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VICTORY

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EYES, THE LORD HAS THE PLAN
TO DELIVER YOU."

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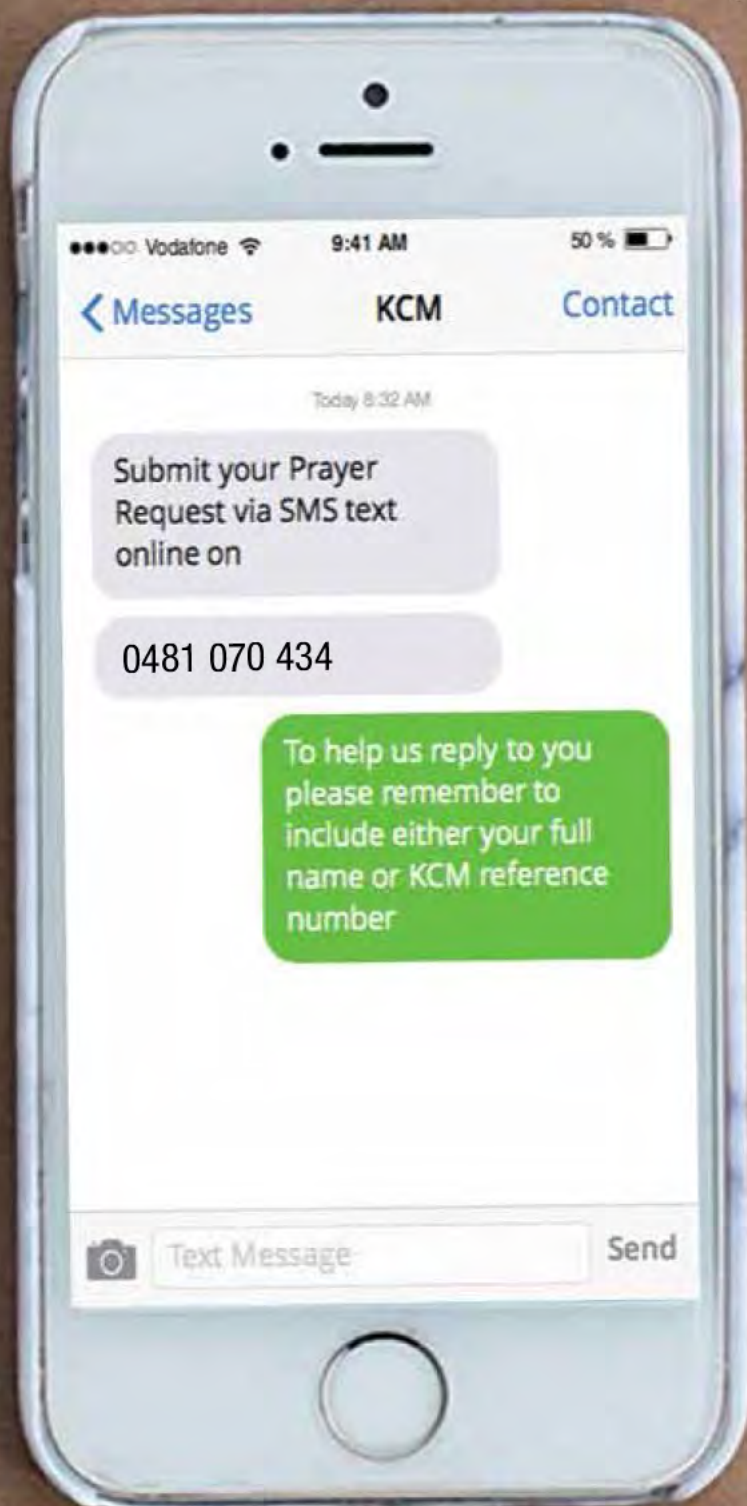
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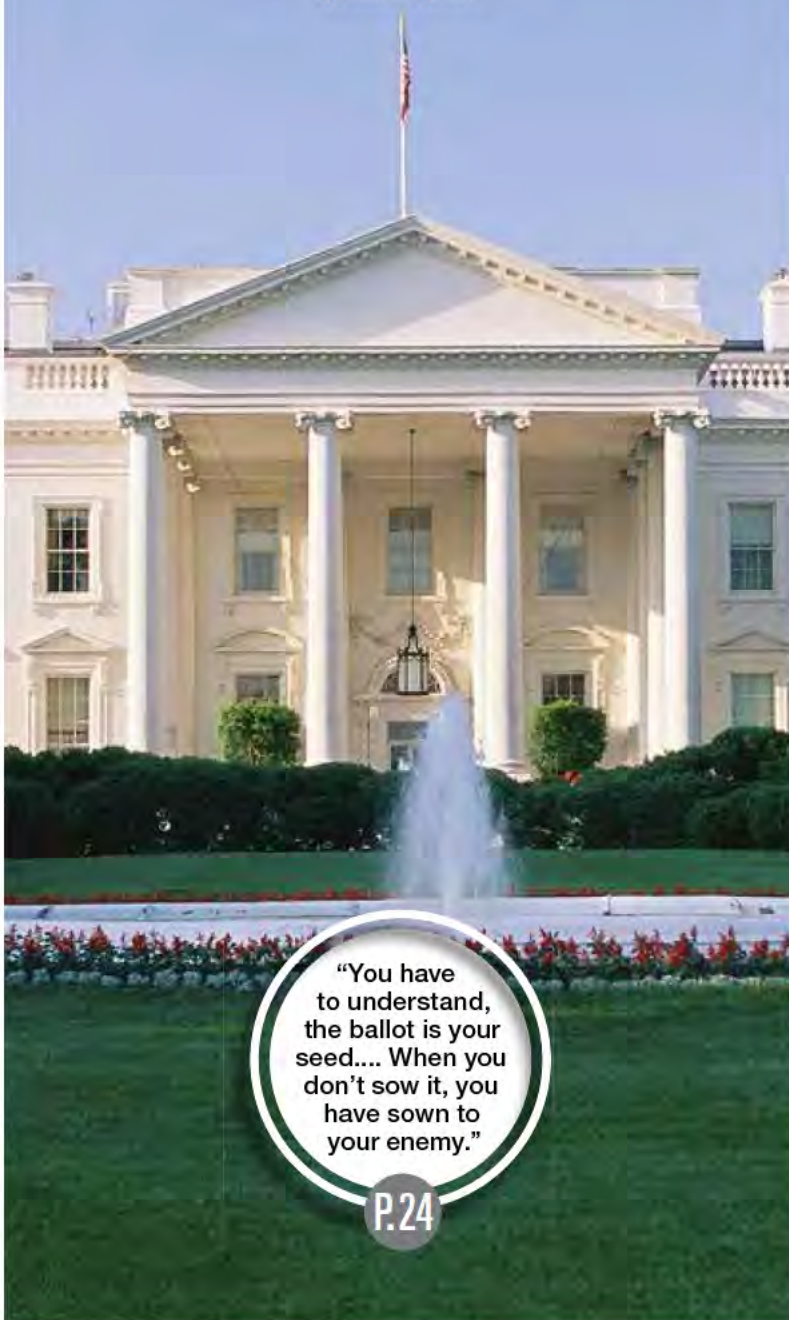
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TEXT4PRAYER

June

YOUR BALLOT IS YOUR SEED

by Kenneth Copeland



"You have to understand, the ballot is your seed.... When you don't sow it, you have sown to your enemy."

