

BELIEVER'S VOICE OF

VICTORY

KENNETH
COPELAND
MINISTRIES



SEPT 2017

DIGITAL : MAGAZINE.KCM.ORG

J
**PEN OF A
READY WRITER** P.12

MELANIE HEMRY
had nurtured a dream to become a writer since age 12. But God would curtail that dream for 20 years—long enough for her to share her faith and impact the lives of thousands as a nurse. Today, Melanie is living out her dream as a successful writer. And for the past 27 years, she has been the invisible face behind the writing of nearly 300 Partner testimonies that have been featured in this magazine.

THE
GREATER
ONE IN YOU
KENNETH COPELAND

THAT I
MIGHT
KNOW HIM
VIKKI BURKE

ABRAHAM,
NOAH & YOU'
GLORIA COPELAND



1973 A HISTORIC MOMENT:
BELIEVER'S VOICE
OF VICTORY

A Newsletter for the Power People!

WHEN THE LORD INSTRUCTED KENNETH AND GLORIA COPELAND TO PUBLISH THE *BELIEVER'S VOICE OF VICTORY* MAGAZINE, HE SAID TO THEM: *THIS IS YOUR SEED. GIVE IT TO EVERYONE WHO EVER RESPONDS TO YOUR MINISTRY, AND DON'T EVER ALLOW ANYONE TO PAY FOR A SUBSCRIPTION TO IT.*

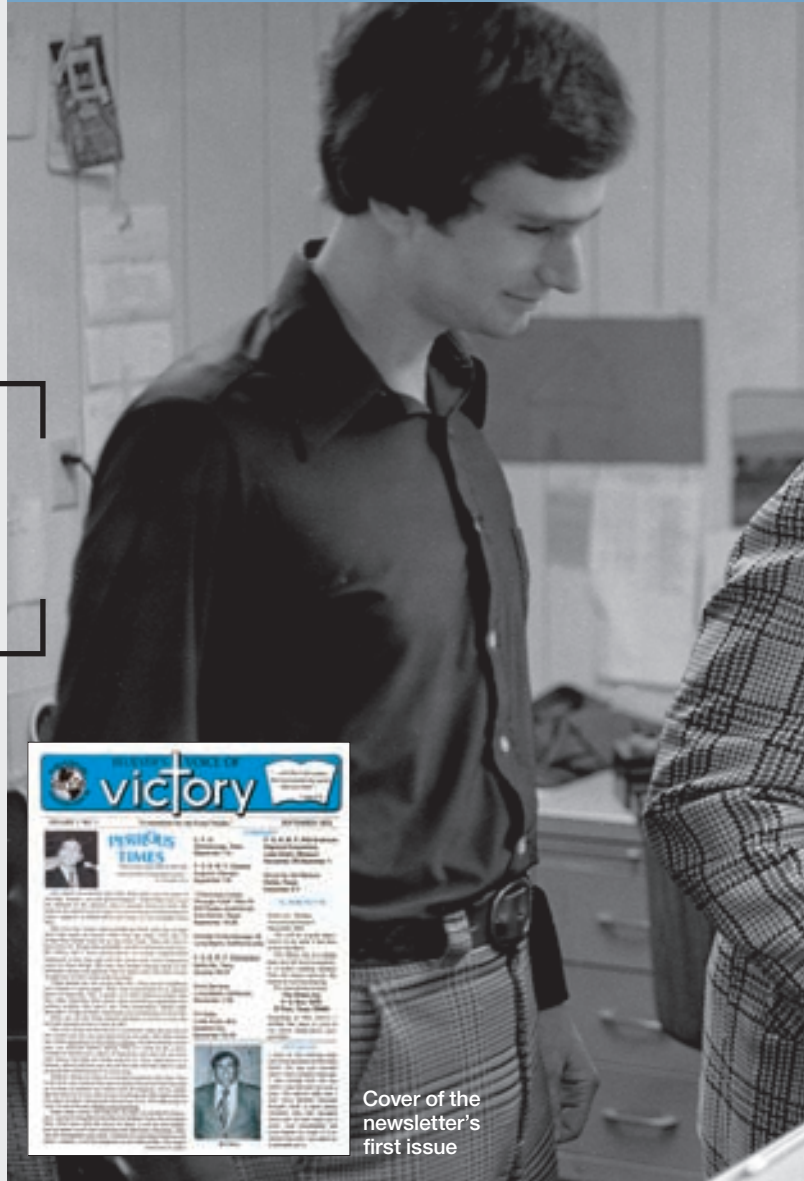
In obedience to His instruction, they published the first *BVOV*, subtitled "A Newsletter for the Power People," in September 1973, and mailed it to about 3,000 people. Within two years, circulation had grown to 20,000.

Under the direction of their son-in-law George Pearsons, *BVOV* became a pacesetter in the growing sphere of Christian magazines. Gloria says, "There's a ceiling on worldly publications that we don't have. They can't reach beyond where they are into the realm of the anointing. Yet, the whole purpose of our magazine is to present the Word of God on paper *through* the anointing."

Partner testimonies have become the foundation for feature articles in every issue.



And the anointing has truly made the difference in *BVOV*. Each month, members of the publishing department release their faith that every person who reads the magazine will experience change in their lives by the anointed Word it contains! Articles by the Copelands and other ministers like Jerry Savelle, Jesse Duplantis, Creflo Dollar, Billye Brim, Keith Moore and Bill Winston, have indeed made a difference in hundreds of thousands of lives through the years.



Cover of the newsletter's first issue

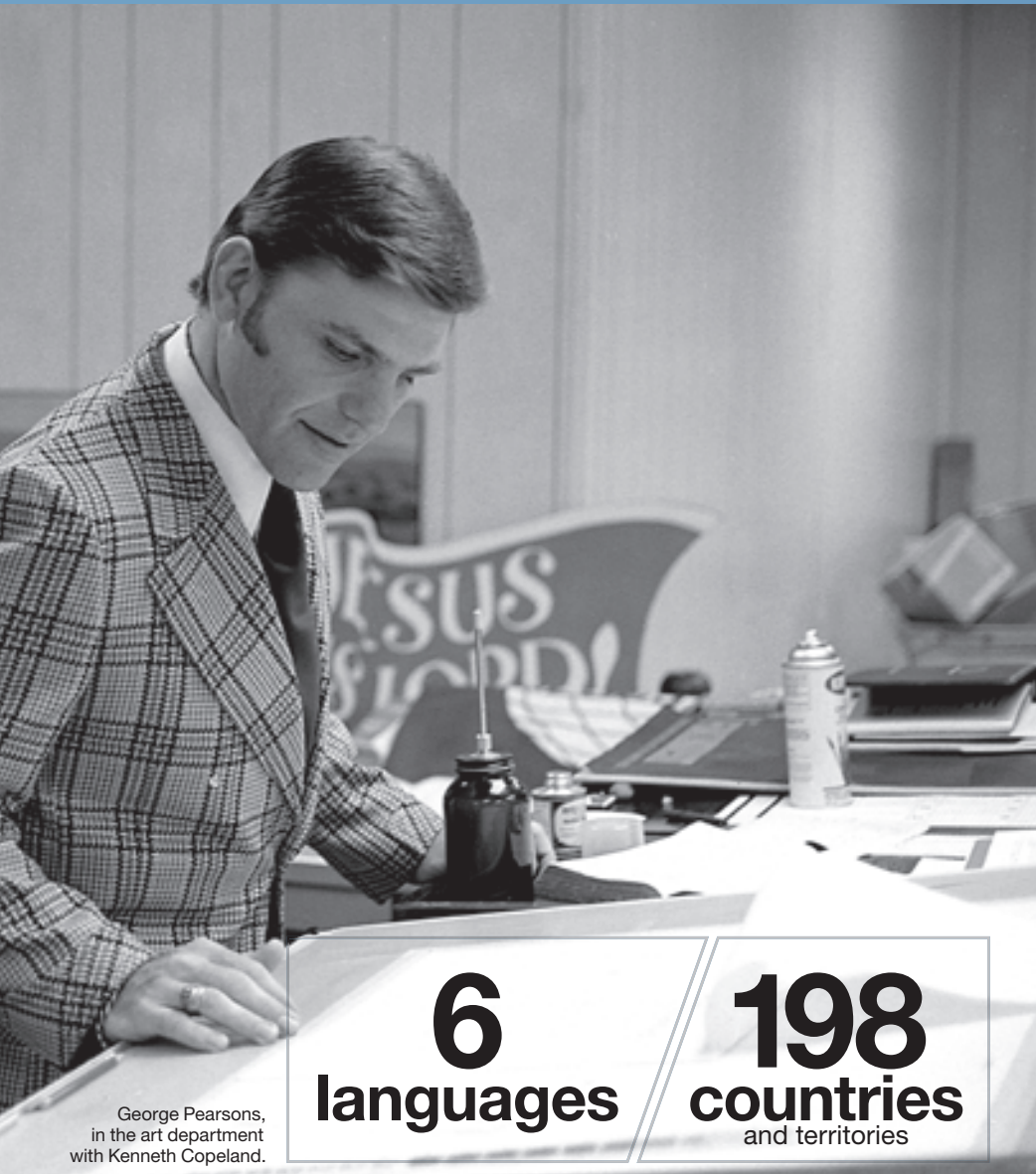
"There's a ceiling on worldly publications that we don't have. They can't reach beyond where they are into the realm of the anointing. Yet, the whole purpose of our magazine is to present the Word of God on paper through the anointing."

