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KENNETH
COPELAND
MINISTRIES

VICTORY

APR 2019

by Dennis

STARTING DEATH IN THE FACE

P.12

Marcus Martinez defies gang members and leads Toronto youth to Christ!



*the power of
encouragement*

BY DENNIS BURKE

*time to
draw near*

BY GLORIA COPELAND

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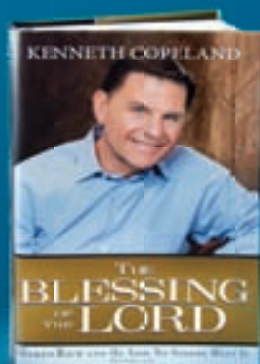
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"SAINTS ARE JUST PEOPLE WHO HAVE PUT THEIR FAITH IN JESUS.... THEY ARE SIMPLY PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN SEPARATED UNTO GOD THROUGH THE NEW BIRTH."



Marcus and Evelyn Martinez

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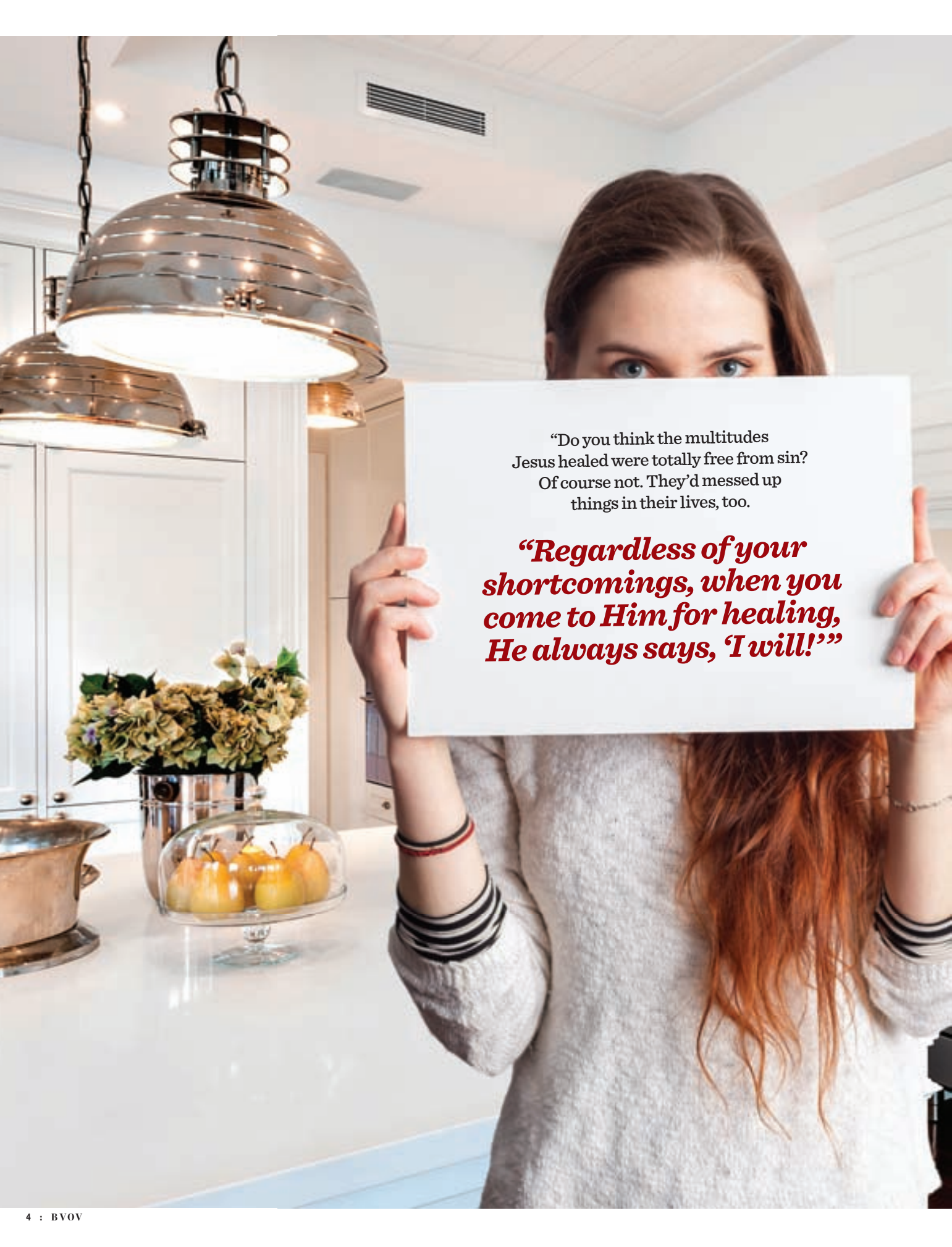
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A woman with long brown hair and blue eyes is holding a white rectangular sign in front of her face, covering her nose and mouth. She is wearing a light gray sweater with black and white striped cuffs. She is standing in a kitchen with white cabinets and a white countertop. On the countertop, there is a silver pot, a vase with yellow flowers, and a glass dish containing several yellow pears. A large, dome-shaped, copper-colored pendant light hangs from the ceiling. The background shows a white wall with a vent and a doorway.

“Do you think the multitudes
Jesus healed were totally free from sin?
Of course not. They’d messed up
things in their lives, too.

***“Regardless of your
shortcomings, when you
come to Him for healing,
He always says, ‘I will!’”***



by Kenneth
Copeland



TAKE HIM AT HIS WORD

Jesus doesn't heal on a case-by-case basis.

Did you know that?

He doesn't have to decide every time someone comes to Him whether it's His will to heal them or not.

No, as far as He's concerned, healing is a done deal. It's His will for everyone, all the time, because it's one of the things the Father expressly sent Him to the earth to do.

You can see this by how He responded to people in the Gospels.

In Matthew 8, when the leper came to Him and said, "Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean," Jesus didn't say, "I'll have to think about it and get back to you later." He didn't have to have a conversation with the man to find out about his situation. He just put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, "I will; be thou clean" (verses 2-3).

He responded the same way to

the Roman centurion. When he came to Jesus and said, "Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented," Jesus answered immediately, without hesitation: "I will come and heal him" (verses 6-7).

Even when He was ministering to great multitudes of sick people, Jesus expressed that kind of willingness. He didn't say no to any of them. In Matthew 12:15, He healed the whole multitude. He hasn't changed since then either. He's "the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8). He's still saying to everyone who comes to Him what He said in the Gospels.

"I will heal you. *I will!*"

"But Brother Copeland, I don't feel very deserving. I've messed up pretty badly in my life."

So? Do you think the leper and the Roman centurion in Matthew 8 were perfect? Do you think the multitudes

***"Start believing Jesus' words more than
your old undeserving feelings."***

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**What happened
to Jesus down
there in that
pit? The WORD
happened!**



Jesus healed were totally free from sin? Of course not. They'd messed up things in their lives, too. But that didn't stop Jesus from healing them—and it won't stop Him from healing you.

Like all the rest of us, you'll always have areas in your life where you could do better. You'll always have more growing to do. But that doesn't change Jesus one bit. Regardless of your shortcomings, when you come to Him for healing, He always says, "I will!"

That means you should be saying it, too!

You should never contradict what He says. You should never get into the position where He's saying one thing and you're saying something else. If He said, "I will heal you," then you, too, should be saying with great boldness, "He will!"

What will happen as you do that?

You'll start believing Jesus' words more than your old undeserving feelings. You'll become so confident in His

will that when someone asks if you really think God is going to heal you, you can answer without even having to think: "Of course! If God was going to heal anyone on earth, it would be me. He said He will! John 17:23 says He loves me as much as He loves Jesus. He could never say no to healing me!"

"Well," someone might say, "that's just being arrogant."

No, it's not. It's believing and agreeing with the Bible. It's the way faith talks.

Faith takes God at His WORD. It takes the kind of attitude the centurion had in Matthew 8. He believed Jesus so completely when He said He'd come heal his sick servant, that he told Jesus not to even bother coming to his house. "Speak the word only," he said, "and my servant shall be healed" (verse 8).

How did Jesus react to those words? "He marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel" (verse 10).

Just Give Me a Mustard Seed of Faith

Jesus marveled at some people on another occasion too, but for the opposite reason. When He went and preached to the people of Nazareth, “He marvelled because of their unbelief” (Mark 6:6).

Talk about a sad situation! Jesus loved those people. Nazareth was His hometown and He wanted to minister healing there perhaps even more than He did everywhere else. Yet the Bible says in verse 5, “He could there do no mighty work.”

Notice, it wasn't that He *wouldn't* do any mighty work. He *couldn't* because of their unbelief (Matthew 13:58).

This is why everywhere Jesus went He was always looking for faith. Faith is the connector! It connects people to the power and BLESSING of God, and that's what Jesus came to earth to bring. He came to heal and deliver. He came to do miracles and save. He didn't come here to put people down. He came to raise us up! So, He's always looking for a connection somewhere. His heartbeat is always, *Someone, just believe Me a little. Someone, just give Me a mustard seed of faith with which to work. I can get rid of the mountains in your life, if you'll just believe and speak My WORD.*

What's so special about God's WORD?

For one thing, it's what causes faith to come. For another, it's the seed of God's power! God doesn't do anything without His WORD. It can do anything He can do.

The WORD of God was what raised Jesus from the dead—and that's the greatest demonstration of God's power recorded in the Bible! It required more power even than the creation of the universe. No one was opposing God at Creation, but at the Resurrection, all the powers of hell were arrayed against Him.

Just think about it. Not only had Jesus' physical body been crucified, not only had all the sickness and disease of the whole world come upon His flesh, He'd absorbed the sin of all mankind into His spirit. He'd died spiritually,

been completely cut off from God, and descended into the depths of hell to suffer in our place.