P.24

PASS THIS MAGAZINE ON TO A FRIEND. IT'S A GREAT WAY TO RECYCLE!

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Gloria and I consider partnership a very sacred thing and are convinced that the principles of partnership are KEY TO VICTORY in these last days.



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WHAT IF GOD INVITED YOU TO LIVE IN A GARDEN OF EDEN

...not just someday in heaven
in the sweet by-and-by, but
right here on earth in the
rotten here and now? What if
He promised you a life so full
of supernatural abundance
that people wandering
around in the wilderness
of this world could see
His amazing power and
lovingkindness just by
looking at you?

**THAT SOUNDS LIKE
A WONDERFUL LIFE,
DOESN'T IT?**

WORLD CHAMPIONS OF FAITH

by
*Kenneth
Copeland*

Some people would even say it sounds too good to be true. Yet, according to the Bible, it's the plan of God for every one of His children. It was His plan in the beginning when He BLESSED Adam and put him in the Garden of Eden. It was His plan when He made covenant with Abraham and promised to BLESS him and his seed; and it was His plan when He said to us in the book of Isaiah: "Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the Lord: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged. Look unto Abraham your

father, and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him. For the Lord shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord..." (Isaiah 51:1-3).

"But Brother Copeland," you might say, "those verses are in the Old Testament. They're talking about God's plan for the Jews and for Israel."

They're also talking to us as believers. According to the New Testament, Abraham is our father too (Romans 4:16). We're his seed and heirs of what God promised him (Galatians 3:29). We're citizens of

Zion, the city of the living God (Hebrews 12:22).

If you're a believer, then God is talking to you in those verses! He's telling you that you have an Eden covenant. He's promising that if you'll look to Abraham and follow his example, you can walk in the fullness of His BLESSING and it will turn your life into a veritable Garden of The LORD.

Gloria and I know what that's like. It's been happening to us for quite a while. Not because we're some kind of spiritual hotshots, but because almost 50 years ago we started learning how to cooperate with God's system. We started learning what He meant when He said, "It is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed" (Romans 4:16).

Faith and grace are big with God. Faith is big because it's the spiritual force that connects us to grace. Grace is big because it's what made the way for God to bring things back to the Garden of Eden level without having to wait until this whole age is over. When you connect by faith to God's grace, He can treat you like sin never even happened.

Talk about big! That's as big as it gets!



Don't miss out on the BLESSINGS God has for you. Rise up and become a world champion of faith. Here are some points to get you there:

- 1 As a believer, you have an Eden covenant. Isaiah 51:3
- 2 It's a covenant of faith and grace. Romans 4:16
- 3 The devil doesn't have the power to rob you of your Eden BLESSINGS because Jesus has defeated him. Colossians 2:15
- 4 When the devil hits you with doubt, hit him back with faith like Abraham did. Romans 4:20
- 5 There's nothing in this world order that can overcome your faith in God. 1 John 5:4



Even the Gates of Hell Can't Stop You

"Well, faith and grace are great, all right," someone might say, "but what about the devil? How do I live like I'm in Eden when I'm still in this sin-infested world dealing with him?"

You do it the same way Jesus did. When He was on earth, He defeated the devil every day of His life. He not only overcame every temptation to sin and walked continually in God's BLESSING on a personal level; He brought that BLESSING into the lives of others. He "went about doing good,

God Himself was given to you as a gift the split second you were born again (Ephesians 2:8). It's so powerful that the first time you used it, it changed you forever. It connected you with so much of God's grace that your old sinful man died; you became the righteousness of God in Him; and you were raised up to sit in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Just think; you were still a spiritual baby when that happened. You probably didn't know nearly as much about The WORD of God as you do now. Yet just by believing, confessing and acting on what little bit you knew, you blasted

Jesus. Jesus went before us with the same measure of faith we have. He developed His faith by feeding on The WORD of God the same as you and I do, and all the forces of hell combined couldn't stand against Him. After He went to the Cross, He whipped and disarmed them so completely that if they'd known what was going to happen, "they would not have crucified the Lord of glory" (1 Corinthians 2:8).

If you've read the Bible, you know the thrilling story of how Jesus' victory unfolded. It began with satan and his bunch thinking they'd finally gotten the upper hand against Jesus. As He suffered on the cross where His form was so marred He no longer resembled a human being, they didn't know He was paying the price for the sin of all mankind. They didn't realize He was acting by faith as our substitute, so when He died and they dragged Him into hell, they released their full fury upon Him.

Then, on the third day they found out they had made a terrible mistake!

Just as it looked like they were about to annihilate Jesus, suddenly the spiritual realm rocked with the voice of God Almighty. "That's enough!" He said. "Again I will be a Father to Him and again He will be a Son to me." With those words, Jesus was instantly raised from the dead. The first Man ever to be born again from sin to righteousness, He started preaching the gospel right there in hell. With demons bouncing off every wall, He took satan's keys away from him and said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth" (Matthew 28:18). Then—*whoosh*—He left the bowels of the earth, went up and got His body, and went to heaven where He poured out His blood on the heavenly mercy seat.

All You Have to Do Is Pull the Trigger

Jesus is the original and ultimate Faith Champion! The moment you believed on Him you became His joint heir. So

When you use your faith in God's WORD like a weapon against the devil, he's helpless against it.

There's nothing in this world order your faith in God won't overcome.

and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him" (Acts 10:38).

"But that was *Jesus*, Brother Copeland. He's the Son of God."

Yes, He is—and you're a son of God, too. You're not just an old forgiven sinner saved by grace. You're a new creation. "Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God..." (2 Corinthians 5:17-18). You've been "born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever" (1 Peter 1:23).

Your spiritual DNA and Jesus' DNA are exactly the same. Spiritually, you're identical twins. You also have the same faith He has. The very faith of

out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of the light of God's dear Son, and the gates of hell themselves couldn't stop you.

