed to God to sow a blessing seed of R25 a week to KCM Africa (which I do not always have), but last week I sowed R50. The next day, a lady came to my house and gave me an R500 grocery voucher. I thank Gloria Copeland and Pastor George Pearsons for their teachings. Praise the Lord!

And after months of being unemployed, I was hired by a new company for exactly the excellent salary that I believed God for. I am excited at the prospect of becoming stronger as a Partner of KCM Africa. Thank you very much for your prayer.

R.M. | South Africa

"No matter how impossible your situation may seem, The LORD has the plan to deliver you."

—Kenneth Copeland



Surprise Change

I am a nurse working on a unit with COVID patients. Although I did not actually care for patients with COVID, we were all called for mandatory testing. After testing, I checked my chart and it said I tested positive. I called the prayer line to agree with me that I would not exhibit any symptoms. However, two days after the prayer, the Holy Spirit directed me to check my chart again. When I did, the results had changed to negative for COVID. Praise be to our God! M.D. | Florida

'Marvelous in My Eyes'

Last year, when Brother Copeland came for the annual Ministers Conference in Nigeria, I sent a few dollars with my pastor for the offering.

Early this year, my organization nominated me to a fully paid course in Germany. It is the Lord's hand upon me, and it is marvelous in my eyes.

Nigeria

Transformed!

At one time I was a regular caller to the prayer lines—until I discovered VICTORY Channel® in 2018. I made the decision to plug into VICTORY nearly 24/7. What has come about, over time, has been a complete transformation. As a former foster child, I am getting rid of some of the mental and emotional trauma that can result. I have come to know that I have a Father in heaven who wants me and loves me very much. Everything I've heard on VICTORY has brought me to the whole point of the network's existence: VICTORY!

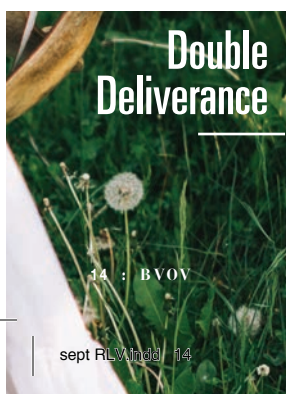
T.M. | New Mexico

Truth-Filled Encouragement

I cannot give thanks enough for your broadcasts on VICTORY of *FlashPoint* and *America Stands* [now *VICTORY News*]. These are so very important, encouraging and truth-filled! I write down the prophecies and share them with others. I haven't doubted God whatsoever...thrilled in God about KCM and VICTORY Channel. I also watch on YouTube®.

Isn't this a grand life from God!

E.J. | California



Double Deliverance

I called the prayer line for help as I had relapsed and had been drinking, which was my usual response to strife in my family. A few minutes after the call I felt a freedom

from the desire to drink and I started praising God and thanked Him throughout the night. The next day, I turned on *Victorious Living* and Brother Copeland was speaking about strife,

which has furthered my deliverance. Praise God and thank you, KCM. I am now free from alcohol and strife!

L.J. | Wisconsin

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SALVATION PRAYER

If you do not know Jesus as your Savior 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, "Whoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved" and "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Acts 2:21; Romans 10:9). You said my salvation would be the result of Your Holy Spirit giving me new birth by coming to live in me (John 3:5-6, 15-16; Romans 8:9-11) and that if I would ask, You would fill me with Your Spirit and give me the ability to speak with other tongues (Luke 11:13; Acts 2:4).

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

connect with us

If you have just prayed this prayer, please let us know of your decision. We have a Free Gift to help you begin your new life in Jesus!
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The KCM prayer team prayed for me many times, and I've gone from size 54 to 38; from weighing 360 to 226. Praise God! No operation or fad diet, just prayer and wisdom that HE gave me.

B.M. | California

Read more inspiring testimonies.



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— SEMPER FIDELIS —

Always Faithful

Kent Pate knew how to be a great father because he'd had a great father. His dad, a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps, had raised him with a high level of integrity and honor. His home, growing up, had reminded him of boot camp, only abounding in love.

Kent was thrilled when God added daughter Kayley to the two boys that he and Priscilla had. So why did he feel as though he didn't have what he needed to parent them? He thought back to that cold January morning when he was 11 years old. That's when his dad's best friend had broken the news. His dad had been killed in a car wreck. For the next six years, Kent had lived in an alien world that hadn't included a father. A world without protection or direction.

Then, when he was 17, he'd gone to an Independence Day party. When he stepped into the house, he felt at home. It was a family of Marines. The same strong leadership. The same core values. But with an added bonus—a beautiful daughter named Priscilla who Kent realized would be the best wife a man could have.