—Gloria Copeland

Since the first days of *BVOV*, our Partners and Friends have sent in thousands of letters with their own stories of faith. These have become the foundation for the testimonies and feature articles that now appear in every monthly issue.

Today, we mail the *BVOV* magazine to over 450,000 homes in countries around the world. Knowing the good news is being spread throughout the world on the powerful voice of the printed page is as exciting today as it was 44 years ago when it all began. God is working through its pages, month after month, to bring people to a saving knowledge of His love and to know that Jesus is Lord!

And the most exciting part is the



George Pearsons,
in the art department
with Kenneth Copeland.

6
languages

198
countries
and territories

lives that continue to be changed every day because the *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine is delivering the Word and telling the stories—sowing them into nations around the world. Here's just one example of how God has continually used *BVOV*:

A Partner in the United States stands on God's Word in faith and receives her husband miraculously raised from the dead. She sends her praise report to KCM. The story is written and published in *BVOV*. A Partner in England receives the magazine, and being led of the Holy Spirit, mails it to a friend—a struggling pastor in Guyana who all but consumes the magazine the day he receives it. The very next day, his newborn son, delivered months

prematurely, is pronounced dead in a Brazilian hospital. Even on the way to the hospital, the father has read and reread the testimony about the man being raised from the dead in the U.S. and faith has come to him! He stretches his hands toward his lifeless son, voices his faith, and rebukes the spirit of death, commanding it to loose its hold on his son in the Name of Jesus! His son revives!

Believers, that's the power of the Word of God, presented on paper *through* the anointing and the pages of the *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine.

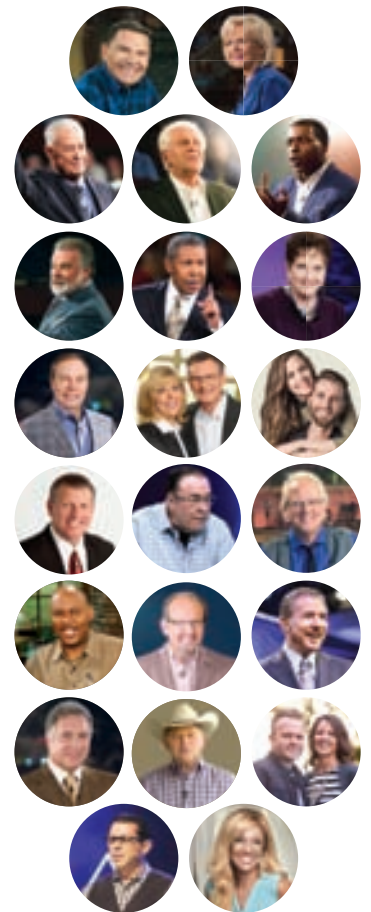
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EQUIPPING BELIEVERS *for* MINISTRY





From our image archives,
Pat Boone with Kenneth Copeland

P6 YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THINKING LIKE JESUS, TALKING LIKE JESUS AND GETTING HIS RESULTS.



SEPT

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by Kenneth Copeland
God Almighty is in you 24 hours a day, and He's not there just so you can carry Him around as a spiritual passenger. He's there to work. Learn to trust Him and do what He leads you to do.

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by Ronald C. Jordan
For the past 27 years, Melanie Hemry has been the invisible face behind Partner stories featured in the *BVOV* magazine. This month, read the encouraging story of her journey and how she came to be connected to KCM.

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There are things that no one has seen or heard or even conceived of that God has prepared for us. Now, He is waiting for us to receive them by the Holy Spirit.

21 In Position to Be Blessed

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If you're facing an enemy army today in some area of your life, don't panic. Just do what Jehoshaphat did. Position yourself.

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YEARS AGO,
I PRAYED ONE
PARTICULAR
PRAYER THAT
I WILL NEVER
FORGET. IT WAS
BACK IN MY
EARLY DAYS OF
MINISTRY, AND I'D
BEEN PREACHING
A SERIES OF
MEETINGS THAT
WEREN'T BEING
VERY WELL
ATTENDED. WITH
PEOPLE STAYING
AWAY BY THE
THOUSANDS,
THINGS WEREN'T
LOOKING GOOD
AT ALL.

THE GREATER ONE IN YOU

by Kenneth Copeland



Desperate for help, I was praying about the situation one morning and I began to repeat what I'd heard someone else say one time. I began to cry out over and over, "Oh God, send the power just now! Oh God, send the power just now! Oh God...!"

At the time I thought it was a perfectly good prayer. But as soon as I quieted down a little bit, The LORD interrupted me: *Kenneth!* He said, *Where am I going to get it?*

"What do You mean, LORD?" I asked.

Well, you've been crying to Me all morning about sending you power. Where do you think I'm going to get it? I've already filled you with My own Spirit. I can't turn to someone else now and say, "Kenneth needs more power."

After giving me a moment to think about that, He then went on to say something else that shook me to my core. He said, *Son, I could have filled you with an angel. I have some very sharp, very powerful angels. I could have created some being that never existed before to come and empower you. But I didn't trust you to an angel, or any other created being. I don't trust you to anyone but Me—and I'm going to tell you something: I'm all you need. Now just go do what I taught you to do.*

Talk about an awakening! When God said that to me, He changed my whole direction of thought for the rest of my life. He redirected my attention so I was no longer looking for power to come to me from out yonder somewhere. I was looking for power to come from the One who is in me.

That's what God wants all of us believers to do! He wants us to become increasingly God-inside minded. He wants us to be thinking all the time, every day—*God is in me, and greater is He that is in me, than he that is in the world!*

Why does He want us to think that way? Because that's how Jesus thought when He was on the earth. He never prayed, "God, send down the power!" when something supernatural needed to be done. He simply put His faith in the power of the Father who dwelt within Him. He did whatever the Father told Him to do, and the Father did the works (John 14:10).

You can see a good example of this in Luke 5, where Jesus ministered to the man who was sick with the palsy. You've probably read about that incident. The man's four friends carried him to one of Jesus' meetings believing he would be healed, and when they couldn't get through the crowd they tore off part of the roof of the house

The devil will never recover from what happened to him at the Resurrection. He lost everything that day.

where the meeting was taking place. Then they lowered their palsied friend “down through the tiling with his couch into the midst before Jesus” (verse 19).

What did Jesus do when He looked up and saw that man being lowered through a hole in the ceiling? He simply looked at the man (with a big smile on His face, I’m sure) and said, “Your sins are forgiven!” Then He turned to the people in the crowd who were wondering whether He had the authority to do that and said: “What reason ye in your hearts? Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house. And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God” (verses 22-25).

Not Just a Bolt Out of Heaven

A lot of Christians read about that miracle and think it happened because some invisible bolt of divine power came out of heaven that day. They think God just picked that man out of the crowd and sovereignly decided to heal him. But according to the Bible, anyone at the meeting could have been healed that day. If they’d believed and acted on The WORD they were hearing, everyone there could have received just like the man with the palsy did, because Luke 5:17 says, “the power of the Lord was present to heal them.”

Where was that power? It was on the inside of Jesus. It was flowing out from within Him because God was in Him.

“Yeah, but Brother Copeland, that was *Jesus!*”

I know it. But He said Himself that we, as believers, can operate the same way. He declared to His disciples before He went to the Cross, “He that believeth on me, the works that I do

shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father” (John 14:12).

That’s how the apostles in the early Church were able to do so many amazing things! It is why, as Acts 5 says: “By the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people.... Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one” (verses 12, 15-16).

“Yeah, but Brother Copeland, once again you have to remember those were the apostles. They were special!”

Certainly they were, but that’s not why the miracles happened. They happened through faith in the Name of Jesus (Acts 3:16). They happened



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DID YOU KNOW?

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because the apostles were doing what Jesus had taught them to do and—just as in Jesus’ earthly ministry—the power of the Father was doing the works.

Where did the power of the Father that produced those works come from? It came from inside the apostles. It flowed forth and radiated out of them—not just because they’d had the privilege of following Jesus during His earthly ministry, but because He’d ascended to the Father, and as a result they had God on the inside of them.

That’s the case for every born-again believer. We all have God on the inside of us! Each one of us is “the temple of God” and the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:16).

There’s no power shortage in the Body of Christ! Today, just as in the book of Acts, every member of His Body is indwelt by the One who created the universe. We all have within us the God for whom nothing is impossible, and He’s in us to strengthen us, as Ephesians 3:16 says, “with might by his Spirit in the inner man.”

Death-Conquering, Devil-Defeating, Universe-Upholding Power!

What does it mean to be strengthened with might in your inner man? The word translated *might* is the Greek word *dunamis*. It speaks of God’s supernatural, miracle-working ability. Also translated *power*:

It’s the word used in Acts 10:38 to describe “How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with *power*.”

It’s the word used in Ephesians 1:19-20 to refer to “the exceeding greatness of [God’s] *power*...which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places.”

It’s the word Jesus used in Acts 1:8 when He said to the disciples, “Ye shall receive *power*, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you” and it’s also the word used in Hebrews 1:3 which says Jesus is “upholding all things by the word of his *power*.”

“THE BERLIN WALL WILL COME DOWN”



In February 1984, in Soweto, South Africa, Kenneth and Gloria Copeland sat in a small trailer, across from a “young German man, full of fire”—Reinhard Bonnke, and his wife, Annie. It was the first time they’d met the intense evangelist, and suddenly the spirit of prophecy came upon Brother Copeland.

