



BELIEVER'S VOICE OF

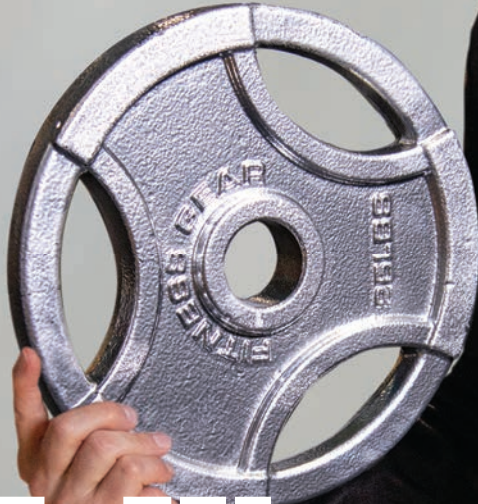
VICTORY

OCT 2022

For years,
family pictures had circulated
showing a 1-year-old

John Heart

wearing a diaper emblazoned with the
words, "FUTURE MR. AMERICA."
Little did anyone know that 47 years
later, Heart would become the oldest
man ever to win the title—at age 48.



It Was P.10
Worth the
Weight

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This year, Kenneth and Gloria Copeland are celebrating 60 years of marriage! In honor of this significant milestone, Brother Copeland has released this new album dedicating two of his all-time favorite love songs to Gloria: “You’re the Best Thing That Ever Happened to Me” and “Misty.” And his desire is that young men will be inspired to play these love songs

while proposing marriage to their forever love!

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Editor's Letter



A Well-Balanced Life!

I've always been somewhat attracted to the verse Isaiah 6:8, where the prophet says, "Then I heard the Lord asking, 'Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?'" I said, 'Here I am. Send me' (*New Living Translation*). I often wonder if I would be so quick to step up and say, "I'll do it!" were someone to ask me for help.

If you're like me, you want to help by saying yes to most every request that comes your way. Problem is, by doing so you can eventually become pulled in so many directions you don't know whether you're coming or going. Before you can get one thing finished you need to start on another.

The good news is it doesn't have to be that way. Not if we set a few priorities.

We can start by asking God for His wisdom so the decisions we make will be the right ones. He will help us acknowledge that we have limitations, and that there are times when it's perfectly OK to give a polite, yet firm no without feeling guilty. He will also teach us how to think clearly, so we know how to plan carefully so we avoid having to face hectic schedules.

God wants us to live well-balanced lives—free of stress and tension, void of confusion and disappointment. First Corinthians 10:13, (*The Message*), says He will "never let you be pushed past your limit; he'll always be there to help you come through it." Don't hesitate to ask God's help in setting priorities for your life. Once He does, trust Him to help you stick to them so you know when you can faithfully say, "Yes, I'll do it."

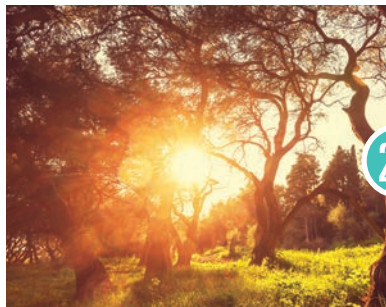
I hope you'll take time and read John Heart's inspiring story of triumph (Page 10) and how, at age 48, he became the oldest man ever to win the Mr. America competition. Today, as the fitness trainer here at KCM, John is using his skills to teach people (myself included) how to live healthy, well-balanced lives.

Ronald C. Jordan
Managing Editor



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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 49 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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"I listened to the Word of God constantly. While I built my body, I knew I had to also be strong emotionally and spiritually."

— John Heart





by Kenneth
Copeland



A Life Worth Living

God never intended for us,
as believers, to wait until we go to heaven
to start enjoying life.

He never planned for us to spend our days on this earth in misery, while singing songs in church about how great life is going to be someday in the sweet by-and-by.

No. Jesus came that we might “have life, and...have it more abundantly” (John 10:10) both in the here and now *and* in the hereafter. As the *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition* puts it, He came that we “may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows).”

People in this world who don’t know God should see us walking in so much victory that they say, “Now, that’s what I call living!” They ought to be following

us around wanting to find out what our secret is.

What exactly is the secret to that kind of victorious life? It’s receiving Jesus Christ as LORD and Savior, and then following the instructions God gave us in Proverbs 3: “My son, forget not my law or teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and years of a life [worth living] and tranquility [inward and outward and continuing through old age till death], these shall they add to you” (verses 1–2, *AMPC*).

Recently, I’ve been preaching from those verses in Healing School. Because



Seeing and hearing The WORD renews your mind, affects the senses of your body, and most importantly, it causes faith to come.



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by Kenneth Copeland
6 messages

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the devil has been working overtime pushing sickness on the world lately, The LORD has led me to major on the fact that one of the benefits we can experience from following the instructions in Proverbs 3 is a life of good physical health. God makes this clear in scripture after scripture. As far as He's concerned, sickness has no place in a life worth living.

Despite what some misguided people have claimed, sickness is never a "BLESSING in disguise." Sickness is a thief! It robs people of days and weeks of their lives. It deprives them of enjoyment and disrupts their tranquility. It is not part of the abundant life, which means we, as believers, don't have to put up with it.

We can get the teachings and WORD of God down in our hearts, receive healing and learn to live in health. We can spend time praying and fellowshiping with The LORD over the pages of our Bible so that when sickness comes knocking, we can rise up by faith and put it to flight.

"But Brother Copeland," someone might say, "right now I'm too busy to spend much time in The WORD and I'm only 30 years old, so I'm still pretty healthy."

I know. I remember being 30. I also remember being 40...50...60 and 70, and these days I'm glad I started immersing myself in God's WORD when I was 30. Because now, at 85, I'm having more fun than ever. I'm in the best physical shape I've ever been. I'm enjoying a life worth living and can personally assure you that whatever time you must spend in The WORD to live this way is worth it!

I understand what it's like to be busy. But let me ask you, how much time do you spend watching secular television, checking social media, and looking at other stuff that won't contribute to you having a life that's worthwhile? How about spending some of that time in The WORD? How about getting up an hour earlier in the morning and spending time reading your Bible and praying in the spirit?

The truth is, you have time if you'll take the time—and time is something you can never get back. So whatever age you happen to be,

take time for God's WORD now so that later you won't look back and wish you had.

Dr. Jesus' Healing Prescription

This isn't just what I recommend, it's what God tells us to do time and again. In Proverbs 4 for instance, He says, "My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh" (verses 20–22).

The Hebrew word translated *health* in that passage literally means "medicine." So this is Dr. Jesus' healing prescription:

Attend to God's WORD. Put it first place in your life and make it your top priority.

Incline your ear to it. Lean toward what God is saying and not away from it. When He tells you in the Scriptures to stay out of strife and quit worrying, don't draw back and start making excuses. Don't think, *Well, a little bit of strife and worry won't hurt me.* It *will* hurt you! Medical science has determined that strife and worry can kill you. So listen to what God said about them and kick them out of your life.

Keep God's healing WORD before your eyes and in the midst of your heart. Don't just read a few verses now and then. Go back to the healing scriptures and read them over and over.

Throughout the years, The LORD has repeatedly reminded me of that third point. Because I know the healing scriptures so well, I can tend to just quote them from memory. But He has directed me not to just recite them, but to look them up in my Bible and reread them.

To be clear, I'm not against memorizing scriptures. It's great to have them so imbedded on the inside of you that they can come up out of your spirit whenever you need them. Still, that's not the same thing as keeping them in



**POINTS
TO GET
YOU
THERE:**

front of your eyes.

Personally, I put the healing scriptures in front of my eyes every morning. I have them written down and taped to my bathroom mirror. As I get ready for the day, I look at them and declare them over myself and my family.

By looking at those scriptures while I'm saying them, I'm putting them into me through my eye gates and my ear gates—the two main avenues through which things get into our hearts. Seeing and hearing The WORD renews your mind, affects the senses of your body, and most importantly, it causes faith to come (Romans 10:17).

I'll never forget the first time I received faith for healing simply by reading a scripture. I was just beginning to learn how to live by The WORD, and I'd been hit with the flu. Oh, I was miserable! It seemed like my whole body hurt. Even my eyebrows hurt!

I'd managed to drive Gloria to the dry cleaners, and while she was in there I opened my Bible to 1 Peter 2:24 where it says that Jesus "bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." At the time, I'd never heard of anyone doing this, but I put my finger on that verse, read it aloud, and prayed a very short prayer: "LORD, I choose to believe this."

That's all I said.

I'd planned on asking Gloria to drive us home because I felt so sick. But by the time she got back in the car a few minutes later, I was already feeling a little better, so I drove us home. When we got there Gloria fixed us a nice supper and I ate. After that I went to bed and the next morning when I woke up, I was fine. Healed from head to foot, just because I chose to believe God's written WORD.

That's how simple it can be to believe for healing. Anyone who has a Bible can do it!