— by *Melanie Hemry* —



READ
THROUGH
THE BIBLE

SEPT

		Old Testament	New Testament
Wed	1	Job 11:1-13:19	Eph. 6
Thu	2	Job 13:20-15:35	Phil. 1
Fri	3	Job 16-18	Phil. 2
Sat	4	Job 19-20	
Sun	5	Ps. 105; Prov. 22:1-16	
Mon	6	Job 21-22	Phil. 3
Tue	7	Job 23-26	Phil. 4
Wed	8	Job 27:1-29:6	Col. 1
Thu	9	Job 29:7-31:15	Col. 2
Fri	10	Job 31:16-33:18	Col. 3
Sat	11	Job 33:19-35:18	
Sun	12	Ps. 106; Prov. 22:17-29	
Mon	13	Job 36:1-38:11	Col. 4
Tue	14	Job 38:12-39:30	1 Thess. 1
Wed	15	Job 40-42	1 Thess. 2
Thu	16	Eccl. 1-3	1 Thess. 3
Fri	17	Eccl. 4:1-7:12	1 Thess. 4
Sat	18	Eccl. 7:13-10:7	
Sun	19	Ps. 107; Prov. 23:1-28	
Mon	20	Eccl. 10:8-Songs 2:7	1 Thess. 5
Tue	21	Songs 2:8-6:10	2 Thess. 1
Wed	22	Songs 6:11-Isa. 1:31	2 Thess. 2
Thu	23	Isa. 2:1-5:7	2 Thess. 3
Fri	24	Isa. 5:8-7:25	1 Tim. 1
Sat	25	Isa. 8:1-10:19	
Sun	26	Ps. 108-109; Prov. 23:29-24:22	
Mon	27	Isa. 10:20-13:22	1 Tim. 2
Tue	28	Isa. 14-17	1 Tim. 3
Wed	29	Isa. 18:1-22:14	1 Tim. 4
Thu	30	Isa. 22:15-25:12	1 Tim. 5

“What’s going on with you?” Priscilla asked, bringing Kent back to the present.

“I think I’m feeling overwhelmed by the burdens of life and the responsibilities of being a parent,” Kent admitted. “I had a great role model as a father but only until I was 11. After that, I had none. I feel like I’m missing some things I need to be a good dad, a good husband and a better person. It’s not that I’m unhappy. I love our marriage. I love our family. I enjoy my job. But something’s missing.”

Priscilla kissed him goodbye, determined to pray.

Kent worked as a field engineer for NASA and other high-tech companies. At the office, he was asked to install high-tech power supplies in a church.

“A church? We’ve never worked on a church before.”

“No, this is the first one.”

When Kent returned home that evening, Priscilla took one look at him and said, “Where have you been?”

“What do you mean?” he asked.

“You don’t look like yourself. You’re...*glowing*.”

A Big Change

“I told Priscilla that I’d met a little man at a great big church,” Kent remembers. “The church I was sent to was Lakewood Church in Houston. The pastor, John Osteen, asked if he could pray for me. I was filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. I felt as though I’d also been delivered from grief, loneliness and a lot of things that had happened to me as a child.

“Priscilla asked me to pray for her. I tried to remember what Pastor Osteen had prayed over me, and I prayed that over her. It appeared that nothing happened. But the next day she took the kids to school and received the Holy Spirit. Although we were both Christians, the best way I know to describe it was that Jesus became very real to us after that.

“I encountered John Osteen in 1994. We started attending a Methodist church not far from where we lived. That little church was on fire and amazing things were happening. Later that year, someone at church walked up and handed me a cassette tape. It was called *The Word Prevails* by Kenneth Copeland.

“I put it in my cassette player and listened to it

constantly.”

When Priscilla asked him, “Are you going to turn that off?” Kent told her he intended to listen to the tape day and night.

“I had a revelation that I was like a computer,” Kent said. “I believed that if I kept listening to that tape, it would reprogram my internal computer.

“We started putting the Word of God in us, and it transformed our lives. My grandmother gave me a copy of the Copelands’ devotional, *From Faith to Faith*, for my birthday. We started digging into it every day, and we still read it to this day. We’ve given away countless copies. We also watched Brother Copeland on TV and continued listening to his tapes. We were encouraged by all the stories in the *BVOV* magazine.

“The first time we saw Kenneth Copeland speak in person, we felt connected. The things he said, his demeanor, the honor he expressed, the integrity and character were the core values we knew. We had no idea at the time that he had served in the military. Our lives had accelerated to a whole new level of hunger for God. We knew that we could no longer live a normal Christian life. We had a call to full-time ministry.”

In 1995, Kent applied for Jerry Savelle’s School of World Evangelism. Without waiting to receive a letter of acceptance, he resigned from his job, loaded up Priscilla and their three children in their vehicle, and headed to Fort Worth, Texas.

“I don’t know what I expected when I started school, but it wasn’t to be asked to become director of evangelism,” Kent recalls. “I had lots of training as a field engineer. I knew nothing about evangelism. I couldn’t figure out why God would put me in such a situation.

“I felt stretched so far that I did a *lot* of praying. Me, the director of evangelism? We had 150 students. Some were pastors and were probably more qualified than I was. I felt very intimidated. The only thing I knew to do was to lay hold of the Word of God and refuse to be moved by my feelings. I kept doing what I knew to do and activating my faith on a daily basis. That experience stretched me so much that it forced me to grow spiritually at a phenomenal rate.”

Leadership Activation

At Jerry Savelle’s school, the Bible students ministered on the streets of Fort Worth, leading people to Christ. Visiting nursing homes, they

We Invite You To Audit a Class!



found people who'd never met Jesus and made the introductions. They prayed for the sick in hospitals. They ministered to those in need at homeless shelters.

Since all the Bible students needed leadership positions to learn how to lead, they had 35 outreaches each week. It was there that Kent learned that leadership wasn't learning something and *saying* something. It was learning something and *doing* something. True leadership was an activation.

