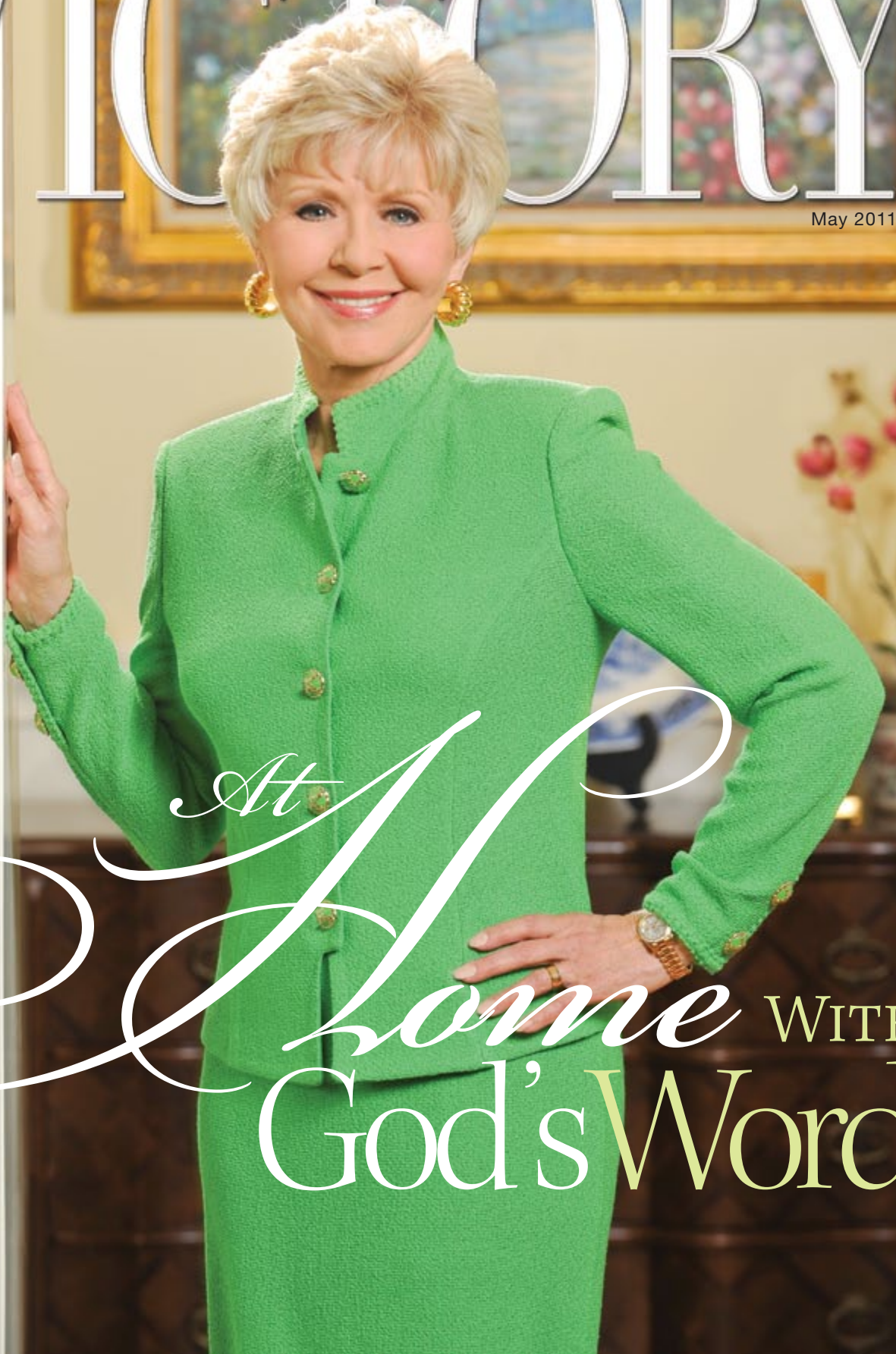


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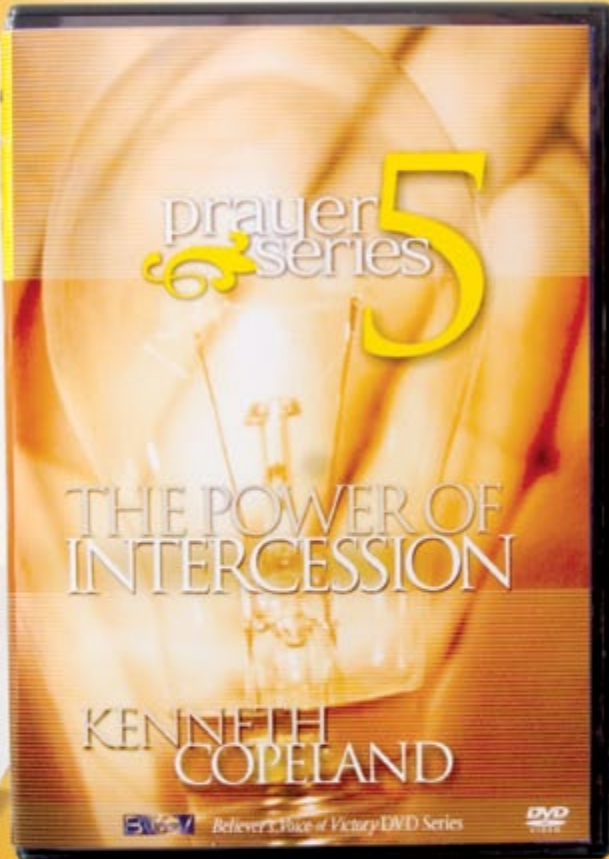
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When the Lord first spoke to us about starting the *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine, He said: *This is your seed. Give it to everyone who ever responds to your ministry, and don't ever allow anyone to pay for a subscription to it.* For 38 years 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 and Gloria Copeland

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At home

WITH GOD'S WORD

I began my life as a child of God right in the comfort of my own home.

BY GLORIA COPELAND

Well, to be honest, I didn't actually have a lot of comfort in that little rent house with a rented rollaway bed, tin coffee pot and Ken's high-school-shop-class-built coffee table. It was far from comfortable, but it *was* home.

With nothing much else to do except stare at the walls, I picked up the Bible from the coffee table and read the inscription from Ken's mother: "Ken, precious, seek ye first the kingdom



Every day when I would lay down my Bible, turn off my tapes and close my notebook, I would be a different person than I was at the beginning of the day.



of God and His righteousness and all these other things will be added unto you. Matthew 6:33”

I thought, *Hey, this is interesting stuff here.* I needed some things added to me desperately. I turned over to the “Seek ye first” chapter—Matthew 6. I started reading, and soon I got to verse 26 where I saw that God cared for the birds of the air. That scripture put faith in me. The *seek ye first* verse didn’t speak to me like this one about the birds of the air did.

I saw that God cared about the birds of the air and I thought, *Well, if God cares about birds, He must care about me, since Jesus went on to say, “Are you not better than the birds?”*

I didn’t know anything about being born again. I’d never even heard that term used, as far as I can remember. But I prayed, “Lord, if You can do anything with my life, take it and do something with it.”

So, that’s how I was born again. I opened myself to God’s Word and faith came...right there at home.

Home-Schooled

About five years after I was born again Ken and I were filled with the Holy Spirit. Ken obeyed the Lord’s direction and enrolled as a student at Oral Roberts University. I became a student of the Word of God right at home.

When Ken started school, he was extremely busy. He was carrying a full load of courses, and he landed the job as co-pilot on Oral’s airplane. This put him in all the meetings. Whan an education! He heard the Word and experienced God moving in such wonderful ways that when he came home he could hardly contain all the faith and excitement.

By this time we were also growing in faith through the teachings of Kenneth Hagin. We learned to put the Word first place in our lives, to believe it, to act on it and to speak it out our mouths. I was determined to get the Word in abundance into my heart.

So, every day I would devour the Word. I studied, listened to tapes, read books and took notes. And I took care of every responsibility I had as a

homemaker and mother to our two small children.

I kept feeding myself on the redemption Jesus has provided and all that He has purchased for His people. Everything I read and everything I heard, I acted on as fast as I could, and something began happening inside me. My *own* faith and excitement were growing every day at home, just as Ken’s was at ORU.

I was learning to hear God’s voice, to understand His ways and to follow His direction. His Word became life to me. It became the answer to every problem I had. It was food to me, and the more I ate, the more I wanted.

God was home-schooling me. Those were glorious days!

Taking Care of the Home Front

Ken and I had decided that whatever we saw in God’s Word, we would do. No matter how hard it seemed, we would give Him and His Word first place in our lives and allow Him to take care of us, our children and our home. We were convinced that the promises God made in His Word were for us and that we would have what He said!