First, he prophesied that Bonnke would one day preach to millions—which happened in November 2000 in Lagos—but when they shook hands to leave, the moment their hands clasped, Kenneth prophesied, *Reinhard, stay prepared. There is coming an hour when I’m going to send you back to Germany to do some things because I am going to take that Berlin Wall down*

and I’m going to do it miraculously and I want you to be ready with the gospel when I do.

Five years later, the Lord made that prophecy about the Berlin Wall public. On Sunday morning, June 4, 1989, at Eagle Mountain International Church, Kenneth stood up and prophesied that bold message again: *The Berlin Wall will come down. Of course, at the time it was totally outlandish to even think about the Berlin Wall coming down. But five months later, on Nov. 9, 1989, it did!*

Though God delivered the word prophetically through him, Brother Copeland said that “bringing down the Berlin Wall was above my thinking when it came down. Especially the way it happened. It was there in full strength one day and gone the next. No one was allowed to preach openly in Eastern Europe one day and suddenly all of Europe was open the next. When our God decides it’s time for change, the impossible melts before Him like butter on a griddle.”



Those verses confirm that the strengthening power of God inside you is the most awesome power there is! It's not only the same power that operated through Jesus when He was on earth, and through the early apostles, it's the power that exploded into hell after Jesus was crucified and raised Him from the dead! It's the universe-upholding power that's in Him right now as the King of kings and LORD of lords!

No wonder the Apostle Paul said in Ephesians 3:20 that God is "able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us." No wonder he prayed in Ephesians 1: "That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom

and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe..." (verses 17-19).

The more we grow in our revelation of the power of God that's in us, as believers, the more we'll act on it. The more we act on it, the more freely and fully that power will flow.

This is why the devil works so hard to keep us from pressing into The WORD and finding out who we are in Christ. It's why he tries so hard to keep us from getting hold of the truth about the power that's within us. He knows from

experience what that power can do. He was totally defeated by it 2,000 years ago, when Jesus was raised from the dead and "having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it" (Colossians 2:15).

The devil will never recover from what happened to him at the Resurrection. He lost everything that day. The *dunamis* power of God, working in and through Jesus, utterly disarmed him and stripped him of everything he had. That's the reason the devil flees when we, as believers, resist him. He sees in us that same power and he's terrified of it. He never wants to tangle with it again.

He's in a similar situation I found myself in many years ago when I was a

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young man, still running from God. I'd just gotten home from the Army and I woke up one morning feeling tired and mad at the world. When I walked into the kitchen for breakfast, I took my irritation out on my mama and said something sassy to her.

Just as I got the words out of my mouth, my dad came through the door. He grabbed the lapels of the terry cloth bathrobe I was wearing, pushed me up against the refrigerator, and got right in my face. "Boy," he said, "you and me are going to have a fight and, by God, I'm going to win!"

Although I'd gotten fairly strong during my stint in the army, I immediately surrendered. "No sir!" I said. "We don't have to fight. You've already won. Just put me down and you won't have any more trouble out of me."

What caused me to respond that way?

I remembered what had happened a few years earlier when I was 16 years old. My dad had said something that aggravated me. I'd come at him with my fist drawn, and he'd cut me off with a punch that sent me sailing through an open closet door and absolutely knocked my lights out!

Later, after I came stumbling out of the closet, Mama had said, "Kenneth, what in the world were you thinking? Don't you know your daddy was a prize fighter?"

No, I hadn't known that! No one ever told me. I had to find out the hard way—and once I did, I never wanted to fight that "old man" again. As far as I was concerned he'd already won.

How had he won? By the power that was in him!

That's the way it is for you, when you're dealing with the devil. You're in the same position my dad was. You have the Superior Power on the inside of you. As 1 John 4:4 says, "Ye are of God... and have overcome [the devil and all his cohorts]: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

Start right now paying more attention to that fact! Stir up the power on the inside of you and build yourself up on

“

The more we grow in our revelation of the power of God that's in us...the more we'll act on it.

THE MORE WE
ACT ON IT, THE
MORE FREELY
AND FULLY
THAT POWER
WILL FLOW.”

your most holy faith by praying more in the Holy Ghost (Jude 20). Spend time reading the Gospels, and as you read them purposefully, identify, not with the people who received from the ministry of Jesus, but with Jesus Himself. Remind yourself that you've been given Jesus' Name, you carry His Anointing, and you've been assigned to carry on His ministry on the earth.

You're supposed to be thinking like Jesus, talking like Jesus and getting His results—and you have the ability to do it because you have the Trinity Himself residing in your inner man. The Father is in there. Jesus is in there. The Holy Spirit is in there.

God Almighty is in you 24 hours a day, and He's not there just so you can carry Him around as a spiritual passenger. He's in there to work. So, give Him the opportunity to do it. Learn to trust Him and do what He leads you to do. Get more God-inside minded and live every day like the Greater One truly is living in you! 🙏

*share
your
thoughts*

ABOUT THIS ISSUE

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PEN OF A READY WRITER

MELANIE ARNOLD STARED HOPELESSLY OFF INTO THE DISTANCE, DESPERATELY WISHING TO HEAR GOD SPEAK BACK TO HER, BUT EXPECTING THE SAME THING SHE'D RECEIVED NOW FOR THE PAST TWO WEEKS—SILENCE.

EACH DAY, AFTER LEAVING SCHOOL FOR HER HOME IN DUNCAN, OKLA., MELANIE HAD MADE THE LONE TREK DOWN THE ROAD TO THE END OF HER STREET, CLIMBED A FENCE, AND WALKED OUT INTO AN OPEN FIELD AND SAT. EACH TIME, SHE LOOKED UP TO HEAVEN WITH THE SAME, SOMETIMES TEARFUL PLEA: "LORD, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. I WANT TO BE A WRITER, BUT I'VE BEEN OFFERED A SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDY NURSING. PLEASE TELL ME WHAT TO DO."

"From seventh grade on I'd always wanted to be a writer," Melanie recalls. "That was my dream."



Melanie has penned nearly 300 stories for BVOV that have told the amazing testimonies of hundreds of people.



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Kellie Copeland

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Word of His Power Church | wohp.org

Bogotá, Colombia / Oct. 12-15

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Hoping for an answer, Melanie shut her eyes and allowed her mind to experience what she thought would never come. Suddenly, in the silence of her meditations, she heard a sweet, soft whisper:

I'm calling you into nursing, and in your latter years you'll write.

"I don't know what I thought was going to happen, because I'd never heard the voice of God before," says Melanie. "I just honestly wanted direction from the Lord, and when it came I just said, 'OK, now I know what I'm supposed to do.' Was I disappointed that He didn't say I was going to be a writer then? Not really. I just understood that I was going to get both. I knew the time would come when I would become a writer."

That she had a passion for writing from an early age was no real surprise to Melanie, considering the dynamics of her family and the penchant she, her three siblings and her parents had for books.

"We were a reading family," Melanie explains. "We didn't have a lot of money, so our family vacations were often camping trips. My dad built a trailer he hooked up to the back of the car to carry camping gear. He built a bookshelf onto the back of the trailer. On the way out of town we always stopped by the local library to check out books. When we got to the campsite, we'd take the bookshelf into the tent. Almost every afternoon when it rained, we'd crawl into our cots and read to the sound of rain on the tent.

"Though I loved books, I'd never even considered writing," Melanie said. "That desire came after I was in a roller-skating rink one day and heard one of the skating coaches talk about going off to college. He said, 'I'm going to become a writer.' That was the first time I'd ever given any thought to where books came from. I never really focused on the fact that people went to school to learn to write. I thought, *Someone actually writes the books I love!*

"My parents had no money, and no one in my family had ever gone to college," said Melanie. "I decided to

enroll in the Diversified Occupation program at my high school so I could go to school half days, work the other half, and save enough money to go to college."

Melanie enrolled in the program, but the only job available was as a nursing assistant—the one thing she never wanted to do as a career. Looking back on what the Lord spoke to her that day as she sat out in the field, Melanie can see how landing a job as a nursing assistant fit His plan for her life.

"While I was working as a nurse's aide, the local association of doctors' wives offered me a partial scholarship if I would go into nursing," Melanie said. "I was taught that if a man lacked wisdom, he should ask God. That's why I kept going back to Him with the same question."

Melanie accepted the offer. In 1967, after graduating from high school, she entered the Baptist Hospital School of Nursing in Oklahoma City. She graduated in 1970 and became a registered nurse.

While Melanie had always been devoted to the Lord, an incident soon after she graduated from nursing school shook her faith, leaving her bereft.

"One of my best friends in high school, who'd never had a sip of alcohol, went to a party where she was shamed into drinking. She not only got drunk that night, she got pregnant. Her family and church elders insisted that she marry the man, but she was afraid of him. Our senior year, he burned her with cigarettes, beat her and threw her down a flight of stairs. She had a broken leg when we graduated from high school.

"Things got so bad that she went to her family and the elders in her church and told them of the abuse. She wanted a divorce. They impressed on her that divorce would send her to hell. She ended up committing suicide a few years later.

"She wrote me a letter before she died and said, 'If I believed everything that I've been taught in church, then I'm doomed. And if it's not true, then what is there to believe?' I was so angry at

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the injustice that I stopped attending church.”

Change Begins

Not long after that, something happened while Melanie was working in the Coronary Care Unit that stirred her and helped restore her relationship with God.