Those four years were like a spiritual boot camp. Kent and Priscilla were honored to serve a man of such integrity as Brother Savelle. They were also honored to serve at Eagle Mountain International Church and Kenneth Copeland Ministries. When the time came to launch their own ministry in 1999, God opened supernatural doors. They found themselves on Daystar and TBN.

As they traveled and ministered, they realized that many families and communities lacked strong leadership and strong values. Because of how they'd been raised, they knew that part of their call was to raise up strong leaders.

In June 1999, the Lord sent Kent and Priscilla to the Navajo Nation. Located in Utah, Arizona and New Mexico, the Navajo reservation is the size of West Virginia. They packed their three children into their old van and drove to Sawmill, Ariz., where they worked among the people on a month-long mission.

Afterward, the Lord said, *I want you to go back to Sawmill. I want you to help elderly people rebuild their hogans. I want you to preach revivals and lead people to Christ. I want you to recruit a team from JSMI and go back at Thanksgiving.*

Over Thanksgiving, the Pates took 37 people back to Sawmill. They did everything the Lord asked, including helping rebuild the native dwellings known as hogans. Altogether, they made 17 mission trips to the Navajo reservation. They also began leading corporate leadership programs. Instead of walking in with a Bible, they entered a CEO's office with Christian-based books. During the program, they led people to Christ and prayed for them.

In addition to the U.S., they took their leadership training program into 17 other countries. In Argentina, Brazil, Hungary, Ukraine and Israel, they changed the trajectory of people's lives, helping to build and launch messianic churches for Jewish people. In Belize, they discovered that children only go to school through sixth grade and that many young girls are lured into prostitution and human trafficking. Partnering with a local ministry, they

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“
 THEY MADE
 WRONG
 CHOICES,
 BUT THAT
 DOESN'T
 MAKE THEM
 BAD PEOPLE.
 IT JUST
 MAKES THEM
 HUMAN, LIKE
 THE REST
 OF US.
 ”

offered a way to get the girls off the streets by helping them learn to use sewing machines to make clothing and school uniforms.

Kent and Priscilla also donated clothing, shoes and jewelry for the girls to start a boutique. As a result of this assistance and the Word of God they brought to Belize, nearly 40 girls have graduated from the programs.

A New Door of Ministry

The Lord opened effective doors of ministry all over the world, and Kent and Priscilla never hesitated to go through them. They stayed busy, which is why Kent got off the phone when someone started talking to him about prison ministry. He had enough to do with what God had put on his plate—or so he thought.

As soon as he hung up the phone, Kent heard the Lord say, *When I was in prison, you came to visit Me.*

Picking up the phone, Kent called the man back.

“Hey, brother,” he said, “I perceived that you wanted me to take the leadership training

program into prison. Is that what you were asking? If so, I just need to know the next step.”

Kent and Priscilla stood outside the maximum security prison, looking up. They’d driven by, seeing it from a distance. Up close, it looked bigger. More intimidating. There were guard towers. Guards with guns. Constantine wire. Although the prison was in Texas, it reminded them of Alcatraz.

Priscilla’s heart felt like a jackhammer in her chest. She’d followed Kent all around the world, including into the mountains of Kenya. Sensing her hesitation, the Holy Spirit spoke.

Your greatest blessing is on the other side of your obedience.

“As we went into the prison,” Priscilla recalls, “I kept repeating those words under my breath. ‘My greatest blessing is on the other side of my obedience.’ I can’t describe what happened to my heart when we went inside. Most of those young men were our sons’ ages. If one of my sons was there, I would hope someone would reach out to him.

“I listened to their stories. A lot of them had no parental figures. Many were raised in homes filled with drug addictions. Some of them came from war with scars you can’t see on the outside. Most of them were dealing with traumas, PTSD and anger-management issues.

New Chances

“I don’t ignore that there are consequences to sin. But I also know that the love of God gives second, third and fourth chances or more to people who want to turn their lives around. The first thing we do is love them. We let God’s love shine through us.

“We found our niche ministering to incarcerated veterans. So many have become hardened because they’ve been rejected and forgotten. These men made a commitment to serve our country so that we could be free. They made tremendous sacrifices, not knowing if they would even come home. They made wrong choices, but that doesn’t make them bad people. It just makes them human, like the rest of us.

“They need to know that God loves them. They need new mindsets to change the trajectory of their lives. We went into the prison to teach a four-month course called ‘Beyond Success.’ It’s

Ministering in Belize



a leadership program with evangelism tucked inside. We have a flag on the screen, and each class starts with prayer. They call the meeting to order. They stand at attention and salute. You can hear a pin drop. Then they repeat the Pledge of Allegiance. They are so happy to walk in their identity as military men. It's a very patriotic feeling. After class, we finish with prayer.

"We started with 54 inmates, and we finished with the same number. The director of the prison said those results are unheard of. We have testimony after testimony of changed lives."

One day a Marine sat in the class.

"I have a problem," he told Kent and Priscilla. "I've been here for 27 years, and I've had the same job all that time. I'm tired of it and would like to work in a different area."

"Did you put in a request?" Kent asked.

"No, I don't think they would approve a transfer."

"I'm going to give you an exercise," Kent said. "Part of our reading this week is breaking the spirit of procrastination. For the next 30 days, I want you to say, 'Do it now,' 50 times each morning and 50 times each evening."