"Yeah, but that was a spiritual victory," you might say. "In the natural I'm still subject to all the mess the devil is stirring up in the world."

No, you're not. There's nothing in this world order your faith in God won't overcome. "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith" (1 John 5:4).

When you use your faith in God's WORD like a weapon against the devil, he's helpless against it. If you want to see how helpless, look at what happened in his final showdown with

whether you know it or not, you're the biggest thing on the block! Your blood Covenant Brother, The LORD Jesus Christ, utterly defeated the devil in the showdown of the ages. Now He's given you the gun with a cocked hammer. All you have to do is pull the trigger!

What exactly do I mean by pull the trigger? I mean get out your Bible, find scripture that covers your situation, and fight the good fight of faith with The WORD of God. If you're believing for healing, find healing scriptures and stand on them. Learn them. Talk them. Think them. Write them down and put them up everywhere. Fill your house so full of them that when someone comes in, they see healing scriptures on every door.

Then, do what Isaiah 51 said. Look unto Abraham the father of your faith and follow his example.

...He believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. Who against hope 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; and being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform (Romans 4:17-21).

What was Abraham doing in those verses? He was using the faith God had put in him, like a tool, on purpose. Every time the devil called Abraham's attention to his old, dead, wrinkled-up body, he hit back with faith. Every time the devil pointed out how old and barren Sarah was, Abraham pulled the trigger and fired off another round of God's WORD. "Shut up, devil!" he'd say. "I don't consider your lies. I don't consider natural circumstances! I believe what

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God said and nothing else!"

I'm not suggesting you'll come by this easily. This isn't for the wimpy. It's for champions, and you become a faith champion by staying in The WORD so that when the devil challenges you, you can stand strong against him. You do it by developing your faith and swinging your WORD sword in the devil's direction until he flees.

"I don't know, Brother Copeland. I'm not very scary. Are you sure the devil will flee from me?"

Certainly he will! You don't look the same to him as you do to yourself. When you put on your war suit, you absolutely terrify the devil. When you strap on the breastplate of righteousness and the shoes of the gospel of peace, when you take up your shield of faith and put on the helmet of salvation with the faceplate down, the only thing the devil sees coming at him is God's armor. He doesn't know who's in there.

He doesn't know you're still growing up and you don't quite fill up the armor yet. To him you look like more than a conqueror. So all you have to do is act like one. As long you just keep speaking The WORD and don't say something stupid like, "I sure hope this works because if it doesn't I'm dead," the devil will run from you as surely as he'll run from Jesus Himself.

"But what if he doesn't?" someone might say. "What if I try to fight and end up losing the battle?"

That won't happen! Just go lock yourself up somewhere with your Bible and stay there until the champion shows up. Get out your faith-preaching CDs and DVDs and whatever else you have, and totally immerse yourself in The WORD until you're so strong in faith you come out chewing nails and drinking gunpowder soup!

That's what Gloria and I did when we first found out about the word of faith. It changed both of us in major ways, but what happened to Gloria was especially amazing. She'd always been very quiet and shy, but as she spent time in The


WORD she got bolder and bolder. She got so strong in faith the devil didn't want anything to do with her. (He still doesn't.) Every time he tried something, she whipped up on him.

I remember one time she got on him for attacking me. I'd just gotten home from days of preaching on the road and I was having flu symptoms. I was so tired that instead of standing on The WORD like I should have, I just collapsed onto the bed and felt sorry for myself. As I was lying there in the dark, seemingly from out of nowhere Gloria jumped on me, praying in tongues and shouting at the top of her voice, "You flu demon, in the Name of Jesus, you get off my husband!" She knocked me completely out of the bed and onto the floor.

"OK! OK!" I said. "I'm healed!" I was totally healed when I hit the floor.

I remember another time a few years later when she jumped on our young son, John, in much the same way. He'd said something sassy to her, thinking he could get away with it because she's so sweet and even-tempered all the time. I don't recall exactly what he said, but whatever it was, Gloria could tell the devil was working on him. Instantly, she turned into "Faith Woman!" She flat-footed it over the living room sofa to where John was and dealt with that devil right then and there. His eyes got big and he said, "Wow, Mama!"

I'm sure the devil was saying much the same thing as he was running out the door. He was saying, "Wow!" because Gloria knows who she is in Christ Jesus.

As a believer, you ought to know who you are in Christ Jesus, too. You ought to be acting like a world champion of faith and keeping the devil on the run. So get in The WORD and get after it! Connect by faith with God's grace and let Him turn your life into a little Eden right here on earth. Let Him fill your life so full of supernatural abundance that people wandering around in the wilderness of this world can see His power and lovingkindness through you! 



Living by Faith

A life of faith doesn't just happen on Sunday, or when you are believing for something special.

Superkid, we are faith people 24/7. That's every hour of the day, every day of the week! You **HAVE** the faith of God inside you! Walking and living by faith is a decision that only you can make.

When the disciples made the decision to put their faith in Jesus and follow Him, they had no idea how their lives would change! They were living very ordinary lives when Jesus offered them a life of adventure through trusting, following and believing Him for everyday things as well as the miraculous.

Think about the things they received by faith: healing, protection, miracles, food. Even fish to eat! And they didn't just catch a fish, they caught **TONS** of fish. One time, Peter even caught a fish with money in its mouth!

Jesus provided everything the disciples needed, but here's the thing: They had to walk by faith. When they had failures, Jesus told them their faith was small. But He didn't leave them with small faith. He continued to work with them and teach them. He not only taught His disciples how to walk by faith, He showed them.

Today, we can learn as much from what He did as we can from what He said. Many of you are familiar with Mark 11:22-24, and know it tells how to change things with our faith. You may not realize that this faith lesson had begun the day before.

Verses 12-14 tell us:

"The next morning as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. He noticed a fig tree in full leaf a little way off, so he went over to see if he could find any figs. But there were only leaves because it was too early in the season for fruit. Then Jesus said to the tree, 'May no one ever eat your fruit again!' And the disciples heard him say it" (New Living Translation).

What was Jesus doing? He was speaking to the fig tree. Why do we speak to things when we want them to change? Because that is the way God designed things. How did He create the world we live in? Words. He spoke the earth, the animals, and even you and me into existence because it was what He wanted. I am not sure why Jesus wanted that fig tree to dry up, but it did! Look at what the next few verses say:

The next morning as they passed by the fig tree he had cursed, the disciples noticed it had withered from the roots up. Peter remembered what Jesus had said to the tree on the previous day and exclaimed, "Look, Rabbi! The fig tree you cursed has withered and died!" Then Jesus said to the disciples, "Have faith in God. I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, 'May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' and it will happen. But you must really believe it will happen and have no doubt in your heart. I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you've received it, it will be yours" (verses 20-24, NLT).