"Not me, Brother Copeland. I don't have that kind of faith."

You do if you're a Christian. God gave you the measure of His very own faith as a gift when you were born again (see Romans 12:3; Ephesians 2:8). You just need to put it to work by finding out what God's WORD says,

1

The secret to a victorious life lies in receiving Jesus Christ as LORD and Savior and then living according to God's WORD.

(Prov. 3:1-2)

2

God's words are His medicine; they're Dr. Jesus' prescription meant to be taken every day.

(Prov. 4:22)

3

Your eye gates and ear gates are the two main avenues through which God's medicine gets into your system.

(Prov. 4:20-21)

4

Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever, and when He was on the earth, He never turned away anyone who came to Him for healing.

(Matt. 8:16)

5

God will heal you as freely as He will forgive you. He's just waiting for you to receive.

(Mark 11:25)

believing it in your heart and saying it with your mouth.

In Mark 11, Jesus taught us how to do this. He said:

Have faith in God. [Or 'Have the God kind of faith.'] For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any (verses 22-25).

Looking for a Receiver

Notice Jesus didn't tell us just to pray and hope something happens. He said, "When ye pray, believe that ye receive." That's something you must remember to do if you want God to be able to get healing to you (or anything else you need to enjoy a life worth living, for that matter). Otherwise, your prayer won't be complete.

To get the picture, think of it like a football game. An outstanding quarterback can throw



great passes all day long. He can put the ball exactly where it's supposed to be, but if the guy he's throwing it to just lets it bounce off his chest, the play won't be a success. The pass won't be completed because the receiver didn't receive.

Much the same thing is true spiritually. God is not looking to hold back on us. He's ready all the time to pour out His BLESSINGS. He's "good to all: and...He will fulfill the desire of them that fear him" (Psalm 145:9, 19). But He needs receivers!

Do you desire healing?

God will fulfill that desire because He loves you and wants you well. He wants it so much He included healing in the plan of Redemption. He sent Jesus to bear your sicknesses and diseases just as surely as He sent Him to bear your sins. God will heal you as freely as He will forgive you. He's just waiting for you to receive.

Sadly, in some Christian circles people have been confused about this. They've been taught that you never know what God is going to do. That He might want you to stay sick for a while to teach you something, or that He might withhold healing from you because you've misbehaved. But such ideas are totally unscriptural!

Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8), and when He was on the earth He never turned away anyone who came to Him for healing. On the contrary, the New Testament 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; for God was with him" (Acts 10:38).

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

"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: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses" (Matthew 8:16-17).

"A great multitude of people...came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases.... And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue (power) out of him, and healed them all" (Luke 6:17, 19).

Surely, among the thousands of sick people who came to Jesus for healing, there must have been someone who still needed to learn some things. Surely, among the multitudes He ministered to there must have been at least a few rascals. Yet He healed them all.

God changes not! If it was His will back then for all to be healed, then it is still His will today (Malachi 3:6). So make the quality decision today to be like the people in the Gospels who came to hear Jesus and be healed. Take time to attend to God's WORD. Put it first place in your life. Take it like medicine by keeping it before your eyes and in your ears. Believe it in your heart and say it with your mouth.

Stand on it in simple, childlike faith like the little boy Brother Oral Roberts used to talk about. Born with feet so malformed he'd never worn a pair of shoes, that little boy showed up at one of Brother Roberts' meetings so convinced he was going to be healed, that he'd brought a new pair of shoes with him to the service. The crowd was so big that night that Brother Roberts couldn't lay hands on everyone. So he had to close the meeting before the little boy could get to him. Not to be denied, however, the boy called out to Brother Roberts as he was leaving.

"I'm supposed to be healed tonight!" he said.

Brother Roberts explained that he was too physically worn out to pray even one more prayer of faith. But the boy wasn't moved. "I don't know anything about that," he said. "I just know I'm supposed to be healed today."

His mother chimed in and added, "You do the praying, we'll do the believing." Long story short, Brother Roberts agreed, and that little boy walked out wearing his new shoes.

Why shouldn't you expect God to do the same kind of thing for you?

After all, He promised you a life worth living.

You're supposed to be in health today. So believe it and receive! 🙏

EVENTS 2022



FlashPoint Live — Omaha

Sept. 15 | Council Bluffs, Iowa

Omaha

Victory Campaign

Oct. 27-29 | Omaha, Neb.

Washington, D.C. Victory Campaign

Nov. 10-12 | Woodbridge, Va.

For updated event information visit:

KCM.ORG/EVENTS



Kenneth Copeland Bible College prepares its graduates to impact the world! Some graduates begin their own ministries and businesses, enter the workforce or continue their education; while others are called to stay at KCM. Graduates Rashad Green (Class of 2020), Matthew Fortier (Class of 2021) and Marah Pope (Class of 2022) are all here on staff with our KCM prayer department and are truly great examples of what KCBC seeks to do in your life. We wanted to share some of their journey with you, so we asked them a few questions.

Q: How has KCBC impacted your life?

“KCBC changed the trajectory of not only my life but also my family’s life. It allowed me to be immersed in the Word and to create a new legacy of faith for my children.... Start with the faith you have and step out, trusting God in every area. What He has called you to do has already been planned, including all you need to fulfill it.” –*Rashad Green, Class of 2020*

Q: Has KCBC equipped you for the call God has put on your life?

“Each instructor was orchestrated by God to speak into my life. During my time, God awoke desires I didn’t know I had. I had no worry about stepping out from KCBC into what He had for me because of the intense discipleship and teaching instilled into me.” –*Marah Pope, Class of 2022*

Q: What would you say to someone thinking about applying for KCBC?

“If the Lord has called you here, don’t delay. Come as quickly as you can because God has special things that He wants to do for you. And where God guides, He provides.” –*Matthew Fortier, Class of 2021*

Q: Do you have any tips for current or future students?

“Enjoy the journey that God has for you in your calling. The journey to and from KCBC is very special, so receive all you can from the classes and others of like-minded faith. As Pastor Terri says, ‘The journey is as valuable as the destination.’” –*Matthew Fortier, Class of 2021*

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It Was Worth the Weight

Sixteen-year-old John Heart walked to his guidance counselor's office and dropped onto the sagging, orange loveseat in the waiting area. He wasn't worried about what she'd say.

A junior in high school, he'd met with her many times. He was a good kid, had never given anyone a problem.

Raised in an Italian Catholic family, his life in Queens, N.Y., had been normal. He was great at sports, focusing on football and baseball. Just as good at academics, John was set to graduate early. He'd already been accepted at Tulane; Louisiana State University; the University of Arizona; Arizona State University; and Stony Brook University, N.Y.

As pleased as his guidance counselor had been with his success, she'd often said, "John, it really seems like you're very good at a lot of things, but not great at any one thing." She'd been right. He'd always succeeded at whatever he did. Yet he had no idea what he wanted to do with his life.

A few minutes later, John was called into her office.

"Listen, we need to pin you down," she explained. "I can tell that you have drive, but it needs a direction. Give me something. Anything. What do you really, really love? What do you want to do with your life?"

John pondered her words. The previous weekend, his uncle had taken him to a bodybuilding seminar. The man who spoke had won the title of Mr. America and Mr. Universe. John hadn't been impressed until the man walked back on stage without his track suit—and flexed his muscles.

From that point, he'd had John's undivided attention.

John shrugged. "Well, my uncle



John and Zalika Heart

**READ
THROUGH
THE BIBLE**

OCT

		Old Testament	New Testament
Sat	1	Isa. 26-28	
Sun	2	Ps. 110-114; Prov. 24:23-34	
Mon	3	Isa. 29-31	1 Tim. 6
Tue	4	Isa. 32-34	2 Tim. 1
Wed	5	Isa. 35:1-37:32	2 Tim. 2
Thu	6	Isa. 37:33-40:26	2 Tim. 3
Fri	7	Isa. 40:27-43:7	2 Tim. 4
Sat	8	Isa. 43:8-45:13	
Sun	9	Ps. 115-118; Prov. 25:1-20	
Mon	10	Isa. 45:14-48:22	Titus 1
Tue	11	Isa. 49-51	Titus 2
Wed	12	Isa. 52:1-56:8	Titus 3
Thu	13	Isa. 56:9-59:21	Philem.
Fri	14	Isa. 60-63	Heb. 1
Sat	15	Isa. 64-66	
Sun	16	Ps. 119:1-48; Prov. 25:21-26:12	
Mon	17	Jer. 1:1-3:5	Heb. 2
Tue	18	Jer. 3:6-5:13	Heb. 3
Wed	19	Jer. 5:14-7:15	Heb. 4
Thu	20	Jer. 7:16-9:26	Heb. 5
Fri	21	Jer. 10-12	Heb. 6
Sat	22	Jer. 13:1-15:9	
Sun	23	Ps. 119:49-88; Prov. 26:13-28	
Mon	24	Jer. 15:10-17:27	Heb. 7
Tue	25	Jer. 18:1-21:10	Heb. 8
Wed	26	Jer. 21:11-23:29	Heb. 9
Thu	27	Jer. 23:30-26:6	Heb. 10
Fri	28	Jer. 26:7-28:17	Heb. 11
Sat	29	Jer. 29:1-31:9	
Sun	30	Ps. 119: 89-136; Prov. 27:1-22	
Mon	31	Jer. 31:10-32:44	Heb. 12

introduced me to bodybuilding this weekend,” he told the counselor. “I *really, really* liked it.”