The following week, the man told Kent, "On the third day after making these confessions, I thought I would put in my application. I filled it out and took it to my boss. I thought he would reject it and tell me no. I heard your voice in my head saying, 'Do it now.' I gave him my application. He approved it! I don't know how many years ago I could have done it if I'd known this technique. It changed my life."

During the graduation ceremony, each man receives a red cap and gown. The procession starts with a flag corps carrying flags representing each branch of the military. They march in cadence: *Left. Left. Left. Right. Left.*

The flags are presented at the front where they remain during the graduation. There is always a guest speaker, occasionally in full dress uniform. Each man is presented with a beautiful certificate.

"We've found that there are 8400 incarcerated veterans in Texas alone," Kent explains. "I had one man tell me that if he got out today, he wouldn't even know how to make

a call on a cellphone. I realized that when they get out, they need a place to live for a year where they can still study the Word of God and learn how to transition back into society.

"Priscilla and I are praying for a small ranch. A place where they can live in safety. We would continue the leadership program, bring in entrepreneurial opportunities, and help them thrive, not just survive."

Kent and Priscilla Pate are teaching these men the true meaning of the Marine Corps slogan, *Semper Fidelis*. "Always faithful." There is One who is always faithful. His Name is Jesus. He died on the Cross so that no one need ever be left behind. ♡



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**HOW
TO USE
THEIR
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by Kenneth Copeland

The Limitless Power of GOD

GOD NEVER PLANNED FOR YOU TO BE AT THE MERCY
OF THIS WORLD'S FINANCES.

HE PLANNED FOR YOU TO BE A SOURCE OF THOSE FINANCES.

He intends for you, as His child, to be a BLESSING by bringing to this limited world the unlimited resources of your heavenly Father.

Me? you may think. *I don't have enough money to fully meet my own needs—much less be a BLESSING to others!*

No doubt the disciples had similar thoughts when a hungry crowd of more than 5,000 people needed to be fed and Jesus turned to them and asked, "Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" (John 6:5). I imagine they were stunned by the question. They probably wondered why Jesus would even ask it. After all, He knew they didn't have the kind of money it would take to buy dinner for such a multitude.

What could He possibly be thinking?

Actually, the Bible tells us exactly what He was thinking. It says, "This he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do" (verse 6).

Jesus already had a plan from God. He didn't ask

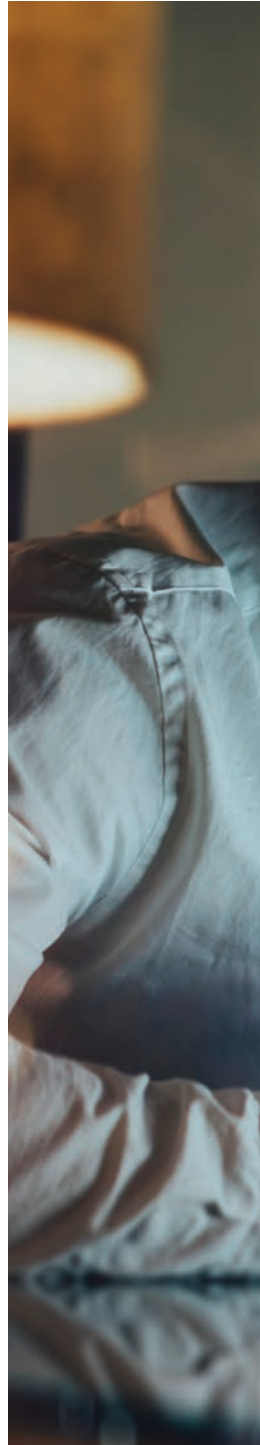
the disciples where they were going to buy bread to feed the crowd because He didn't know what to do. He knew exactly how He was going to feed those 5,000 people.

This was a test to see what the disciples had learned from Jesus. He had been teaching and training them. They'd been watching and listening to Him and knew His basic methods of operation. So, they should have had some idea of what He was going to do.

Who Are You Listening To?

The disciples, however, didn't pass the test. Instead, Philip jumped up and said, "Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little" (verse 7).

Philip's answer proves he never really heard Jesus' question. Jesus didn't ask how much money they had. He didn't say anything about money. He





“Instead of looking to your limited resources in this earth, you’ll have to look to the unlimited resources of heaven!”



simply asked *where* they would buy bread to feed the crowd.

Philip made the same mistake most of us make. He got caught up in thinking about the problem. He was figuring out how many people there were, how much money was in the treasury, and how much bread costs. He was so preoccupied with his own doubts and questions that the problems were

speaking to him more loudly than The LORD. As a result, he answered Jesus without really listening to Him.

We all do that at times, don’t we? We get so focused on our problems that we’re not able to hear the proper questions and answers from The WORD of God. We end up trying to figure out what *we’re* going to do instead of looking to God for what He

can do!

Thankfully, there was one disciple there that day who did hear Jesus' question. It was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. As he was thinking about where they could buy some bread, he saw a young boy who was working as a vendor selling bread and fish to the people. The little fellow had already sold almost all he had, but Andrew brought him to Jesus anyway and said, "There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?" (verse 9).

Andrew was on the right spiritual track when he did that. He had listened and responded to Jesus' question. But he, too, quickly got sidetracked when he started thinking about the limited resources before him instead of his unlimited God. Like Philip, Andrew got caught up in thinking about the problem instead of keeping his attention focused on Jesus.