“One day I was in my office when I began to talk to God,” she said. “Lord, I just feel like You’re so far away from me. If You’re there, would You please show me?”

“We had a patient who’d suffered a brain stem stroke and didn’t respond to deep, painful stimuli. She wasn’t to be resuscitated and shouldn’t have been in the CCU.

“I walked into her room to check the dressing on her IV when the alarms went off on her cardiac monitor. I looked up and she had flatlined. I thought, *Bless her heart, she’s going.* Within minutes she was dead. Suddenly, that dead woman sat up in bed. With her eyes open and the most beautiful look on her face, she raised one arm and said, ‘Jesus!’ With a flatline! Then, she drifted back to the bed.

“I looked up to the Lord and said, ‘You have my undivided attention.’ I never walked away from Him again.”

Nine years later, Melanie received a B.S. in nursing. All the while, in the back of her mind, she could still hear the Lord saying: *In your latter years you’ll write.*

At times, it seemed she would be in nursing forever. But Melanie came to love her job as clinical supervisor of the coronary care unit. By the time she retired in 1986, she could look back with satisfaction knowing she had made a strong contribution in the lives of hundreds of people.

“I had a fabulous, wonderful 20 years in nursing,” she said.

A Starting Place

“In the early 1980s I reported to a new vice president at the hospital who was very spiritual,” Melanie recalls. “He came into my office one day and said, ‘I perceive that there’s something else on

your heart besides nursing.’ I told him, ‘I’m going to be a writer someday.’”

A few days later, Melanie got a memo from her boss ordering her to attend a series of classes on creative writing that were being taught at the hospital.

“Somehow, he found money in the budget to pay for me to take a short course in professional writing at OU,” she said. “Then, he continued to push me toward writing. He and his wife went on vacation once and brought me back a T-shirt that said, ‘I’d rather be writing my novels.’ And for Christmas, he got me a subscription to *Writer’s Digest.*”

In January 1986, after retiring from nursing, Melanie joined a professional writing group to study and begin a career in freelance and ghostwriting.

Putting the Faith Message Into Print

Back in 1969, Melanie had trained for a short time at a hospital in St. Louis, Mo. While there, she met and became friends with a couple who later attended Rhema Bible Training Center in Tulsa, Okla. They introduced Melanie to the teachings of Kenneth Copeland and Kenneth E. Hagin.

“They invited me to Brother Hagin’s campmeetings in Tulsa, and that’s when I started getting involved in learning to live by faith,” Melanie recalled. “I’d also been listening to Brother Copeland on the radio every day.

“By 1986, I’d left nursing and was about to begin doing what I’d always wanted to do—be a writer. I had a blue notebook that I used to track answered prayer. I made four columns: ‘Date,’ ‘Prayer Request,’ ‘Scripture’ and ‘Date Answered.’

“In one instance, I wrote down 1 John 5:14-15 as the scripture I was standing on and then, for my request I wrote that I wanted to ‘put the faith message into print.’

“This may sound strange, but I thought I knew how God was going to do it. For some reason, I thought He was going to have me write for Marilyn Hickey.”

By that time, Melanie had begun

SEPT		READ THROUGH THE BIBLE	
		Old Testament	Psalms
Fri	1	Eccl. 5-6	Ps. 18
Sat	2	Eccl. 7-8	Ps. 19
Sun	3	Eccl. 9-11	Ps. 20-21
Mon	4	Eccl. 12; Songs 1	Ps. 22
Tue	5	Songs 2-3	Ps. 23
Wed	6	Songs 4-5	Ps. 24
Thu	7	Songs 6-7	Ps. 25
Fri	8	Songs 8; Isa. 1	Ps. 26
Sat	9	Isa. 2-3	Ps. 27
Sun	10	Isa. 4-6	Ps. 28-29
Mon	11	Isa. 7-8	Ps. 30
Tue	12	Isa. 9-10	Ps. 31
Wed	13	Isa. 11-12	Ps. 32
Thu	14	Isa. 13-14	Ps. 33
Fri	15	Isa. 15-16	Ps. 34
Sat	16	Isa. 17-18	Ps. 35
Sun	17	Isa. 19-21	Ps. 36-37
Mon	18	Isa. 22-23	Ps. 38
Tue	19	Isa. 24-25	Ps. 39
Wed	20	Isa. 26-27	Ps. 40
Thu	21	Isa. 28-29	Ps. 41
Fri	22	Isa. 30-31	Ps. 42
Sat	23	Isa. 32-33	Ps. 43
Sun	24	Isa. 34-36	Ps. 44-45
Mon	25	Isa. 37-38	Ps. 46
Tue	26	Isa. 39-40	Ps. 47
Wed	27	Isa. 41-42	Ps. 48
Thu	28	Isa. 43-44	Ps. 49
Fri	29	Isa. 45-46	Ps. 50
Sat	30	Isa. 47-48	Ps. 51

“Read Through the Bible in a Year Plan” written by Mariynn Hickey, and used by permission.

WHEN YOU PORE OVER THE TEACHINGS OF SOMEONE LIKE THAT LONG ENOUGH, IT IMPRINTS YOU.

to experience a degree of success at freelance writing. In 1986, she sold her first story to *Guideposts*. The next year, she sold a second article to *Guideposts* and in 1988 was one of 12 writers to win the magazine's national writers competition. Melanie spent a week in New York, where she and the other winners got to work with *Guideposts* editors, as well as some of the nation's most renowned writers, including the best-selling author and speaker Norman Vincent Peale.

Because of her nursing background, Melanie began writing articles for the *American Journal of Nursing*, the top nursing journal in the world. "They liked my writing so much that they asked me to move to New York City to be their cardiovascular editor," Melanie said. "They wanted me so badly they had a lawyer in New York City call my husband, Ken, who was an attorney, and offer him a job! I loved New York City, and was up there almost every year. But we had two young daughters, and I

didn't want to raise my children there. Besides, that wasn't my dream. I wanted to put the faith message into print."

An Unexpected Meeting With Destiny

By 1989, Melanie was living her dream. While she had yet to receive that call from Marilyn Hickey, other things were happening—including an unforeseen date with Kenneth Copeland Ministries.

One day a friend of hers from church, Jeanne Linville, invited Melanie to lunch so she could introduce her to Gina Jennings, the editor of the *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine. Some years earlier, Jeanne's husband had died from a brain stem stroke. A longtime Partner with KCM, she'd called him back to life. He lived for another 19 years.

"Gina had been editor of the magazine for seven years when her husband received a job transfer to Edmond, Okla.," Melanie explained. "The ministry allowed her to continue

in her position as editor while living in Edmond. Before she left Fort Worth, Gina had interviewed 25 writers for a position on the staff, but had not been pleased with any of them."

After meeting with Melanie and learning her background, Gina offered a suggestion: "Why don't you try your hand at writing Jeanne's story for the magazine, and let's see where it goes from there?"

"I interviewed Jeanne shortly after that, wrote the story and submitted it to Gina," Melanie remembers. "In January 1990, the article appeared in *BVOV* under my byline. It was titled 'Miracle in Progress.'"

That sparked a relationship between Melanie and Gina, and a connection for Melanie with KCM and *BVOV* that has lasted now for 27 years. In that time, Melanie has written nearly 300 testimony articles for the magazine—articles that tell the stories of people from all over the world, and nearly every walk of life, who have faced trouble, and even death, and dared to take God at His Word and believe Him for victory. They have been real people with real needs who experienced real victories at critical times in their lives—people who learned how to trust God and see Him turn tragedy into triumph, defeat into victory, poverty into prosperity.

Although Gina Jennings (now Gina Lynnes) is no longer magazine editor and is now a successful freelance and

ghostwriter herself, the two have remained best friends. In fact, Melanie and Gina have worked in conjunction with KCM's editorial staff on several major projects, including Kenneth and Gloria Copeland's *From Faith to Faith* devotional; the book *A Journey of Faith, The First 30 Years*; and *Real People, Real Needs, Real Victories*, which was compiled from articles Melanie originally wrote for *BVOV*.

Melanie's success as a writer has also allowed her to venture into other areas of mainstream media. In addition to the more than 50 books she has written—four of them with Gina—she recently co-authored her first TV documentary, which is now in preproduction. She is currently working on developing a screenplay.

"I'm not a person who enjoys the limelight," says Melanie, "which is why I never minded being a ghostwriter. I didn't want to write my own books because I didn't want to do television and radio interviews.

"In 1995, my parents came to visit me for Thanksgiving. As they were leaving, I heard the Lord say, *This is the last time your father will be in your house. He's going home next year. Until then, make use of the time and go visit every four to six weeks.* I kept the road hot between Oklahoma City and Lubbock the next year," Melanie said. "During those long hours of driving, I kept getting downloads from heaven. The Lord showed me things in my life and what they meant spiritually. I'd grab a napkin and jot notes as I drove.

"I had a file folder where I stored the napkins. In the summer of 1996, I was attending the Southwest Believers' Convention when I got a call that my dad had gone home to be with the Lord. It was several years later when I got out that file folder and spread all those crumpled napkins across my desk. I was incredulous as I realized that each napkin was the outline for a chapter in a book.

"That book, *A Healing Touch: The Power of Prayer*, is the book of my heart.

It deals with many things I experienced in my nursing career. Whitaker House published it, and Gina was with me when they released it at a Christian Booksellers Association meeting in Denver. By the time it was released in the U.S., Whitaker House already had it in 17 countries."