The devil and his bunch thought they had won. They thought they would be able to keep Jesus' sin-deadened spirit captive forever. But to their shock, the moment the full price for our Redemption had been paid, God said, “Enough!” His voice exploded into that foul place as He said to Jesus the words recorded in Hebrews 1:5: “Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee”!

With those words, the power of God hit Jesus' spirit like a bolt of lightning. He was born again, “spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it” (Colossians 2:15), and went roaring out of hell as the victorious Lion of the tribe of Judah, King of kings, and Lord of lords.

What triggered it all? What happened to Jesus down there in that pit? The WORD happened!

If The WORD could do that, can you imagine what it can do in your life? In the healing of your body? The deliverance of your mind? The saving of your family? One word from God can change everything for you!

It can heal you and deliver you just as easily as it did the daughter of the Syrophenician woman in Matthew 15. When that woman asked Jesus to cast the devil out of her daughter, and Jesus finally got her to release her faith, He changed her life with one short sentence. He said, “Be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour” (verse 28).

Most of the time, that's about all God has to say to change any situation we bring to Him. He doesn't have to go on and on. He can just say, “Be it unto you according to your faith.” Or, “Get up and go about your business. You're well!”

“Brother Copeland, that just sounds too simple.”

It is simple when you do it God's way. What makes things complicated is when we try to do it our way. When we get focused on our feelings...on

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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symptoms...on medical prognoses...and on all the unbelieving junk other people are saying.

God didn't tell us to spend our time attending to that stuff. He said in Proverbs 4:20, "My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings."

Attending to God's WORD means putting what He said first. It means, if you don't know what He said, make it your No. 1 priority to find out. Don't just jump up and start praying everything that comes to your mind. Don't just spout a bunch of unbelief, woe and fear and call it prayer.

Get your Bible and seek out the scriptures that apply to what you're facing. Then, incline your ear to them. Instead of focusing on how bad the problem looks or how incurable all the experts claim it is, lean into what God is saying. Listen to The WORD of God inside you and press into that word of The LORD.

God's Words Can Get the Job Done

I remember one time when I had to listen for the word of The LORD concerning my airplane door. I was in Columbia, S.C., on a Saturday morning. I'd just finished preaching a meeting, and on the way to the airport, Duane, our chief pilot, called to tell me he couldn't get the door open.

"I don't know what's wrong with it, but it won't budge," he said. "I called Cessna and they said they could get it open by drilling a hole in it, but they can't do it until Monday."

"Duane," I said, "no one is going to drill a hole in my airplane. I'm on the way to the airport now." Then I leaned my head against the seat of the car and got quiet. Rather than just starting to holler a bunch of scripture, I said, "LORD, I'm inquiring of You for words that I should say to that door."

Within a moment or two I heard the voice of The LORD, not with my physical ears, but on the inside of me,



POINTS TO GET YOU THERE:

Healing is always Jesus' will because it's one of the things the Father sent Him to do. He's given you His WORD on it.

1

Jesus revealed in the Gospels that healing is always His will. Matt. 8:2-3

2

Jesus responded the same way to the Roman centurion when he asked Him to heal his sick servant. Matt. 8:7

3

Follow the centurion's example and have confidence in Jesus' WORD. Matt. 8:8

4

Refuse to let unbelief stop the power of God from working in you like the people in Nazareth did in Jesus' day. Matt. 13:58

5

God's WORD can do anything He can do, so attend to His WORD about healing and let its power go to work in you. Prov. 4:20-21

down in my spirit. *Kenneth*, He said, *you remember in My WORD where it says, 'All things work together for the good of those that love God and are called according to His purpose'?*

Yes, I thought, *that's Romans 8:28, but what does that have to do with my door?* Then suddenly I saw it. *Oh...the door and all the mechanics inside it are things!*

Yes, so say *this*, The LORD continued. *All things work together for those that love God—that would be me—and are called according to His purpose—that would also be me. So, door, open now, saith The LORD.*

Repeating those words after Him out loud, I said exactly what He said. I didn't add anything to it or leave anything out. Then I began to thank Him and pray in the spirit in other tongues.

Almost immediately, Duane called back. "Boss, after we talked, I decided to try that door one more time and it opened perfectly," he said. "Come on. We're going home!"

Later, we had the door checked over. They lubricated it, fixed a couple of little things that didn't seem to amount to much, and said it should work fine. On our next trip, it tried to malfunction again. I said, "No, you don't, in the Name of Jesus!" It opened right up and never gave us another problem.

That's the kind of thing that happens when you attend to God's WORD and incline your ear unto His sayings. His words are right there available to you when you need them. You have them in you and the Holy Spirit brings to your remembrance just the right verse for your situation. You're quick to hear what He's saying and you're ready to respond in faith.

You don't get that way by just going to church on Sunday though, or by listening to some messages on CD. While church is important, and CDs are good (you ought to listen to at least one a day) you must also look at the words in the Book. As Proverbs 4:21



by Dennis Burke

THE POWER OF *encouragement*

says, you must “let them not depart from thine eyes; [and] keep them in the midst of thine heart.”

One thing you’ll most certainly want to do, for instance, is read about the people who were healed in the Gospels. Meditate on their stories until you see yourself in them; as the leper being made clean or the centurion’s servant being healed. Then look at them some more until you’re no longer just the one receiving, you’re right there beside Jesus ministering with Him.

God’s words “are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh” (Proverbs 4:22). “They are spirit, and they are life” (John 6:63). The law of the Spirit of life is in The WORD, and The WORD is what causes faith to come. So, stay in The WORD and make the faith connection.

Quit wondering whether God is going to heal you or not and start saying what He says. Obey the command Jesus gave us in Mark 11:22 and “Have faith in God!”

But Brother Copeland, what about the symptoms?

Have faith in God!

But what about the doctor’s diagnosis?

Have faith in God!

But what if I don’t feel like I’m healed?

Forget about your feelings and have faith in God!

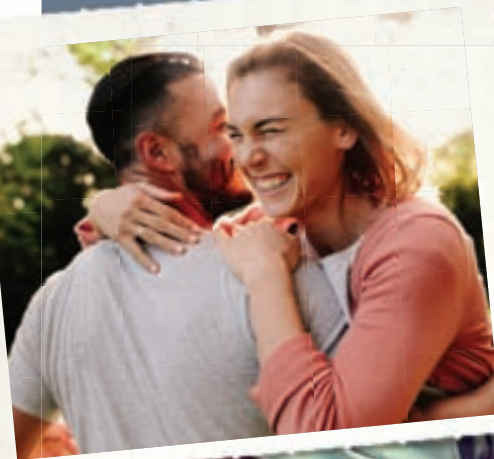
Jesus said, “Whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore... What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them” (verses 23-24).

Your healing is a done deal as far as Jesus is concerned. He settled it once and for all, when He said, “I will.”

Now it’s your turn: Believe it. Say it. And receive! 🙌

NOT LONG AGO, I HAD A FRIEND NAMED PAUL ON MY MIND. IT HAD BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I’D SEEN HIM, AND I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE NICE TO CATCH UP, SO I GAVE HIM A CALL.

THE MOMENT THE PHONE STARTED RINGING, A RANDOM THOUGHT SHOT THROUGH MY HEAD: *PAUL’S RADIO BROADCAST IS HAVING A GREAT IMPACT IN HIS CITY.*



Dennis Burke and his wife, Vikki, are co-founders of Dennis Burke Ministries in Arlington, Texas. For information or ministry materials visit dennisburkeministries.org.

I had no reason to think that. I knew Paul had a radio broadcast, but to be completely transparent, it wasn’t the first thing on my mind.

Paul answered, and we started to chitchat.

“How are you? Been a while. Yes, everyone’s fine....”

Then I said, “Hey Paul, by the way, your radio broadcast is having a great impact in your city.”

He dropped the phone. I heard it hit the floor. Then I heard...*dancing*. I could hear him shouting, “Oh, praise God! Oh, thank You, Jesus!” He was having a Holy Ghost revival, powerhouse party right there on the spot!

A moment later, he picked up the phone.

“Dennis!” he shouted. “I’ve been in prayer all morning asking God about things in my ministry. I had just finished saying, ‘Oh God, I don’t feel like this



What Are You Becoming?

If you're not sure what you're becoming, let me give you a hint. You're going to be whatever you think about and talk about all the time.

I can listen to you talk for 30 minutes and tell you exactly what you'll become. It doesn't take a prophet to do that. It just takes someone who will listen to your words.

So listen to yourself. If you don't like what you hear, change it. Become better by beginning to think God's WORD, talk God's WORD and act on God's WORD.

No one on earth can determine what you're going to become but you. Yes, you! Don't blame it on the devil. He can't change it. Don't blame it on your parents, your background or your circumstances. And certainly, don't blame God.

Forget those things which are behind...and do what Abraham did. The Bible says, "He considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb" (Romans 4:19).

He just said to himself, *Old man, you don't count. Neither do you, Granny. What counts is God's WORD and I am exactly what God says I am.*

Do you want to become what God says you are? Do you want to be healed? Do you want to become free financially? Do you want to become a powerful witness in your circle of influence? What is your dream?

You can determine your outcome in life by changing your words to God's words, and releasing your faith. You *can* become all you were meant to be.

radio broadcast is having any impact in this city.' And that's when you called and said what you did!"

Now it may sound like I was living on a high spiritual plain, but truthfully, for me it was nothing special. Well... apparently it *was*. It was a word from the Lord—encouragement—that Paul needed to hear at that moment. What I considered a random thought was the sound of the Red Sea dividing for my friend.

Mr. Encouragement

The Bible has a bit to say about the power of encouragement, and provides examples of believers who encouraged those around them with great results. One in particular was a bit of an unsung hero in the New Testament. His name was Joseph, and he appears in the book of Acts. In the early days of the Church, he was the first man who gave an offering of great magnitude. He had sold property and given all the money from the sale to the Church (Acts 4:36-37).