Interestingly enough, Jesus didn't even reply to Philip and Andrew. He didn't respond to their concerns at all. They hadn't really listened to His question or grasped what He'd been teaching them. So He didn't have anything to say to them.

Get Involved in a Miracle

Remember that the next time God doesn't seem to be answering your questions or addressing your concerns. Maybe it's because you haven't been paying attention to His WORD. Maybe it's because you've been so busy thinking about and reacting to your problems that you've failed to listen to (and act on)



POINTS TO GET YOU THERE:

1

God can do more than just prosper you personally, He is able to make you a financial BLESSING to others as well.
(2 Cor. 9:8)

2

God's prospering grace works first in your life by prompting you to give.
(2 Cor. 8:1-2)

3

If you only have a little to give, start there, and believe God to multiply the seed that you sow.
(2 Cor. 9:10)

4

Giving starts the receiving cycle.
(Luke 6:38)

what He's already said to you. If that's the case, He doesn't have any grounds on which to communicate with you.

That's the position the disciples were in that day. But Jesus didn't leave them there. Instead He gave them one simple instruction: "Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would" (verses 10-11).

Even though the disciples didn't pass the test, Jesus gave them the privilege to take part in what He was doing. Despite their weaknesses, He was still able to capture their thinking and get them involved in a miracle.

In His hands, Jesus took the little loaves and fish that Andrew brought to Him. He BLESSED them, gave each disciple a portion and—miracle of miracles—those portions multiplied and fed the entire crowd! What made that possible?

The anointing of increase!

That is the anointing that's in the hands of Jesus! It's in His ministry. It's in His WORD. It's in His Spirit. It's in His Name. It's in His blood and it is in and on His people! Jesus' disciples had that anointing of increase on them even though they didn't understand it very well.

As a result, they were able to cooperate with Jesus and become a source of BLESSING to thousands of people that day. They were able to give those folks not



"YOU'LL HAVE TO STOP SITTING AROUND THINKING ABOUT YOUR OWN PUNY FINANCIAL ABILITY AND WHAT YOU CAN OR CAN'T DO."

just a little something to eat, as Philip thought, but rather as much bread as they desired.

God Can Handle It

That was the plan of God. He didn't intend for those disciples to be at the mercy of the world's resources that day. He intended them to be the source of those resources! Had they realized that, they would have answered Jesus' question correctly when He asked them, "Where will we buy food that these may eat?" They would have answered, "LORD, there's no place on earth that has enough food for this crowd. It's going to have to come from heaven!"

The same thing is true for you today. You don't have enough natural resources to be the kind of BLESSING to the world God wants you to be. You can't work enough hours to bring in all the money God desires to put in your hands. That means there's another way to get those finances. You'll just have to take the little God has put in your hands and expect Him to multiply it! Instead of looking to your limited resources in this earth, you'll have to look to the unlimited resources of heaven!

But to do that, you'll have to stop sitting around thinking about your own puny financial ability and what you can or can't do. Stop thinking within yourself and start thinking outside yourself. Start thinking inside The WORD and what God can do. When you get outside of yourself and begin to think inside The WORD of God, you get outside of your limitations and into the limitless power of Almighty God!

And His power truly is limitless! He can handle any financial need this world can come up with. In fact, all of them together don't put any kind of strain on God's resources. You could take all the wealth in the world and put it together in a pile and it wouldn't impress God for five seconds. He created it all!

So stop thinking about what you can't do and start thinking about what He can do. When there's a pressing financial need and you start to think, *How in the world am I ever going to get enough to...?* Don't even finish that thought!

Instead, start thinking about Jesus. Let His WORD talk to you. Open your mouth and say, "My God supplies all my needs according to His riches in glory! He is able to make all grace abound toward me, that I, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work!"

Start thinking outside yourself and inside The WORD—and let Jesus BLESS the world through you!



DEADLY ARROWS

In Psalm 64:3, David compared words to arrows. The wicked, he said, "sharpen their tongues like swords and aim cruel words like deadly arrows" (*New International Version*).

I was reminded of this comparison some years ago when I was given a compound bow and a set of razor-tipped arrows. Because of its power and the sharpness of the arrows, this bow is a lethal weapon. Consequently, I have to be careful how I use it.

As long as I have the bowstring in my hand, I'm in control of the arrow. But the moment I release the string, it's no longer in my control. The arrow will simply go where it was pointed. I cannot get it back or slow it down. Once I've loosed it, it's on its way to a target.

And that's exactly how words are. As long as words are in your mind and in your heart, as long as you haven't spoken them, you've got your hand on the bowstring. You're still in control. You can let the bow back down and not shoot at all. But if you let go of the string—speak the words—the arrow flies. There's no way you can recall words once they're spoken.

And if your words are "deadly arrows," they may do unintended harm.

Suppose I carry my bow to work some morning when I'm angry and just start shooting arrows in every direction. What happens? When I cool off and look, I see people lying all around with

arrows sticking out of them.

Of course, I can run over to the nearest victim and apologize. "Oh, man, I'm sorry. I was upset about something. I didn't mean to shoot you. I wasn't even thinking about you. I wasn't aiming for you. I was just shooting. I'm sorry!"