One of the biggest challenges to our lives in those early days was the load of debt we were under. We had started out our life together in debt. We lived in a continual state of trying to make payments.

Then God led us to Romans 13:8: “Owe no man any thing, but to love.” Owe no man? Behind on our bills, being threatened by creditors...we didn’t think it was possible. We didn’t know how anyone could live without debt.

But now we had the Word of God on it, and somehow we knew that because He said it, it could be done! And we knew we had to go for it. We immediately stopped borrowing money and charging things. If we had cash for something, we’d get it...if not, we’d do without it.

We committed to living within our cash means and getting out of debt, and 11 months later we were completely out of debt. I have to say, I don’t know how, but God did it! We faithfully obeyed His Word, and He blessed our commitment. He broke

The Lord spoke to me and said,

In consistency lies the power. We stay on His Word...
believing what it says, receiving it,
having it! That's consistency—that's faith!



the power of debt in our lives and in our home! Hallelujah!

One by one, Ken and I committed the issues of everyday living to the Word of God...how to stay healthy, how to raise our children, how to walk in love...and He changed everything in our lives!

The Heart of the Home

At home alone with God, His Word and two rambunctious kids—that was Gloria Copeland in my early days of faith. I was finding out what belonged to me and my family, and I was seeing how things could change.

I was seeing that God's heart for all of us is that we let Him take care of us. Isn't that a wonderful thing that He wants to take care of us? He wanted to take care of Adam and Eve in the Garden. He wanted to be everything to them, but they refused His care. I decided I wasn't going to do that. I decided I would accept everything He had to give me, my husband and my children.

I will never forget the day I was listening to Brother Hagin on a tape, taking notes as fast as I could write. I was reading along with him what Jesus said in Mark 11:24: "Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."

The Lord spoke to me and said, *In consistency lies the power.* Right then, I took hold of something important. It's not just saying the thing that you want to come to pass in your finances, your health or your relationships in a prayer; but it's in the consistency of faith words in your life (every day, in every situation) that things begin to change!

That's how we let God take care of us. That's how His Word changes our hearts! That's how our homes change! We depend completely on the Word. We rely on it as both the source and substance of everything

in our lives. We stay on His Word... believing what it says, receiving it, having it! That's consistency—that's faith!

Between Ken being right in the middle of the ministry at ORU and me being in the middle of God's Word at home, God made His way into our hearts and into our home. From those days until now we have built our foundation on His Word, and today our home, our children, our grandchildren, our great-grandchildren and the ministry remain strong in the Lord!

At Home and Abroad

During those days when it was just God and me, we had wonderful meetings...just the two of us at home alone, together. And everything He taught and showed me in His Word during those days affected my life. Every day when I would lay down my Bible, turn off my tapes and close my notebook, I would be a different person than I was at the beginning of the day. When I sat down with Him around His Word I expected to be changed...and I was!

Ken knew I was not the same little gal from Arkansas he had married a few years earlier, nor was he the same fellow I had said "I do" to! Thoughts changed. Activities changed. Language changed. Attitudes changed. Jesus revealed Himself to us in His Word.

And that was only the beginning.

Little did we know what God had in store for us. What He had begun in our home was only the threshold of all He had planned. Our home was a doorway to the world from His perspective. He was about to launch us into ministry of His Word that would reach around the world. He started us out small, taking Ken little more than a few hundred miles from home. I, as usual, stayed home with the children and continued one-on-one with Him and the Word.

Then, as His plan unfolded for us, one day He called me to take my place alongside Ken.

I had received a prophetic word in a letter that said, "God has something He wants you to do." I didn't have a clue what it would be. Then, one morning when we were in Arkansas, I took that word to the porch and prayed over it. I said, "Lord, if You've got something You want me to do, You know I'll be glad to do it." I got up and went in the house to wash my hair at the kitchen sink. And as I was washing my hair, I heard the Lord say, *I want you to teach on healing in every meeting.*

I had never had that thought before that moment. When I told Ken about it, he said, "Well, OK." And we added Healing School to our meetings. Again, right there at home, God changed my life. Since September 1979, we have scheduled Healing School at all our meetings and Jesus has always shown up to heal people!

Everything that began for us at home has become what we share around the world today. In all kinds of venues, from small churches in little towns to the largest arenas in the biggest cities, God has used what He has given us at home to preach His Word and fulfill the mission He gave Ken back in 1967.

Ken and I spend time with the Lord every day. Ken still loves to settle down in his big, easy chair to pray and hear from the Lord. We frequently find ourselves sitting on the porch, talking about our day and sharing something the Lord has revealed or spoken to us.

God's Word has brought peace, love and joy to our home.

We preach the Word, we believe the Word, we receive the

Word and things happen. And at the end of the day, what we and our family—what you and your family—are saying to each other at home is what is manifesting in our lives. That's the place faith is tested. If it works at home, it will work everywhere else!

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No Higher Call

BY MELANIE HENRY



Clods of dirt fell against the casket, lofting dust into the summer breeze. Standing graveside, 17-year-old Gordon Mueller tugged at the collar of his shirt, trying to get air. Fine beads of perspiration shimmered on his forehead. *I'm suffocating!* Gordon thought, his respirations shallow and fast. His friend had been lowered into the ground and each shovelful of dirt felt as though it was burying Gordon alive.

The young man had died of multiple stab wounds to the chest, the result of gang violence. A member of the original L.A. Hoods, Gordon, aka “G-Man,” wore a red rag like a badge of honor draped from his back pocket. Like him, many of his gang were Samoan. The gang was made up of brothers, cousins...and friends.

Who would be next to die? When would *his* number come up?

Late at night, uncertain about life, Gordon stared up at the stars, shining as though nothing would ever change. *Is this all there is to life? You're here. You're gone. Nothing changes?*

His family had come a long way from their roots in the Samoan Islands in the South Pacific. Life there was marked by long, peaceful days amid deserted beaches, deep blue water and luscious greenery. People didn't lock their doors. There had been no crime in Samoa. No gangs. No violence. No teenagers dying from multiple stab wounds.

This night Gordon wished for a moment that he could turn back time. Old eyes looked out of his troubled, young face as he summed up the past few years. He'd gotten his girlfriend pregnant, and at 17 they were both high-school dropouts. Both families had written them off. He worked a lame job. His friend was dead.

Is this as good as it gets?

Gordon knew even before he asked that the answer didn't really matter. Good or bad...this was the only life he knew.

Finding Family

“Even after my friend died, I didn't leave the gang,” Gordon says. “At home, my family loved hard and fought harder. I spent my childhood feeling scared and nervous, but I found what I considered to be my real family on the streets

with kids who smoked, drank and used pot. I snorted an occasional line of coke, but found my comfort in alcohol.

“My dad was of German descent. He grew up a Catholic but wasn't much of a church goer. On Sundays my mother attended a Samoan Methodist Church. When dad saw what was happening to our family, he searched for answers and ended up joining the Mormon church, which the whole family had to attend. By the time I was in my midteens, dad stopped going to church and my mother returned to the Samoan Methodists. I was defiant and wanted nothing more than life on the streets with my friends.”

Delores, Gordon's girlfriend, was also Samoan. They'd met in the ninth grade, started dating at 16 and by the time they were 17, Delores was pregnant. In Samoan culture, Delores' pregnancy had been a huge disgrace and both families were furious and refused to help them. Delores' family wouldn't speak to her and Gordon's mother wanted nothing to do with him.

On the sly, Gordon's dad stepped up to help the young couple. He owned two businesses and if Gordon's mother worked at one, they were allowed to stay at the other. Jan. 14, 1982, Delores gave birth to a daughter, Leinea. Following the birth, Gordon's dad put his foot down and brought all three home to live with his family.

Even after Leinea was born, the gang was still Gordon's first priority. Not only did he spend late nights out on the streets, he'd be gone for days at a time. Feeling alone and

unloved, Delores was left with his family and their fighting, and her family still wouldn't speak to her.

Looking for Love

"In our culture, everyone writes you off when you make the mistakes Gordie and I made," Delores says. "I'd never felt so alone. I pretty much stayed in our bedroom and slept on a twin bed with our daughter. Many nights I slipped outside between 2 and 3 a.m. and just cried. When I pled with Gordie not to go back to the streets, he told me *the boyz* were his family. He said if I wanted to leave I could, but I could never come back.

"I'd been raised in church but didn't have a personal relationship with Jesus. When I attended a charismatic Catholic Bible study and got born again, Gordie was so upset he almost made me choose between God and him. The gang mentality was about control—they had to keep their women in check. After I was born again, instead of crying all night, I began spending my time praying for Gordie."