Based on what we know about Joseph, I imagine he was the kind of guy whose very presence lifted everyone. Do you know someone like that? He may not even have had to say or do anything for everyone around him to feel encouraged. How do I know that? Because the apostles didn't call him Joseph. They called him *Barnabas*, which Acts 4:36 (*New King James Version*) says means "Son of Encouragement." He had quite a reputation!

We all need a Mr. Encouragement in our lives. Or, maybe more importantly, as believers, we need to *be* Mr. or Ms. Encouragement in others' lives.

Barnabas was so committed to encouraging others that when the Apostle Paul began preaching, he stayed right by his side. Though nearly everyone was terrified because of Paul's history as a dangerous man, Barnabas helped Paul connect with the people and places he needed to in order to share the Word. Think about that: As effective as Paul's ministry was, God used an encourager to get it kick-started!

We all need to be like Barnabas, giving encouragement to those around us. Being an encourager is one of the most spiritual activities we can do. It's an aspect of our lives that needs to be cultivated because the world gets so discouraged. Their narrative is so dark, so negative, so full of

venom and anger. They *need* us to change that narrative.

Having an attitude of an encourager should be on our radar every time we enter a room. It's not difficult, really. Many times, it doesn't cost anything but a few seconds. Yet *everyone* wants encouragement. Everyone *needs* encouragement. People crave it.

Now, I'm not talking about an emotion or a feel-good moment. I'm talking about making something spiritual happen. Encouragement gives people the capacity to follow the plan God has for them to a greater degree.

That's our assignment, isn't it? To help people follow what God has put inside them.

Corrected, but Connected

Of course, encouragement isn't always easy. The Apostle Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 7:4, "I have the highest confidence in you, and I take great pride in you. You have greatly encouraged me and made me happy despite all our troubles" (*New Living Translation*).

To put that in context, remember that Paul and the Corinthians had a *lot* of trouble between them. Paul had spent much of his first letter to the Corinthians correcting them. It just goes to show that God can work a great ministry of encouragement, even with people we don't get along with all the time. We need to remember that, and like Paul, we need to *stay connected*. All too often we allow ourselves to disconnect from people who frustrate, anger or disagree with us. But Paul didn't write off the Corinthians.

What's really shocking though is what Paul said in the next couple of verses.

Paul Received Encouragement

Verse 5 (*NLT*) says, "When we arrived in Macedonia, there was no rest for us. We faced conflict from every direction, with battles on the outside and fear on the inside."

Paul essentially said, "The battles were on the outside, and they came at us to strike fear on the inside." That's what battle is; that's the game. Every one of the enemy's strategies that comes against us on the outside is trying to spark fear on the inside. In the same way that faith is the currency of heaven, fear is the currency of darkness. Satan knows that if he can get us into a position of fear, he undermines our strength.

When things come at us and tell us we don't have what it takes, we need to remember that those fears cannot supersede our faith. If we stand, we will *not* go under! How do I know? Because of the very next verse...

"But God, who encourages those who are discouraged, encouraged us by the arrival of Titus" (verse 6, *NLT*). When Paul faced a battle and fear tried to get hold of him, God didn't send an angel. He didn't speak like thunder from heaven. He sent Titus.

Titus was a man who had been greatly impacted and mentored by Paul's ministry. From what we read here, it appears that Titus didn't even realize the significance of his visit. The Bible doesn't indicate that he had the perfect words to say or a divine message to deliver. All we see is that Titus *showed up*. He had allowed himself to be available and obedient to God and to be used in a not-so-exciting way. But guess what? It was *exactly* the encouragement Paul needed.

Sometimes all it takes is showing up.

When You're Alone

Everyone needs a Barnabas and a Titus.
And everyone needs *to be* a Barnabas or a Titus.

You may say, "Dennis, I hear you, but what about when *I* get discouraged and there's no Barnabas and Titus anywhere to be found?"

We all face times like that. That's when we need to take our cue from David.

First Samuel records that the Amalekites had just raided David's camp, captured the women and children, and burned their tents to the ground. And if that disaster wasn't enough, David's people then turned on him and conspired to kill him. It's no leap to see that David was discouraged. I'm sure he would have loved to hear from a fellow believer, but he felt completely alone.

In response, David did the one thing he knew to do best. He inquired of the Lord: "David was greatly distressed, for the men spoke of stoning him because the souls of them all were bitterly grieved, each man for his sons and daughters. But David encouraged and strengthened himself in the Lord his God" (1 Samuel 30:6, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

Just because Barnabas and Titus are nowhere to be found doesn't mean we can have a pity party. We don't need to depend upon anyone but the Lord for our success and our future. We can rest in knowing

that we can draw on the strength of God inside us. We can allow the Holy Spirit to give us the courage we need through prayer and His Word so we don't lose sight of the plan God has for us.

When we don't allow ourselves to get depleted, we'll be ready to be the encouragers He's called us to be, so others can stay focused on God's plan for their lives, too.

The Power of Encouragement

These are days of strength and courage. For the sake of our fellow believers, these are the days when we need to be like Barnabas and Titus, courageously

rising up to encourage one another in the Lord. Let's lock arms together and help make sure no one is ever without encouragement when they need it most.

Hebrews 3:13 says we need to "encourage one another daily" (*New International Version*). Do you do that? When you walk into a room, are people delighted that you showed up?

Whose Barnabas or Titus can you be today?

Stir yourself up, step out and show up because the words you say may be *exactly* the word from the Lord that someone else needs.

That's the power of encouragement. 



OVERCOMING ONE TWO THREE

Don't get upset and discouraged when things go wrong.
John 16:33

If the trouble persists, don't give up; double up on the Word.
Prov. 4:20-21

Stick with it until your heart is so full of the Word it overflows through your mouth.
Matt. 12:34-35

A man with a goatee and glasses, wearing a dark blue blazer over a light blue patterned shirt and white trousers, stands on a rooftop. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background features a city skyline at night with several tall buildings, including one with a prominent antenna. The text "Facing Death" and "Bringing Life" is overlaid on the image, separated by a diagonal line.

Facing Death Bringing Life



Victoria Park Subway Station in Toronto, Canada, teemed with people. Moving. Always moving. Eyes down, shifting their bodies to move out of the way. No touching. No connecting.

Except for Marcus Martinez, who stood still.

Watching. Absorbing. Listening to all the different languages. Observing different clothing styles and the various cultures. A tall man, his presence seemed solid, immovable. His eyes missing nothing.

He watched the crowd make a wide swath around the gang members. Kingpins of their own form of organized crime, they didn't put off a welcoming vibe.

Marcus walked right up to the top guy and looked him straight in the eye.

"The kid," Marcus said, nodding toward a boy at the edge of the group. "Leave him alone. Don't turn him."

There was something steady about Marcus Martinez. His was a quiet authority, whose chocolate eyes sparkled with life.

The two men locked eyes like bulls locking horns. A slow duel, neither looking away. The dealer raised an eyebrow in silent acquiescence.

Marcus nodded, then sauntered off to another group of boys.

"I want you guys to come out tonight..."

Just then, someone screamed. Turning, Marcus saw a kid running down the subway stairs, pointing a gun at them.

The group Marcus had spoken to melted away screaming, "*Run! Pastor Marcus, run!*"

Marcus didn't run. He turned to face the boy with the gun, locking eyes on him in the same manner he had approached the drug dealer, and didn't budge. Onlookers held a collective breath while the gunman poised to shoot. Suddenly he lowered the gun, leaving Marcus with two words: "You're lucky!"

Divine Protection

"Luck had nothing to do with it," says Marcus. "I pled the blood of Jesus every day. When I went after those kids, I got threatened a lot. It was scary—nothing like the life I'd known in the Caribbean."

Marcus had been raised on Trinidad and Tobago, twin sovereign islands in the southern tip of the West Indies. The eldest of three children raised in a Catholic family, he was 18 when they moved to the U.S., settling

in Florida.

"Someone gave my mother tapes by Kenneth Copeland, which changed our lives," Marcus recalls. "We listened to the tapes and then started listening to his broadcast. My entire family got born again, Spirit filled and started living by faith. My mother's heritage was Portuguese and Venezuelan and my father's was Indian and black. This was all new to us, but my grandfather had been Pentecostal. We heard Brother Copeland talk about Kenneth E. Hagin, so we started listening to him as well. That's how we learned about Rhema Bible Training Center."

In 1994, Marcus moved to Tulsa, Okla., to attend Brother Hagin's Rhema Bible Training Center. After he graduated, his mother and siblings enrolled in the school.

"Since I'd been born and raised in the Caribbean, I assumed the Lord wanted me to go back there and preach," Marcus recalls, "and

I accepted a position as a youth pastor in the Cayman Islands.”

While preparing to go there, Marcus heard the Lord say, *The place you're going, isn't the place where you'll end up.*

“The whole time I was in the Cayman Islands, I knew I wasn't where I was supposed to be. I prayed in the Holy Spirit all the time for direction. Was I supposed to go to Trinidad? No peace. Jamaica? No peace. I knew the faith message was being taught in the U.S., so I wanted to preach where people hadn't heard it. I called my family and asked them to pray.

“I visited Toronto and found myself in the subway, holding my Bible. Standing there, I heard people speaking Chinese, Indian, African, Italian and Spanish. I realized that if these international people received the gospel, they would go home to visit their families and friends, sharing it with them. What a mission field of opportunities!”

Open Doors of Opportunity

In 1999, Marcus moved to Toronto, where he worked for a small church that couldn't pay a salary. That didn't stop him.

He started holding a youth meeting on Friday nights called Youth Jam. The meetings grew so fast, that soon there were more than 100 young people attending. Sometimes, gang members were there. But they had a different motive. They put targets on Marcus' back.