But the trouble is—you're still shot! I can pull the arrow out and pour oil and wine on the wound, but no matter how much I apologize, I can't unsay the words that wounded you. You're still shot, and I have some idle words to give account of to God (Matthew 12:36).

We can avoid disasters like this by following the principles in God's Word. Proverbs 15:28 says, "The heart of the righteous studieth to answer: but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things." And James 1:19 tells us to be "slow to speak."

So, the next time you're tempted to "shoot off your mouth," stop and consider whether your words may become "deadly arrows." Study the effect of your words before you speak, and then you won't have to apologize for them later. 📖



Keith Moore is founder and president of Moore Life Ministries and Faith Life Church in both Branson, Mo., and Sarasota, Fla. For more information visit moorelife.org.



**POSSESS
YOUR
LAND**



by Gloria Copeland



I don't often get spiritual insights while watching the news, but one story that aired a few years back really fired up my faith.

It was about a truck the police had stopped for a traffic violation. For some reason, after they pulled the truck over, the police got suspicious and decided to check out its cargo. What they found was a shocker.

The truck was filled with money—bundles of it—stacked from floor to ceiling!

People don't usually haul their money around in trucks, even if they have a lot of it. So, something fishy was obviously going on. My guess was it had something to do with drugs. But whatever its origin, that money was clearly up to no good.

Looking at the piles of cash in that truck I suddenly remembered Proverbs 13:22. It

says, "The wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just."

Think about all the money in this world that's been gained by wicked men in ungodly ways. Stolen money. Money gained by selling illegal substances and exploiting vulnerable people. Money that in many cases can't even be deposited in banks so it's been buried or hidden somewhere.

God said that money will come to the just!

Who are the just? Those of us who live by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 1:17). Those of us who are walking with Him and obeying His Word. We are the just, and we need to start standing by faith on Proverbs 13:22. We need to get with God's wealth-transfer program!

We don't have any more time to waste. Jesus is coming soon, and He is not coming for a broke Church. He's coming for a glorious Church... and the gold and the glory go together!

The Bible confirms this from Genesis to Revelation. It says, for example, in the beginning, when Adam walked in the glory of God in the Garden of Eden, there was gold there, and the gold of that land was good. It says that God's man of faith, Abraham, was "very



POINTS TO GET YOU THERE:

1

Jesus is not coming for a broke Church; He's coming for a glorious Church that's preaching the gospel to the uttermost parts of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

2

Taking the gospel to the nations takes a lot of money, but we can do it. God is backing us and He's not hurting financially. (Hag. 2:8)

3

God has a wealth-transfer plan that will provide all the resources we need. (Prov. 13:22)

4

God told the Israelites He would put the wealth of the wicked into their hands. (Deut. 6:10-11)

5

The same promise belongs to us, as believers. (Gal. 3:29)

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Kenneth Copeland



Gloria Copeland



George Pearsons

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This Same Jesus
Kenneth Copeland

Sun., Sept. 5
His Word Promises
You a Life Worth Living
Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 6-10
Faith Prepares
Kenneth Copeland

Sun., Sept. 12
How To Live
Well God's Way
Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 13-17
The Untouchables—Part 1
**Gloria Copeland and
George Pearsons**

Sun., Sept. 19
Healing Is Yours Today
Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 20-24
The Untouchables—Part 2
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rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.” That when the Israelites came out of Egypt, led by the cloud of His glory, “He brought them forth also with silver and gold...” (Genesis 2:11-12, 13:2; Psalm 105:37).

The Bible also puts the gold and the glory together in describing Solomon’s Temple. It says in 2 Chronicles 3:7 that the walls were overlaid with pure gold and the priests couldn’t stand up to minister because of the glory of the Lord (2 Chronicles 5:14). Revelation 21 describes the heavenly Jerusalem much the same way. It says the buildings there, and even the streets, are made of pure gold and the city is lit by the glory of God.

The pattern is unmistakable!

“But Gloria,” you might say, “Jesus walked in the glory of God and He wasn’t rich. He was poor.”

No, He wasn’t.

Jesus had so much money coming into His ministry He had to appoint a treasurer. Poor men don’t need treasurers. Poor men can’t support a traveling ministry plus an entire staff of disciples, while at the same time being notorious for giving to the poor at all hours of the day and night. (See John 13:29.)

Jesus couldn’t have been poor! It would have been impossible. Not only would it have hindered His ministry, but it would have been a breach of spiritual law. In His covenant, God promised His people that if they listened to His voice and obeyed His commands, He would give them the “power to get wealth” (Deuteronomy 8:18). He said their storehouses would be blessed. They’d be plenteous in goods. They’d be the head and not the tail (see Deuteronomy 28:8, 11, 13).

Did Jesus listen to God’s voice and obey His commands? Certainly! He always did, and He only did what pleased the Father. So, God must have prospered Him financially. To do otherwise He would have had to break His Word.

A Commission To Fulfill

What’s more, Jesus was commissioned by God to preach all over Israel and in Samaria. He had an assignment from the Father to go from town to town preaching the gospel to the poor, healing the brokenhearted, preaching deliverance to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, setting at liberty them that are bruised, and preaching the acceptable year of the Lord (Luke 4:18-19).

God wouldn’t have given Jesus that assignment without providing the financial resources He

needed to fulfill it. That would be unthinkable. Given that He’s a God of abundance, He would surely have supplied Jesus with more than enough.