She rolled her eyes and dropped her head.

“OK, let’s do this,” she said. “Imagine you have the best body in the world. What are you going to do? Show people how to work out for a living?”

She was still laughing when John left her office.

Finding a Purpose

“I was an introverted kid, kind of shy,” John recalls. “When she shamed me, I got up and walked out of the office. I shrugged my shoulders and said, ‘Wow. Training people for a living. That would be the coolest thing in the world.’”

“This was the winter of 1980 and, to be fair, it wasn’t like it is today. These days you can walk into any gym and find trainers working with people. Very few people were doing it in 1980 and most of them were in Los Angeles. I went to a local YMCA and started lifting weights. A year later, I competed as a teenager in the Empire State Championships. I placed really well, taking the top four awards for my age group.

“I was hooked. I just lit up about bodybuilding. It satisfied so many things for me. It wasn’t egotistical. I wasn’t trying to be the biggest guy on the block. I wasn’t interested in showing off in public every day. I wanted to create a sculpture. I wanted to create something, and it just happened to be my body.

“At some point, every bodybuilder has to make a decision. If you want quick success and massive muscles, you take performance-enhancing drugs. These include steroids and growth hormones. They’re prevalent in many athletic departments and easily accessible for kids at a young age.

“I chose to compete in Natural (drug tested) Bodybuilding contests. It instilled great discipline in me and taught me delayed gratification. The problem was that ultimately someone who didn’t take performance-enhancing drugs would have a great challenge beating people who did, and certain contests like the Mr. America were untested events.”

Living the Dream

In 1986, John moved to Los Angeles. While continuing to train himself, he accepted his first client in 1987. Before long, he had what his guidance counselor had mocked him about: a career training people how to work out.

John enjoyed reading the work of Mike Mentzer, a former Mr. America and Mr. Universe. His ideas on training and the science behind them were amazing. One day he posted his phone number in an article and said he was open to training consultations. John called, and Mentzer agreed to mentor him. When Mentzer died, John was asked to take over his phone consultation business.

In 2001, John was training at a gym when a man walked in and looked him over. He knew that John looked good and wasn’t using PEDs. “Hey,” the man said, “are you going to compete in the Natural Mr. Universe competition?”

“What do you mean, the Natural Mr. Universe? Where is it?”

John had never heard of a competition that excluded those who used drugs.

“It’s in Los Angeles,” the man replied. “You’d do really well. You should compete in it.”

John started training for the event. On Nov. 9, 2001, he competed and won the Tall Class of the Natural Mr. Universe competition.

“From this point and forever, this man, winner of the Tall Class, will always be known as Mr. Universe,” the announcer declared. Walking onto the stage John thought, *Well, that was a nice career.* He’d just turned 36 and won the title of Natural Mr. Universe. Now he could retire and do something else with his life. However, there was still nothing he’d rather do.

Supernatural Intervention

The odd thing about winning the title was that family pictures had circulated for years of John wearing diapers that read: *Future Mr. America.* Too bad that the Mr. America competition was no longer being held due to various legal circumstances. Natural Mr. Universe would have to do.

A couple of weeks later, after leaving a gym in Marina del Rey, John was sitting at a traffic light when a huge truck came up from behind and crashed into John’s vehicle. Thinking he was fine, John had his roommate take him home. The next morning, he awoke with

symptoms of a concussion.

A doctor in the ER flashed a light in his eyes. With each stroke of light, John saw a vision of himself:

- As a young child going through a plate glass door
- As a young teen, stranded in a boat in the middle of Long Island Sound
- As a young man experimenting with large quantities of illegal drugs.

Image after image flashed through his mind of things from which he shouldn't have recovered. Some that he didn't remember. Calling his mother, John asked if he had ever fallen through a plate glass door.

"Yes, it happened," his mother said. "It was the strangest thing. You were completely unharmed—not a cut on you."

For some reason, God had kept him alive many times when he should have died. Had he been saved for a purpose?

Once the doctor walked away John said, "God, I'm here for You. What do You need me to do? I need direction." Then he added, "I want to serve You, God."

As a Catholic, John believed in God. He believed that Jesus was the Son of God. What he'd never experienced was a personal relationship with Him. He knew beyond any doubt that what he'd experienced was supernatural. He felt ravenous to know more.

Getting Direction

"I knew that God had spoken to me through those visions," John remembers. "I'd asked God for direction and He provided it in an unexpected way. I was referred to a doctor who specialized in soft tissue injuries. He was a Christian, and he worked on more than my soft tissues.

"He told me to get a *New King James Version* Bible. He wanted me to read the Old Testament in the morning, beginning in Genesis. He wanted me to read the New Testament in the evening, beginning in Matthew. Within a few weeks I was reading Romans. I'll never forget reading Romans 10, which laid out the plan of salvation. If you believe in your heart and

confess with your mouth what the Bible says about Jesus, you will be saved.

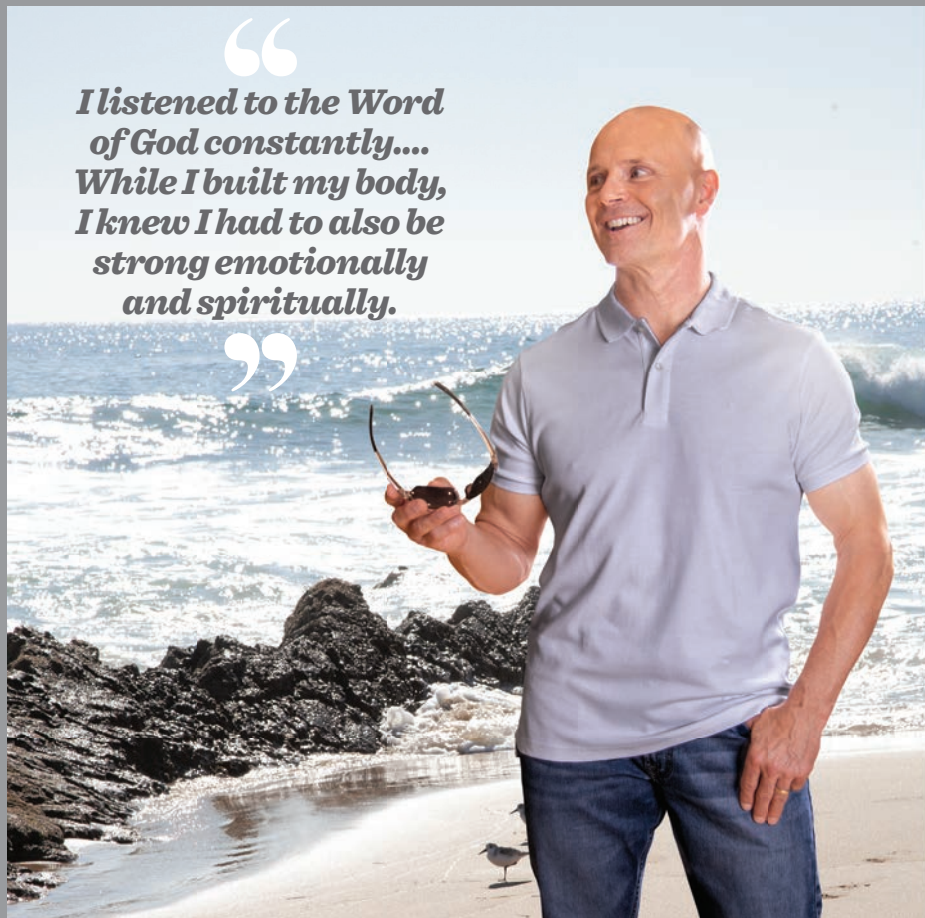
"Faith rose up in me. I said, 'Father, I do believe in my heart and confess with my mouth that Jesus is my Lord and Savior!' My life was never the same from that day. Later, I made a public profession of faith and was baptized.

"I'd met a woman, Zalika, who kept me in the 'friend zone' because she was a Christian and I wasn't. However, over time, Zalika saw the change in me and realized I'd had a true conversion experience.

"She introduced me to her family. In the words of my pastor, her parents were hardcore, faith-walking, tongue-talking, Spirit-filled, demon-stomping, water-walking, earth-shaking, history-making joint heirs with Christ. Her mother gave me a very old package of 12 cassette tapes.