Although Gordon had been hardened by life on the streets, the death of his friend caused him to look at his own mortality. Before he slammed the door on his emotions, Gordon looked up at the night sky and said, "God, if You're real, I want to know."

Soon after, the man who stocked cupcakes and bread at the market where Gordon worked stopped to talk to him about Jesus. He didn't try to talk him into going to church. He simply discussed the importance of a personal relationship with the Savior.

One night Gordon came home and turned on the television. He listened to Jimmy Swaggart preach about Jesus in a way he'd never heard. He painted a word picture of Jesus' love. He said that if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Receiving Christ would wipe the slate clean. Gordon had a lot that needed to be wiped clean.

A New Creature

Anguish washed over Gordon as he admitted his sin to God. With tears streaming down his face, he prayed the prayer of a heartbroken man and asked for forgiveness and for Jesus to be the Lord of his life. Anguish gave way to joy as a new peace settled over him.

Delores didn't see a change overnight. He looked the same—swarthy, dark good looks and bulging biceps. Something had happened to him though. He was...nice, more calm. He spent more time at home

and less time with his friends. He married her.

His hunger for the gang and alcohol gave way to a hunger for the Lord. He wanted to go to church and realized that God had a specific place for him, Delores and their daughter. He prayed for direction.

"I went to a Christian bookstore to buy gospel music and the owner invited me to his church," Gordon recalls. "Delores and I knew this was where we belonged. The pastor had served under Fred Price, and neither of us had ever heard the Bible taught the way he did. During the altar call, Delores rededicated her life and received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

"I wanted to tell everyone about Jesus. At first, my cousins from the gang shied away from me. Over time, my dad saw such a change in my life that he gave his heart to Jesus. My mother received Christ, as did my brothers and Delores' family.

"I continued talking to my cousins about Jesus. Henry, who'd been a leader on the streets—the one we all looked up to—finally went to church with me one Sunday. That day he gave his life to the Lord, which caused a chain reaction among *the boyz*. Cousins, friends and gang members received Jesus. Today, many of them are serving the Lord, including Henry, who became a pastor."

Servants of God

Gordon and Delores wanted to serve the Lord, but didn't know how. They met with their pastor and asked what they could do. He wisely instructed them to clean the bathrooms at the church.

"We were *honored* to clean those toilets," Gordon remembers.

One day, Gordon heard some of the young men in the church talking among themselves about what they believed God had called them to do. Some were prophets. Some were pastors. Others had been called to the mission field. Feeling left out, Gordon went home that evening and he and Delores asked the Lord what He'd called them to do.

In your servant-ship you'll discover your stewardship, the Lord replied. Keep serving! As you serve you'll discover what you've been called to do.

Over the next 18 years, Gordon and Delores held down jobs while obeying the Lord to serve, and they did it with a cheerful heart. They began by cleaning the church and eventually worked in the nursery. They taught Sunday school and Gordon played bass on the worship team. They became altar workers and youth ministers. They became deacons



More than anything else, this partnership is about souls. We are one big, loving, faith-believing family on a mission led by the Holy Spirit that the devil can't stop.

and then were ordained as assistant pastors. Eventually, Gordon was voted onto the board of directors.

Answering the Call

“In June 1994, I had questions and needed some answers,” Gordon explains. “I spent two weeks praying and fasting. God told me to leave my business and attend the West Coast Believers’ Convention. I didn’t know much about the convention, but I’d seen it advertised. We obeyed the Lord and made a point to go. Sitting in the nosebleed section, we were as excited as kids in a candy store. There were so many Christians on fire for the Lord and for His Word. During one service Kenneth Copeland and Jerry Savelle were talking about the early years of their ministries when God spoke to me and said, *I’ve called you to full-time ministry.*”

“Back home, I asked Delores if the Lord had said anything to her and she said He had. We’d both heard the same word. We grabbed hands and said, ‘Lord, let it be as You have spoken. We will continue to serve.’ From then on we attended the WCBC every year, not just to listen but also to serve. We attended the volunteer meeting where Delores signed up to help with registration. For five years I served as a prayer counselor. Then, while continuing to serve, in 2002 we launched Believers’ Victory International Church in Carson, Calif.”

Groomed by God

In 2008, the Lord put it on Gordon and Delores’ hearts to host a little conference in Southern California where they live. They set it up like a mini believers’ conference and invited Fred Price, Myles Munroe and Nasir Siddiki to speak for a five-day meeting. In 2009, at the Lord’s direction, they expanded their conference to six days and rented the civic center adding Bill Winston to their roster. After inviting Creflo Dollar, Jerry Savelle and Keith Moore for their next meeting in 2010, Gordon and Delores were shocked to learn there would be no more West Coast Believers’ Conventions.

“We were stunned to say the least, but later realized God had been grooming us to have meetings here,” Gordon explains. “We model them after Kenneth and Gloria’s, holding them from Monday through Saturday. To us, it’s another wonderful way to serve.

“We’ve been Partners with this ministry since 1994, and we believe KCM is our company. God divinely connected our lives with theirs and that partnership has benefited us in every area of our lives. It has matured us through the teaching, CDs, books and television broadcasts. It has blessed us through financial prosperity as the Lord helped us over the years to buy four houses, two of which provided rental income for many years before we sold them and launched our ministry. But more than anything else, this partnership is about souls. We are one big, loving, faith-believing family on a mission led by the Holy Spirit that the devil can’t stop.”

Today, the blessing of the Lord rests on Gordon and Delores Mueller. Their daughter Leinea is 29, daughter Moriah is 25 and son Elisha is 24. Instead of dying young on the streets of L.A., Gordon has lived to celebrate the birth of five grandchildren.

Gordon Mueller isn’t the same person who was known as “G-Man” and stood at his friend’s graveside all those years ago. He is a new creature in Christ. Instead of wearing the red rag of a street gang, Gordon, covered by the blood of Jesus, is taking a message of hope to a hurting and dying world. Every step on the ladder of his success has been a step of service. But Gordon wouldn’t have it any other way.

Jesus Himself was servant of all. There is no higher call. **VICTORY**



PARTNERSHIP The High Call of Service

Gordon and Delores Mueller have learned that there is no higher call than service to the Lord and to His people. Through their partnership with Kenneth Copeland Ministries, the Muellers have grown and been groomed to be servant-leaders of their church family. They are grateful to be part of one big, loving, faith-believing family on a mission to bring souls into the kingdom of God.

Partnering with us may be part of God’s plan for your life. For us there is no higher call than to serve alongside you in all God is doing today! Ask the Lord today if now is the time for you to partner with KCM.



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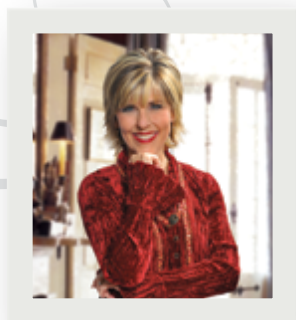
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BY TERRI COPELAND
PEARSONS

Using God's Word in Prayer



The Word is so unchanging and unfailing that He has bound Himself and the existence of all things to it. It is God's most tangible gift of Himself to us.

MOST OF US HAVE HEARD THAT PRAYER IS SIMPLY TALKING TO GOD. THE PROBLEM IS IN THINKING THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO PRAYER. | HOW CAN THAT BE? PRAYER CAN RELEASE THE POWER OF GOD TO CHANGE EVERYTHING FROM GOVERNMENTS OF THE WORLD TO THE ETERNAL DESTINY OF AN INDIVIDUAL. PRAYER, OR AT LEAST EFFECTIVE PRAYER, ISN'T ARBITRARY AND CANNOT BE LEFT TO OUR OWN IDEAS OF HOW IT SHOULD WORK. THAT WOULD CREATE CHAOS.

The Ruler of the Universe does not release the resources of His kingdom without there being parameters to govern those resources. The more we understand how the spiritual world operates, the more effective our prayers will be. Prayer then becomes the way we function in God's kingdom. God knows that and is not trying to hide information. He wants us to co-labor with Him in bringing His plans for

the world and every individual in it to pass. That's why He has given us His Word—so we will know His thoughts and His ways.

Consequently, the Word of God must be the foundation for prayer and every other aspect of living life in the kingdom of God. There are no gray areas about this. Developing and maintaining a mindset that always takes us to the Word is the most significant priority



a Christian can hold. However, understanding the scope of God's Word as the foundation for our lives, the source of our faith and most importantly our connection with God Himself, is so vast we need the grace of God to help us. Thankfully, grace is freely given!

Imagine, when we hold our Bibles, we have in our hands the *actual source* of all created matter. God spoke and it was. What was? Everything was! The tiniest element to the greatest came out of God Himself through His spoken Word. The Word is so unchanging and unfailing that He has bound Himself and the existence of all things to it. It is God's most tangible gift of Himself to us. It is the cornerstone of prayers that obtain results.