As believers, we can expect Him to do the same for us!

Why? Because we’re carrying on Jesus’ mission. Just as the Father sent Jesus, now He has commissioned us to go “into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15).

Preaching the gospel to the whole world takes money! If you don’t have any money, all you can do is witness to people individually within walking distance of home. One-on-one evangelism is good, but if we’re going to bring in the great end-time harvest of souls from the uttermost parts of the earth before Jesus comes back, then we must do more than that. We must do everything it takes to get the gospel out quickly to people all over the globe.

That means sending out missionaries by the multiplied thousands. Holding gospel meetings in every nation. Preaching the Word on radio and television, by satellite, on cable networks, through the internet and every other available voice. It means buying airplanes and building churches that seat great numbers of people.

Doing those things is expensive! Ken and I can testify to it from experience. But we can also testify to the fact that when it comes to getting people born again, healed, delivered and taught the Word, God doesn’t care about cost. He just cares about reaching people.

I remember when He first told us to take the gospel to Eastern Europe. Talk about expensive! When we put our broadcasts on TV there, we not only had to pay for the airtime, in some of the countries where it was still illegal to preach, we had to pay extra to get the stations to keep us on the air.

In addition, we had to go to great lengths to deliver the videotapes to them. Back in those days, we didn’t have the digital capabilities we have today, so we had to physically deliver broadcasts to every station. We couldn’t use the postal service or FedEx® to get them there either. Those services were either undependable or unavailable. So, instead we sent the tapes to Rick and Denise Renner, our friends and Partners in ministry, to be hand-delivered by pastors who worked as couriers for their ministry.

The couriers had to travel all across Eastern Europe, on outdated trains, and face dangerous

Broadcasts subject to change without notice

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conditions to get those broadcasts where they needed to go. Some of the places they went were so remote, they had to travel for two weeks every month just to get there. It was quite a commitment. It took a lot of time and cost a lot of money.

But God led us all to make the investment because He loves every person on earth and wants them to be saved, no matter where they live!

I remember one report that got back to us about a woman who saw the broadcast in a remote area of the Ukraine. She'd never heard the gospel at all and didn't know anyone in her area who was born again. Then, one day she turned on the television and heard Kenneth preaching.

As she was watching him, she said he looked at her and pointed his finger and said, "You're healed!" She had a tumor on her back that had been there all her life and had caused her to be bent over. Suddenly the growth erupted and disappeared. She straightened up immediately and was healed.

I don't know how much money it ultimately took to get the gospel to that woman, but here's one thing I do know: She was worth it!

She's worth it to us. But even more important, she's worth it to Jesus. To Him she's priceless. So is every other human being. That's the reason when He told us to get the gospel out to everyone, and "on every available voice," Jesus didn't add "unless it costs too much." He didn't put a limit on how much He was willing to spend.

Whatever it costs to get someone saved, God can afford it. He isn't hurting financially. He has unlimited resources. He said, "Every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills" (Psalm 50:10). He also said, "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine" (Haggai 2:8).

God created this earth and everything in it. He owns it all. He can give as much of it as He desires to whomever He chooses, and according to Proverbs 13:22, He's chosen to transfer the wealth of the wicked into the hands of the just.

God Can Keep His Promises

"But Gloria, I'm no financial expert. How could God ever get the wealth of the wicked to someone like me? I can't figure that out."

Figuring it out is not your responsibility. That's God's job, and He is well able to get it done.

If you want to see proof, read about what He did for His Old Covenant people in the Promised Land. Even before they went there, He said, "When the LORD your God brings you into the land...[He will]



When it comes to getting people born again, healed, delivered and taught the Word, God doesn't care about cost.



give you large and beautiful cities which you did not build, houses full of all good things, which you did not fill, hewn-out wells which you did not dig, vineyards and olive trees which you did not plant" (Deuteronomy 6:10-11, *New King James Version*). Sure enough, that's exactly what happened. When the Israelites finally rose up by faith and possessed their land, that promise came to pass.

As a believer in Christ, you're Abraham's seed and an heir of the same promise (Galatians 3:29). If you'll believe Him and do what He tells you to do, He'll bring it to pass for you today just like He did for His people thousands of years ago. He'll move on even the worst sinners to do amazing financial favors for you.

I know a Christian couple, for example, who some years ago were negotiating to buy a house from a very ungodly man. Known for being very hard, he didn't even have the reputation of being a good-natured sinner. The couple offered him much less for the house than he was asking, but instead of throwing a fit and acting ugly, he surprised them. He not only accepted their offer

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on the house but he included the furniture in the deal as well.

God moved on him to do that! It was totally against his nature, but under God's influence he found himself thinking, *I'm just going to get rid of this house and all this gorgeous furniture in one whack.* Somehow, that suddenly just seemed to him like the smart thing to do.

Ken had a similar experience with the man who used to own our property at Eagle Mountain. He wasn't a hard man, he was very godly, but he was also a smart businessman. So, when Ken approached him about buying the land and told him we didn't have any money and that we wouldn't borrow any, you'd think the man would have thought we were crazy.

But instead, he came up with a plan that would enable us to buy the property. He offered to sell the land to us in parcels and told us we could sell the gravel that was on it and use the money to help pay for the parcels. There were even buildings already on the land we were able to use as ministry production facilities.