"The tapes were by Kenneth Copeland. I put them in my truck and listened to them over and over. Those tapes were one of the greatest gifts

“
***I listened to the Word
of God constantly...
While I built my body,
I knew I had to also be
strong emotionally
and spiritually.***
”



I ever received. What I heard was electric to me. Zalika and I married in 2003. Kenneth Copeland was the main guy for us. We listened to him all day and went to sleep to the sound of his voice.

“I now had something I loved as much as bodybuilding. I loved saving souls. I was bold on airplanes. I was bold in my private life. I was bold at World Gym. I learned how to walk and live by faith.”

Whatever John heard Kenneth Copeland say, he implemented. One day he told Zalika, “Babe, we’ve got to become *the man!* We don’t want to be the kind of man that *has* needs. We want to be the man who *meets* needs. The kind of man who gives away houses and cars.”

Although John and Zalika haven’t given away a house yet, they’ve given away four cars. One day the Lord pointed out a stranger to John, and told him to give the man a car. When he handed the man the keys, the man fell to the ground, sobbing. His ex-wife had moved far east of L.A. In order to see his daughter, they met halfway. When his car had died, his ex-wife refused to drive the entire distance. As a result, he hadn’t seen his daughter in three months.

Mr. America Is Back!

In the fall of 2011, John stood in a supermarket, opened a bodybuilding magazine, and was surprised at what he saw. The Mr. America competition was back!

Mr. America was the oldest bodybuilding contest in history. Started in 1939, it was shut down in the late 1990s. It had been dormant for years until a man bought the rights to the title, John explained. He’d decided to operate it under the Natural Bodybuilding organization.

Standing in the supermarket aisle, John prayed, “God, You know this has been on my heart my entire life!”

God replied, *You’re wrong about that. I put it on your heart before time began.*

“Father, I need Your permission to do this.”
You have the green light.



John decided to keep it to himself until he prayed it through in tongues. While praying, the Lord directed him to only share it with the person who would help him train. He didn’t even tell Zalika.

For the next seven months, John unleashed everything he had. The whole experience was rough, but he kept a smile on his face every day, in spite of the fact that he was training with great intensity and eating less than their cat.

A month prior to the competition, God gave John the green light to tell Zalika. She was thrilled and booked tickets for them to fly to Secaucus, N.J., for the competition. As time for the competition drew near, John noticed that his body was retaining water. In an effort to flush his system, he drank too much water and retained more fluid. As a consequence, he didn’t eat or drink much in the last couple of days before the competition.

On the day of the competition, John stood ready to receive the title of Mr. America. When the winners were announced, John’s heart sank as the announcer proclaimed, “The title of Light Heavyweight Mr. America goes to...John Heart!” He had won the title in his class, but not the overall title of Mr. America. The man standing next to John had won by *one* vote.

Leaving the airport the next day, John stepped outside to see a limousine waiting for him. The driver stood holding a sign with his name on it, followed by the words “Mr. America.” John walked past the limo, refusing to get in.

“I wouldn’t get in the limo because I *wasn’t* Mr. America,” John admits. “I won my class, but that isn’t the same as winning the overall title. I was so crushed that I wept that night.

“My phone blew up with calls from friends and family congratulating me on being Mr. America. I hated to hear it because I didn’t have the title. Part of the reason I was so upset was that I hadn’t listened to the full counsel of God. Toward the end, I’d done my own thing, and it cost me the title. I repented to God.

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“About a month later, Zalika said, ‘You’re miserable.’ I admitted that I was.”

“Then go back and do it again!” Zalika told him.

“We prayed about it and God told me to do it again. This time, in addition to the physical training and diet, I wore headphones most of the time. I listened to the Word of God constantly. I listened to more Kenneth Copeland than I’d ever heard in my life. I listened to Keith Moore more than I ever had. While I built my body, I knew I had to also be strong emotionally and spiritually.”

The Dream Arises

On April 23, 2013, John Heart competed again and won the overall title of Mr. America.

In 1965, at the age of one year, John had been photographed wearing a diaper declaring: Future Mr. America. It took 47 years, five months and 24 days to receive the title.

“That day, I became the oldest Mr. America since the contest began in 1939,” John explains. “I beat men who were 15 to 25 years younger than me. They looked great. My skin defied my age. My muscle mass defied my age. My attitude defied my age.”

“Over the past 40 years, I’ve walked around injury-free. I can still lift heavy weights, and it doesn’t bother my joints. Although my chronological age is 57, my metabolism and other body functions place my age at 42. So, I’m 15 years younger than my chronological age.”

Today, John and Zalika have been Partners with KCM for 21 years.

“That means the blessing and anointing on this ministry drips down on our lives like the oil dripping from the priest in the Old Testament,” John says.

For years, John Heart had a lucrative business as a trainer in Monrovia, Calif. However, in 2021, he was offered the position as the Wellness Coordinator & Men’s Trainer at KCM. John closed his business, then he, Zalika and their three children—Gabriel, Grace and Isaiah—moved to Fort Worth.

“This is a wonderful company to work for,” John says. “I still love training other people. But here, I get to work for the most influential man in my spiritual life. It doesn’t get better than that.”



“This is a wonderful company to work for... I get to work for the most influential man in my spiritual life. It doesn’t get better than that.”

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TESTIMONIES OF REAL-LIFE VICTORY

Radically Changed Forever

Years ago, I was watching TV with a pile of cocaine in front of me, and this man said with a strong voice, "You, sir, watching me, don't touch that dial. You have money, are living in a nice home with everything money can buy, but you feel empty inside. You must be born again." I repeated the sinner's prayer after him, then felt 100 pounds of weight fall off each shoulder, and I knew that I was radically changed forever. God bless you, Kenneth Copeland, for leading me to Jesus. I will see you at the top, brother.

R.C.

'Filled With TRUTH!'

Thank you so much, KCM and Partners, who have made it possible for VICTORY NEWS! I refuse to watch mainstream media. How refreshing it has been, like drinking from the living water, to be able to watch a news source filled with TRUTH!

R.A. | Ohio

'Better Every Day'

I was watching "A Night of Healing and Miracles." Pastor George, Pastor Gene, Billy Burke and the team were praying for us all. Praise the Lord, He healed me of diverticulosis, and healed my mouth. I'm growing better and better every day in the Name of the Lord Jesus!

Thank you so much for your obedience to the Lord. You are such a blessing to our entire family and friends.

M.A. | Tennessee

'Unity of the Church'

I wept with joy as I watched one of the *FlashPoint* events—the four brothers sharing how they've become friends since coming together on *FlashPoint*, and how one is a pastor, one is a teacher, one is an evangelist and one is a prophet. My husband and I have reached the point of recognizing the enormous need for unity of the Church, especially

in these last days.

I am profoundly grateful for Gene's statement about how although the four may not always agree on every point, they are still unified. Hence, my tears of joy and thankfulness to God for confirming what we're sensing for the local and worldwide Church.

D.N. | Oregon

Showers of Blessings

My husband and I are pastors in the Netherlands. Your broadcasts have been such a blessing!

We got the coronavirus so we watched Healing School videos daily for two weeks. We were pretty sick but my faith level kept going up. In just a few days it seemed like I came alive and we got better—not just in healing, but also financially. God is showering us in blessings, too many to mention.

We are teaching faith to our congregation. We get a lot of backlash since in the Netherlands it seems *prosperity* is a curse word. But we know it is the will of God and now see a shift in the congregation. We are

renting our first building as a church. God has provided so much.

S.W. | Netherlands



"YOU MUST LET THAT WHICH JESUS HAS PUT ON THE INSIDE OF YOU MANIFEST ITSELF ON THE OUTSIDE."

—Gloria Copeland

'Continually Thankful'

I listened to the *BVOV* broadcast with Brother Copeland's great teaching on thanksgiving, and two *EMIC* services where Pastor George preached on the spiritual force of being grateful and thankful to God.

I was checking over my student account; originally I owed \$1,611 to pay off my final class. Well, praise God, I saw that I received a federal Pell Grant for \$812! This brought my balance to \$799. I am sure this amazing debt cancellation was connected to being continually thankful to the Lord! Thank you, KCM, *EMIC* and *VICTORY™* Channel!

J.H. | Georgia

Effective Prayer

I have received healing and comfort from the prayers I've learned from Kenneth and Gloria Copeland. I continue to follow and trust in their ministry because believers need to know how to pray the Word of the Lord for themselves and others.

S.H. | Ohio

Abundant Answer

Within two weeks of leaving for Air Force boot camp, my daughter called and said she had hurt her knee and

was concerned that she wouldn't be able to pass the physical fitness test. I called and asked for prayer. My daughter called back saying she

not only passed her test, she was able to keep her status as an element leader and was promoted, which gives her the opportunity to graduate

with honors. Glory to our good, healing God! Thank you for all your prayer and support.

D.E. | Texas

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, "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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My husband and I stood in faith for his job promotion. He was offered a job but, standing in faith that God had a better plan, we turned it down. A year and three months went by. We pressed into the teachings of KCM and sent offerings by God's grace, tithing when we had increase. With George and Gloria's teachings on VICTORY Channel, we called in our harvest, which came in big time! My husband received a CEO position with a significant pay increase. God answered all our requests and gets all the glory. We are debt free and are close to the Sacramento Victory Campaign location, one of our hearts' desires. We are so grateful for our partnership with KCM and for all your prayers!