When the publisher and owner of Whitaker House asked Melanie to consider writing a series of books on God's Anointing, she agreed under one condition—that Gina be her co-author. Together, they wrote four books: *God's Power for Healing*, *God's Power for Protection*, *God's Power for Children* and *God's Power for Lost Loved Ones*.

Multiply Yourself!

About five years ago, Melanie began hearing the same two words from the Lord over and over: *Multiply yourself!*

"I knew the Lord was telling me to help bring up a new generation of what I had heard someone refer to as 'Holy Ghost Writers,'" Melanie said. "One of the things I wanted new writers to know was what Gina had taught me early in my career: 'Never go to the computer until you've been to the throne room. If you want your words to make an impact, write when you're dripping with the oil of God's Anointing.'

"I also wanted Christian writers to know that even though we hear from the Holy Ghost, it must be filtered through our talents and skill, which means we must study our craft. I've been writing for 31 years and I still attend writing conferences and read books on the subject, always trying to hone my craft."

In response to that admonition to multiply herself, Melanie collaborated with two local writers to start a writers' conference called Write Well, Sell Well OKC. The annual conference is held in October, and brings together some of the top authors, agents and editors in the nation. In addition, they started a weekend writers' intensive which takes place each year in May, said Melanie. "For this, we only take about

eight students and work with them on fiction or nonfiction projects, and book proposals." Melanie also leads a writers' critique group in her home once a month.

As Melanie sees it, none of this would have happened had she not connected with Gina, and with KCM. But she also knows it was part of God's plan for her latter years.

"He's changed my life," Melanie says of Kenneth Copeland and the opportunity she's been given to write for him. "When you spend so much time working on his projects, drawing from his sermons, his radio and TV broadcasts, and reading old magazine articles—when you pore over the teachings of someone like that long enough, it imprints you. That DNA gets imprinted in who you are. I have had the privilege of having my name associated with Kenneth and Gloria Copeland for all these years. What an honor."

On occasion, Melanie Arnold Henry will pull out that little blue notebook just to remind herself of God's faithfulness to fulfill the desire of a 12-year-old child—a desire she's lived with since seventh grade. She studies the checklist, and gives thanks for the many things that have come to pass over the years. And though the notion that she would someday write for Marilyn Hickey remains unchecked, Melanie has no regrets. It's the fulfillment of that one request, the answer that has gone around the globe and reached far beyond anything she could have ever asked or imagined, that brings a continuous smile to her face.

Melanie Henry *is* helping put the faith message into print! 📖

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BY KENNETH COPELAND

Don't pray for more power, get more God-inside minded.

You don't have to look for supernatural power to come to you from the outside, like a lightning bolt from the sky. You have Almighty God Himself living inside you. He's in there to empower you to do the works of Jesus and even greater.

JESUS WORKED MIRACLES BY OBEYING GOD AND BELIEVING IN THE POWER OF THE FATHER WITHIN HIM. WE, AS BELIEVERS, CAN OPERATE THE SAME WAY. John 14:10, 12

The devil is afraid of us because He's already been defeated by the power that's within us.

1 John 4:4

We can do the works of Jesus just as the apostles did because we have the same power on the inside of us.

1 Corinthians 3:16

The early apostles believed on Jesus' Name, did what He taught them, and the Father did the works through them just like He did through Jesus.

Acts 5:12

SOME BELIEVERS WILL NEVER BE CONTENT WITH JUST A MIRACLE OR AN EXPERIENCE. THESE HUNGRY BELIEVERS SHARE A COMMON NEED—A SEARCH FOR THE MOST PRICELESS TREASURE AND MOST HIGHLY VALUED GOAL IN LIFE. WITH MOSES AND PAUL, THEY SHARE THE CRY...

THAT I MIGHT KNOW HIM

by Vikki Burke



It is the heart cry of every spiritually hungry believer to know the Lord. Just as Moses cried out to God saying, “let me know Your ways that I may know You...” (Exodus 33:13, *New American Standard Bible*), so too, these believers want to experience more than just the acts of God. Their hearts’ desire is to know the *ways* of God.

Of course, there are those who are not hungry for the things of God. They are satisfied to experience an occasional miracle or deliverance from God. But those who *are* hungry desire more than just “a touch”—they want to know God Himself.

In Exodus 33:14, God answered the cry of Moses saying, “My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.” Moses had discovered that to know God’s ways was to know God, and he refused to settle for less. In fact, he told God, “...If Your Presence does not go with me, do not carry us up from

here!” (verse 15, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*). In other words, he had made a decision to remain where the presence of God was. And if His presence didn’t go anywhere, then Moses didn’t either.

But Psalm 103:7 reveals how God responded to Moses’ spiritual hunger:

**GOD HAS SOMETHING
 FOR YOU TO DO, AND HE
 WANTS TO FLOOD YOUR
 HEART WITH LIGHT TO
 SEE EXACTLY WHAT IT IS...**

“He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the sons of Israel.” That’s how spiritual hunger works—it moves you closer to God.

Eventually, the longing in Moses’ heart drove him to take an even bigger step. He cried, “...I beseech You, show me Your glory” (Exodus 33:18, *AMPC*). Those who are hungry *to know* will, sooner or later, run into the glory of God, because the glory of God is God’s presence manifested—the glory of God is God Himself.

Paul revealed this same desire when he wrote to the Philippian church:

But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, that I may know Him... (Philippians 3:7-10).

To Know Christ

Paul didn’t ask the Lord for ease from his discomfort or for release from prison. Instead, he cried out to know Christ. *The Amplified Bible*,

Classic Edition says it this way: “[that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving and recognizing and

understanding the wonders of His Person...]" (verse 10). Paul did not place significance on his own achievements, which were many, but rather counted them as rubbish. His attitude exhibited that he placed the highest value in life on knowing Christ.

This desire to know the Lord was so much a part of Paul's heart that it was echoed in his prayers for the Church. In Ephesians 1:16-19, Paul said,

[I] do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe.

Notice, Paul prayed the same thing for the Church that he prayed for himself: *that you will know*. His petition was that their hearts be enlightened, or flooded with light, to know how great the hope of their calling was. Paul was so deeply committed to his calling that he said in Philippians: "I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14).

What many fail to realize is that not only does God want to know you, but also He wants you to know Him. And there are other things He wants to reveal to you. He is not keeping you in the dark, nor does He have secrets and mysteries that are being hidden from you. No, they are hidden from the devil, but open to you.

Receive From God

There are things that no one has seen or heard or even conceived of that God has prepared for us. Now, He is waiting for us to receive them. These things God has prepared for you are given to you freely. You cannot earn them—you can only receive them!

The reason the natural man does not

receive the things of God is because they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them. The things of God cannot be received through natural means. They are revealed by the Spirit of God. If the Spirit of God dwells in you, then you are a candidate to know what He has prepared for you.

Look again at Ephesians 1:18-19, and notice the three things Paul prayed you might know.

First, he prayed that you might know what is the hope of God's calling. Second Timothy 1:9 says, "who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity."


One of the most frequent prayer requests we receive from Christians is to know the will of God. You were saved and called, not according to your abilities or talents, but according to His purpose. God has something for you to do, and He wants to flood your heart with light to see exactly what it is and equip you with the grace to do it.

Second, Paul prayed that you might know what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance. When you receive Jesus into your life, you are qualified to share in the inheritance of the saints (Colossians 1:12). There are riches in this inheritance. The word *riches* in this verse means "wealth, fullness, bestow, supply and furnish." God wants to supply you not only with wealth, but all the fullness of God. The riches in glory contain all the fullness of God, and Paul's prayer was that you might know and discern clearly what that fullness includes.

The phrase *riches in glory* is referred to in Philippians 4:19, where it says, "And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." The word *need* in the Greek means "requirement or demand." God will meet *all* the requirements or

the demands that are on your life by His riches in glory. The things you require to live a good life are not going to deplete the riches of glory! It's His nature to richly supply whatever your life requires.

Third, Paul prayed that you might know the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. Paul describes the power of God as not merely great, but surpassing greatness. It's beyond great—so far beyond, he didn't have words to express how great God's power is toward us. When you understand the magnitude of God's power, you don't have any trouble believing you are more than a conqueror in Christ Jesus. His power is toward you and concerning you—not against you.

Once you begin to know the hope of your calling, the riches of your inheritance and the surpassing greatness of God's power to those who believe, then you can begin to make them known. You can become the one the power flows not only to, but through. You will be like the one Isaiah spoke of, "The Lord God has given Me the tongue of disciples, that I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word" (Isaiah 50:4). 

**YOU WERE
SAVED AND
CALLED, NOT
ACCORDING
TO YOUR
ABILITIES OR
TALENTS, BUT
ACCORDING TO
HIS PURPOSE.**



**Dennis &
Vikki Burke**

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

Except where noted otherwise, all Scripture references in this article are from the *New American Standard Bible*.

IN POSITION TO BE BLESSED!

THE VALLEY OF BLESSING. :: WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO BE LIVING THERE TODAY? WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO BE IN A PLACE WHERE YOU'RE SO BLESSED THAT EVERYTHING YOU DO PROSPERS? :: YOU CAN BE.

by Dennis Burke



It doesn't matter what kind of trouble you're facing. The bank may be coming after you to call the note on your house. The devil personally may be coming after you to destroy your household. But if you'll hear and obey the voice of the Holy Spirit, you'll pass right through those adversities into blessing.