Winning those young kids to the Lord sometimes, for Marcus, meant being shot at. Some he sought to reach, tried to kill him. Truly, Marcus understood this ministry wasn't for the faint of heart.

It required being immersed in the Word of God, operating by faith and out of love. More than anything, it took pleading the blood of Jesus and continuously praying and confessing Psalm 91. Doing these things wasn't optional, Marcus discovered. It was a matter of survival.

When he would play basketball with the kids, Marcus talked to them. More importantly, he listened. He soon came to realize that the men in their lives

never spoke life over them. They spoke death.

“No, you're *not* stupid,” Marcus would tell them. “God has a plan for your life. You have a destiny, a purpose on earth. God knew you before you were formed in your mother's womb. He loves you.”

They listened. And one by one, they lived up to what he believed about them. Lives were changed. It happened so often, that before long, officials at the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services began to take notice, Marcus said.

A Paid Position

“Officials in the correctional institutions saw a change in the kids I worked with,” Marcus recalls, “and in 2000, they offered me a paid position as a senior staff member working with young offenders. Instead of putting them in a cell, they placed them in a big house. There was no one with a gun. Just a social worker and a youth worker.

“I was the assistant director for one of those open custody facilities. If a young offender did well, I applied for him to be part of the temporary release program, which allowed them to go back to school. All they had to do was call and check in every two hours. Not only did it help them get an education, it also made it easier for the offender to integrate back into society.”

The position held one major drawback for Marcus.

“Because I worked for the government, I wasn't allowed to preach the gospel,” he said. “Still, I knew my words would make a real impact on their lives.

I had to get them to believe something different than what they'd heard all their lives.

“No, you're *not* a gangster,” I would tell them. “No, you *won't* die before you're 20. There is a destiny in you. All these forces are trying to bring you down, but it won't work. I believe better for you.”

One young person Marcus had connected with had been in college when he got mixed-up with the wrong group and ended up incarcerated.

“I wanted him to finish his education, so I worked with him for months and

got him into the temporary release program,” Marcus recalled.

A couple of years ago, a well-dressed, successful-looking man walked up to Marcus, held out his hand and said, “Hello, Mr. Martinez.”

“You don't know who I am, do you?” the man said.

“Sir, I apologize, but I don't,” Marcus answered.

It was the young boy Marcus had helped get into the release program.

Today, he is an attorney.

Growing a Church

Marcus worked with young offenders for 10 years, starting in 2001. That same year, he also started a church. In some ways, it was like ministering to two different flocks. The endgame, however, was the same—victorious lives for all.

“Our church is very multicultural,” Marcus says. “We have 65 different nationalities represented. I had to learn the proper way to deal with people from each culture. For instance, you approach a woman from India much differently than a man from Africa.

“The hardest part for me was not being hurt by people. I love people. I truly love them, and I like to be liked. So, when people left the church, I felt hurt. Listening to Brother Copeland's teachings on the love walk through messages like, *How to Listen to Your Heart*, *How to be Led by the Holy Spirit*, and *How to Live by Faith*, helped a lot.”

As a church, Marcus' ministry grew slowly with the congregation moving to larger facilities five times over the years. After eight years, they moved into a 34,000-square-foot facility in the heart of Toronto. They also established Bible training schools in Toronto; Africa; and the Caribbean. In addition to pastoring, Marcus began traveling around the world, teaching people to live by faith. All the while, Marcus held on to a personal faith project that he had not shared with anyone—but the Lord.

For years, he'd been praying for the wife God had for him. Year after year, he continued to stand in faith, believing for God's best. One day, Marcus received a call from a friend saying there was a young woman he wanted Marcus to meet. There was only one small problem: The woman lived in the Dominican Republic.



"I was a city girl who came to know Christ at 19," says Evelyn Martinez. "I earned a degree in business and marketing. Afterward, I went to work for an oil company, which required a great deal of international travel. Whenever I was home, I served faithfully in my church.

"Marcus and I had a mutual friend who decided we should meet. Marcus was also traveling internationally, so we had to coordinate our schedules just to meet. We had a long-distance relationship until we married in 2011."

Today, Marcus and Evelyn have a 3-year-old son, Nathaniel, and 6-month-old daughter, Nathalia. Marcus' mother works full time with their ministry, and heads her own ministry, Victorious Transformation, where she works with prostitutes and women coming out of jail. Their youth group and young adults work with people coming off the streets.

Massive Immigration

"We've seen a massive increase in immigration here in Toronto," says Marcus. "There are 180 different nations represented here. We've had 20,000 Syrian immigrants arrive here, and we're believing God to see the most aggressive evangelism here as well. There is a spirit of mammon at work here that creates problems," says Marcus. "Many people move here on fire for God. Then they experience the cost of living that's so high, they become focused on working hard enough to survive financially. They get caught up in that cycle.

"Over the years, every time the church has faced financial problems, my solution has always been the same: 'Write a check to KCM.' Things break loose for us every time. That's how good the soil is in this ministry. One check, and all the finances come in. That's powerful."

For the past 10 years, Marcus has hosted the *It's Your Destiny* television broadcast on Daystar. In addition to maintaining Bible training centers in other nations, Destiny & Dominion Word Church has campuses in four different quadrants of the city, each 30 miles apart. While he's busy with a growing family, growing church and a worldwide ministry, when Marcus looks back over the years, one thing sparks joy in his eyes: "Some of the kids who were hardest to reach are born again, have families and serve in church, today." 



***You may have
heard me refer to
this subject several
times, and I still
don't think I talk
about it near as
much as I hear
The LORD talk to
me about it.***

Over these almost 52 years of ministry, I have had certain things come up in my life that The LORD deals with me about in no uncertain terms.

He tells me, *Settle it!*

We all have some issues in our lives—in our walk with The LORD—that we really don't need to be praying about anymore. For many of our issues, we simply need to *settle them* and not bring them up again. You know the things that bother you. Maybe you've wondered, *I don't know whether*

I'm really saved. Or maybe you're continually thinking, I don't know if The LORD wants to heal me. Or maybe you've asked, "LORD, is prosperity really Your will for my family?"

Well, it's time you settle these issues and anything else that comes up in your life that has an absolute biblical answer. Your salvation, your health, your deliverance, your prosperity, your relationships...every one of these has plenty of biblical foundation.

You may be wondering, *What about*

issues that involve direction for my life that don't have a clear Bible answer? Well, I've had those questions, too. And The LORD's answer is the same—*settle it!* The LORD is not holding back direction for your life. His WORD is clear on that as well. All you have to do is ask (Matthew 7:7; Luke 11:9; James 1:5).

Just You and The LORD

The LORD has led me to the Communion table to settle my issues, and it has always been an effective “settling” for me.

I'm talking about you and The LORD Jesus getting together, alone.

Take the time you need. Separate yourself unto The LORD. Go away with Him, if you need to. Locate the truth of His WORD on the issues that trouble you. Take the elements of Communion and serve yourself before The LORD. Let Him settle your heart on the truth about your issues. It may take you a few hours or a few days, along with several sessions of Communion. Whatever it takes for you personally, *settle it!*

Maybe you didn't realize you can do that. You've always thought only the pastor or a deacon could serve you Communion. Corporate Communion in a church setting is a great thing, and necessary for complete harmony in the Body of Christ. But, I realized years ago that as a king and priest before The LORD—which we all are—I can come to Him, and we can have Communion together as often as we like.

Some people I've heard of, and some I know personally, take Communion privately every day with The LORD. They are people of great spiritual power and extraordinary revelation.

The First Step

In the day and age in which we live we must have the foundational principles of God's WORD settled in our lives. The LORD has too much for us to do for us to still be wondering about anything that He has clearly spoken about in His WORD. He is strategically positioning us to be in our assigned places. He is connecting us to specifically appointed people for us to fulfill our work and ministry.

So, now is the time to get our issues settled.

We must settle our hearts about our personal relationship with The LORD and all He has provided for us to live our lives in the power of His Spirit. We must settle our marriage, our children and our family relationships. We must settle our personal habits, our health practices and God's will about healing us. We must settle where and how we give and receive. We must settle the work and ministry The LORD has for us in this world.

Now, all these are connected to an issue we must settle first. They all hang on the No. 1 question each of us must settle in our hearts. The question for many is about the integrity and reliability of God's love. Do I truly believe God loves me? Am I truly convinced it is worth it for me to love Him with every part of my being and to unselfishly love the people He places in my life?

Is It Worth the Effort?

Is it worth my effort to keep this covenant of love? Well, let's settle that question right now.

It does take effort to commit to the covenant of love. Jesus said, “Thou shalt

APR READ THROUGH THE BIBLE			
		Old Testament	New Testament
Mon	1	Deut. 19-20	Luke 21
Tue	2	Deut. 21-23	Luke 22
Wed	3	Deut. 24-26	Luke 23
Thu	4	Deut. 27-28	Luke 24
Fri	5	Deut. 29	John 1
Sat	6	Deut. 30-31	
Sun	7	Ps. 42-44; Prov. 9	
Mon	8	Deut. 32-34	John 2
Tue	9	Josh. 1-2	John 3
Wed	10	Josh. 3-4	John 4
Thu	11	Josh. 5-6	John 5
Fri	12	Josh. 7-8	John 6
Sat	13	Josh. 9-10	
Sun	14	Ps. 45-48; Prov. 10:1-17	
Mon	15	Josh. 11-13	John 7
Tue	16	Josh. 14-15	John 8
Wed	17	Josh. 16-18	John 9
Thu	18	Josh. 19-20	John 10
Fri	19	Josh. 21-22	John 11
Sat	20	Josh. 23-24	
Sun	21	Ps. 49-50; Prov. 10:18-32	
Mon	22	Jdgs. 1-3	John 12
Tue	23	Jdgs. 4-5	John 13
Wed	24	Jdgs. 6-7	John 14
Thu	25	Jdgs. 8-9	John 15
Fri	26	Jdgs. 10-11	John 16
Sat	27	Jdgs. 12-14	
Sun	28	Ps. 51-55; Prov. 11:1-23	
Mon	29	Jdgs. 15-17	John 17
Tue	30	Jdgs. 18-19	John 18

“FEELINGS CHANGE EVERY DAY. YOU WERE NOT BORN OF FEELING, YOU WERE BORN OF THE WORD OF LOVE.”

love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength" (Mark 12:30). Yes, that's *total* commitment! No part of our being is left out of the picture.