D.H. | California

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by Rick Renner



You Have the Power To

STAND

When the Apostle Paul wrote the book of Ephesians, the church at Ephesus was in a mess (see Chapter 4). They were entertaining malice, bitterness and backbiting—attitudes and actions that are not indicative of victorious people.

They had once walked in the power of God, their brains filled with information and knowledge and divine revelation, yet they were clearly living far below what they knew. They needed to wake up and receive a fresh touch of divine power. Paul told them they were:

1. Elected by God, adopted into His family and redeemed (Chapter 1)
2. Saved by God's grace (Chapter 2)

3. Part of the eternal purpose of God in the Church (Chapter 3)

4. Able to operate in the fivefold ministry gifts (Chapter 4)

5. To “be filled with the Spirit” (Chapter 5, verse 18).

Then, after presenting all that, he began his closing thoughts to the Ephesians by starting with the word—*finally*. That may not seem important when you first read it, but in Greek it is vital. It means more than our understanding of *finally*. It means “to the last and most important matter at hand.” In other words, he’d saved the best for last.

A Divine Command

In Ephesians 6:10, Paul wrote, “Finally, my brethren, be strong...”

“THIS IS WHO WE ARE. WE ARE NOT VICTIMS. WE ARE VICTORS.”

He wasn't giving them a suggestion, but rather a divine commandment. The statement *be strong* is imperative in Greek and means: "This is what I want you to do."

It's a compound of two Greek words. The first is *dunamis*, which is normally translated *power* but is so much more than that. Ancient Greeks used the word *dunamis* to describe a force of nature like a hurricane, tornado or earthquake; or the full force of an advancing army.

When compounded with the second word *in*, it means this power has been placed into a container—us! *We* are the containers that God has fashioned to hold this divine power.

Paul knew this was also the word used by classical Greek writers to describe ordinary individuals who received a supernatural touch of the gods and were transformed from mere humans to supernatural beings. He was declaring that when this divine power is placed inside us, it transforms us. We're no longer weaklings, but superheroes of faith!

You've Got the Power

How do we get this *dunamis* power? The answer is in the next three words of Ephesians 6:10: "Finally, my brethren, be strong *in the Lord*" (emphasis mine).

Dunamis power is locked up in the person of Jesus Christ. We can't get it anywhere else. When we're "in Him" as Ephesians 1 says, we're surrounded by His divine power. We're rubbing elbows with it. It's as close as our next breath.

God has made this so easy! He put the power in Jesus, then He put *us* in Jesus. We are immersed in this *dunamis* power. We simply have to take it by faith.

Then Paul went a step further. He said, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, *and in the power of his might.*" Notice that Paul differentiated between *power* and *might*.

The word *power* in the Greek refers to demonstrated, tangible power. It's something

we can *feel*; the kind of power that invaded the tomb and shook the earth when Jesus rose from the dead; the kind of power behind signs and wonders, miracles and the ability to cast out demons.

The word *might* in this verse is the Greek word *ischus*. It could be used to describe a muscle-bound bodybuilder. The picture is one of God flexing His muscles as His power flows through us, visibly and tangibly.

Your Divine Weaponry

In the very next verse, Paul linked God's divine power to divine weaponry. He wrote, "Put on the whole armour of God..." (Ephesians 6:11).

Some people like to wake up in the morning and pretend they're putting on God's armor as a way to connect their faith with this



“
WHEN GOD
PULLS A PHOTO
OF YOU OUT OF HIS
WALLET, HE DOESN'T
SEE YOU AS A
STRUGGLER.
”

verse. When Paul said we should "put on" the armor, he actually used the *same words* that he'd used in verse 10 when he said, "be strong." This divine force of nature, this spiritual hurricane, that transforms us into superhuman beings puts the armor of God on us. When we're walking in God's power, we're *also* walking in the weaponry He provides!

Or, put another way: When God's power hits us, not only does it fill us, but it also puts a helmet on our head, a breastplate on us, gives us a shield and a sword and shoes and a lance. It outfits us with the "whole armor of

God"! He's given us everything we need for the fight. But if we want to be dressed in His armor, we must be walking in His power.

The moment we walk away from the power, we're in trouble. The weaponry will begin to fall off. That's what had happened to the Ephesians. They were saved, but they were standing naked before the enemy. In Acts 19, we read about the Ephesians experiencing mighty miracles. But by the time we read about them in Revelation 2, we see how far they'd drifted from those early days of divine power.

They still had a big church. They still read their Bibles. But they had walked away from the power they'd once known. That's why Jesus commanded them to return to where they'd once been (verse 5).

Spiritual Warfare

Next, we see we must "put on the whole armour of God, *that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil*" (Ephesians 6:11, emphasis mine).

The word *stand* conveys the picture of a Roman soldier standing upright with his head held high, his shoulders thrown back, filled with confidence because of his strength. That's who we are when we have God's power dressing us in His divine weaponry.

Against is the Greek word *pros*, which means standing face to face, eyeball to eyeball. When life hits us with trouble, we don't have to slump over. We can throw our shoulders back and hold our heads high, because we have everything we need to stand confidently against the enemy.

Next, Paul described the powers that are marshaled against us, using that word *pros* again and again because this is what we're to confidently stand against: "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but *against* principalities, *against* powers, *against* the rulers of the darkness of this world, *against* spiritual wickedness in high places" (verse 12, emphasis mine).

In the Greek, the powers described here are referring to enemy forces that are highly organized, disciplined and focused. The enemy takes no chances. He harnesses his

“

Any day you wake up and find evil trying to get in your day, you don't have to take it.

”

troops and dispatches them to be malignant, malevolent and malicious. I'm not trying to scare you. I'm trying to prepare you because the enemy assaulting the church of Ephesus is the same, very real enemy we face today. They had to wake up to the assault, and so do we.

Committed, Organized and Disciplined

I once asked the Lord, "If we have more power and authority than the devil, if we have the blood of Jesus and the Word of God, why does it seem like the devil has so many victories?"

The Holy Spirit replied, *Because the devil has something the Church doesn't have... commitment, organization and discipline.*

The devil is serious about victimizing the human race; whereas the average churchgoer struggles to attend church once a month.

What has happened to our level of commitment, organization and discipline?

We have more power than the enemy. We have more authority. We have the blood. We have the Word. The devil is committed, organized and disciplined, though—something today's Church lacks.

We should, instead, see ourselves as the army of God. If we get more committed, organized and disciplined than the enemy, there will be no stopping us!

Paul continued in verse 13, "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day..." What is "the evil day"? In this particular case, Paul was talking about any day you wake up to evil around you. If you wake up and you're sick, evil has tried to penetrate your day. If you wake up and you've got a problem in your finances, evil has tried to interrupt your day.



Rick Renner and his wife, Denise, moved to Latvia in 1992, and have since pioneered three churches, a Bible school, and a ministerial association in the former USSR.

For more information or ministry materials visit renner.org



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Any day you wake up and find evil trying to get in your day, you don't have to take it. You have received divine power and divine weaponry to withstand!

You'll Be the One Left Standing

Then Paul wrote, "and having done all, to stand" (verse 13). Some people think he meant, "If nothing else works, then just hold on to the end." But if the Word, the blood, the armor and the power of God don't work...standing is *not* going to help. (And by the way, all those things work!)

What did Paul mean? The Greek tense here is significant. It means, "And having brought your battle to an ultimate conclusion." In this verse, Paul prophesied about the ultimate conclusion: "You will be the one left standing."

This is God's snapshot of your future. You may see yourself as a struggler, but when God pulls a photo of you out of His wallet, He doesn't see you as a struggler. He calls the end from the beginning. When He looks at His future snapshot of you, He says, "When this battle is wrapped up, you're going to be standing." That is your eternal perspective.

That's why Paul began his next statement with: "Stand therefore" (verse 14). You're going to be standing at the end anyhow, so you might as well stand up now. Hold your head high. Throw your shoulders back. Put your faith to work and grab everything God has for you!

This is who we are. We are not victims. We are victors. In order for us to stand the way God prophesies, we have to obey verse 10. We must "be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might." When His power flows in us, it transforms us from weaklings into superheroes of faith.

And when His power fills us, it puts His divine weaponry on us so that we can "stand against the wiles of the devil" (verse 11).

Yes, there is a real enemy who is coming against us (verse 12). And if you've dropped your weaponry, it's not too late. Like Paul encouraged the Ephesians, you can pick it up again. This weaponry will enable you to get all the way to the end (verse 13).

When it's all said and done, you'll still be standing! 📖

by Gloria Copeland



Strife Will Keep You Carnal

"For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?"