Guided by His Spirit

Thankfully, the Lord did not leave us to uncover or understand the depth of such magnificence on our own. Though the Word is His tangible part of our prayer life, it is also spiritual. Therefore, we need a spiritual guide. Oh, how thankful we are for the Holy Spirit. God speaks, but it is by the Spirit that we hear and understand. The Father, the Spirit and the Word always agree (1 John 5:7). It is the Spirit who reveals to men what the Father says and then makes that Word relevant to our lives. He shines the light of the Word into the deepest part of our being so we can understand who we are in Christ, His great provisions, and our role in God's eternal purpose and plan.

But what is so magnanimous to me is that the Holy Spirit will put the same words that God has spoken in *my* mouth so that it is by *my* voice that God's plan comes to pass. Furthermore, we not only have permission to give voice to His words, but it is essential to God's plan. You see, His intention in raising us up to be seated with Christ is for us to have part in making that plan unfold and come to pass. We are not puppets. We are joint heirs. And that means joint responsibilities as well as privileges.

Most realize God's plan for the world is laid out in His Word, but His plan for each individual life is hidden there as well. And along with the plan is the power to bring each person's destiny to pass.

Sure, that's mind-boggling. But remember, John 1:1 tells us that God and His Word are one. They don't just agree. They are one. Hebrews 4:12-13 tells us the Word of God is alive and nothing is concealed from its (His) sight. The Word is as

"And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath."

Acts 2:18-19

The Place of Prayer

BY KENNETH COPELAND

Now, more than ever before, it is vital for every Christian to understand that we are in the last of the last days. We are on the edge of the greatest outpouring of God's glory this earth has ever seen. Amazing, supernatural things are beginning to happen just as the Bible said they would.

Yet many believers are sitting back, watching these events like spiritual spectators. They seem to think God will sovereignly empty some great glory bucket, spilling signs and wonders over the earth. But it won't happen that way.

It will happen the way Acts 2 reveals it. If you'll read that last phrase in today's scripture, taking out the punctuation that was put in by the translators, you'll see a divine connection. You'll see that God is saying when His servants and handmaidens prophesy, when they speak out His divine will and purpose in intercession and faith, then in response to their speaking, He will work signs and wonders.

That means, if this last outpouring of glory is to come in its fullness, all of God's servants and handmaidens must be in their place. What place? The place of prayer!

Some years ago, I had been studying the authority of man, and I had seen over and over in The Word how the prayers of God's people precede His actions on the earth. Yet I

hung on to the idea that God still did His most important works independently of man.

One day, as I was praying about it, I said, "Lord, You brought Jesus into the earth sovereignly, didn't You?"

No, I didn't, He answered.

"You mean, there were people who interceded for the birth of Jesus?"

Yes, He said. Then He told me about Simeon.

As the Lord revealed to me the account of Simeon in Luke 2, I saw how he was led by the Holy Spirit to the temple the day Joseph and Mary dedicated Jesus. I read how he had fervently prayed, asking God to send the Redeemer.

It's amazing enough that when Simeon saw Jesus, he immediately recognized who Jesus was. It's even more amazing that he knew Jesus was bringing salvation to the Gentiles (verse 32)—a fact the rest of the Church didn't find out until Peter went to Cornelius' house, 10 years after the Day of Pentecost!

We must get on our knees and start praying for the fullness of the final outpouring in these last days. We must start speaking out God's Word and His will for this last hour in prophecy and intercession so He can do signs and wonders. We must enter into that place of prayer.

VICTORY

all-knowing as He is. He has fully invested His God-ness into His Word.

That's not so hard to conceive when you realize when God speaks, His words are filled with Himself. It's much like the way your words are full of you when you fill them with what is in your heart. So, all He desires for each of us is tucked inside those holy words. Now it's up to us to discover and cooperate with that plan. We in the Body of Christ must have the revelation that it's only when we put God's Word into our hearts and speak it out our mouths that His will begins to take shape. Doesn't Proverbs 18:21 say the power of death and life is in the tongue? Whose tongue? Our

tongue! We actually give life to the plan of God when we say what He says, but death to it when we speak otherwise.

John 15:7 tells us: "If...My words remain in you and continue to live in your hearts, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you" (*The Amplified Bible*). God has given us His Word so we can put it into our hearts and pray prayers back to Him that are productive and full of faith. He is giving us words to put in our mouths. Isaiah 55:11 shows us the process:

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

By this we can see how God speaks forth His Word, gives it to man, and he returns it back to God. And He promises He will see that it accomplishes what He sent it to do. You hold the authority and key to your life. Allowing Him entrance into your life is greatly determined by what you say and pray.

Walk With the Word

We've established that all the details of eternity are wrapped up in the Word. But so much seems to be hidden. Proverbs 20:5 says a man of understanding draws it out. How? This is where we again say, "Thank God for the Holy Ghost!"

In my estimation there are three general ways we work with God's Word to bring His will to pass in the earth. Jesus explained in John 4:24 to please the Father we must do everything in truth, which is the Word (John 17:17), along with the Spirit. So the Holy Spirit is vital in all these ways.

First comes speaking the Word as a matter of spiritual duty and faithfulness. We simply ask the Holy Spirit to reveal His will to us through His Word, then agree with Him by proclaiming it. For example,



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—Kenneth Copeland

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Allowing Him entrance into your life is greatly determined by what you say and pray.

Jeremiah 29:11 says, “I know the thoughts and plans that I have for you, says the Lord, thoughts and plans for welfare and peace and not for evil, to give you hope in your final outcome” (*AMP*). So, I not only agree with that when I read it, but make way for it to happen in my life by saying, out loud and repeatedly, “God has plans for me which will produce peace and hope. And according to Job 42:2, not one of His plans for me will be restrained! Every part of His plan for me will come to pass, in Jesus’ Name!” This is the “girding of our loins” with the Word of God that Ephesians 6:14 speaks of.

Second comes cooperating with the Holy Spirit in prayer. Here, spirit and truth come together on a higher order. We first present God’s Word back to Him in faith. “Father, in Jesus’ Name, thank You for the great plans You have for my life. You have a plan for each day, even each moment, as well as a plan for me through eternity. I am asking to know Your plan. Give me wisdom according to James 1:5. Show me Your paths and teach me Your ways. I believe I hear the voice of the Good Shepherd and I follow Him” (John 10:3-4).

Then as you meditate on this verse, watch within your own spirit for the leading of the Holy Spirit. It is while you are praying, whether in tongues or just waiting and worshipping, that He has the most open opportunity to bring to light other scriptures with instructions as to what to say, do or both. This is when the truth becomes the sword of the Spirit of Ephesians 6:17.

The third way we cooperate with God to bring destiny to pass is to draw the truth of His Word into our everyday speech and decision making. We base our actions on “What does the Word say?” and then make sure our conversational talk always agrees. We can’t confess, “He has a plan,” pray, “Thank You for the plan,” then worry while saying, “I don’t know what I am going to do. Nothing seems to work out like I want it to.” Our conversation within ourselves as well as with others should agree with the Word. “Even if it doesn’t look like it now, this is going to turn out to be exactly right.” Then, according to Romans 8:26-28, everything in heaven’s power goes to work in our behalf because we have loved what God loves and called things to get in line with His purpose!

Because the Word of God is our sole foundation, read and meditate it constantly. Talk to God on the basis of what He has already said to you in the Scriptures. It is our place to call forth those things that be not as though they were so we can fully accomplish all He has for us to do. It is our privilege to work with Him by speaking His Word so all He has in His heart will come to pass. And it is our pleasure to take our seat with Him and enjoy all that Jesus’ redemptive work has provided. **VICTORY**

Terri is the eldest daughter of Kenneth Copeland. Since 1993, she and her husband, George Pearsons, have served as senior pastors of Eagle Mountain International Church at Kenneth Copeland Ministries in Fort Worth, Texas. They have an international commission that takes them around the world on behalf of KCM. Terri shares her father’s passion for genuine faith in God’s Word, and specializes in teaching people who they are in Christ Jesus and how to pray from that position. For information or ministry materials write to Kenneth Copeland Ministries, Fort Worth, TX 76192-0001; or visit www.terricopelandpearsons.com.



JOHN COPELAND, CEO

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Produce the German *Believer’s Voice of Victory* broadcasts and other special projects for KCM. TV production experience required in addition to knowledge of German culture, as well as fluency in German and English.

▶ **Social Media Manager**

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▶ **Web Developer**

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- Technical Writer

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Join us

Canada Victory Campaign: May 12-14

Langley Events Centre | 7888 200th St.
Langley, British Columbia V2Y 3J4 | Canada

Southwest Believers' Convention: July 4-9 New dates!