Of course, love starts in the heart—the seat of God's influence, the real person, the hidden man—the spirit of a man. Spirit is what you *are*! Then love works its way through your soul where your will and emotions reside. Your mind then comes into play as love begins to rule the decision-making, understanding, mental part of you. And finally, love must have an outlet to express itself in action through your strength. *Strength* means "ability, assets and influence." Your strength communicates your love for God by utilizing all its attributes to bring glory to Him.

Our love for Him culminates in His love pouring through us to others—our neighbors, our enemies, our fellow members of the Body of Christ and even ourselves.

Now, that appears to be a pretty easy flow pattern for love. And, it is. The effort lies in staying settled on it. The enemy's No. 1 strategy is to upset the flow of love. Every day he brings situations into our paths to make us stumble in our love walk...to unsettle us. What he does to us day in and day out is no different than what he did to Jesus. And our ability to keep on course without being tripped up is the same as Jesus'—the indwelling Spirit of Love, and "It is written."

Just like Jesus—we were begotten of the love of God when we first believed that Jesus is the Anointed One, the beloved of God (1 John 5:1). And, just like every covenant God ever made with mankind throughout history, He was the initiator of the covenant of love. All we have to do is respond, yes. And when we do, we receive a new identity.

You are born of the incorruptible seed of The WORD of God—The WORD of Love. You must settle that once and for all! You can't settle it based on whether you feel like it's true. Feelings change every day. You were not born of feeling, you were born of The WORD of Love. When you think about God and consider His ways, you can't think about anything but love. And when you consider love, you can't help but think about God.

And you should always think, *God is my Father! Love is my Daddy! I am a child of Love. Love birthed me. Love is who I am.* You're not someone else's child. You're

not something else. A child of Love—Love itself—is who you are! You must settle that in your heart, soul, mind and strength. The very essence of your life depends on your settling that fact, once and for all!

Love defines you. You are not defined by culture, ethnicity, status, education or gender. If the devil is trying to influence you to define yourself in any of these terms, just get right in his face and let him know who you really are! In the Name of Jesus, don't let anyone or anything define you as anything other than a child of Love with all His character qualities!

Settle within yourself that you are the epitome of the Spirit of Love. Faith, hope, righteousness, peace, joy, goodness, meekness, kindness, temperance, patience, longsuffering, deliverance, prosperity, generosity—these are the attributes of the Anointed One and His Love Anointing. They are resident in you. They constitute everything you are.

Love Settles Every Issue

If you will just settle in your heart that living in the covenant of love is worth it, you will settle every issue of your life. Love will assure you of your salvation. Love will deliver you from every deception of the enemy. Love will make your family a world-changing force in the earth. Love will heal your body when you begin to realize it is the very force of your life.

Love will draw you to prosperity because God is not a liar—every seed you sow out of love for Him and for the people of this world *will* come back to you in uncontainable harvest. Love will direct your steps...where you live, where you find your church family, and with whom you partner in work and ministry. Love will guide your decisions and allow you to trust them.

I walk in the love covenant. When I come under pressure in any way, I go back to my place of intimate fellowship with The LORD and let Him show me where I've violated the commandment of love. I make my decisions based on the covenant of love. I rest and relax in my decisions, knowing I have made them within the parameters and on behalf of Love. I have settled my identity and define myself by the reality of Love. I assure you, settling this issue is the gateway to settling all your questions and issues of life.

So, just like The LORD has led me to do on so many occasions throughout these 50-plus years, I encourage you to get alone with Him and *settle it—whatever it is!* 🙏

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by
Gloria
Copeland

enjoy life

**I DIDN'T COME UP WITH
THIS SAYING MYSELF, BUT I
ABSOLUTELY AGREE WITH IT:**
*If you're not enjoying life,
you're not doing it right.*

Especially if you're a Christian, you ought to be more and more blessed all the time. After all, Jesus didn't redeem you so you could be sad, depressed, sick and broke. He came so you could have "life, and... have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

I can honestly say, ever since the day Ken and I got born again, that's been our experience. We began to do better! Since we made Jesus the Lord of our lives, things

have just gotten better and better for us. Now, after more than 51 years of walking with Him, we have peace all the time and we have joy. We're living in the fulfillment of the prayer in 3 John 2, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

I realize all Christians don't have that testimony, but we do because we learned this a long time ago: To enjoy all the blessings God's



Word promises us, we have to mix His Word with faith. We can't do what the Old Testament Israelites did when God promised to deliver them from slavery in Egypt and bring them into the land of blessing. As Hebrews 4:2 says: "When the good news of deliverance from bondage came to them...the message they heard did not benefit them, because it was not mixed with faith...by those who heard it" (*Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*). That was a tragedy! They could have believed what God said and been delivered from every kind of bondage.

They could have enjoyed days of heaven on earth (Deuteronomy 11:21). But they missed out on it because they didn't mix faith with God's Word.

In the lives of many Christians, the same thing is still happening today. They sit in church every Sunday and hear the Word, but don't know they're supposed to believe it and walk in the light of it. So, even though they're God's people, they're still living in all kinds of bondage. They're still suffering under the curse instead of enjoying THE BLESSING.

I think of it like making a cake and leaving out the baking powder. Do you know what would happen if you did that? You wouldn't get the results the cookbook promises. The same is true in the Christian life; for it to turn out like God promises it has to be mixed with faith.

What exactly is faith?

It's the confidence to think, speak and act on the Word of God. It's believing what God says and acting like it's true. Hebrews 4:2 describes faith as "the leaning of the entire personality on God in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness" (*AMPC*).

Faith is so powerful it can change your whole life! It is, as 1 John 5:4 says, "the victory that overcometh the world."

Keep Moving On to Greater Things

If you've heard these things before, right now you might be thinking, *I know this, Gloria! I've been a faith person for years.*

That's wonderful! Ken and I have too. But even so, we're always up for a refresher course. We're continually endeavoring to stir up our faith and keep it strong.

Recently, when I was preaching to a congregation full of seasoned faith folks, the Lord gave it to me this way: He said we need to "stay current" on our faith. Although I'd never thought of it in those terms before, I knew precisely what He meant. He was saying we must not only maintain the faith we've developed in the past, we must keep moving on to greater things.

As believers, we can't afford to get so busy with the mundane affairs of day-to-day living that we let our faith level get low. If we do, we'll be vulnerable to the conditions of this world...and, in case you haven't noticed, this world is a dangerous place. It's crazy!

The devil is stepping up his operations in a big way these days. The darkness out there is getting darker. We're living in the end times and bad things are happening in the world. But they don't have to happen to you and me. We can live as end-time believers. We can overcome this crazy world, and live in victory until Jesus comes.

As I've already said, however, to do so we must *stay current* on our faith.

That means, first and foremost, we must keep our attention on God's written Word. Because "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17), we can't allow ourselves to get lazy about it. If things start coming up and suddenly we realize a week has gone by and we've only spent 15 minutes reading our Bible, we should make some changes. Fifteen minutes a week in the



**POINTS TO
GET YOU
THERE:**

God has a good future prepared for you. He has a plan for you so filled with His BLESSING that the more you walk in it, the more you'll see His goodness manifested around you.

1

Get the news about your future from the Word instead of the world.
Jer. 29:11

2

Open the door to God's plan for your life by seeking Him first.
Matt. 6:33

3

What you do with God's Word determines how much of His plan and future you will experience.
Isa. 55:11

4

God's kingdom operates by the law of seedtime and harvest.
Mark 4:14, 20

5

Keep God's promises in the soil of your heart, be patient, and you will reap the harvest of a wonderful future.
Heb. 6:11-12



GOD'S WORDS AND YOUR WORDS ARE THE TWO ELEMENTS INVOLVED IN VICTORIOUS FAITH. HIS WORDS BRING FAITH, AND YOUR WORDS RELEASE FAITH.



Word is not sufficient! We need to spend time in it every day.

Remember, the Word is what keeps your faith strong. So it should always be first place in your life. Get up earlier in the morning or stay up a little later at night if that's what it takes to make time for it. Do whatever you have to do, because in these dangerous days, what you need more than anything else is to hear the voice of the Lord, and the first place He will speak to you is through the Bible.

He'll also speak directly to your spirit if you'll take time to pray and listen to Him. Personally, I pray every morning before I leave the house. Sometimes I'll sense the Holy Spirit prompting me to change my plans for the day. I may have intended to run errands or go shopping, but if the Lord leads me to do otherwise, I obey Him. I don't have to have any explanation. I don't have to have a bad feeling or foreboding. All I need is a leading, an inner nudge from God.

I can't tell you how many stories I've heard about believers whose lives were saved because they paid attention to such leadings. I've heard about people who avoided losing money on bad business deals because the Holy Spirit warned them to stay away from them. I have pages of testimonies in my files from people who heard and responded to God's direction in their spirit on the morning of the terrorist attacks on 9/11

and, as a result, escaped that tragedy.

I'm not saying you need to be afraid. On the contrary, this is no time to fear! Fear opens the door to the devil. So, instead of being afraid, just let the Spirit of God make you aware. Make an agreement with Him. Say, "Lord, whatever You want me to do, tell me. I'll change any plan at any moment if You lead me to. Just show me whatever I need to do to follow You."