1 Cor. 3:3

It's bad enough that strife opens the door of our lives to confusion and every evil work (James 3:14-16). That alone should make us resist it with all our might. But that's not all the Bible has to say about it.

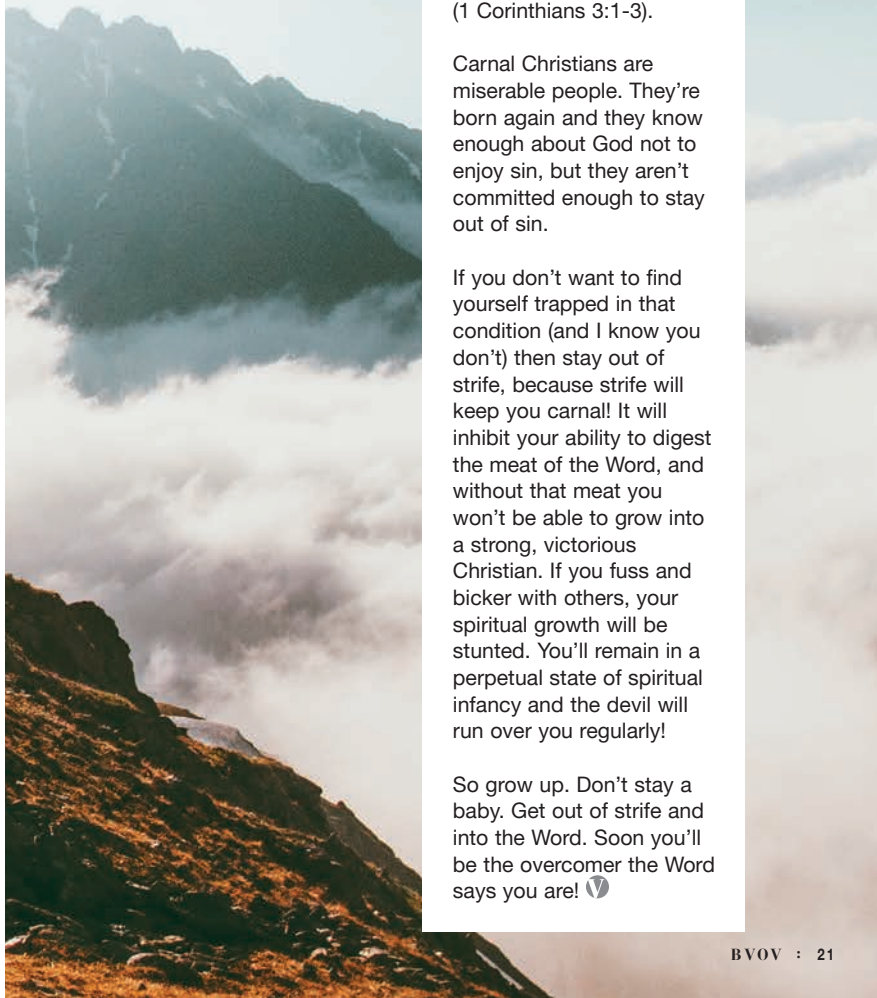
In his letter to the Corinthians, the Apostle Paul gave us even more information about the damaging effects of strife. He wrote:

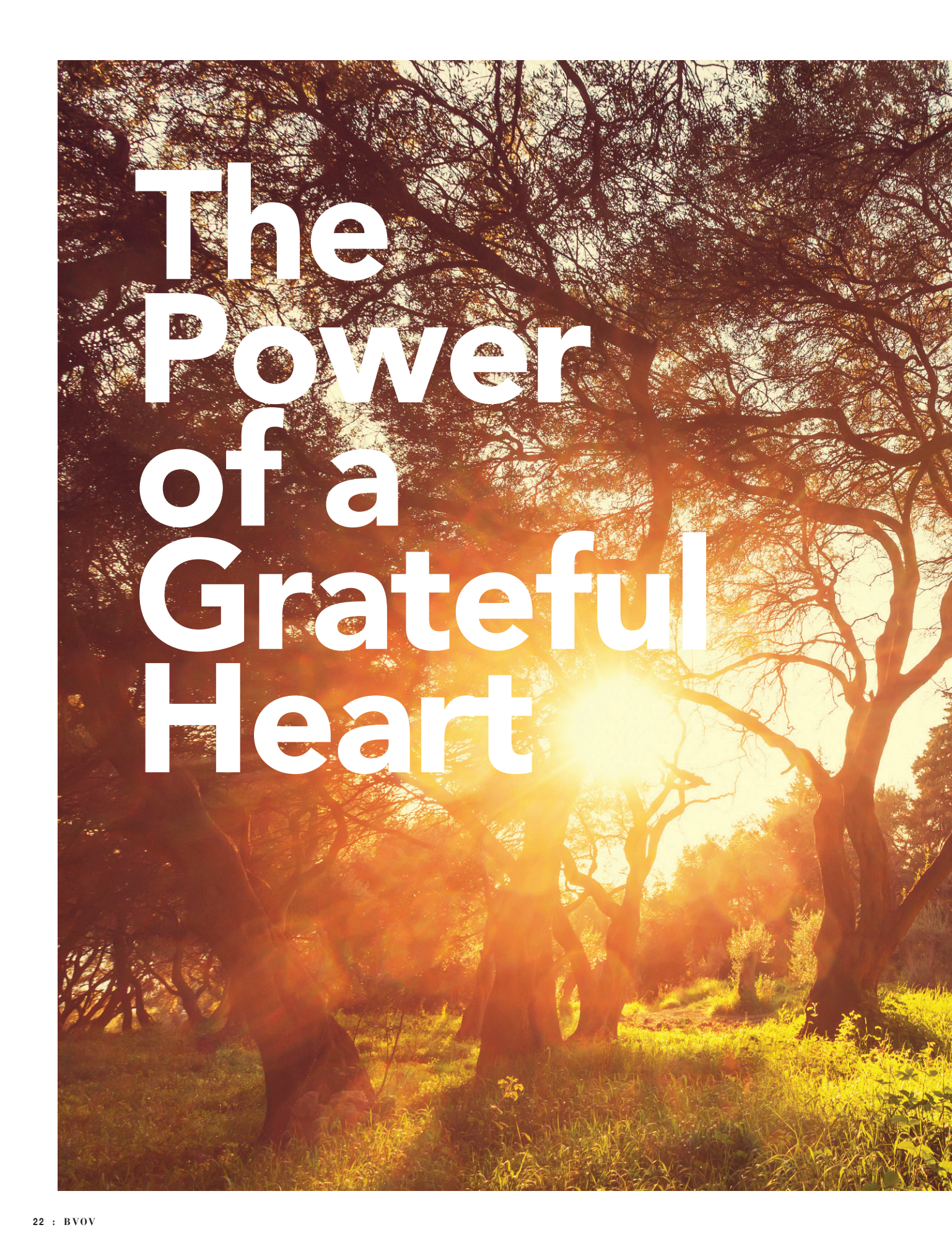
"And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?" (1 Corinthians 3:1-3).

Carnal Christians are miserable people. They're born again and they know enough about God not to enjoy sin, but they aren't committed enough to stay out of sin.

If you don't want to find yourself trapped in that condition (and I know you don't) then stay out of strife, because strife will keep you carnal! It will inhibit your ability to digest the meat of the Word, and without that meat you won't be able to grow into a strong, victorious Christian. If you fuss and bicker with others, your spiritual growth will be stunted. You'll remain in a perpetual state of spiritual infancy and the devil will run over you regularly!

So grow up. Don't stay a baby. Get out of strife and into the Word. Soon you'll be the overcomer the Word says you are! 📖





The Power of a Grateful Heart



I was mad at my legs.

I was mad at the devil and anyone who came near me.

And I hadn't slept in days.

It was just after Labor Day 2004, and I was at the height of one of the most intense battles for healing I'd ever fought. A few days earlier I had ruptured a disc in my back. It felt like a toothache that was 4 1/2 feet long—from my hip to the tips of my toes.

During my life, I have been beaten up, shot, thrown off horses and run over with cars...but never had I hurt as bad as I did at that moment. All I wanted to focus on was the pain and getting free of it.

God met me in it, but in a very different way than I would have imagined.

Back-Porch Praise

There I was on the back porch facing another sleepless night. One heating pad was wrapped around my calf. Another was wrapped around my thigh. Each was held on by a bathrobe sash. The heat was turned as high as I could get it. But nothing seemed to help—I was still lying there on my back crying.

I didn't feel very grateful. I certainly didn't look very grateful.

Right in the middle of all that pain, though, the Spirit of God dropped it in my heart to begin shouting out my gratitude for all my heavenly Father had done for me.

"Oh, Father, I'm so grateful to You! I'm grateful that my other leg doesn't hurt. I'm so grateful my arms aren't hurting, my fingers are all working well, and my head doesn't hurt—it is sleepy, but it doesn't hurt!"

In the midst of all that pain, by an act of obedience I expressed gratitude to God...*by faith!*

More Praise—Less Pain

Being grateful *by faith*.