That's what happened to Jehoshaphat. He was surrounded by enemies on every side. Things looked grim. Then, the Spirit of God spoke to him through a prophet. "And he said, 'Listen, all you of Judah...and you, King Jehoshaphat! Thus says the Lord to you: "Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's'" (2 Chronicles 20:15, *New King James Version*).

Now, that by itself is a great word. The battle is not yours, but God's. Yet the prophet didn't stop there. He continued and said: "Tomorrow go down against them.... You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord, who is with you."

Position yourselves.

In my times of meditation, the Lord has spoken those words to me over and over. *Position yourselves.* That's what I believe God is saying to us today. Position yourselves properly in God and you'll finish in the place of blessing just as surely as Jehoshaphat did.

How do we go about this business of positioning ourselves in God? Psalm 1:1-2 will help us get started. It says: "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor

standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night."

If we want to be blessed, we can't allow ourselves to get in the position of receiving ungodly or wicked counsel. Now, wicked counsel is not just counsel that comes after a satanic meeting. The original English word *wicked* means "twisted." Counsel that is wicked is twisted—twisted from the truth of the Word of God.

All you have to do to be caught in wicked counsel is to start adopting the attitudes and opinions of the world. For example, there is ungodly counsel circulating today against the Body of Christ. This counsel says, "Look at the Body of Christ. Man, the Body of Christ is a failure. We're all messed up. God must be upset and frustrated with us because we don't do anything right."

But do you know what? God doesn't say that at all. God is in love with the Body of Christ. Sure, He doesn't like some of the things we do. But His faith is toward us. He remains faithful to believe what He has declared about us.

Psalm 1:1 continues to warn us against adopting the attitudes of the world by advising us not to "sit in the seat of the scornful." The attitude of scorn will knock us out of the position of blessing. To scorn is to mock. For some time now the prophets (or spokesmen) of the world have been trying to mock, ridicule and embarrass men and women of God. I refuse to be influenced by their scornful attitudes. I will not align myself with the prophets of the world, regardless of whom they're criticizing.

I've been astonished at how believers so willingly swallow the words of the world. I've been amazed at how often they form attitudes



SEPT

BROADCAST CALENDAR



Kenneth Copeland



Gloria Copeland



Kellie Copeland

SPECIAL FROM NIGERIA
Aug. 28-Sept. 1
A Life Built to Last—Part 1
Kenneth Copeland

Sun., Sept. 3
Believe God's Love and Don't Worry!
Kenneth Copeland

SPECIAL FROM NIGERIA
Sept. 4-8
A Life Built to Last—Part 2
Kenneth Copeland

Sun., Sept. 10
Becoming a Vessel of Honor
Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 11-15
Fruit of the Spirit: The Explosive Power of Resurrection
Gloria Copeland and Kellie Copeland

Sun., Sept. 17
Change Your Words and Change Your Life
Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 18-22
Fruit and Freedom in Oneness With God
Gloria Copeland and Kellie Copeland

Sun., Sept. 24
You Have Access to God's Thoughts
Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 25-29
The Healing Compassion of the Father
Kenneth Copeland

and make adjustments in life based on the opinions of worldly prophets. To do that is to join themselves to a scornful spirit which is determined to destroy the credibility of the entire Church. If I *had* to choose, I'd rather believe in a man or woman *of God* who's making mistakes than side against them with a mocking world!

Attitudes and Actions

All right, we've established from Psalm 1 that to position ourselves for blessing, we must avoid the counsel, attitudes and actions of the world. Now let's look at a few attitudes and actions we *do* want to adopt. We'll find three of them in Hebrews 10:19-22, "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; and having an high priest over the house of God; let us *draw near* with a true heart in full assurance of faith...."

There's No. 1: Draw near. To be in the position of blessing we must draw near to God. That sounds so simple, it almost seems silly to say it. But I'm going to say it anyway because we all need to hear it again and again. We need to draw near to God. We need to go boldly into that holiest place of His presence knowing we belong there, knowing we're in covenant with Him through the blood of Jesus. We need to draw near in full assurance of faith, knowing that, no matter how badly we've messed up, we can still come back to Him.

The second action we can do to position ourselves for blessing is to "hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)" (verse 23). When natural issues approach you, and threaten to defeat you, don't waver. Hold fast to your confession that the covenant benefits promised in God's Word belong to you. Hold fast to your confession that your needs are met (Philippians 4:19). Hold fast to your confession that God has forgiven your iniquity, He has healed your body, and He's restored your youth (Psalm 103:3-5). Hold fast to the Word of God as you walk in the

presence of this world.

The third action is to stay in fellowship. Hebrews 10:24-25 puts it this way, "Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another...."

This third action of positioning for blessing is the one God has been speaking to me about so strongly in recent times.

We must remain in covenant fellowship with one another in the Body of Christ. We need each other. We can't do this alone. I have to stand with you, and I deeply need you to stand with me. The Church in the book of Acts diligently fellowshiped. When I say fellowship, I don't mean they sat around and ate and visited and had a good time together. I mean they participated with one another. Real, covenant fellowship takes place when we step over into active participation in one another's lives. It happens when we get in partnership with each other, move outside our comfort zone and help each other lay hold of God's plan for our lives.

Take a look at what Revelation 17:14 says about those who are overcomers with Jesus, "...the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful." When this whole earthly conflict is over and the dust settles, those left standing won't just be the called or the chosen. It will be those who were called, chosen and *faithful*. Faithful to what? To God, yes. To the Word, yes. But there is another point where we must be faithful. We must be faithful to the Body of Christ. We need to develop covenant loyalty to one another.

Some time ago, I talked with a minister who had gone through a devastating time. His wife had left him. His ministry had been hurt. His life had been shattered. He told me that before he'd been born again he'd been in gangs. He said, "When I was in gangs, there was loyalty. If you were in trouble, they'd fight and die for you just because you were in the same gang." But when he ran into trouble in his marriage and

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ministry, he couldn't get one minister in his area to return a phone call. This man had found more loyalty in gangs than he found in the ministry. You and I must begin to change that. We must begin to be faithful to each other!

Let's stop now and look back at Jehoshaphat. Let's see what happened to him when he positioned himself properly in God.

When [Jehoshaphat] had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the Lord, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth for ever. And when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten (2 Chronicles 20:21-22).

“
We must remain in covenant fellowship with one another.
”

Jehoshaphat's enemies were defeated before he even got involved! He and his army came out of the wilderness and the first thing they saw was their victory. Their dead enemies left so much spoil it took Jehoshaphat's people three days to gather it up. Think about that. They gathered valuables and jewelry from an army they didn't even destroy! No wonder they called it the Valley of Berachah [Blessing]!

Are you facing an enemy army today in some area of your life? If so, don't panic. Just do what Jehoshaphat did. Position yourself. Separate yourself from the twisted counsel and scornful attitudes of the world. Draw near to God. Hold fast your confession of faith. Step into covenant fellowship with other believers.

Position yourself! And the valley of blessing will soon be yours. ①

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family will be forever grateful for your revelation of THE BLESSING and your willingness to impart it to us.

Dear Kenneth and Gloria,

It's such a privilege to be a part of celebrating your extraordinary milestone of 50 years in ministry. Congratulations! Only heaven will reveal the profound effect your ministry has had upon millions of lives worldwide. Our lives are living testimonies that express the power and anointing your ministry carries to change and elevate desperate people!

Both of you have held such a significant and influential part over every facet of our lives! From the beginning of our walk with the Lord in 1971, you have been a source and symbol of blessing. We tell people all the time that we wouldn't be where we are today if it weren't for Kenneth and Gloria Copeland. We will honor you and bless you all the days of our lives!

There have been so many important moments throughout our 40-plus year relationship that one letter can't possibly recount them. But undoubtedly, our annual motorcycle trips have been some of the richest times of fellowship, friendship and refreshing that we have ever experienced. Thank you for giving us that time together!

Forty-three years ago, your guidance helped us develop wedding vows that pronounced blessing on our marriage instead of the traditional curse. The power of that blessing has held our marriage together during the tough times. Then 31 years later, you were there to pronounce that same blessing on our daughter at her wedding. You've loved, prayed for and even proclaimed prophetic words over our grandchildren. Our entire

While others doubted our calling, you believed in and

supported us when we left your organization and stepped into our own ministry. And we will never forget the Colorado River trip in 1985 when you told us how you viewed our calling. But for us, the greatest demonstration of your trust and faith came when you invited us to share your ministry platform. What an indescribable honor!

How can we ever really express the valuable role that you have played in our lives? The most honorable thing we can say is that we are the fruit of your commitment to God—your spiritual children.

For over 40 years it's been our privilege to be Partners with your ministry helping you proclaim the good news to people around the world—from the top to the bottom and all the way around the middle. We are your family and your faithful friends forever!

No one has ever had such a significant and life-changing impact on our lives, our family and our ministry. We love you! We bless you! We thank God for the day He brought you into our lives!

We will always declare: "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, 'Your God reigns!'" (Isaiah 52:7, *New International Version*).

We still remember the day you brought the good news to us 45 years ago. It will always be the most defining moment in our lives! Thank you from the depths of our hearts!

Dennis and Vikki



FOR MORE ABOUT DENNIS AND VIKKI BURKE AND TO SEE A VIDEO TRIBUTE TO THE COPELANDS, GO TO: KCM.ORG/DENNIS

GoodNEWSGazette

FORGIVENESS AND HEALING

Thank you for standing in prayer with me for my daughter—she is healed from back pain. She was feeling so condemned for being divorced. Now she is set free from that by confessing and receiving forgiveness. Thank You, Jesus, for forgiving every sin.