If you'll take that attitude and then pray every day, God will not only help you avoid danger, He'll lead you to do things that will bless and help you. He'll prompt you to go to a certain meeting, or go to the hospital to pray for someone who's sick, or call someone on the phone and encourage them. He'll help you develop the habit of following Him and obeying Him in little things so that when He speaks to you about something big, you'll hear what to do.

That's called being led by the Spirit—and these days it's the only safe way to live.

Get in Sync

Once you've made it a priority to hear God's words, if you want to stay current in faith, you must also pay attention to your own words. God's words and your words are the two elements involved in victorious faith. His words bring faith, and your words release faith.

If you just have God's Word but He

doesn't have your words, nothing is going to happen. Faith has to be spoken. So, once you've heard the Word, start saying it and don't say anything contrary to it.

Granted, when you're first learning to retrain your mouth, this can be a real challenge. It's tempting to join in when everyone around you is contradicting God's Word. When they're talking about how much financial trouble they're in and how they're afraid of catching the flu or losing their job, sometimes you might feel like saying, "Me too!"

But don't do it. God hasn't said anything about letting you go broke or get sick or end up unemployed. He said He meets all your needs according to His riches in glory (Philippians 4:19). He said by Jesus' stripes you were healed (1 Peter 2:24). He said you're blessed, not cursed (Galatians 3:14)!

So you should be saying those things too.

No matter what happens to the stock market, no matter what symptoms of sickness might try to come on your body, no matter how much the government may frustrate you, you cannot let your words go crazy. If you want a supernatural life of blessing, increase, freedom, abundance, health and the salvation of your family, you have to sync your words with God's Word. Then all things will be possible to you by faith!

Whatever He Says to You, Do It

The third thing you need to do to keep your faith current is this: Obey the Word of God. Faith must be supported by obedience. So, whatever God tells you to do, either through His written Word or by the inward leading of His Spirit, do it!

If He corrects you, don't grumble about it. Don't resist. After all, He always has your best interest at heart. If He corrects you, that means you've been going in the wrong direction—and the wrong direction will get you in trouble. So accept His corrections with gratitude and be quick to obey.

Especially when it comes to walking in love.

As New Testament believers, love is our great commandment. What's more, faith works by love (Galatians 5:6). Therefore to live by faith, we must continually walk in love.

I'm not saying we must just avoid doing really bad things, like killing or stealing. Every violation of God's law of love is a big deal to Him and it should be a big deal to us too.

Love is everything. If you're not walking in love, you're in a dangerous place. So stay current! If you've done anything unloving toward someone, do whatever the Lord shows you to do to make it right. If you have any unforgiveness in your heart against anyone, drop it. Forgive them.

"But, Gloria, you don't know what they did to me!"

It doesn't matter what they did. If you forgive them, you'll be free of it. If you don't, it will keep you in bondage.

I decided a long time ago, I want to be a forgiver. I don't want a black cloud of strife hanging over me and keeping me from receiving God's blessings. I don't want some unloving action or attitude to stop me from hearing something from God that would save my life.

I want to live life God's way. I want to live by faith. It takes work, but it's well worth the effort. Ken and I know that from experience. In the many years we've been living by faith, we've faced a lot of challenges, but as long as we stood on the Word of God and didn't quit, we

came out on top.

That's why we don't get upset anymore about what's going on in this crazy world or what they say on the news. It's why we aren't wringing our hands over the world's economic cycles. We've already survived the worst possible money crunch. When we started this faith walk, we didn't have any money. None! All we had were lots of debts.

But when we saw in God's Word that He wanted us to tithe, and that the windows of heaven would be open over us financially if we believed and obeyed Him, we did it. We took a tenth of the

\$100 a week we were making and gave it to Him. At the time, it looked like we needed that money a lot more than God did, but within a year all our debt was paid off, we had more money to live on, and we've been increasing ever since.

Today, I have no fear of the future whatsoever. When people start talking about the terrible economic conditions in the country, I don't fret about it. I just agree with God and say what He says: "I'm prosperous! I'm blessed! I am increasing!"

Times might be bad for other people, but I've mixed faith with God's Word where our money is concerned. God is our provider and He is not moved by a recession or a depression or a political administration. He doesn't cut off our provision when the country goes through bad times. He doesn't say, "Oh, I'd better not open the windows of heaven today. Down there in the United States they're having some financial troubles."

No! God is always pouring out His blessings. So position yourself to receive them. Whatever happens in this natural realm, put your faith in God and in His

ability. Keep His Word in your eyes and ears. Keep it coming out of your mouth. Keep saying what He's saying and obeying Him, and you'll have freedom from lack.

You won't have to go through the world's cycles. God will tell you what to do to prosper right in the middle of them. No matter what the devil and this world throw your way, your life will just keep getting better. If you'll stay current in faith, you'll not only enjoy life, you'll be living proof for all to see that "this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith!"



A SUPERNATURALLY PROSPEROUS LIFE IS A LIFE OF FAITH AND LOVE. 1 John 3:23

GOD'S WORD HELPS YOU PROSPER BY SEPARATING YOU FROM THE WAYS OF THE WORLD.

John 17:16-17

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HIS WORD HAS COME ALIVE!

For as long as I can remember, I've had a mild stutter. I requested prayer because it was getting worse and was affecting my job. I was becoming upset and fearful about going to work.

I gave my life to Christ in 2016 and have been listening to KCM. I have received healing for back pain and other things, but it never occurred to me to believe for healing from stuttering. I had been feeling very weak in my spirit for the past couple of months, so I decided to pray in the spirit every day. What a change it has made! Brother Copeland says God's Word is more real than anything else, and I've gotten the revelation of what that means now. I feel so different and full of joy! I am grateful for KCM, and all the honor and glory goes to Jesus.

Today at work, I barely stuttered. I know God has finished healing me. I am also grateful that I have been blessed with another job with better pay.

S.H. | Texas

'BLESSED TO BE A PARTNER'

Kenneth and Gloria, and KCM team, I feel so blessed to be a Partner with KCM—knowing I can call and receive help whenever I need it. I always get a touch from God and His healing power when I call and talk to KCM. This ministry has shown me so many things about God's Word. Thank you so much.

Sherry F. | Pocomoke City, Md.

'Thank You All for Praying for Us'

I just would like to say thank you all for praying for us. My mother had a gallbladder attack right before Thanksgiving. Doctors were set to operate on her Dec. 14, 2017. So, my mother called in to the prayer line and asked for you all to join her and me in prayer for a speedy recovery and safe operation. She did recover speedily, thank You, Jesus.

Now, doctors were concerned about her liver. They were diagnosing her with cirrhosis of the liver. Well, me and Mom, as

believers in Christ, rebuked that diagnosis and once again called in for healing prayer. As it is written, "Where two or three are gathered" there I'll be in the midst.

Let me witness: Jesus' anointing power went to work—my mother's lab work/biopsy on her liver came back negative. Praise Jesus! Thank you once again for joining me and Mom in prayer. Thank you and God bless.

M.P. | Clint, Texas

'HEALED AND MADE WHOLE!'

I attended a KCM meeting in 2018. Richard Roberts asked people to stand who'd been experiencing issues with their hearts. I stood up. For years, I had been having periodic heart palpitations where my heart would pound so hard, I could look down and see my blouse moving. Going to bed at night, I could feel my heart pounding and beating irregularly. But, since that prayer that night, my heart has been beating normally. Praise the Lord, I am healed and made whole! Vicki S. | Morton, Ill.



"When we're occupied with loving people, we aren't afraid of anything because we aren't thinking of ourselves—we're thinking of them."

—Kenneth Copeland

'Things Turned Around Quickly'

I called the KCM prayer line in September because my husband told me he wanted a divorce.

I was afraid and hurt, but after praying with the ministers, and declaring that we would not be divorced but restored, things turned around quickly. My husband came to me within a week and told me divorce is not what he wants, and he threw away the papers he had planned to file. Thank you, KCM, for your prayers. K.M. | Pensacola, Fla.

HEALED WHEN SHE WAS 6

One of the first healings I ever remember receiving was in 1981. I was 6 years old. I had a terrible earache and was running a fever. Mom said we would listen to your program. My ear hurt so bad that my only comfort was for her to keep her hand on my ear. I knew the verse about Jesus laying His hand on the sick and they were healed. Sister Gloria, you were the one ministering. At one point, you looked right into the camera and said, "Someone is being healed in their ears." You prayed and spoke to the pain to be gone.

From that moment, it was gone. I jumped off the couch, and my mom and I gave glory to God. The anointing was so strong and my child's heart was overwhelmed. I will have you know that neither of my kids suffered with ear infections as other kids did. My doctor even commented on it. God is so good! Thank you for your relentless teaching on faith and the Word.

My husband and I are Partners with you, and we want to say, thank you. We are praying over you and the ministry: I speak life, peace and abundance over you. I'm truly grateful and I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you, and I love you!

S.M. | Cleveland, Tenn.

BY GOD'S GRACE— RESTORED!

My husband, Brian, and I met in 2000, and dated for three months before I got pregnant. We married in 2001, a month after our son was born. We divorced in 2012 and, ONLY by God's grace, remarried each other at the end of 2015. Yes, you read that right! We have three children—17, 15 and 10, and let me tell you that was not an easy journey for them. Our testimony isn't just for us; it IS meant to be shared to help others NOT MAKE the same decisions. Jesus is THE decision. He CAN resolve the rest!

We had literally sworn off each other and moved on in new relationships. But

God had a different plan. Many times, I would call or email KCM to have pray-ers in the Body of Christ fight this battle with me, and stand in agreement. Your ministry has touched our family in so many ways. We wanted to share our story in hopes that it would strike a chord: that the mess can turn into a message with God at the center of it! To NOT GIVE UP! To fight this battle—that is not of flesh and blood—with the blood of Jesus. He is the defender!

Jennifer S. | Champlin, Minn.