Peter and his friends were surprised.

If your response is, "Well, of course. Jesus is the Son of God! Things have to obey Him!" then what Jesus said to them might surprise you. **YOU** have the same ability, authority and power to

speak the things you want to come to pass! He made it very simple: 1. Have faith in God. Just decide if you haven't already; 2. Believe His Word that promises you the things you desire in your heart; 3. Say it! Confess with your mouth!

You may not see it immediately but continue to believe His Word. Don't pay attention to the things around you, the things you see that tell you it will never come. Remember and believe what He says, not what circumstances say.

Second Corinthians 4:13 and 18 (NLT), give us an important clue about walking in faith, particularly about standing for what we are praying for. It says: "But we continue to preach because we have the same kind of faith the psalmist had when he said, 'I believed in God, so I spoke.' So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever."

What are the things we cannot see? Faith, angels, God moving and making things happen.

Is this all there is to learn about faith? No way! It's just the beginning, but just like He did with the first disciples, Jesus will continue to teach you and help you. Just ask Him to train you in the walk of faith. And remember these two things. **FAITH TAKES ACTION.** Faith acts like what you have asked for has already happened, so start making plans to receive what you've requested! **NEVER QUIT!** Hebrews 10:35-36 (NLT) says: "So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you! Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised."

Jesus will never fail you, Superkid. There is no better life than a life of faith. Hang on for a great adventure! I'm believing with you! ❤️



Kellie Copeland

An outreach minister at Kenneth Copeland Ministries, she 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.



Southwest Believers'
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IN the heart of historic Fort Worth, Texas, on July 4-9, more than 10,000 believers will gather with one common goal in mind: to immerse themselves in the Word and hear from God. All week long, ministers such as Kenneth and Gloria Copeland, Jerry Savelle, Jesse Duplantis, Creflo Dollar, Keith Moore, Bill Winston and others will bring fresh revelation.

We're expecting breakthroughs on every front as believers take hold of who they are in Christ and receive all God has for them—whether they need relationships restored,

financial blessings, freedom from fear or healing...we'll all be standing together.

While there will be powerful, life-changing messages all week, many attendees' favorite time is



“JESUS ALWAYS COMES TO HEALING SCHOOL!”

—Gloria

Saturday morning—when Kenneth and Gloria teach Healing School.

A Word From the Lord

It began early one summer morning in 1979, when Gloria woke up and slipped out onto the back porch of the family's cabin in southwest Arkansas. While everyone else slept, she took the opportunity to pray.

It was in those quiet moments alone with God that Gloria remembered a prophecy she had recently received. She was told that she was about to hear from the Lord concerning something He wanted her to do. Thinking about that prophecy, she spoke from her heart and said, “Lord, You know I’ll do anything You want me to do. Just tell me what it is.”

When she finished praying, Gloria went inside to get ready for the day. A

few moments later, God spoke to her and said, *I want you to start teaching on healing in all the meetings.*

In September 1979, three months after that encounter with God, Kenneth and Gloria Copeland obeyed God by adding Healing School to each of the meetings they had scheduled for the rest of that year—and Gloria began teaching on healing. It was during those meetings that the Lord also instructed her to begin laying hands on the sick and praying for them. So she did.

A Clear Directive

By the beginning of the next year, with a few meetings behind them, Kenneth and Gloria thought that facet of the meetings was finished. They had obeyed God, and thought

the Lord might have some other direction in store. But then another prophecy came—this time through Kenneth himself—that made it clear to them just *when* God intended for Healing School to end. The Lord said:

I want My people well. I have desired for My people to walk in health. I have desired for My people to know how to walk in health.... I want My people to know how to take My WORD, and stand on My WORD, and receive My healing power and know that I am The LORD. I want My people to walk with Me in health and life and know the good things that I have prepared for them. I am The LORD that heals you...I will have My people well!

By that, it was clear to Kenneth and Gloria that the

Lord not only wanted them to make Healing School a regular part of KCM's meetings, but that He also wanted them to do so until Jesus returns.

It has now been 37 years since Healing School began. Since 1979, every Believers' Convention and Victory Campaign held by Kenneth Copeland Ministries has given our Partners and Friends an opportunity to hear God's Word on divine healing and to apply it to their lives.

Kenneth and Gloria have taught Healing School around the world to countless numbers of people—boldly declaring that “Jesus always comes to Healing School!” And thousands of people have received God's Word on divine healing, applied it to their lives, and seen the results.

Stand for YOUR Breakthrough

No matter what you're facing today, the answer is in God's Word. And that Word concerning healing will be *alive* and heard *uncompromised* at the 2016 Southwest Believers' Convention in Fort Worth, Texas.

Come stand for your breakthrough with us! 🙏

To learn more, visit kcm.org/swbc



WORTH IT ALL FOR THE CALL

by Melanie Henry

SHAUN GUSTAFSON TOOK THE STEPS TO HIS MEETING TWO AT A TIME. THAT'S THE WAY HE LIVED HIS LIFE—WITH SUCH ZEST THAT HE EMBRACED EACH NEW DAY LIKE A LONG-LOST FRIEND. HIS FACE ALIGHT WITH GOOD HUMOR, HE WAS THE KIND OF GUY WHO LIKED TO HAVE FUN. HE LOVED SPORTS, HAD BEEN THE HIGH-SCHOOL HOMECOMING KING, AND WAS KNOWN AS THE LIFE OF EVERY PARTY.

That's not to say he didn't have a serious side. Even as a child he'd known he wanted to go into business. He'd made a plan and stuck with it through attending business college. Now working for a mortgage company, he was a rising star—already one of the company's top employees.

Shaun walked into his cousin's office and looked out over the St. Paul, Minn., skyline. The snow-wrapped city shimmered in the morning sun like diamonds. As much as he loved his life and enjoyed his job, something on the inside of him had changed. It felt like one minute his life had been a speeding train on a fast track. Then it had come to a screeching halt, backed up and was lumbering to change course.

He could trace the changes back to the day he'd had a radical experience with God. The Lord's presence had been so powerful that he felt as though electricity had coursed through

him, making it difficult to stand.

Shaun looked at his cousin and told him he was leaving to go back to college for ministry.

"Are you kidding? Look! This is my paycheck for two weeks! You're next in line for promotion."

The check was for \$11,000.

Shaun glanced at the check and then to his cousin's face.

"I want to minister the gospel."

CHANGING COURSE

"In 1998, I enrolled at a Bible college in Minneapolis," Shaun recalls. "That same year I married Amy. The Lord told Amy to take a part-time job and invest most of her time praying for our future ministry. This was a hard step of obedience because she had just received her bachelor's degree and had a full-time position waiting for her. Instead, Amy worked doing makeup for a modeling agency. Our total income that year was \$8600.