Not by feeling. Not by temperament. But by a deliberate act of faith, I did something

I'd done many times before. That night on the porch I decided I would no longer talk about the way I felt, my flesh or its condition.

Instead of focusing on the pain and hurt, I filled my thoughts and mouth with gratitude for my life, my family, for all the years I've been in ministry, and for every other good thing that arose in my spirit.

I started praising and thanking God and the more I praised Him, the less pain I had in my leg.



“Expressing gratitude by faith will change everything around you. It will change the whole complexion of your life.”

And as I was expressing my gratitude to Him, God began talking to me.

The more He talked, the better I felt. Each day I progressed; not one day was as bad as the day before.

There were a number of things that brought me to the place where complete healing manifest in my body. Thousands of my Partners; many believers from Spirit-filled churches; faith-talking, true healing-believing doctors; my family and friends; all added their faith to mine.

Nothing, however, had more impact than what began that night on the porch. The moment I began thanking God for all that was

going right in my life, I was on my way out of the problem.

Redirected Focus

If you'll think about it, we only have two real options in times of extreme pressure. Those options are to focus either on the problem...or the gratitude. You cannot do both at the same time.

For instance, what happens if you have one sore finger? You may have nine fingers, toes, arms, ears and numerous other body parts that are working perfectly, but that isn't your focus. No. All you can think about is how you are going to get that one finger healed. You begin confessing healing scriptures and try to decide what else you need to confess or do, to stop the pain.

But if you don't water those confessions with praise and thanksgiving, your focus on the one sore finger—or whatever *problem*—will continue to dominate your thinking.

If you don't redirect your focus, the problem can consume you. So start giving God thanks for everything that is working right. Praise Him for all the good things He has done in your life. As you do, you'll come to a place where you can release your faith and receive your answer.

"Yeah, but Brother Copeland, you don't know what has happened to me."

You're right, I don't. But I do know you're breathing—not pushing up grass!

So just start thanking God for your life! Remind yourself that no matter what your circumstances are—it could be a whole lot worse. You're not dead yet!

And this principle applies to far more than just receiving healing. Expressing gratitude by faith will change everything around you. It will change the whole complexion of your life.

Shouts Silence the Devil

I'm not saying the challenges will be over when you start filling the atmosphere with shouts of praise and thanksgiving. In fact once you begin praising God with purpose, you'll become a prime target for the devil. Why?

It'll scare the daylights out of him when you begin operating in gratitude...and he'll try to stop you.

He'll use the only tactic he possesses. He'll try to steal that WORD out of you by stirring up your flesh. Mark 4:16-17 tells us, "These are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; and have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended."

The enemy will try to get you to become offended. But that will only work if you have no root—if you're not grounded in the love of God.

However if you are loving The LORD your God with all your heart, soul and mind (Matthew 22:37) and expressing your gratefulness for all He has done, you are becoming rooted and grounded in love. That's what Paul wrote to the Ephesians. He said:

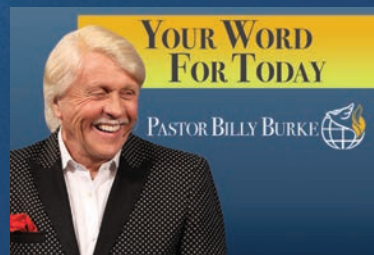
I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God (Ephesians 3:16-19, *New Living Translation*).

Become so filled with His love that offense can't come near you. Praise Him for His marvelous love. Praise Him, and as you do the enemy will be stopped cold because praise "stills the avenger" (Psalm 8:2).

Fill your mouth and the atmosphere with gratitude—thank God for all He is, for all He has done and is doing in your life. You and the world around you will change! 🙏

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by Gloria Copeland

“We get to live in the power and goodness of God and manifest His kingdom before people so they can see it.”

Living

In the Kingdom of God

Do you know why so many miracles happened around Jesus when He was on earth? Do you know why, time and again, when He showed up and people believed what He said, they got supernaturally healed, delivered and set free?

Most Christians would say it was because He is the Son of God. And while that’s certainly who He is, that wasn’t the reason.

Jesus Himself said so.

In Mark 1, He told the people who came to hear Him preach exactly why they could expect to experience the wonderworking power of God

when He ministered. “The time is fulfilled,” He said, “and the kingdom of God is at hand” (verse 15).

The phrase *the time is fulfilled* indicates something began happening when Jesus came on the scene that had not happened before. Through His ministry the kingdom of God—which previously had seemed out of reach, existing not on earth but just off in heaven somewhere—became accessible to people.

“God’s kingdom is here now!” Jesus told them. “This is a new day and there’s a new way. Repent



1

Everywhere Jesus went, if the people received Him and His message, kingdom breakthroughs happened.

(Acts 10:38)

2

When Jesus sent out His disciples, He told them to preach the same message and do the same works He did.

(Luke 10:8-9)

3

Everyday Christians went around sharing the good news and bringing God’s power on the scene.

(Acts 6:8)

4

As believers, we are ambassadors of God’s kingdom; we are in it and it is in us.

(Col. 1:12-13)

5

God’s Word is the key to experiencing kingdom-of-God breakthroughs.

(John 8:31-32)



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and turn away from your sins. Turn your back on your old ways, believe the good news, and come into the kingdom of God!”

Not only did Jesus preach about the coming of God’s kingdom, He also put it on display. Anointed by God with the Holy Ghost and power, He “went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil” (Acts 10:38).

Everywhere Jesus went, if the people received Him and His message, Kingdom breakthroughs happened. Divine power eruptions broke out. Miracles took place. Demonic bondages were destroyed. God’s will was done on earth as in heaven and the kingdom of God became an earthly reality. People experienced its influence in and upon their lives.

“Yes, but Gloria, how can you be sure those things didn’t happen in Jesus’ ministry solely because He’s the sinless Son of God?”

Because when He sent out His disciples He told them to minister just like He did. “Into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you,” He said, “heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you” (Luke 10:8-9). Jesus’ disciples followed His instructions, preached the same message He preached, and got the same supernatural results.

What’s more, after Jesus finished His earthly ministry and ascended to heaven, His disciples stayed with the program. They continued to preach the gospel of the Kingdom and see Kingdom breakthroughs.

So did those who believed their message.

In the book of Acts, everyday Christians went around sharing the good news about Jesus with people and bringing God’s power on the scene. Believers like Stephen, who was not an apostle but simply “a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost,” “did great wonders and miracles among the people” (Acts 6:5, 8).

Jesus had said that believers would do such things. In what today is called the Great Commission, He declared:

“These signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues...they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover... And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations” (Mark

16:17–18; Matthew 24:14).

That’s the commission of the New Testament Church! As born-again believers, we’re all called to proclaim the good news that, through Jesus, God’s kingdom is here; and to display its power. Everywhere we go, supernatural breakthroughs should happen.

When we show up someplace, God’s kingdom should manifest because we are ambassadors of that kingdom. We are in it, and it is in us!

Where the King Has Dominion

“But how can you say we’re in the kingdom of God when we’re still living in this fallen world?” you might ask.

I can say it because the Bible does. It says in Colossians 1:13 that God “hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us”—past tense—“into the kingdom of his dear Son.” As those who’ve been translated into God’s kingdom, we’re in it no matter where we are. It goes with us wherever we go.

So does the King of that kingdom! He’s here with us all the time because He’s living inside us by His Spirit. He’s not in there just hitching a ride, either. He’s come to live in us to fulfill His great purpose. He’s made us His dwelling place because He wants to move in us, for us, and through us to reveal His goodness and His power.

Many times, as believers, we’ve thought we were waiting on God to do something. But really, He’s been waiting on us.

He’s always ready to move. He’s always ready to heal, deliver, meet needs and pour out His blessings on people. That’s why it’s such good news that, through Jesus, God’s kingdom has come near.

These days we don’t think much in terms of kings and kingdoms. But a kingdom is simply where a king has dominion. It’s where he rules and exercises his power and authority; where he is sovereign, or superior to all others.

God is a good King. So, wherever He’s given dominion wonderful things happen. He exercises His sovereign power, which is superior to all others, to overcome evil with good.

This is what happened through Jesus’

ministry. It wasn't by His own power that He did signs and wonders, He did them by the power of God who was in Him. "The Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works" (John 14:10), He said. In other words, Jesus operated as God's kingdom representative. He told people about that kingdom and then showed them what it looks like when a human being, in a flesh and blood body, lives and operates in the power of God.

As believers, you and I get to do the same thing!

We get to tell people the good news that Jesus Christ paid the price for sin so that mankind could be made right with God and walk in His perfect will. Then we get to show them what His will looks like. We get to live in the power and goodness of God and manifest His kingdom before people so they can see it.

When unbelievers look at us they ought to see victory. They ought to see health. They ought to see wealth and all the other promises of God in manifestation.

For us to put the blessings of God's kingdom on display for all the world to see, however, we must learn His *ways*. We must find out how to live in accordance with His kingdom principles and renew our minds with His Word so we can cooperate with Him and His power can flow freely through us.