SPEAK THE END RESULT

by Kenneth Copeland

"And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm." Mark 4:39

I've preached for years that believers are to speak directly to the situations they want to change in their lives. And some people have asked me a very good question. They've asked, "Well, what do you say?"

The answer is simple. You speak the desired end result. Nothing more. "Peace, be still." That's all Jesus had to say to end a violent storm. "No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever." That's all He said to eliminate the fig tree (Mark 11:13-14, 20-21).

We need to imitate His example and quit talking so much. If that had been us talking to the fig tree, we wouldn't have just said, "No man eat fruit of thee...." We'd have said, "Fig tree, in the Name of Jesus, I curse you. I send you to hell in the Name of Jesus. Fig tree, you die. I'm telling you, devil, come out of that fig tree...." And on and on we'd go.

Jesus didn't say we are heard because of much talk. We are heard because of faith in the Name of Jesus.

There's no telling what we would have said to that fig tree before we got through.

But not Jesus. He just spoke the end result and never looked back.

What enabled Him to operate with such simple certainty? He was confident in the authority His words carried. He knew without question that the power of Almighty God backed Him and caused His every word to come to pass.

When you operate in faith, you can be just as confident. God is backing your faith just as surely as He backed Jesus' faith. So speak to your situation with authority. Speak confidently. And speak the end result. 

Blessed to Bless

We have been Partners with KCM since 1996 when we attended the Believers' Convention in Birmingham, England. It was life-changing!

I am chairman of the trustees for a small Christian charity in England. We run nursing homes to care for profoundly mentally and physically disabled adults. In 2007, we had two homes on one site caring for 17 individuals. We were approached by another charity that was having some

difficulties. For about a year our CEO worked with them to resolve their issues. This was our seed at a time when we ourselves were actively considering how to expand.

One of the difficulties this other charity had was that they had raised the money for, and built, the first phase of another home. But they could not complete the project or even open the 4-bed unit that had been completed. They ended up asking if we

would receive the whole project as a gift; which we felt led to do! It was approximately £1 million worth of building on a prime site with room for expansion.

Now we are looking out for the next supernatural wealth transfer. Thank you, KCM, for opening our eyes to what the Word actually says, and teaching us to expect God to do what He says He will!

H.C. | Scotland

An aerial photograph of a town at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow over the entire scene. In the foreground, a white church with a tall, dark steeple is visible. The town below is filled with houses and buildings, their roofs catching the light. The sky is filled with soft, wispy clouds.

by Gloria Copeland

TIME TO *draw near*

God operates on a timetable.

Did you know that? All the way through the Bible, He appointed certain dates for important events to happen, and He always kept His appointments. He was never late.

He delivered the Israelites out of Egypt, for instance, exactly when He said He would. After telling Abraham generations earlier, that He'd deliver them after they'd been afflicted there for 400 years, He brought them out, right on schedule. As Exodus 12:41 says, "Even the selfsame day it came to pass."



If you study the Old Testament prophecies about Jesus, you'll see that God has a timetable where He's concerned, too. There's nothing spur of the moment about Jesus' first and second comings. He always keeps the Father's schedule.

He was born on a certain day.

He was crucified on a certain day.

He was resurrected on a certain day.

And He is coming back on a certain day!

He isn't sitting up in heaven right now thinking, *I wonder if this would be a good time for the Rapture.* No, that date has already been set. God has put it on His calendar, and when that day arrives Jesus will appear to us in the clouds. He'll keep His appointment and come back for His Church.

What He finds us doing when He gets here will be our choice. But the New Testament makes it clear that before He arrives, Jesus will have a group of people on this earth who have consecrated themselves to Him. He'll have a group of obedient, faithful people who are walking in the power of God, doing signs and wonders, and bringing in the great end-time harvest of souls.

I intend to be part of that group, don't you?

I don't want Jesus to come back and find me born again but still thinking and talking and acting like the world. I want Him to find me separated from the world and living for Him—spirit, soul and body. I want Him to find me fitting the description of the Church in Ephesians 5:27: "glorious...not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but...holy and without blemish."

"Well," someone might say, "that's a nice goal but it's not realistic. As long as we're living in this fallen world, none of us can really be holy."

Yes, we can! In fact, as believers, we already are holy. Our old, sinful inner man has died, and we've become partakers of God's holy nature. We've been cut out from the world, redeemed by God, and set apart unto Him.

That's why the New Testament refers to us time

"The Hebrew word *korban*, which is translated *sacrifice* in the Bible...quite simply means 'to draw near.'"



**POINTS
TO GET
YOU
THERE:**

1

Holiness is one of the marks of the glorious Church in these last days.

Eph. 5:27

2

As a believer you are already holy on the inside because Jesus made you holy when you were born again.

1 Cor. 1:30

3

All you have to do now is act on the outside like who you already are on the inside.

1 Pet. 1:15

4

The more you draw near to God, the more He can manifest His glory and His power in your life.

Jer. 4:8

5

Today, God is telling us, as believers, to get ready for Jesus' second coming. And He's saying much the same thing He said to the Israelites before He came to meet them in the wilderness.

Ex. 19:11



VICTORIOUS
LIVING

by Gloria Copeland

Change What You're Hearing

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth."
Joshua 1:8

Have you ever been frustrated with yourself...because of what you hear coming out of your mouth? Jesus said that out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks (Luke 6:45). If you're focusing most of your attention on natural things—watching secular television, going to the movies, thinking about worldly matters, worrying about your job and family—then that's what you're going to talk about.

What you need to do is refocus your attention. Turn your attention toward God's Word and keep it there.

In everyday terms, Joshua 1:8 says, "Talk the Word."

When I say talk the Word, I don't mean just every now and then when you're feeling spiritual. I mean continually. In Deuteronomy 6:7 (*New International Version*), God said you should talk His Word, "when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

That's pretty much all the time, isn't it? At home, at work, in the grocery store—wherever you are, keep the Word of God in your mouth.

Romans 10:17 tells us that "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." So when you're continually talking about what God says, what He'll do, and what His promises are, you're going to be growing in faith because you're hearing the Word from yourself all the time.

Isn't that exciting? You can change what you're hearing. So start today to fill your heart with an abundance of the Word. Then listen as your mouth gets in line with what God says about you and your circumstances. 

and again as *saints*. Translated from the Greek word *hagios*, the word *saint* means "one who is sanctified or set apart for deity." It quite literally means a holy one.

Saint isn't a religious title that gets bestowed on a person after he or she dies, because a group of people decides the person is worthy and votes to give it to him. Saints are just people who have put their faith in Jesus and received Him as their Lord and Savior. They are simply people who have been separated unto God through the new birth.

Everyone of us, as believers, are saints! We just need to live like it. We need to let who we are on the inside show on the outside, by doing what God says and obeying the instructions He gave us in the Bible—instructions like what's written in 1 Peter 1:13-15: "Gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who

called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct" (*New King James Version*).

Be His Special Treasure

God has always wanted to have a people who would live that way. He's always dreamed of having sons and daughters who would come out from among the people of the world and be His holy treasure; who would obey His voice and let Him be God in their lives.

He spoke to the Israelites about it back in the Old Testament. After He delivered them from Pharaoh's army, God said: "Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself. Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: and ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation" (Exodus 19:4-6).

Notice, God said He freed the Israelites from Egyptian bondage so He could bring them to Himself. He didn't just bring them out to get them to the Promised Land. He wanted them to be able to worship Him freely, to walk and talk with Him and experience His manifested presence.

That's always been God's heart. As Andrew Murray wrote, "The Father longs to have back again the man He lost in Paradise." He longs to enjoy once again the closeness of relationship He had with His family in the Garden of Eden. Restoring that relationship is what the whole Bible is about! It's about God getting His family back. It's about Him redeeming His people so that He can fellowship with them in all His holy glory without that glory coming into contact with their fallen nature and killing them.

To the degree it was possible under the Old Covenant, that's what God had planned all those thousands of years ago for the Israelites. He planned to come visit them in person! As He said to Moses: "Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee.... Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them wash their clothes, and be ready against the third day: for the third day the Lord will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai" (verses 9-11).

To me, those instructions parallel what God is saying to us in the Church today. He's saying to us as New Covenant believers, "Be ready! For I'm coming down in great glory to manifest Myself among you and through you in signs and wonders."

We've already seen Him do that to some extent. Just in the past couple of years we've been seeing more miracles and greater displays of the presence of God. As we get closer to the return of Jesus, those things are going to increase. The manifested power and glory of God in the Church is going to get intense, and we need to be ready for it.

We don't need to be messing around with sin, and talking and acting like the world. We need to be living a sanctified lifestyle and keeping our spiritual clothes washed. We need to be living by faith in Jesus, and walking in the light as He is in the light (1 John 1:7).

Otherwise, we'll be like the Israelites were at Mount Sinai. They missed out on the wonderful experience God had planned for them. Because they weren't ready to meet with Him, they didn't get to behold His glory and hear His marvelous voice. Instead they ran away from Him. They got scared because when He began to manifest Himself in this natural realm: "There were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled.... And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly" (Exodus 19:16, 18).

Take the Limits Off

"Gloria, are you saying God is about to manifest Himself that way in our day?"

No, I'm saying He's about to finish what He started in Acts 2, and "show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath." He's about to "pour out of [His] Spirit upon all flesh" in the greatest move of God this world has ever seen. When that outpouring of the Spirit hits its apex, people are going to meet God in ways they haven't before. They're going to feel and see and experience Him even with their natural bodies, and multitudes are going to come to Jesus.



I believe the time is coming when some churches will have to stay open 24 hours a day because people will constantly be coming to get born again, healed and delivered. I believe a time is coming when the glory of God is going to roll into many churches like a cloud (2 Chronicles 5:13), and it will be so thick

people won't even be able to see each other through it. Folks will hear about it and come to those churches from all around just to see what's happening.