Fort Worth Convention Center
1201 Houston St. | Fort Worth, TX 76102

Venezuela Victory Campaign: August 26-28

Sports Center "Pedro Elías Belisario Aponte"
Ave. 25 con Prolongación Circunvalación 2,
con Ave. 5 de Julio Maracaibo, Estado de Zulia,
Venezuela | kcm.org/es (in U.S.) | 261-786-4213
vicentemora.org (in Venezuela)

Behind the Mission— Secaucus: September 16-17

Meadowlands Exposition Center
355 Plaza Drive | Secaucus, NJ 07094

Go to kcm.org and sign up for **KCM Events Online Subscription Service.**

Unable to attend? Some KCM meetings are available for viewing via live streaming. Go online to kcm.org for more information. Meetings are subject to change without notice. For details and updated information, please log on to events.kcm.org or call the KCM office nearest you. Partners and Friends within the U.S. call **800-600-7395**.



Word Explosion: October 13-15

Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center
1101 Lincoln St. | Columbia, SC 29201

Washington, D.C. Victory Campaign: November 10-12

Hylton Memorial Chapel
14640 Potomac Mills Road
Woodbridge, VA 22192

**FREE
Admission**

Join Kenneth and/or Gloria at:

ICFM 33rd Annual International Convention: April 25-29

DoubleTree near the Galleria | 4099 Valley View Lane
Dallas, TX 75244 | icfm.org

2011 Taffi Dollar Women's Conference—"Radical": June 10

Manhattan Center Studios | 311 W. 34th St. (between 8th and 9th Avenues)
New York, NY 10001 | 800-910-1681 | worldchangerschurchnewyork.org

Annual Word of Faith Convention: June 14-17

Word of Faith International Christian Center | 20000 W. Nine Mile Road
Southfield, MI 48075 | 248-353-3476 | woficc.com

Upper Midwest Faith Explosion: June 23-24

Living Word Christian Center | 9201 75th Ave. N.
Brooklyn Park, MN 55428 | 763-315-7000 | lwcc.org

2011 Glorious! A Conference for Women: October 14-15

Jesse Duplantis Ministries International Headquarters
1973 Ormond Blvd. | Destrehan, LA 70141 | 985-764-2000 | jdm.org

Prayer Mountain Annual Prayer Conference: October 27-31

Hilton Branson Convention Center | 200 Sycamore St. | Branson, MO 65616
417-336-4877 | billyebirim.org

United Theological Seminary: January 23, 2012

4501 Denlinger Road | Dayton, OH 45426
937-529-2201 | united.edu

Join Dr. Stephen and/or Kellie Swisher at:

Hope and Healing Christian Church: April 16-17

LOCATION: Buena High School
Performing Arts Center
5225 E. Buena School Blvd.
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635 | 520-417-2468

Living Word Church: May 1

2112 Market St. | Wheeling, WV 26003
304-233-5830 | lwobc.com

Celebration Center: May 7-8

1944 Washington Blvd. | Belpre, OH 45714
740-423-9673 | belprecelebrationcenter.com

Only Believe Ministries Christian Center: May 11

13815 Botkins Road | Botkins, OH 45306
937-693-3554 | obmcc.org

Kern Christian Center: May 14-15

4701 Gosford Road | Bakersfield, CA 93313
661-664-1000 | kernchristiancenter.org

Souls Harbor Word of Faith Church: May 21-22

110 Evergreen Road | Canton, GA 30114
678-644-5217 | souls Harborchurch.com

Kwanglim Methodist Church: June 5-7

571-2 Sinsa-Dong | Gangnam-gu, Seoul, South Korea
klmc.net

New Beginning Christian Fellowship: June 12

46-005 Kawa St. #212C
Kaneohe, HI 96744 | 808-247-4851

Trinity Broadcasting Network

LIVE Taping: June 14

TBN Studios Hawaii | 1152 Smith St.
Honolulu, HI 96817 | 808-521-5826 | tbn.org

King's Cathedral: June 15

777 Mokulele Highway | Kahului, HI 96732
808-871-7311 | kingscathedral.com

Word of His Power Faith

Christian Centre: July 30-31

108-4053 Meadowbrook Drive
London, Ontario N6L 1E8 | Canada
519-709-2167 | wohp.org

Brand New Life Christian Center: August 7

1110-B W. Taft Ave. | Orange, CA 92865
714-396-8674 | brandnewlifechurch.com

Dunamis Power Ministries: August 7

2000 W. Olympic Blvd. | Montebello, CA 90640
(meets inside the Evangelical Christian Church)
562-688-4974 | dunamispower247@yahoo.com

Believers' Victory International Church: August 9

425 W. Torrance Blvd., Suite C | Carson, CA 90745
310-512-7705 | bvicc.org

Calvary Tremont Missionary Baptist Church: August 14

1255 Leonard Ave. | Columbus, OH 43203
614-258-9933 | calvarytremont.org

Abundant Life Church: August 17

9365 Hooper Road | Athens, OH 45701
740-593-7500 | theabundantlifetoday.org

Trinity Broadcasting Network

LIVE Taping: August 23

TBN World Headquarters
Trinity Christian City International Center
3150 Bear St. | Costa Mesa, CA 92626
714-832-2950 | tbn.org

Trinity Church: September 9-10

701 E. Highland Drive | Jonesboro, AR 72401
870-935-7705 | trinity-church.com

New Life Fellowship: September 11-13

1211 N. 24th St. | Council Bluffs, IA 51501
712-332-1982 | gotnewlife.org

Word Alive Pastors' Conference: October 6-9

Cloud of Fire Ministries | Lahore, Pakistan
923014353409 | andreas_stefan@hotmail.com

Grace Festival Crusade: October 26-29

Ambon, Indonesia | Contact: World Impact Ministries
P.O. Box 968 | St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 6Z4
Canada | 905-346-4828 | peteryoungren.org

"Christmas in November"

Women's Luncheon: November 5

Redemption Church | 3550 Pleasant Ridge Road
Knoxville, TN 37921
865-521-7777 x229 (Katy Blackburn)
redemptionchurch.com

The Jim Bakker Show: November 10

180 Grace Chapel Road | Blue Eye, MO 65611
417-779-9000 | jimbakkershow.com

The Welk Theatre: November 11

1984 State Highway 165 | Branson, MO 65616
800-808-9355 | welkresortbranson.com

Word of Life Christian Center: November 19-20

3001 19th St. NW | Rochester, MN 55904
(held at the Rochester Athletic Club)
507-271-2328 | wolrochester.org

Join Pastor George Pearsons and/ or Terri Copeland Pearsons at:



Australian ICFM National Conference: May 30-June 2

Mantra Legends Hotel
Cnr Surfers Paradise Blvd. and Laycock St.
Surfers Paradise, Queensland 4217 | Australia
617-5588-7888 | mantralegends.com.au

New Zealand ICFM National Convention:

June 7-10 Bay City Outreach Centre
1200 Omaha Road, 4120 | Hastings, New Zealand

Toronto Spirit-Led Prayer Conference:

September 28-30 Canada Christian College
50 Gervais Drive | Toronto, Ontario M3C 1Z3
Canada | terricopelandpearsons.com
Preregistration is open—go to spiritledprayer.com!

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GoodNewsGazette

The Word Is Powerful

Praise be to God! Thank you so much for your intercession prayer with me recently and the book you sent, *Know Your Enemy*.

God bless you for your attention and caring with your guidelines of how I should pray with the Word of God as a weapon to defeat the devil. I am so happy about it, following it and using it day and night to bind the devil.

And thank God, I am more than a conqueror and a winner! The devil has been defeated and salvation and victory are now mine in Christ Jesus. May the Lord Jesus bless you all abundantly for your lovingkindness toward us.

S.E. :: London

“May Christ, through your faith [actually] dwell (settle down, abide, make His permanent home) in your hearts!”

(Ephesians 3:17, *The Amplified Bible*)

Not Luck—Heavenly Protection

The week before Thanksgiving my family drove to Iowa from Fort Worth to celebrate an early Thanksgiving with my husband’s family. My husband has had some health challenges and while driving he experienced a blackout. He lost control of the car going about 75 miles per hour.

I had Kenneth Copeland’s CD *You Are the Prophet of Your Own Life* in the car. It was the end of one of the CDs and Kenneth was repeating, “Jesus is Lord” over and over. And then we went into a spin.

There was a highway patrolman who saw the whole thing. He came running over and said, “I can’t believe what I just saw. You are the luckiest people I have ever seen.” He said he has been in highway patrol for 25 years and has never seen anyone walk away from what happened to us. He said it was luck, but I told him, “No, sir, this was my God and His angels protecting us.” It was truly a miracle. I pray a bloodline around my family every day. I told my sons this is what happens when you pray. It truly is a testimony of His covering. I thank God for Kenneth Copeland Ministries.