Is it really possible for us to learn God's ways? you might wonder.

Yes! He's given us everything we need to do it. Even under the old covenant, He went to great lengths to teach His people how to think, talk and act like kingdom-of-God people. He gave them His written Word and wrote down His commandments for them so they'd know how to live in His blessings and enjoy "days of heaven upon the earth" (Deuteronomy 11:21).

Today, we, as new covenant believers, have everything they had—and more! We have God's written Word, PLUS we have God's Spirit in us to help us understand and apply it. Talk about being blessed people! We have the King Himself living in us—teaching us and gracing us to operate in the power of His Word.

God's Word is the key to experiencing His kingdom breakthroughs!

Jesus said, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free"

“**Tired of failure, poverty and defeat we immediately started putting the Word first place in our lives.**”

(John 8:31-32). So if there's any place in our lives where we're not free it's either because there's a truth from the Word we don't know or because there's a truth we know but are not doing.

Being doers of the Word and not just hearers only is how we live in victory. Ken and I can testify to it. Before we got turned on to God's Word, our lives were a mess. Although we were born again and loved the Lord, we knew next to nothing about how He operates. So we kept failing at pretty much everything we tried to do.

Then we heard someone preach about living by faith in the Word, and that changed everything. Tired of failure, poverty and defeat we immediately started putting the Word first place in our lives. We were so thrilled to find out that the Word would make us free, we went all-out to find out what it says and live accordingly.

Now, more than 55 years later, we're still going all-out. We're not going to stop, either.



Kenneth Copeland



George Pearsons



Terri Pearsons

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We've learned that for God's kingdom to continue to manifest in our lives, we must *continue* in the Word. For faith is the victory that overcomes the world, and "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17).

Not by Bread Alone

Notice the phrase *hearing and hearing* speaks of a perpetual, present-tense process. It indicates that you can't store up faith for very long. You can store up knowledge. But to live by faith (which is the foundation of God's kingdom system) you must feed on God's Word daily.

His Word is spirit food! According to Jesus it's as vital to our life as physical food. "Man shall not live by bread alone," He said, "but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4).

How can you tell if you're truly living by the Word of God?

It's the first thing you think of when trouble hits. When sickness attacks your body or your family, you don't think of the doctor first. Although doctors can be of help, you think, *What does the Word say to me about healing?*

When you need money, your first reflex isn't to go to the bank and apply for a loan. Your first thought is what the Word says about how your needs are supplied. Right away, scriptures like Matthew 6:33 come to your mind: "Seek (aim at and strive after) first of all [God's] kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these things taken together will be given you besides" (*Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

Over our years of living by the Word, Ken and I have seen marvelous manifestations of God's kingdom. We've faced situations that didn't look like they could possibly turn out all right. We've encountered problems that looked too big to solve. But we've found if we just continue in the Word, something supernatural always happens that causes us to triumph. Kingdom breakthroughs always come.

God is so good! He's always at work, helping us get what we need. Whether it's healing in our body, more money in our bank account, or something else that we're lacking, He's always

willing and able to supply us with it. He's always ready to reveal to us in His Word and by His Spirit what we need to know and do to release His kingdom power in our lives.

"But Gloria, what if God tells me to do something I can't do?"

I assure you, that won't happen. In our more than half-century of walking with God, He has never told Ken and me to do something we couldn't. He always does the impossible part. He just asks us to do the part that's possible.

Basically, He just asks us to do what the good-ground people did in the parable in Mark 4. Remember that parable? In it, Jesus referred to God's Word as seed and explained what happens when it's sown in people's hearts. He specifically talked about four groups of people.

Wayside-ground people hear the Word but let the devil immediately steal it away from them. Rocky-ground people receive the Word gladly but give up on it when things get tough. Thorny-ground people let the distractions and cares of life choke the Word so that it never bears fruit. And good-ground people "hear the Word and receive and accept and welcome it and bear fruit—some thirty times as much as was sown, some sixty times as much, and some [even] a hundred times as much" (verse 20, *AMPC*).

The way you receive the Word of God determines the degree to which His kingdom can manifest in your life. You're not going to walk in much power if all you do is go to church, hear the Word preached, and say, "Oh, what a nice message." To experience Kingdom breakthroughs, you must take hold of the Word, believe it and act on it.

As Jesus put it, "The measure [of thought and study] you give [to the truth you hear] will be the measure [of virtue and knowledge] that comes back to you" (verse 24, *AMPC*). So honor the Word! Put it first place in your life and make it your final authority. Keep planting it in your heart, let it take root in you, refuse to let the devil steal it, and you will bear the supernatural fruit of God's kingdom.

Wherever you go, Kingdom breakthroughs will happen and the world will see God's goodness and power manifesting through you! 📺

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Jesus Is Listening

Commander Kellie's Corner

SUPERKID, THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT ARE WORKING TOGETHER TO LEAD YOU INTO DISCOVERING WHO YOU ARE.

God wants to show you who He is, teach you who you are, and develop you in the purpose He created you for. He has a plan for your life as Jeremiah 29:11 says, “For I **know** the plans I have for you,” says the LORD. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope” (New Living Translation).

Jesus is the One who **planned** you! Before you were created, He had already planned your life, abilities, strengths and personality with your purpose in mind. Read all about it in Psalm 139:13-16 in *The Passion Translation*. (You can find it online at bible.com.) Notice it says: “You saw who you created me to be before I became me!”

He designed your identity like a blueprint, **then** built you in your mother’s womb. A blueprint is the drawing that an architect designs showing what the owner wants his house to be like. It’s the plan the builder uses.

You are a house! God is the homeowner—the Father, Son and Holy Spirit live in you. Jesus, the Son of God, is the architect—He planned you. He made a blueprint. (It’s even in a book in heaven!) He then built you in your mother’s womb! Your birth is not the end of His work. Though you were born with your identity, finding out who you are is just beginning. Jesus helps you discover all that He put in you. Read on in Psalm 139:17-18, again

in *The Passion Translation*.

When the Bible says His desires are toward you, that means His thoughts (His words) are always flowing to you so that His plans for you become reality. He is thinking of you all the time—developing you, helping you, leading you. Like the builder who builds the house must order parts and instruct the installers, Jesus watches over how the house comes together, even repairing or replacing parts that did not turn out the way He planned. His thoughts are always toward you, based on His plans for you.

In Jeremiah 29:12, 14 (NLT), we see how He is with us to walk us through His plans, “In those days **when you pray, I will listen.... I will be found by you,**” says the Lord.”

“When you pray” not only means you talking to Him, but also you listening. It’s in that place of communication with Jesus where you find your identity. The

Lord was speaking through Jeremiah to His people who had been stolen from Israel, assuring them that He would bring them home again.

This is a picture of Jesus developing the gifts and talents He put in you. He removes obstacles and helps when you make mistakes. He will guide you as you stay in communication with Him. As you grow, He is watching over your future and making the path clear.

Psalm 139 is all about this! Look at verses 23-24, (TPT).

The Bible instructs us to find our identity in Him and in His Word. Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit to make sure we hear what He says. Choosing Him to be the One who defines us, is powerful. Satan tries to derail us, so it’s important to recognize his lies so we can choose the truth. Every time we choose Jesus, we are settled and built up in His truth. Jesus often sends help in the form of parents, teachers, pastors and friends. When your parents or loved ones encourage, teach, correct or support you, they are helping you grow strong in your identity.

Have you asked Jesus what your purpose is? He may speak, show you a picture or give you clues to your future. Ask Jesus to affirm your identity and value, or change your thoughts about your future. There is no wrong question—simply allow Him to answer you. When I don’t know what to ask, He puts a question in my mind when I sit quietly with Him, ready to listen.

By asking Jesus questions, we can quickly erase the lies of the enemy as we hold on to who Jesus says we are and become settled in our **true identity**.

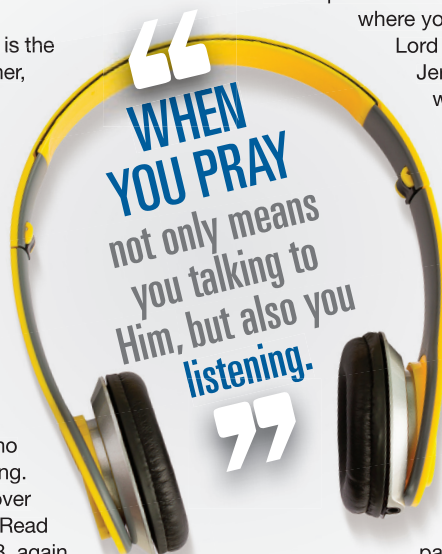
You are important to the kingdom of God. The Creator of the universe would not take the time to plan, design, build and lead someone who is not important. You have His full attention, so start with this question:

Jesus, are You listening?

Now, ask anything you want!

You belong to Him. Always. Forever.

Commander Kellie 



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