“Our positions allowed us to see Kenneth and Gloria behind the scenes. They were the same people we knew from the pulpit.”

“The following year, a friend showed me a Creation video with Kenneth Copeland. He said, ‘You’ve got to hear this guy preach.’ As I listened, I realized there was a big difference between what Kenneth Copeland taught and what I was being taught at seminary, where some professors made God sound schizophrenic.

“The Lord told me He wanted me to study under Kenneth Copeland. We didn’t have money for an Internet connection so we went to our church bookstore and picked out one of his series called *Developing Friendship With God*. It cost \$20, which we didn’t have. Saving a little here and a little there, it took Amy four months to get \$20. She bought the series for my birthday and we listened to it over and over. Through this, we learned that it was possible to go to college debt free. We also learned about Oral Roberts University and felt led to go there. I transferred my credits and we moved to Tulsa, Okla., one year later.”

Both companies they worked for had offices in Oklahoma, but God had a different plan. He told Shaun to sign up for an internship rather than get another job.

“How can I do that?” Shaun asked. “We only have enough money for half of my tuition.”

The Lord directed Amy to apply for a job at ORU. She was hired the morning Shaun’s tuition was due.

“Is your husband a student here?”

“Yes.”

“Since you’re an employee, he’ll get half off his tuition.”

The fall foliage fell off the trees that winter, leaving Tulsa looking dismal against a dark, brooding sky. As the holidays approached, Shaun and Amy had no money to go home to Minnesota. To make matters worse, Christmas Eve was Amy’s birthday—the first one she would spend without her family.

Amy’s parents had adopted three children, then after 14 years of marriage, her mom found out she was pregnant with Amy. Amy had grown up the youngest of four children in a close-knit family on a farm in Minnesota. Her

aunt had led her to the Lord when she was 14, and soon after she’d been called to the ministry.

For Amy, nothing about moving to Tulsa had surprised her except the depth of her longing for her family. It had been excruciating. On Christmas Eve, a frigid wind rattled their windows as Amy wept. Shaun rubbed her back and said the only words of comfort he knew. “It’ll be worth it all for the call.”

Shortly after that, the Lord appeared to Shaun in a vision one night. Jesus took him outside. When Shaun looked up at the sky, rather than stars, he saw the line of a time graph that had many ups and downs. The Lord explained to him that this was the history of man since Adam and Eve. Jesus pointed to a red line that intersected the graph as it headed down. Jesus said, *This is when I’m returning*. Then He pointed just barely above the red line and said, *This is where you are right now in history*.

Shaun responded, “Lord, it’s too soon! Too many people don’t know You yet!”

Jesus answered back, *Yes, that’s why I’ve called you*.

“We’d become Partners with KCM and gave offerings to them above our tithe. Even with half of Shaun’s tuition paid, we had to believe God for the rest of the money every semester. One semester we needed \$3,000,” Amy recalled. “A woman in Minnesota sent us a check for that amount. She said the Lord told her in prayer that we needed it.

“Another time a check came in for the amount we needed from Shaun’s previous employer. He said he’d decided to disperse the funds in Shaun’s retirement account. Shaun never knew he had one.”

THE PATH TO SUCCESS

Shaun sat in class and listened to a seasoned professor give advice.

“Where most young ministers miss it—they launch their own ministry right out of college. They want to be the head person right away,” the professor said. “But it greatly increases longevity if the minister submits to another man’s ministry first. Especially under someone who has success.”

JUNE

		Old Testament	New Testament
Wed	1	2 Kgs. 4-5	Eph. 6
Thu	2	2 Kgs. 6-7	Phil. 1
Fri	3	2 Kgs. 8-9	Phil. 2
Sat	4	2 Kgs. 10-12	Phil. 3-4

Sun	5	2 Kgs. 13-14	Col. 1
Mon	6	2 Kgs. 15-16	Col. 2
Tue	7	2 Kgs. 17-18	Col. 3
Wed	8	2 Kgs. 19-20	Col. 4
Thu	9	2 Kgs. 21-22	1 Thess. 1
Fri	10	2 Kgs. 23-24	1 Thess. 2
Sat	11	2 Kgs. 25; 1 Chr. 1-2	1 Thess. 3-4

Sun	12	1 Chr. 3-4	1 Thess. 5
Mon	13	1 Chr. 5-6	2 Thess. 1
Tue	14	1 Chr. 7-8	2 Thess. 2
Wed	15	1 Chr. 9-10	2 Thess. 3
Thu	16	1 Chr. 11-12	1 Tim. 1
Fri	17	1 Chr. 13-14	1 Tim. 2
Sat	18	1 Chr. 15-17	1 Tim. 3-4

Sun	19	1 Chr. 18-19	1 Tim. 5
Mon	20	1 Chr. 20-21	1 Tim. 6
Tue	21	1 Chr. 22-23	2 Tim. 1
Wed	22	1 Chr. 24-25	2 Tim. 2
Thu	23	1 Chr. 26-27	2 Tim. 3
Fri	24	1 Chr. 28-29	2 Tim. 4
Sat	25	2 Chr. 1-3	Titus 1-2

Sun	26	2 Chr. 4-5	Titus 3
Mon	27	2 Chr. 6-7	Philem.
Tue	28	2 Chr. 8-9	Heb. 1
Wed	29	2 Chr. 10-11	Heb. 2
Thu	30	2 Chr. 12-13	Heb. 3

That wasn't what Shaun wanted to hear. He'd walked away from a career in business in 1998 because of his heart's desire to minister the gospel. Almost five years later, that still hadn't happened.

Then he heard another minister talk about ministers he'd known over the years.

"Most of the ones who went straight into their own ministry are no longer in it," the man said. "The ones who worked for another man's ministry until God released them were able to stick it out."

Upon Shaun's graduation from ORU in 2002, his father told him a story he'd never heard. "When I was 10 years old, I accepted the Lord while watching Oral Roberts on television. God spoke to me and said, *Like Oral Roberts, if you will follow the call on your life, I'll make you respected worldwide.*"

He went on to explain that he'd grown up, gone into business, married and had three daughters. At that time the denominational mindset was that God would keep a minister humble and the church would keep him poor. Shaun's father didn't see how he could minister and support his family.

His father had prayed, "Lord, if You'll give me a son, I'll dedicate him to You to fulfill my call." Shaun had been the answer to that prayer and his father had dedicated him to the Lord at birth. Shaun was stunned by the story and amazed that his family had come full circle, right back to ORU. Not fulfilling his call was his father's deepest regret.