Martina C.
Barrie, Ontario

RESTORED AND MORE!

My family has been so blessed—my marriage has been restored. We were divorced for 10 years and are now remarried. We are debt free and my husband bought his first semitruck for his business. My son just got accepted into the Navy. And, I finally realized I had some wrong thinking in my life, and the Lord has shown me

the truth in the Word of God. We decided to be some big sowers in the Kingdom. Thank you very much for all the teaching and being obedient to God. Now I understand what obedience means to God. Love you all and God bless you!

Patricia D.
Benton Harbor, Mich.

BLURRED VISION...GONE!

Almost 20 years ago now, I didn't have the money to go to the Washington, D.C. Victory Campaign, when I got a phone call from someone who offered to pay my way. I'd been having a lot of blurred vision at the time, even though I was only in my late 30s. I remember Ken preached on Friday and Gloria had Healing School on Saturday. After reaching your hands out and praying over the entire audience, you said if anyone needed further prayer we could go to the front. When you laid your hands on me, it felt like Jesus Himself had touched me, and I was consumed with the healing power of God. The blurred vision I had been suffering with left me, and I've had sharp, clear vision ever since. I am now 56 years old and can still see things that are miles away without glasses.

I thank God for you and Ken, and for the invaluable knowledge that I have received from your teachings over the years. I am so glad you answered God's call to minister healing. I don't know what my vision would be like today, if God had not come to my rescue in that meeting. And I thank God for Brother Hagin's little book *How to Keep Your Healing*. Praise God!

Ivan B.
Kingsport, Tenn.

“Whatever you have established that you are in prayer, that's what you are...even before you see it.” —Gloria Copeland

MORTGAGE FREE AND A NEW CAR

I've watched your program for years, but a few years ago saw George and Gloria teach on debt cancellation. At the time I laughed, our only debt was our mortgage. I told the Lord the only way that would happen would be if He did it. As of Jan. 31, 2016, we are mortgage free. We also were blessed with a brand-new Dodge Caravan.

Diana G.
Cranbrook, British Columbia

MOUNTAIN MOVED

Kenneth prayed with us and we took our place to speak to the mountain of debt: mortgage from our house, credit line and some responsibility to a friend. Your great ministry has blessed our family amazingly.

In 1998, Kenneth wrote to the Partners to pray Isaiah 54 from the beginning. Also to be prayed by women without children! I did pray it a lot and in about a year got pregnant. We had a baby girl in 2000. Praise God, so much thanks.

C.F. | Canada

The Word Brings Increase

Since I have faithfully tithed from a job I started in 2014, I've had my salary increase three times! I have always tithed over and above and God has been faithful.

Thank you, Gloria and Pastor George, for teaching on finances and the Word! I am reaping my harvest!

T.K.
Berlin, Germany





From our image archives,
Oral Roberts with Kenneth Copeland



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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The background of the page is a night sky featuring the Milky Way galaxy. The stars are depicted in shades of teal and white. In the lower portion of the image, the dark silhouettes of trees and a person's head are visible against the horizon. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

ABRAHAM,
NOAH

YOU
&
YOU

“And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.” (Genesis 15:5)

BY GLORIA COPELAND

One thing I've learned over the years about living by faith in God's Word is that if you're going to stick with it, you can't be moved by what other people think. You can't get offended every time someone who doesn't understand the Bible accuses you of being foolish, or mockingly refers to you as "one of those faith people."

No, if you're going to believe God and see the impossible come to pass in your life, you have to shrug off that kind of criticism. You have to take the attitude that, even when people mean it as an insult, being called a "faith person" is a compliment.

After all, it actually is. God Himself says so! He tells us in the Bible that:

Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. (Hebrews 11:6)

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. (Ephesians 2:8)

If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder

place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. (Matthew 17:20)

For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. (Romans 1:17)

You ought to be happy when someone calls you a faith person! It's certainly better than being called an unbelief person. It's better than having people point to you and say, "Wow, look at that guy. He's a real doubter."

You don't want that. You want to be like Abraham, the man the Bible refers to as the father of our faith. He was famous for believing and acting on God's Word, even when, in the eyes of the world, it made him look foolish.

Abraham was so bold in his faith that when, at 99 years old, he heard from God that he and his 90-year-old, barren wife were going to have a son, he immediately began talking like it had already come to pass. He called "those things which be not as though they were" (Romans 4:17) and went around introducing himself by the new name God had given him.

"Hello!" he said to his

POINTS TO GET YOU THERE:

Be like Abraham and Noah, who kept believing what God said even when others scoffed. They saw God do the impossible in their lives, and if you stay in faith you will too.

1 The world may make fun of faith, but God is pleased by it. Hebrews 11:6

2 Faith makes the impossible possible. Matthew 17:20

3 Contrary people and circumstances can't rock your faith when you stay focused on God's Word. Romans 4:18, 20

4 Believing and acting on God's Word always pay off in the end. Genesis 6:22-7:1

5 The world can laugh but it cannot defeat the person who stands in faith on God's Word. 1 John 5:4

friends and neighbors, "I'm Abraham, the father of many nations!"

"Oh really?" they must have replied, "Then where are your children?"

"Well, I can't exactly show them to you yet, but that doesn't matter. God said I'm the father of many nations, so that's what I am!"

Unlike some Christians today, Abraham wasn't afraid of people thinking he was a faith fanatic. He didn't try to hide his faith or get discouraged when unbelievers laughed at him behind his back. He just let the naysayers scoff, kept his eyes on God, and despite the apparent hopelessness of his situation:

Against hope [he] believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was

spoken, So shall thy seed be. And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God...being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform (Romans 4:18-21).

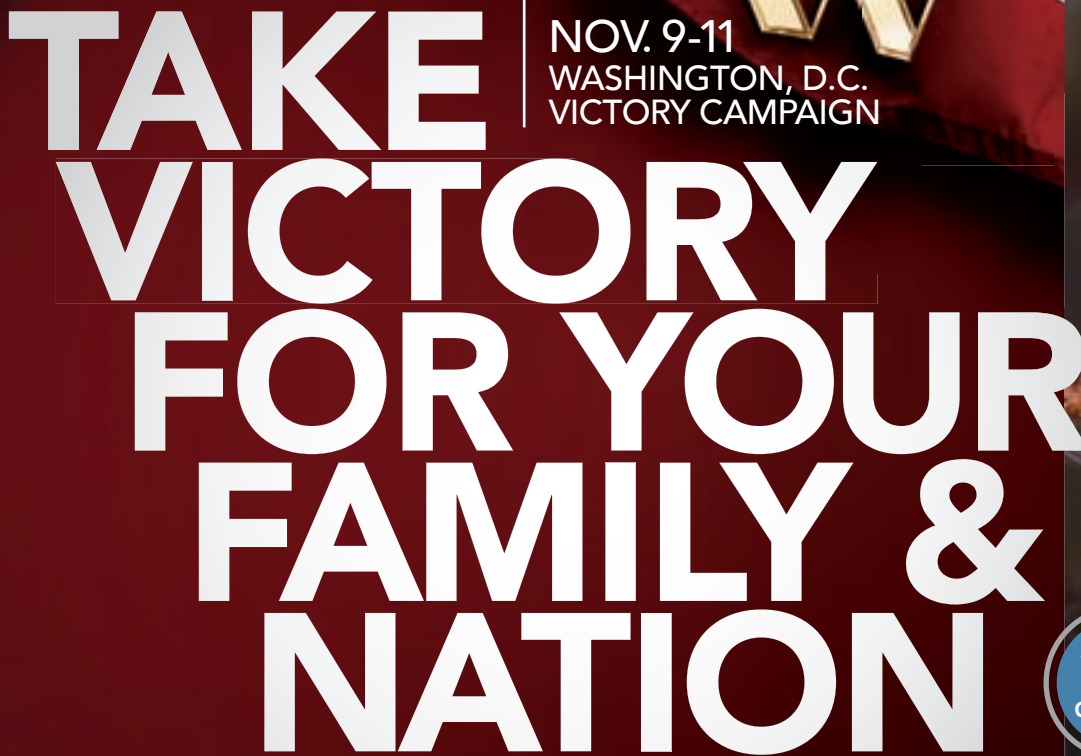
How the Devil Loses Ground

Look again at the phrase, "[Abraham] staggered not at the promise of God." It identifies what the devil was aiming to do in that situation. He was trying to make Abraham stagger in his faith! He was endeavoring to use contrary circumstances and contrary people to push him into unbelief.

That's always the devil's plan.

Whenever we, as believers, start speaking and acting on the Word, he's always going to say to us in one way or another, through what we can see with our physical eyes and hear with our ears, "You're a fool for getting involved in this faith stuff. It's not going to work for you. You will not get what you're believing for."

Even when you're believing God for something seemingly small, like a raise at work or a more dependable car, the devil will work desperately to discourage you. He'll do his best to get you to doubt the promise of God. Because if you don't, that promise will come to pass in your life—and every time that happens, the devil loses ground. People around you see that the Word works and the devil winds up with another testimony of God's faithfulness in the earth that he can't get rid of.



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That's what happened with Ken and me back in 1967, when we first heard the Word of faith and began to believe God for finances. We started out just believing God for enough money to put food on our table. That doesn't sound very impressive. It doesn't seem like our believing God for groceries would be a very big deal. Yet the devil fought us over it, and before long we saw why. We saw that the same faith in God's Word that caused our personal needs to be met works in other areas too.