M.G. :: Texas

A Priceless Contribution

Some years ago, I was totally not interested in your TV program. Whenever I would be watching TBN and your program would come on, I would switch to another channel. I did this for a long time, and even commented to those around me that I did not like that specific program. Now, I am sorry I ever said that.

One day during my prayer time, the Lord impressed upon my heart to pray for Gloria Copeland. I didn’t know why, I just prayed. Many months later, when your TV program came on I didn’t turn it off. I just sat there and watched it. And I am forever thankful to God that I did. Since then I have been very interested in watching your programs and even listen to your messages on my iPod. On top of that, we receive your magazines and purchase your ministry products. This is because the Word that comes from your ministry is so rich, so deep, so strong, and it is what the world needs to hear and what I need to hear!

As a minister of the gospel, this Word that you teach and preach has taken my walk with the Lord to a deeper, fuller and more meaningful level and continues to do so. It builds me up and I would like to say a very *big* thank you for your faithfulness to what the Lord has called you to do and how you have contributed to my life.

C.K. :: Denmark

God’s Healing Promise

I received Gloria Copeland’s book *God’s Prescription for Divine Health*. The doctors said I had fourth stage cancer and did not give me much hope, but I rebuked that. I prayed to God and said He would stand by my healing. I knew after two months I was healed. Two months later the doctors got a bone marrow and CAT scan from me and said the cancer was gone!

W.W. :: New Jersey



Sincere Gratitude

I write to express my heartfelt gratitude to you for the time taken and the prayers prayed with me and for my family. A different daughter and husband came home, peace entered our home again and mountains fell. I am truly thankful that you are so available to stand with people in any and every circumstance.

I am learning from you and blessed by your ministry.

C.B. :: Scotland

Our Miracle Baby

You really helped us along our journey. While living in England I phoned your ministry there for prayer. A gentleman named Martin prayed for the spirit of fear to leave and for God to bless us with children. He followed up with a letter to me and a booklet, *God Has Your Miracle on His Mind*, by Gloria Copeland, along with scripture cards from "Your Faith Pack" and a leaflet entitled *A Prayer for Those Desiring Children*.



We read the booklet and believed God at His Word. My husband and I read the prayer for children every night and believed God that it would happen to us. We also prayed Psalm 91 every night. I was also encouraged to get the book *Supernatural Childbirth* by Jackie Mize.

I continued to read and claim healing scriptures, believing God's promise to every woman to bear children and God's Word to combat fear, worry and doubt every single day. We stood on God's Word, had faith and believed that what was unseen would be seen (Hebrews 11:3). Because of that, God has blessed us with our very own supernatural miracle baby. Thank you for helping us look to God for help. May God richly bless you.

Timothy and Yvonne Kozina :: Katy, Texas

Shining Example of Faithfulness

Thank you for being such faithful people. I truly love you and know the Father we serve is pleased with your ministry. The Lord has used you many times to reveal Himself to me. I've been drug-free for five years, am out of prison, and God has blessed me with a very successful business that's steadily growing.

R.R. :: Florida

Prayers Produce Great Harvest

Thank you for all your prayers for my husband the past six years. He finally came to the Lord several months ago. He is watching the broadcasts with me, praying and reading his Bible every day. He is even telling others what Jesus has done for him.

I had also requested prayer for our finances and the Lord has blessed my husband with a great new job. Thank you so much for all your prayers and God bless you.

P.A. :: Texas

A Road Map From Heaven

One morning I found myself in deep confusion. At that moment I asked God to show me and guide me in the right direction. During my asking God, the *Believer's Voice of Victory* program came on TV. It was a Thanksgiving special and I saw you and Gloria speaking of **THE BLESSING** and not having fear, because fear takes away **THE BLESSING**.

Your words and God's Word truly lifted my spirit and reminded me how blessed I am to be a child of God. Thank you once again for being there to send me God's message in my time of need.

L.C.C. :: California

Salvation and Healing

I'm writing this praise report to thank you all so much for interceding for my dear sister who was diagnosed with a brain tumor last year. She was told it could be malignant. After surgery, they found the tumor was benign. She is now home and recovering well. Best of all is that a month before this happened she didn't know Jesus—she has since made Him Lord of her life!

J.Y. :: England

Taking Our Place of Authority

In January, my husband was told his company was freezing wages across the board plus extracting \$1500 from his paycheck for medical expenses. When Joe accepted this job almost three years ago, he took less money because the financial package included medical insurance and bonuses each year. Now that was all gone away and the company was talking no raises for 2010.

We thank you both for teaching us for 20 years now, the ways of Jesus, living debt free, pressing in when the pressure is on and living in God's blessing.

Prayer Is Our Priority.

Call **800-600-7395** for prayer 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

We increased our weekly KCM offering by \$30 after receiving such bad news, and if you haven't guessed by now, we received a tremendous financial blessing. My husband called me from work to let me know he received an email that bonuses would be paid to each employee. Glory to God!

And so we gladly send our tithe and offerings to KCM, giving God all honor and praise. Your ministry is such a blessing to this broken world and we continue to pray for you each day.

D.M. Florida

Always Available

I had asked for prayer for my husband who had a rash on his leg from which a biopsy was taken. Praise God, for He is faithful. The result came back all-clear.

Praise God for you standing in prayer and faith with us for the deliverance and marriage of our son. And thank you for your immediate response and prayers. God bless you all. You are really there for us when we need you.

J.S. :: Bahrain



Worldwide Update



KCM Canada

Awaken a NATION...Awaken the WORLD!



Today, God is calling for an awakening of His people around the world. And Kenneth Copeland Ministries Canada has recently been commissioned as a starting point for His call to sweep across the nations! >> God has anointed KCM as an international voice of victory in Jesus. We first stepped beyond the borders of the U.S. and into worldwide ministry with the incorporation of KCM Canada in 1976.



David Styles,
Director, KCM Canada

This year we celebrate our 35th anniversary! Throughout these years, from our offices in British Columbia, we have reached

across Canada and into the lives of thousands of people with the good news that Jesus is Lord!

Director David Styles clearly states the motivation of the staff of KCM Canada: "Our hearts are for our Partners here in Canada. Everything we do through this ministry office we do to touch them personally. Canada is a big country, and reaching all our Partners is a big job. We continually seek the Lord for His plan to best serve everyone across the nation."

From West to East the People of Canada Are Waking Up!

Since the early days of Kenneth and Gloria Copeland ministering to the people of Canada, they have traveled across the nation, hosting Victory Campaigns as well as preaching the word of faith in special meetings in local churches throughout the provinces.

Over the years, Kenneth and Gloria have met with our Partners and Friends in Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto and Hamilton. This month, they have once again called together our Partners and Friends across Canada and North America for the Canada Victory Campaign, May 12-14, in Langley, B.C., at the Langley Events Centre. The meeting will include Healing School with Gloria on Saturday, May 14, at 9:30 a.m. You may go online to events.kcm.org to preregister for the meeting and to get details.

In 2004, Kenneth commissioned his daughter Terri Copeland Pearsons to an international ministry. Since

2005, Terri and her husband, George, have gathered our Partners, Friends and pastors for fellowship and faith building. Today, God has sent Terri to Canada to lead His people in praying in and preparing for the awakening to His Spirit that He has declared is sweeping the nation and the world.

Sept. 28-30, 2011, Terri and fellow minister Patsy Cameneti will lead the Toronto Spirit-Led Prayer Conference at Canada Christian College. Their goal is for God's people to discover His plan and be equipped for their role in the awakening. About this meeting, Kenneth Copeland has said, "It is time! There is a call for people of faith to move to a higher place in prayer and partner together for this end-time awakening and outpouring."

With a personal heritage of Native-American roots, Kenneth has a special place in his heart for the first nations people of North America. He has had many opportunities through the years to share the love of God with them. Summer 2010, he was thrilled to speak to gatherings of the Apsaalooke (Crow) Nation of the U.S. in Montana, and to the Assembly of First Nations in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, where the theme for the meeting was "Awakening Our Nations."

Sending Out the Wake-Up Call!

KCM Canada ministers from facilities that were built and occupied completely debt free in 2006. In dedication services, Kenneth spoke over the facility, the ministry team, and our Partners and Friends across Canada, declaring increase on every front for the purpose of ministering the Word of God.

And increase has come, on every front, just as Kenneth declared!