Shaun didn't want to make the same mistake. He and Amy felt certain they knew what God had in store for them. They believed God had prepared them to minister to marriages on a global scale. However, Shaun prayed, "Lord, what do You want me to do for the rest of my life?"

Pastor.

"I cried," Shaun admits. "I'd never wanted to be a pastor. I couldn't imagine coming up with a new message every week for the rest of my life! In fact, during my first college speech class, I got up and couldn't

remember anything!"

Instead of launching their ministry, the Lord told them to apply for jobs at KCM.

In 2003, Shaun and Amy moved to Texas and went to work for KCM. Shaun worked in purchasing. Amy did makeup in the television department.

"We loved working at KCM," Amy says. "Our positions allowed us to see Kenneth and Gloria behind the scenes. They were the same people we knew from the pulpit. Shaun later applied for two pastoral positions at KCM, but didn't get them. He was happy and upbeat, but underneath his congenial exterior there was a deep sadness in him. Every year seemed to take him further from his call."

The hardest thing in Shaun's life was the waiting. With each passing year, the concept of faith and patience grew thin because his heart ached to minister to the lost. He felt as though his call was just beyond his grasp.

Then one day Keith Moore spoke in chapel. "It's your job to be faithful where you're at," he said. "You be diligent and God will promote you when He sees you're ready." When Shaun walked out of chapel that day, every shadow of sadness was gone.

"That message set me free," Shaun remembers. "My responsibility was simple: Be faithful right where I am. It allowed me to cherish what God called me to do each day and live in the present."



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opened a whole new world
to us, teaching us how to
obtain victory in situations
that look impossible. —Shaun



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Kenneth
& Gloria
Copeland

May 30-June 3

Growing Up in Unity With Him

Gloria Copeland & Kellie Copeland



Kellie Copeland

Sun., June 5

God's Provision for You to Be Whole

Kenneth Copeland



Dr. Don Colbert

June 6-10

Food, Medicine and God's Word

Kenneth Copeland and
Dr. Don Colbert



Dr. Caroline Leaf

Sun., June 12

The Wonderful Benefits of God's Health Plan

Kenneth Copeland



Billye Brim

June 13-17

Be the Perfect You

Kenneth & Gloria Copeland
and Dr. Caroline Leaf

Sun., June 19

God Is Not an Absentee Father

Kenneth Copeland

June 20-24

How to Be Led by the Spirit of God in the End of Days

Gloria Copeland and Billye Brim

Sun., June 26

The DNA of an Overcomer

Kenneth Copeland

June 27-July 1

Prophecies in the Psalms

Gloria Copeland and Billye Brim

THE NEXT STEP

On vacation at Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch, Shaun and Amy relaxed around a campfire. The fire snapped and crackled against the night sky.

"Amy, is the Lord speaking to you?" Shaun asked.

"Yes."

"Is He talking to you about moving to Rochester, Minn., to pastor a church?"

"Yes."

"Me, too."

"We knew we were called to pastor a church in Rochester," Shaun recalls. "But we also realized that we could get out of God's timing and still miss His plan. Instead of jumping out and moving to Rochester, we started praying over God's timing. We both sensed that we were to move in the fall of 2008, which gave us two more years at KCM. We prayed that God would confirm this church plant was really coming from Him."

One night while they were waiting on God's timing, Shaun had a vivid dream. In it he walked into the main building at KCM and saw a piece of paper on the floor. He picked it up and threw it in the trash. Then the Lord spoke: *Because you have treated this like it was your own father's ministry, I'm promoting you into your own.*

In the second part of the dream, a Bible opened and Shaun read 1 Timothy 1:12 (*New King James Version*). Two words in the passage were in bold print. "And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has **enabled** me, because He counted me **faithful**, putting me into the ministry."

On Oct. 30, 2008, a full 10 years after Shaun had accepted his call into the ministry, God sent him and Amy from Texas to Rochester, where they started with a five-week marriage conference. Then, in March 2009, they launched High Point Church with only 17 people in attendance. By the end of the first year, they had 30 members.

"We didn't despise those small beginnings," Shaun explains. "Word of faith churches have struggled in

this area. We were told none had ever made it much past 100 in attendance and that most had closed their doors, but we and our congregation persevered. There were nights of prayers and tears when we had to remind ourselves that God had told us to do this and we couldn't give up. We have really been able to see the fruit of patience now, with many coming to Christ and faithful, talented people joining us in this vision from the Lord.

"This area is an international hub because of the Mayo Clinic. Kings and world leaders come here, along with as many as 1.3 million people each year. Many seek spiritual as well as medical help. So we make the central focus of every event about reaching people for Christ."

Today, seven years after starting the church, it is going stronger than ever. More than 500 people now call High Point Church home. They recently opened a new building and have two services on Sunday. Shaun and Amy believe this is all just the groundwork for what God is yet to do. "College taught me about homiletics and hermeneutics, but partnership with KCM opened a whole new world to us, teaching us how to obtain victory in real-life situations that look impossible.

"God once spoke to me," shares Shaun, *Too many churches are looking for ways to get money in, rather than looking for ways to get the gospel out.*

At High Point Church, people are receiving eternal life. Through the church and outreach ministries, they have seen over 3,000 come to Christ so far. The hearts of the fathers and children are being turned to God and each other as Malachi 4:6 illuminates. Marriages and families are being healed. If that weren't blessing enough, their own family has grown to include three children: Courtney, 12; Whitney, 8; and Caleb, 5.

When Pastors Shaun and Amy Gustafson look back over the challenges of the past 18 years, one thing is clear—it was worth it all for the call. 🙏

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These Amazing Days

THE DAYS WE LIVE IN ARE AMAZING! THESE DAYS ARE NOT UNLIKE THE DAYS OF JOHN THE BAPTIST. HIS WERE DAYS OF ANXIETY BECAUSE OF POLITICAL UNREST, BUT THEY WERE ALSO DAYS OF EXPECTATION BECAUSE OF ISRAEL'S HOPE OF DELIVERANCE. **by Dennis Burke**



attention back to the Lord and get them ready to realize their hope.

To make ready. That's an inner thing. John's task was to make the people ready on the inside, to turn their hearts, so they would be prepared for what was about to take place on the outside. He prepared them to receive the Lord Jesus!

Scripture says John's anointing was the same anointing as Elijah, whose anointing caused people to sit up and take notice of the work of the Lord. Elijah's anointing caused people to repent of their wicked ways and turn back to God. His anointing gave people hope for their future and caused them to see that their righteous God was working on their behalf. It made them ready on the inside to receive change on the outside.