It works to bring in the money to preach the gospel around the world. It works to buy television airtime and get the Word of God out on the airwaves. It works to build ministry headquarters and church buildings, and finance missions overseas.

Over the years, Ken and I have continued to believe God's promises of financial prosperity and they've continued to come to pass in our lives. We've shared with others how God has blessed us and enabled us to be a blessing, and they've been inspired to dig into the Word and step up to new levels of financial faith and blessing themselves.

As a result, more and more testimonies of God's faithfulness are being brought into the earth. The devil is losing more ground (not only financially but in many other ways) and the Body of Christ is gaining ground because increasing numbers of believers are standing on God's Word—growing strong in faith, and giving glory to God.

The devil hates it when God gets glory! He hates it when, instead of caving in under the pressure of contrary circumstances and people, you resist him and say, "Devil, I believe God! I believe Him more than anything you can show me with my natural eyes or cause me to hear with my natural ears. I believe Him and stand fast on His Word because He cannot lie. His Word is the truth and I'll not let it go!"

You can't be defeated when you have that kind of attitude. No matter how hard the devil tries to stop you, you just keep winning and advancing God's kingdom. You keep receiving what you're believing for, fulfilling the assignments God gives you, and

walking out His marvelous plans for your life.

Mission Seemingly Impossible

God does have marvelous plans for your life, you know. He has things for you to achieve that are far beyond your own natural abilities. He has missions for you that are so seemingly impossible that, to fulfill them, you'll have to rely daily on His supernatural power. You'll have to live by faith in the fact that He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that you ask or think (Ephesians 3:20).

That's a thrilling way to live! Even though it brings with it some persecutions; even though it causes the world to label you as one of those "peculiar faith people," it puts you in good company. It puts you in there not only with Abraham, but with faith heroes like Noah.

Talk about someone who had to deal with being persecuted and labeled peculiar! Think about what Noah must have had to put up with. No one outside of his own family understood what God told him to do.

When he set out to build the Ark, the earth was still being watered from underneath. No one had ever even seen rain before, much less a massive, worldwide flood. So, everyone thought he'd lost his mind when they saw Noah building a humongous boat, the size of a football stadium.

"Crazy old Noah, preacher of righteousness!" his friends and neighbors must have said. "He doesn't have any sense at all! He's spending all his time and energy building that thing and he's never even going to need it."

While they laughed at him, however, Noah kept believing and acting on God's Word. He stuck with his building program, and when it started to rain, his faith paid off. While the rest of the world was in the dark, he was in the ark!

"But Gloria," you might say, "I'm not anything like Noah. God hasn't called me to build an ark!"

No, but He has called you to do something—and whatever He calls you to do will have to be done by faith. It's that way with all God's supernatural assignments. You don't hear from

“
YOU KEEP
RECEIVING
WHAT YOU'RE
BELIEVING FOR,
FULFILLING THE
ASSIGNMENTS
GOD GIVES
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God about them one day and then wake up the next morning to find everything falling automatically into place. You don't start on day one with your bank account full of all the money you need and with everyone wanting to help you.

On the contrary, when you first begin to walk out God's plan, the natural odds will almost certainly be stacked against you. You'll usually be facing big obstacles and dealing with skeptics who are eager to tell you that the disease you're believing to be healed of is incurable...or the business God has called you to start is sure to fail...or you're never going to make it in the ministry because you can't preach your way out of a paper sack.

What do you do when you're facing that kind of negativity? You do what Abraham and Noah did.

You keep believing God.

You believe Him when there is no reason out there in the natural to believe.

You believe Him when everyone else tells you it can't be done.

You keep walking by faith in what God has said to you in His Word, and by the voice of His Holy Spirit.

Of course, to do that you must keep your heart full of the Word. You can't be satisfied just to hear it once a week in church on Sunday. You have to spend time in it every day. You must continually feed your spirit on anointed, faith-filled preaching and meditate daily on scriptures that speak to your situation.

Otherwise, you'll begin to slip back into the natural. You'll start to be influenced by the voice of the world and your faith will begin to weaken. You'll start to stagger at the promise of God and before long, instead of calling things that are not as though they are, you'll be thinking and talking unbelief.

That's *not* what you want to do! You want to make progress in faith, not slip back. You want to keep yourself on such a healthy diet of the Word, that

you develop the attitude the Apostle Paul talked about in 2 Corinthians 4, where he wrote: "We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak. While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal" (verses 13, 18).

Ken and I adopted those verses as our own in those early years of our faith walk when we were so broke and covered up in debt. Back then we couldn't look at our financial situation with our physical eyes and say, "Our needs are met." But we could stay in the Word, look through the eyes of faith, and say what God said about our situation. We could agree with Philippians 4:19 and say, "Our God supplies all of our need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

As soon as we started to do that, our situation began to turn around. Within 11 months, our debts were paid off and we had money enough to live.

Praise the Lord, we've come a long way since then! We've been debt-free for many years now, and we're more prosperous than we could have imagined in those days. Yet, we're still doing the same thing today we did in the beginning. We're still looking at impossible situations through the eyes of faith and saying what God says about them. We're still standing on the Word, seeing it come to pass in our lives, and doing by faith in God what unbelievers say can't be done.

If you'll stick with God's Word, you can do the same! You can keep growing stronger in faith and see His plans and His promises come to pass in your life. You can bring testimonies into the earth and bring God lots of glory.

I can assure you, the devil won't be laughing then! 🙏

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BACK TO SCHOOL? NO. HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT? MAYBE. WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT, COMMANDER KELLIE? KEEP READING, SUPERKID.

Let's talk about firsts. Dictionary.com defines FIRST:

- Before all others or anything else in time, order or rank
- Before some other thing, event
- The first part; first member of a series
- In baseball, first base

Superkid, I want you to grade yourself on how YOU are doing with your FIRSTS. Let's look at the list above, one at a time. I'll ask the questions and you answer. Be honest with yourself and with the Lord! Not only does He know EXACTLY what's going on in your heart, He can help YOU see it, if you ask Him. So, if you don't know, ask the TEACHER!

Where have I positioned God in my life; first, before all others?

In Matthew 19:20-21 (*The Passion Translation*) a rich young man came to Jesus asking what he must do to have eternal life. He told Jesus, "I always keep God's rules" but Jesus gave him an instruction that showed the man's true heart and priorities. Jesus said, "Go and sell what you have and give it to the poor. Then you'll have your treasure in heaven." He thought Jesus didn't want him to be rich, but Jesus was just answering his question. If he wanted eternal life, he needed to refocus his love on the Father, to treasure the things of God instead of money and possessions. But he loved money so much he went away angry, not realizing Jesus had offered him the best! "Come follow Me," Jesus said. The rich young leader should have said, "Really, Jesus? That's awesome, thank You!" Matthew 6:33 puts it perfectly: "But first, be concerned about his kingdom and what has his approval.



Then all these things will be provided for you" (*TPT*).

Jesus told the disciples that those who put Him first will be repaid a hundred times over AND have eternal life. If you put yourself first, you'll end up last. Those who put Jesus first and leave themselves last, will end up FIRST! In Acts 5:29, Peter and the other apostles were arrested and told to stop speaking about Jesus but they replied, "We must listen and obey God more than pleasing religious leaders" (*TPT*). The rich young ruler missed it, but not Peter! He gets an A+! So, how about it, Superkid? Are you putting God first?

Is Jesus the first One you think about before you get up?

Psalms 119:147 (*New Living Translation*) says, "I rise early, before the sun is up; I cry out for help and put my hope in your words."

When I wake up, I talk to Jesus out loud. He wants to be your first thought every day. Why? Because He loves you! He already has your day planned out. When you set your love and attention on Him first, it's easier to trust and listen to Him all day! That would have helped the rich young ruler. He was thinking about living forever when he could have been REALLY living by following Jesus! Not to keep picking on this guy, but he really missed it! When you make Jesus your first thought every day, you won't miss it! He will make you the best at what He's called you to be. We can all do better at this, Superkid. I challenge you to put Jesus first in your day. If you already do, go deeper! I'm going to do the same!

How do you handle FIRSTS?

The first time you go off the high dive, the first day of school, the first time you speak in front of people, the first time the Lord prompts you to tell someone about Jesus. This is important. Your answer



lets you know where your trust level is with God. The Lord is always leading us into new and exciting adventures. When you do what He tells you to do, there is always something great ahead. You may feel fear when these firsts come up (OK, the high dive fear was a real thing for me when I was a kid.) and you may want to back away from it, but stop! Take authority over fear, Superkid. Second Timothy 1:7 (*TPT*) gives us an important truth to stand on: "For God will never give you the spirit of cowardly fear, but the Holy Spirit who gives you mighty power, love, and sound judgment!"

Say this, "Firsts don't bother me! I am filled with Jesus, not fear!"

Focusing on God in us FIRST will keep us from fearing people, situations and the things that lie ahead. It all comes down to His love. We can put Him first because He put us FIRST! We love Him because He loved us FIRST!

So how did you do? The most amazing thing about these firsts is that you get seconds—second tries! As you begin to put Him first, you can even ask Him to remind you and He will. He will help and correct you until you can say, "I've passed first grade!" And the Father ALWAYS gives an A+. He looks at you and He sees Jesus. Whew! Great job, Superkid. You passed!

Wait! What about baseball and what does that have to do with this anyway?

Stay Tuned...
Commander Kellie





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