With the new facility and technology upgrades, from 2007 through 2010 every aspect of ministry has moved forward. Director Styles comments about changes in the ministry:

- Partners and Friends ministry base increased 13 percent: “We are reaching more people through Partner ministry, television and meetings.”
- Incoming phone calls increased 41 percent: “We are now on the phones 12 hours per day, Monday through Friday, to receive service and prayer calls...ministering directly to our Partners and Friends.”
- Direct Partner ministry is up 31 percent: “Our television outreach expanded to a potential audience of 30 million people, and we had more meetings across Canada with Pastors George and Terri Pearsons.”
- Twice-Sown Seed increased to 13 percent: “We are living what we preach.”
- Giving grew by almost 10 percent: “Our people are receiving the Word and investing in the mission of KCM Canada making more ministry possible. Their harvest is here!”

God is right in the middle of KCM Canada fulfilling our vision to minister directly to the people we serve. And our Partners are letting us know how they are waking up to God’s love and His work in their lives.

Thank you for Kenneth and Gloria’s teaching. Because of it I was healed from arthritis four years ago. My husband, who was hooked on drugs, came back recently and the Lord has set him totally free from drug use and has restored our marriage. Thank you, KCM Canada, for your faith and service to the Lord.

Christine C.

And those whose ministries we

“Someone from your office called and prayed for us for the wisdom of God, and it was exactly what we needed. We’ve just purchased a hotel to use as our church and there are many things involved, so we so appreciate the Spirit-led phone call.... You are all doing an amazing job and we so appreciate KCM!”
Dennis F.

support through Twice-Sown-Seed giving are experiencing tremendous expansion in their ministries as well! Here are a couple of reports:

After more than seven years of planning, renovations and prayer, Mercy Ministries of Canada officially opened their doors—and their hearts—to the hurting young women of Canada. When the first girls walked through the door, it was a holy moment. The tears came quickly for many of the girls; they can’t believe the love and peace they feel when they arrive.

Mercy Ministries Canada
Supported monthly by KCM Canada

Along with a team of Russian missionaries and medical workers, Bill Prankard Ministries will return to Arctic Russia this winter and spend time in three remote communities: Karatayka, Ust Kara and Valgac, bringing lifesaving humanitarian aid and delivering the gospel of Jesus Christ to these isolated peoples.

Bill Prankard Ministries
Supported monthly by KCM Canada

KCM is answering God’s call to preach and pray in His next great move across our nation and around the world. David Styles and the entire KCM Canada ministry team are in tune with God’s proclamation spoken by Brother Copeland. We are excited to declare: “Yes, it is time. And we are taking our place in God’s call to help our Partners step up and take their place in this mighty awakening to the work of God’s Spirit!”

We’re Here for You!

TO: KCM Partners and Friends
FROM: David Styles, Director,
KCM Canada

Kenneth Copeland Ministries was birthed out of a love for people and a commitment to bring them the Word. Our lives are totally wrapped up in ministering to you. When we say, “We’re here for you,” we mean it.... God called us to take His message of love and faith to the whole world. We care about you and we want to help you find the answers you need in God’s Word.

KCM Canada was incorporated in 1976. Kenneth and Gloria Copeland have held numerous Victory Campaigns (three-day meetings) in Canada over the past 35 years and will continue to do so for many years to come. We have seen many faith goals met and are looking forward to seeing the Word of God continue to impact our country. It is our desire to help Canadians become all God intends them to be—walking by faith, trusting Him and sharing their faith with others.

Thank you so much for partnering with KCM and standing with us to declare “Jesus Is Lord!” Continue to join with us as we preach the uncompromised Word of God to every person in Canada, and believe with us to reach more people with the message of love and faith. VICTORY

BY KENNETH COPELAND

a MAN of Few Words

There's something about Jesus you may not have noticed, even if you've read the New Testament many times. It's a characteristic, or practice, that consistently marked His ministry on earth. I've never heard a single sermon preached about it, yet it's of vital importance to all of us who want to walk with Him. > In the most critical and difficult situations, Jesus was a man of few words.

Throughout the Gospels, whenever He spoke a faith command—whether He was dealing with circumstances, sickness, death or the devil—He kept it brief.

Think about it. He healed a leper by

saying simply, "I will; be thou clean." He calmed a stormy sea with "Peace, be still." He raised a dead man with three words: "Lazarus, come forth."

In Mark 11:14, He even turned a fig tree in full bloom into a withered



stump with nine words: “No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever.”

When it came to teaching, Jesus sometimes talked all day long. But when He activated the process of faith, although He spoke with boldness and got His point across, He always kept it simple...and He always got the job done.

I have to chuckle when I compare it to how we usually operate. For the most part, as His disciples, we’ve been much more long-winded and much less effective than Jesus. Can you imagine how the average believer today would deal with a fig tree like the one in Mark 11? I can almost guarantee that even a Christian who knows something about living by faith, wouldn’t stop with nine words. He’d go on... and on...and on:

Tree, I come to you in the Name of the Creator, Almighty God and all the universe that He created, and by the hand of the Holy Ghost, and by the power and authority vested in me. I’m telling you right now, tree, you’re going to listen to what I say, and I say you’re cursed. Do you hear me? Your leaves are going to come off. Your bark is going to peel. Everything about you is going to shrivel up. Tree, you pay attention to me. I’m declaring, you’re finished. I’m casting the devil out of you, tree!

If that didn’t work, he’d try something else: “Uh...Brother Copeland, nothing seems to be happening here. Can you help me talk to this tree?”

If that didn’t work, he’d start talking unbelief: “Nothing I say comes to pass! It beats all I’ve ever seen. I don’t know why it is, but this faith stuff just doesn’t work for me.”

You know what I’m talking about. You’ve done it yourself. So have I (probably more times than anyone). But, praise God, we can repent and follow Jesus’ example. We can learn to operate in faith like He did—with few words, filled with faith.

Understanding the Process

“Well, I don’t really think we can go around acting like Jesus,” someone might say. “We don’t have His ability. We can’t talk to things and expect them to obey us.”

Why not? Through the new birth, we’ve been

born of The Word and spiritually re-created in Jesus’ image. The Bible clearly says, “...as he is, so are we in this world” (1 John 4:17), so we must have the same spiritual capacities He has. As long as we keep ourselves rooted in the love of God (faith works by love), our faith can do everything Jesus’ faith did. The problem is, we haven’t understood the process of faith thoroughly enough. We’ve taken the little bit of revelation we’ve had about it and gone off half-cocked, spewing words like scattershot, just hoping some of them would stick.

Obviously, that’s not how Jesus operated. The more time I’ve spent studying Mark 11, the more aware of that I’ve become. It outlines, as well as any other chapter in the Bible, the process of faith and it reveals that the first step of the process involves, not speaking, but watching and listening. The first step of faith requires us to keep our mouths shut!

I don’t mind telling you, I read Mark 11 for years without seeing that. My attention was on the action scenes—Jesus talking to the fig tree and teaching the disciples about it; Jesus going into the temple, overturning the money-changers’ tables and driving out the merchants; Jesus talking and acting as a man of faith and power.

But one day, the Lord drew my attention to verse 11. It describes what Jesus did *before* He went into action. It tells us that the day before He said anything to the tree or did anything to the money-changers, “Jesus entered into Jerusalem, and into the temple: and when he had looked round about upon all things, and now the eventide was come, he went out unto Bethany with the twelve.”

The Day Nothing Happened

At first glance, the information in verse 11 might not seem like a big deal. But it’s actually very important. The day Jesus spent in the temple—listening instead of talking, observing instead of acting—was vital to His faith. He was there to find out how the Father wanted Him to handle the situation.

Notice, He passed the fig tree that day without saying a word to it. He went in and watched the money-changers without even making His presence known. I’m sure He was as indignant about all the junk going on there



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that day as He was the next, but He didn't do or say anything. He kept so quiet no one even realized He was there.

That night, He went back to Bethany and prayed until He heard from God what He was supposed to do, and saw in His spirit what He was supposed to do.

"How do you know that, Brother Copeland?"

Because Jesus said that He only did what He saw the Father do, and He only said what He heard the Father say (see John 5:19, 14:10). That's the reason every word He said came to pass.

The next morning when He walked over to the fig tree on His way back to Jerusalem, He wasn't just shooting from the hip. He wasn't just reacting to the moment. He was operating in union with the Father, according to the instructions He'd received the night before.

"And seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came, if haply he might find any thing thereon: and when he came to it, he found nothing but leaves; for the time of figs was not yet. And Jesus answered and said unto it, No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever" (Mark 11:13-14).

Notice that Jesus spoke the desired end results to that tree and nothing else. Nine words. He never said another thing to it. As far as He was concerned, from that moment on, His act of faith was past tense and so was the tree.

When He finished speaking to it, He turned His back on it, went to the temple, drove out the money-changers, and then preached there all day. "And when even was come, he went out of the city" (verse 19).