Just like in the days of Elijah and John the Baptist, while we're in the greatest times history has ever known, we're facing some of the darkest times we've ever seen, heard of or imagined. In every walk of life, the enemy is at work trying to convince people that the way forward is the way of wickedness and darkness. But, thank God, there are people of God who walk righteously and are making the light and life of Christ evident wherever they may be.

In our day, these amazing days, people the world over need to take notice of God's work. They need to repent and change their opinions of

Little did the people realize that their hope was on the brink of fulfillment when John the Baptist showed up.

We are introduced to John the Baptist, and God's plan for him, in Luke 1:14-17, when the angel of the Lord appeared to Zacharias, John's father, and made the following announcement:

And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb.... He will also go before Him (referring to Jesus) in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of

the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord (*New King James Version*).

Ready On the Inside

When John's ministry began, the nation was in a dark place, living under the consequences of weak leadership and the rule of another nation. Israel was in need of her Savior—the Savior they had been anticipating for centuries. God anointed John to "make ready a people prepared for the Lord." John's God-ordained job was to turn the nation's



Dennis
Burke

Dennis and his wife, Vikki, are co-founders of Dennis Burke Ministries in Arlington, Texas. For more information and ministry materials go to dennisburkeministries.org or call 1-800-742-4050.

Him. People need to have their hope renewed and realize that God is working for them, even now. They need to be made ready and prepared for the Lord!

Today, God's people carry an anointing similar to that of Elijah and John the Baptist. God has empowered His Body to be the force in the earth to make people ready and prepare them for the Lord. What a glorious mission this is! In every nation around the world, the Spirit of God is breathing something very fresh and powerful into the Body of Christ, and into those He

despair ready on the inside to receive Him and the deliverance He has prepared for them.

When I compare the times we're living in today with those of my early years, I see many similarities. The '60s and '70s were crazy times! The war in Vietnam was dragging on, and lives were being destroyed—both on the battlefield and at home. Lives were lost during the early days of the U.S. Apollo space program. And, as a nation, we were still recovering from the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy, his brother Robert Kennedy

of darkness, not even seeking the light.

Those were desperate times!

Something New

The good news, though, is that God was never oblivious to any of the things that our country, nor I, personally, was going through. He was not surprised by any of those things. He's always on the scene—ready to raise up His people in messed-up America, and around the whole messed-up world, to make them ready to meet their Lord! For years, I was lost! I was a confused kid with no direction. But God was out to save me and get me on His path of life!

In 1967, something new was going on in America that I knew nothing about. It was called the Jesus Movement. Their way of living, and the message they carried of God's love, prepared people for the Lord. Even I was being influenced by the Jesus people who were on a mission to give people hope for their lives and for the world.

Like so many others, I was confused about my own life and the world around me. I had no clue that my answers could be found in the Lord. I certainly wasn't looking for answers in the Church. I was living the life my father had warned me about when I was 12: that if I started using pot at a young age, it would lead to other things, possibly even heroin. In 1971, I found myself exactly where my dad had "prophesied" I would be—waking up from a heroin-induced stupor. When my first thought that morning was, *I want to do that again, right now*, I remembered his words and at that moment I realized I needed help. I realized I needed Jesus in my life!

I began my pursuit of the things of God, and He guided me every step of the way! And guess where He took me? He took me to church! He connected me with a church deacon who took me under his wing. This man and the people of that church welcomed me and made me ready to meet the Lord. They helped me to know my heavenly Father and my

These days we are living in mirror the days when I was young and headed down a path of destruction.

Our nation and our churches are craving real leadership.

has set in positions of leadership in His Body. Once again, in the history of the Church, God has placed His people on the crest of the wave in making people ready to receive the Lord!

It's Nothing New

I say *once again* because throughout history, as we have seen in the days of Elijah and in the time of John, in every nation, in both the Church and in the world, humanity has gone through periods of darkness. People have experienced times of hopelessness and despair. But God knows people. He knows how they respond to circumstances. Ecclesiastes 1:9 tells us there is nothing new under the sun. God has always been faithful to anoint people to make those existing in darkness and

and Martin Luther King Jr. In the wake of these tragic events, America experienced dark days for many years.

And there were some personal challenges for me as well.

Growing up in Southern California, in my early teens I experienced firsthand the violence and horrific unrest that took place in the streets of Los Angeles and Watts in the midst of racial violence. I was introduced to marijuana at age 11, and when I was 13 my life was all but shattered when my father took his own life. Then, my life was about as crazy as it could get. It was a life of hopelessness, darkness and despair. But the truth is, I was not alone. I was just one of hundreds of thousands around the world who was walking blindly into destruction—living under the influence

Savior, Jesus Christ. And they led me to be filled with God's Holy Spirit.

And here's the great part, I wasn't the only long-haired, drugged-out, spaced-out person they welcomed into their church. That Spirit-led church family became a loving, accepting, forgiving family to Vikki as well—before we were married. They gave us hope for our future. They gave us the light of Jesus. They helped make us ready for a right relationship with the Lord. When God brought me to the church and I met Jesus, everything changed and my life has never been the same!

These days we are living in mirror the days when I was young and headed down a path of destruction. Young people are craving answers. Our nation and our churches are craving real leadership. Voices are coming at people from all directions as we live under the influence of social media and biased news media.

The truth is, each of us has a part in God's Anointing to make people ready for the Lord. Every day He brings people across our paths who are searching for answers and a way out of darkness and confusion, much like we all were at one time. I thank God that His plan is for all His people—that's you and me—to be His voice to our generation.

God has placed an awesome calling on the Church and her leaders. We are experiencing a new and fresh presence of the Holy Spirit. I believe God is asking us to pick up the spirit of Elijah and John—the spirit that readies people for the Lord. He is entrusting us to minister to their needs—then ready them for the Lord.

As we rely on the Holy Spirit of our God, and the love of Jesus to do the work, we can depend upon a fresh authority and a fresh anointing from God, enabling us to stand out, step up and declare together to all people, "Get ready! Your most amazing days are yet to come!" 🙏

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2016 International Faith Conference
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GoodNEWSGazette

'A Brand-New Car'

Dear Kenneth and prayer team, I want to say a big thank you and glorify His Name because God has answered your prayer of agreement with me for a brand-new car. I got it today. Our God is really a good God and a prayer-answering God. He really is a Father of His children of faith. Thank you so much for your wonderful prayer support. God bless you and your ministry much more.

A.B.S. | Meghalaya, India



'Thank You for the BVOV Network'

I am now watching the broadcasts daily and I am being blessed by the teachings. I am learning so much about the words I speak and what scriptures to speak over myself and my family. Since I have started speaking healing and taking my healing, I feel better and know that my healing will soon manifest in my body. Thank you for your programs about the importance of words and for Healing School. They are such a blessing. God bless.