I'm telling you, God is quite an operator! He said in Isaiah 55:1, "Come ye, buy...without money," and that's what He made it possible for us to do.

God enjoys doing that kind of thing! He's looking for believers He can BLESS financially who will honor Him with their increase and support His work. He takes pleasure in prospering His servants (Psalm 35:27).

The entire earth and all the riches in it belong to Him, and He didn't create them for the devil and his bunch. The devil is just a poacher. God created this planet and all its wealth for His people, and He wants to BLESS us with it. He wants to transfer out of the devil's hands everything he's stolen and get it back to us.

That's why for the past 30 or 40 years God has been giving the Body of Christ so much revelation about how to walk in godly prosperity. It's why He's been teaching us about tithing and sowing and reaping; about putting Him first and walking in His ways.

Jesus said in Matthew 6:33, "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" (*Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*). God's ways are His wisdom! With wisdom come "riches and honour" (Proverbs 8:18), and we need those things more than ever right now.

We don't have anymore time to waste! Jesus is coming back soon and He's not coming for a broke Church. He's coming for a glorious Church that's gotten with His wealth-transfer program and is using that wealth to preach the gospel to the whole world.

He's coming for a Church that has risen up by faith and possessed their promised land! 📌

What To Do When...

You Feel Left Out

Commander
Kellie's Corner

IT HAPPENS SOMETIMES. YOU DIDN'T GET PICKED TO BE ON A TEAM. YOU DIDN'T GET INVITED TO A FRIEND'S PARTY. SOME FRIENDS WERE TALKING AND LAUGHING ON THE PLAYGROUND, AND YOU WEREN'T INCLUDED.



What's really going on here? What are the questions you ask yourself when this happens? *ARE they rejecting me? Are they talking about me? What's wrong with me?* Most of the time, when these questions run through your mind, you don't ask anyone if what you are feeling is the TRUTH.

We don't like to admit to others that we feel left out. Too many times, we feel ashamed to say something to a parent or a leader. So guess who wins when we don't get help in this situation? You guessed it, the devil! Our theme for a few months is "What to do when..." **It's important that we know in advance how to handle difficult, confusing or painful situations.**

This month I want to show you not only what to do when you feel left out, I want to show you how to take that weapon out of the devil's hand so he can't lie to you! Feeling left out can occur from something not going your way, a deception of the devil, someone's thoughtless action, or another person's intentionally rude or self-centered behavior. But when you understand the true source of feeling left out, it's easier to resist being harmed or affected by it. Jesus can help you get over it pronto!

Another word for being left out is *rejected*. To *reject* means "to refuse to accept or to consider not good enough." Everyone has experienced feelings like that. Most of the time, those moments pass quickly, and you don't think about them anymore. **The problem comes when there is a hurt place on the**

inside of you that says you ARE rejected! How do you stop that message from having a home in you?

First, remember that Jesus knows how it feels to be rejected. His entire hometown rejected His ministry, help and healing power! I am sure He wanted very much to heal and help his neighbors. He is ready to help you crush rejection! Turn to Him for help with these simple steps. He had to do the same things.

Whether someone means it or not, rejection is a sneaky tool of the devil. He wants you to think there is something wrong with you. So, what can you do when you feel rejected? Say, "No," to that thought as soon as you realize it's there! Even if someone IS rejecting you for some reason, it is NOT about you not being good enough. When someone is unkind, the real problem is ALWAYS in their own heart.

Next, forgive the person who hurt you. Jesus told us to forgive others, so He will help you do it! Whether they meant to hurt you or not, YOU need to forgive. Forgiving someone by faith is like taking a pair of scissors and cutting the string to the hurt moment. This keeps you from carrying that hurt with you. Doesn't that make sense? You don't want to live your life collecting hurts! Superkid, your heart is like a bucket. God wants you to carry everything HE SAYS about you in your bucket, not the hurtful words and actions of others.

It is MOST important for you to know that God has not, is not and NEVER WILL reject you! He wanted you so much that John 3:16 says He

sent His only Son to die for you. "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16, *New Living Translation*).

It was ALWAYS His plan to be your Father God. He can't reject you—you are part of His Son, Jesus. "For it was always in his perfect plan to adopt us as his delightful children, through our union with Jesus, the Anointed One, so that his tremendous love that cascades over us would glorify his grace—for the same love he has for the Beloved, Jesus, he has for us. And this unfolding plan brings him great pleasure!" (Ephesians 1:5-6, *The Passion Translation*).

When we know this, it is much easier to forgive those who hurt us. And not only to forgive; as children of God, we can treat them differently than they treated us. "Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory" (Romans 15:7, *NLT*).

Superkids, when we don't allow the lie of rejection to enter our hearts, the love of God can come flowing freely out of us. Most importantly, we leave the hurt behind and give no place to the devil.

There is one other thing you can do that will truly help you grow in these situations. When you feel rejected, even if you take my advice and do these few powerful steps, go ahead and tell your parents or leader what happened. They can help you understand the situation better. They can minister love to you and pray with you.

Jesus puts people in your life to help you. When you feel rejected, you may feel ashamed and not tell anyone. This is another trick of the enemy. So take every tricky weapon away from him: Run to Jesus, run to those who love you and refuse rejection! You know you belong to God and to your family; and never forget, you are a Superkid. You belong to Superkid Academy!

Well done, Cadet!
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.

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