On the way back to Bethany, when Jesus and the disciples passed by the fig tree, 12 hours after He'd spoken to it, it looked just the same. If there had been any visible change, Peter would have said something. (Peter was like I used to be—always the first person to open his mouth in any situation.)

Now, this is vitally important to understand: The process of faith was already working, but it doesn't work from the outside in; it works from the inside out. That's why we can't evaluate its effectiveness by what we can feel or see. If we speak words of faith and then say, "It doesn't look to me like anything is happening," we disconnect from faith and abort the process. We have to learn better than that. We have to train ourselves to be more like Jesus, to say only what the Father tells us to say...and then keep our mouths shut.

Have Faith in God

The next morning, Peter finally saw what he'd been

watching for ever since Jesus had spoken to that tree. “As they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away. And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God” (verses 20-22).

Most religious people today would absolutely faint over such an answer. They’d expect Jesus to say something like this: “Now boys, just wait a minute here. Don’t you be trying this kind of thing. I’m the Son of God, you understand? I can operate this way but I don’t want you to be out there talking to fig trees and all that kind of stuff. You’ll fall flat on your faces and give this ministry a bad reputation. Don’t you get mixed up in that blab it, grab it, tree-killing stuff.”

But that’s not what He said. He said, “Have faith in God.” With those words, He not only commanded His disciples to do what He did, He offered them the faith with which to do it. Then He went on and taught them how the process works: “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” (verse 23).

It strikes me as significant that Jesus gave us just 10 words to say to the mountain. He kept the command simple. He told us to speak the end result, then turn around and walk off, expecting our words to come to pass.

“But how do I find out exactly what words to say to my particular situation?” you might ask.

You do it the same way Jesus did. You spend some time getting quiet, praying and fellowshiping with the Lord over the situation. You draw near to the One Hebrews 3:1 refers to as the *Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus*.

Ask Him about the situation. Say, “Lord, it seems to me that the desired end result here is such and such. Is that correct?” Then check your spirit for the answer. Listen on the inside of you to hear what He says. When you start doing this, you’re going to find out how easy it is to hear the voice of God because, as His child, that’s what you’re supposed to be doing.

If He says, *Yes, that’s right*, then go ahead and speak the command of faith. If He says *no*, then stand on James 1:5 for wisdom. Say, “Lord, I thank You for Your wisdom about what I should say to that tree. I’ll speak only Your words to it. I may not speak them today. I may not speak them tomorrow or next week.

It strikes me as significant that Jesus gave us **just 10 words** to say to the mountain. He kept the command simple.

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When Jesus, your High Priest, tells you what to say, as far as heaven is concerned, it's as if Jesus Himself is speaking.

I'm not going to say anything to it until I hear from heaven."

"But what if I'm facing an emergency?" you might say.

All the more reason to listen to God. You can spout multitudes of the wrong words in the middle of an emergency and nothing will happen. One word from the Lord, on the other hand, changes everything. When Jesus, your High Priest, tells you what to say, as far as heaven is concerned, as far as all the angels are concerned, and as far as all the demons of hell are concerned, it's as if Jesus Himself is speaking—and when He speaks, He gets results.

If you don't believe it, ask the fig tree.

Keep It Simple, Sweetheart

I've found in my own life that when the Lord tells me what to say, He sticks with His New Testament pattern. He keeps it simple. If my mind goes off in all directions and comes up with a massive string of words, I ignore them and keep waiting on God until I get the insight He's endeavoring to get across to me.

It's astounding how few words He needs to get the job done. I've seen Him prove that again and again over the years.

I remember a time early in my ministry when I was preaching in the Northern plains of West Texas. We were in a small building and a woman brought her teenage daughter up front for prayer. "Brother Copeland, she's been having epileptic seizures," she said, "and we believe it's time for her to be healed. Would you minister to her?"

"Sure," I said, and right at that moment—*wham!*—the girl hit the floor.

Talk about an emergency! The devil was tearing at that girl something awful. She was having a hard, hard

seizure. But instead of reacting to it, I just stood there and checked my spirit. When I did, I heard this real big on the inside of me: *No! No! No!*

I hollered it just as loud as I heard it. "No! No! No!" Then the Lord spoke up inside me again and said, *Hush now. That's enough.*

So I didn't say another word. I walked back around to the podium and picked up my Bible. All the while, that girl was still thrashing around on the floor. When the seizure finally stopped, her family bundled her up and carried her out.

Of course, my natural mind tried to go wild over that. I had to fight away the idea that I hadn't done enough, that I should have said or done something more. The devil tried to tell me that the girl didn't get anything from God—that she left as sick as she came. But I refused to interrupt the process of faith. I cast down that imagination. "That's not my thought," I said, "and I'm not thinking it. I bring those thoughts into captivity."

Years passed and I never heard anything more about that girl. One day, her face flashed across my mind and I asked the Lord to let me know whatever happened to her. Just a few days later, someone handed me her testimony. Her mother had written about it. It turns out, she never had another seizure from that night on. She graduated with honors, and 25 years later, she was still healthy and living her life for God.

That's the kind of thing that happens when we activate the process of faith the way Jesus did. It changes everything when we follow the example of the Master, who so often was—and is—a Man of few words.

VICTORY

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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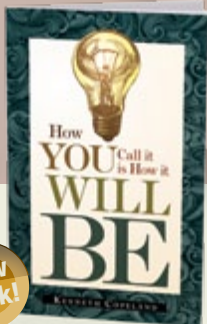
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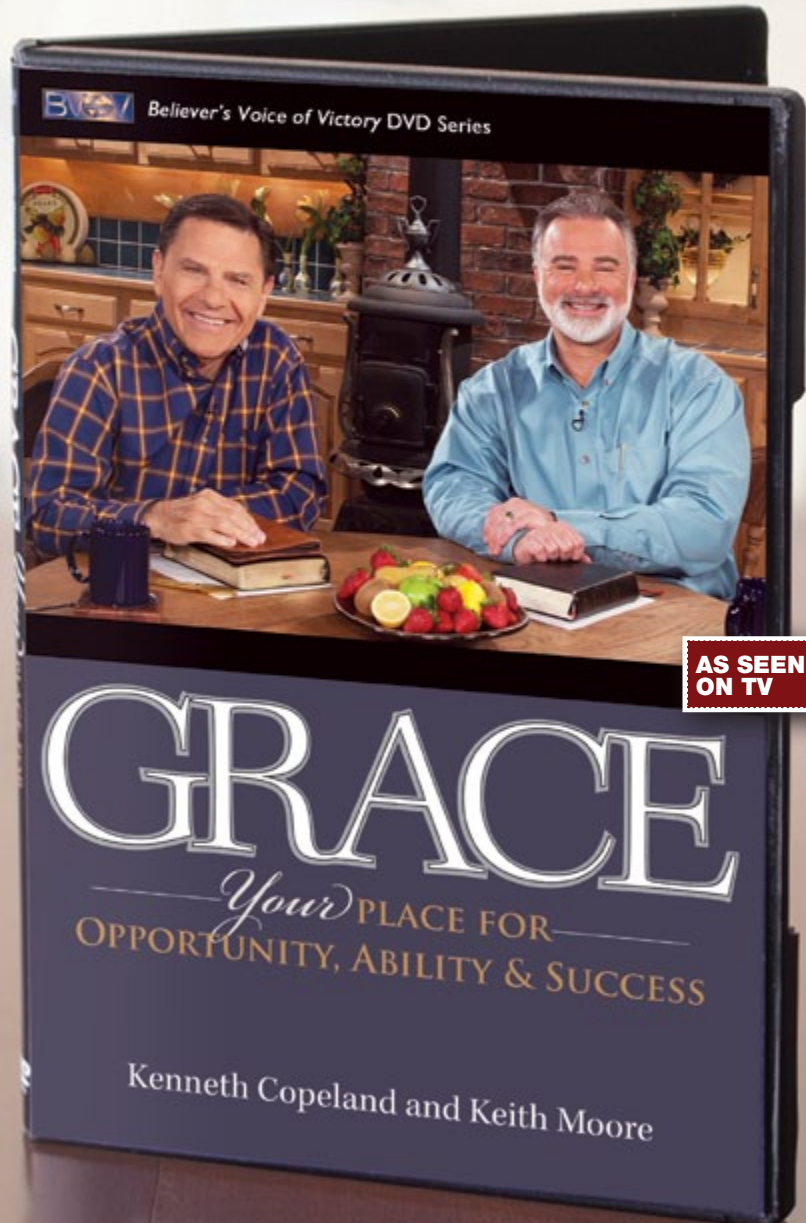
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All Things Are Possible When You Believe God
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Sunday, May 22
Hold on to the Promises of God
Kenneth Copeland

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Kenneth Copeland

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