Oh, just think of what God has for us in these last days! It's going to be thrilling, and I want to be right in the middle of it. I want to be part of that group that

HELP BRING THE GLORY OF GOD INTO MANIFESTATION RIGHT HERE ON EARTH.

God's will from the beginning was for His children to bear His image and walk in His glory.
Gen. 1:27

When Adam and Eve sinned and lost that glory, God immediately began to work to restore it.
Gen. 3:14-15

God sent Jesus to be the last Adam and regain, through the cross and the resurrection, what the first Adam had lost.
1 Cor. 15:45

God's endgame is for Jesus to return for a Church that is manifesting His glory.
Eph. 5:27

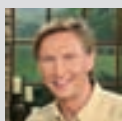
We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity while we're on this earth to reveal God's glory to a sin-darkened world.
1 Pet. 2:9

APR BROADCAST CALENDAR



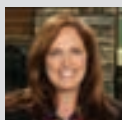
Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 1-5
Keys to Living in Divine Health
Kenneth Copeland,
Dr. Don Colbert &
Mary Colbert



Dr. Don Colbert

Apr. 7
Go for the Gold in Faith
Kenneth Copeland



Mary Colbert

Apr. 8-12
Let THE BLESSING Do the Work
Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 14
The Cross Is the Place of Exchange
Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 15-19
Alive and Active Faith Brings Power
Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 21
An Unbreakable Covenant
Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 22-26
Consistent Faith Brings Results
Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 28
See Yourself Free
Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 29-May 3
Unshakable Faith Brings Victory
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Acts 2 says will be prophesying, seeing visions, dreaming dreams and walking in the power of God.

I'm sure you do too—and you can be! All you have to do is dedicate yourself 100 percent to the Lord. All you have to do is put Him first place in your life.

In a nutshell, that's what He told the Israelites to do at Mount Sinai. When He spoke to them about how to walk in His presence and His BLESSINGS, the first command He gave them was, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:3).

The Israelites could never consistently keep that command back then, because they weren't born again like we, as believers, are today. They were still under the dominion of sin, so they kept wandering away from God and worshiping other gods. Even so, God still made a way for them to come back to Him. Even under the Old Covenant, He set up a system of animal sacrifices to atone for their sins and make it possible for them to draw near to Him once again.

God didn't set up those sacrifices because He wanted to punish the Israelites. He didn't do it because He wanted them to give up something for Him or because He thought they should suffer some kind of loss. That concept springs from the English definition of the word *sacrifice*. The Hebrew word *korban*, which is translated *sacrifice* in the Bible, means something very different. It quite simply means "to draw near."

God has always wanted His people to draw near to Him! It's why He sent Jesus to offer Himself on the cross as "one sacrifice for sins for ever" (Hebrews 10:12). It's why, when we made Jesus the Lord of our lives, He washed our sins away with His precious blood, and made us righteous with His own righteousness.

He wanted us to be able to live in unbroken fellowship with Him and be His own special people. He wanted us to be able to love Him above all, walk with Him, and obey His voice. He wanted us to draw near to Him so He can draw near to us (James 4:8).

There are no limits to what God can do through us if we'll do that. The only thing that limits the flow of His power and glory in our lives is how much

we give ourselves to Him. That's why He's saying to us what He said to the Israelites: "Don't have any other gods before Me."

Having other gods isn't just worshiping idols. It isn't just committing big sins like adultery or murder. It's anything that gets in the way of obeying God.

It might just be giving in to your own fleshly preferences, for instance. It might simply be drawing back from something God puts on your heart because you don't particularly want to do it.

I remember some years ago, I got into that situation when the Lord spoke to me about making the closing remarks and praying for people at the end of our Russian television broadcasts. I'd previously delegated that responsibility to one of our prayer ministers, but the Holy Spirit let me know He was delegating it to me! I didn't like the idea of spending more time in the television studio, so I kept procrastinating. I'd say, "Lord, I am going to do that," but then I wouldn't follow through.

After about six months I really got under conviction about it. I realized I was putting my own desires before God's, so I repented and recorded those closes. Afterward I felt so good! I can't tell you how happy I was to be rid of that disobedience. It had hindered my fellowship with God.

This is why God tells us to be holy in all our conduct and manner of living. For those of us who love Him, walking in holiness means walking in happiness. It isn't a burden, it's a blessing. Even when it looks in the natural like putting Him first place is going to cost us, in the end it always pays in blessing.

So, let's go for it 100 percent! Let's remove from our lives everything that we know displeases the Lord. Let's do those things He's spoken to us about in our hearts and do them quickly because time is running out.

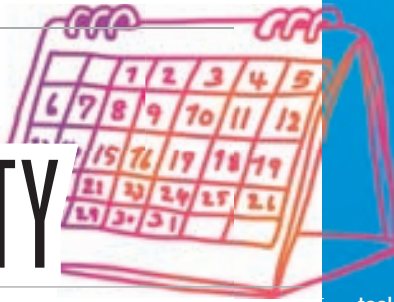
Jesus is coming soon, and when He gets here, we don't want Him to find us off wandering around out there in the world. We want Him to find us drawing near to Him and doing our part in this last, great outpouring of the Holy Spirit. We want Him to find us shining with His power and occupying our place in His glorious Church! 🙏



Commander
Kellie's Corner



24/7 THE NEW REALITY



This year is really flying by, Superkid! And that is why we are going to live our lives so on purpose that every hour counts for Jesus and His kingdom (His plans, His ways, His purpose). That sounds great, doesn't it?

But if we don't stop and think about what it REALLY means to give ourselves to Him every hour AND in every situation, time and life will get away from us. So, this month, we are going to stop and think it through.

24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We want to belong to Jesus ALL the time—not MOST of the time, or just on Sunday, or every day except when you stay at a friend's house, or while you are at school. All the time means ALL the time. Anchoring your life to Jesus changes how you live.

When we get used to making our own decisions, we can forget to talk to Him every day about what we should be doing—not just about the big things, but the little things too. It's easy to fall into the habit of calling on Him when we need something, instead of walking and talking with Him 24/7.

This can open the door to what I call the GOLDEN MICROPHONE SYNDROME. What do I mean by that? The golden microphone syndrome is when our idea of serving Jesus is a perfect church life. And ministry is about talking to others, preferably with a microphone in hand, when it's easy: When you are the lead part in the church musical or the one chosen to pray over the offering. Or, when someone ASKED you to tell them about Jesus, and really listened and wanted to ask Him into their heart when you finished witnessing. Don't misunderstand, I love those times! Not only do you get to share Jesus, but you feel special too when you can change someone's life by sharing the best kept secret in the world—JESUS! This is when it's easy to serve Jesus and be a witness for Him.

What about school, with friends, watching TV, or when you are angry, hurt or upset about something? What then? What takes over in your thoughts? Who's in charge when it's time for chores or schoolwork; when it's playtime or free time? I am describing your everyday normal life. Is Jesus still getting your attention?

"Commander, what's gotten you so stirred up?"

I recently had a revelation of a scripture I have read a certain way my whole life. Let's read it together (with my comments):

Second Timothy 2:19, *The Passion Translation* says, "But the firm foundation of God has written upon it these two inscriptions: 'The Lord God recognizes those who are truly his!'" Yay! I do belong to Him! and, "Everyone who worships the name of the Lord Jesus must forsake wickedness!" For you, Superkid, this means to reject any twisted version of what Jesus has planned for your life. He has called you with a definite purpose.

Be a Pure Container of Christ

"In a palace you find many kinds of containers and tableware for many different uses. Some are beautifully inlaid with gold or silver, but some are made of wood or earthenware; some of them are used for banquets and special occasions, and some for everyday use" (verse 20). Superkid, this is where my understanding of walking with Jesus shifted. I had understood that I should always act pure to be a golden vessel, set apart for special occasions to be used by Jesus. But look at the next part, "some for everyday use." Then it hit me: If I think about life with Jesus like this, I will just be looking to serve Him in the special occasions that seem to shine a light on me, not serving Him in my everyday moments. His point is clearly stated next.

"But you, Timothy, must not see your life and ministry this way. Your life and ministry must not be disgraced, for you are to be a **pure container of Christ and dedicated to the honorable purposes of your Master, prepared for every good work that he gives you to do**" (verse 21). Though

purity in our actions is important, our goal is not to be a special container trying to be pure, but a PURE JESUS container, DEDICATED to WHATEVER job He has for us on ANY day! To be His 24/7, ready for the golden microphone or the dirtiest, most thankless job or

task He would like us to do. Especially honorable is keeping your mind on Him and your container (YOU) filled with His Presence, ready for EVERY GOOD WORK that He gives you to do. Purity is not based on what YOU do, but on your being filled up with HIM. His presence in our lives will begin to purify OUR DESIRES AND ACTIONS. You are a PURE CONTAINER OF JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF. Wow.

What an honor that is, whether flashy and amazing or just living your everyday life, you are serving Jesus and serving HIM to others, like a waiter in a restaurant. In fact, if you just work hard at being pure, you will never actually be pure. But if you live your life as ONE with Jesus, always filled up with Him, allowing His purity to be yours, you will be set apart for His honorable use, no matter what that may be.

Now, the first verse of 2 Timothy 2 makes more sense to me.

"Timothy, my dear son, live your life empowered by God's free-flowing grace, which is your true strength, found in the anointing of Jesus and your union with him!" I challenge you to read Chapters 1 and 2 with your own 24/7 life in mind.

As we close, let's repeat our confession for this year, reaffirming our gift to Jesus:

"This is my gift to You, Jesus. I give You ME! My life, my thoughts, 24/7, every beat of my heart, my skill, my talent, my good and my bad, my strengths and my weaknesses, I give to You now. My gift will be just as daily as Yours is, Jesus. If I begin to hold anything back from You, please show me and I will give it back."

Superkid, today is special because it's the only TODAY there will ever be. You and Jesus go make it special.

Commander Kellie, out.



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



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