Mrs. Shawn G. | Luray, Va.

I wanted to thank you for the BVOV network.

'God Answered Our Prayers'

My husband and I have been Partners with KCM for many years. We pray and consistently sow financial seed into the ministry and know that y'all pray for us. We pastor a small church that has been meeting for several years in a hotel conference room. We were

praying for a building and growth in the number of members. Last weekend, another pastor friend told us he was resigning as pastor of his small church in Grand Prairie, Texas. His congregation voted for my husband, John, to be their next pastor. We will combine the two churches and meet in their debt-free building!

God answered our prayers: building, land and more people! We are honored to add these precious people into our hearts and into the call of God with us. Praise the Lord! He is faithful and nothing is impossible for Him!

Elizabeth B.
Cedar Hill, Texas

'No Cancer'

I wrote in requesting prayer for a mass that was found in my breast and another in my uterus, along with a thickening of my uterine wall. I know that Jesus died not only to save me but to heal me. Your prayers helped me stand strong on His Word and I was blessed with wonderful test results. No cancer. Thank you and God bless. God is good...all the time!

C.B. | U.S.

GOD IS FAITHFUL

I want to share this testimony with KCM: I had a miscarriage in August 2013. That was a painful experience for me and my husband, but God is so faithful.

I stood on this word from Kenneth Copeland: 2014—The Year of Victory Over Death, and The Year of Manifested Love! I also stood on Exodus 23:26, (*The Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*): "None shall lose her young by miscarriage or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days."

On Dec. 29, 2014, I was blessed to give birth to twins.

Tasha B. | Charlotte, N.C.



Seed Begets a Car

After listening to the series on developing a strong spirit, in 2015, I sowed a seed to KCM as an offering and I named it a car seed. A month later I was able to get my first car.

A.D.
South Africa

'PEACE, BE STILL!'

I live in a lovely part of Melbourne surrounded by enormous gum trees on a steep half-acre block. Many years ago, not long after I moved here, there was a violent wind blowing at night. I went out onto the decking to check, as it was extremely noisy, and the wind was roaring.

I was alarmed at the way the tall trees were being tossed around and bending to such an extent. I was momentarily afraid, but then thought, *Jesus stilled a storm*. So I raised my hands to the Lord and shouted, "In Jesus' Name, peace, be still!" Then as the scripture records, "Immediately there was a great calm," Mark 4:39. I was awed and humbled! I did expect God to quiet things down, but this was so sudden, dramatic and complete. There was not a breath of wind on my property and the peace and calm extended over the boundaries of my neighbors' properties too. I could still hear the wind roaring and howling down the valley, some distance from my house.

I believe God wanted to teach me that He can still any storm immediately, including the storms in people's lives, which I've seen Him do again and again. He is a mighty God and we give Him glory!

A.W. | Victoria, Australia



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“

Every step
out of love
is a step
out of this
vital, living
contact
with God.

”

—Gloria
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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If you have just prayed this prayer, please let us know of your decision. We have a **Free Gift** to help you begin your new life in Jesus!
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Esther D.,
prayer
minister



Your **Ballot** Is Your Seed

AWHILE BACK, I FOUND MYSELF GRIPING ABOUT SOME THINGS THE PRESIDENT HAD BEEN DOING. THEN THE LORD REMINDED ME MY ONLY SOURCE OF INFORMATION WAS FROM THE NEWS MEDIA. **by Kenneth Copeland**



NOW,

not all of them lie, of course, but some distort the facts for a living. They don't know much about the president, and it makes them mad that he doesn't tell them anything. I don't blame him—I wouldn't tell them anything, either!

But I fell over into a gripe mode for a few days and The LORD got on to me about it. He got really straight with me about allowing television, television news and television people to influence my thinking.

We all need to be very, very cautious about that.

Isaiah 1:21-23 says, "How is the faithful city become an harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers. Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water: thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves: every one loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards..."

Those *rewards* Isaiah was talking about were bribes or under-the-table deals.

Compare his words to our generation. Our nation now is a lot like the city of Jerusalem was then. Just reading that scripture, you'd think you were reading

the newspaper.

Isaiah continues: "...they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them. Therefore saith the Lord, the Lord of hosts, the mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies: And I will turn my hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross [or, your slag and your alloys—the stuff you've mixed in with your purity], and take away all thy tin" (verses 23-25).

God always puts first things first. Notice what He said He will do first to change a city or nation: "And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors [your lawyers

Kenneth Copeland and David Barton discuss the importance of doing the right thing when it comes to voting, and trusting God for His outcome.

and your pastors] as at the beginning: afterward thou shalt be called, the city of righteousness, the faithful city" (verse 26).

He said we will be called "a righteousness nation" again!

It doesn't matter what administration is in power or who's in what position of authority. When you get right down to it, everyone is influenced in one way or another by a judge.

Judges affect everything, and over the past 40 years Supreme Court judges have really messed up our country. But I'll tell you something—you can't blame them for it. You have to blame us. Why? Because we quit praying, we quit believing God and we quit voting.

You have to understand, the ballot is your seed, and God doesn't do anything without a seed. When you don't sow it, you have sown to your enemy. It's the same principle that applies to farming. You sow corn, you harvest a crop of corn. You sow nothing, you get nothing. There's no in between.

Everything you do and everything you say is a seed. To think you can sow one thing and reap a different harvest is insanity. That kind of thinking is not even practical. A seed always produces after its own kind.

So by getting hung up on the political parties and all of the show business—supposedly political campaigns—that have little or nothing to do with what's going to happen in office, and then not sowing your ballot...it's like not having been involved in the first place.

What's your responsibility? Get involved! You pray and you follow God when it comes time to vote. And then you do more than that: You stay involved.

God really got after a preacher friend of mine about this very thing. He lives in a small town in central Texas and his church wasn't liking the direction the city council was going at all. So the whole church got together and went to a city council meeting. There were more people there from

THIS NATION IS THE ONLY ONE IN HISTORY FOUNDED BY PEOPLE WHO LOVED JESUS, AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF WORSHIPING HIM. GOD FOUNDED ISRAEL BECAUSE *HE LOVES THEM*. THE LORD IS IN COVENANT WITH THIS COUNTRY, AND HE CAN NEVER FORGET IT! IT'S UP TO US, THEREFORE, TO PRAY, SEEK HIS FACE FOR HIS CHOICES OF CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE, AND THEN VOTE—IN FAITH—CALLING THINGS THAT BE NOT AS THOUGH THEY WERE!

DECLARE BY FAITH, EVERY DAY:

"I BELIEVE IT IN MY HEART, AND I SAY WITH MY MOUTH: THIS IS ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE! WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL!"


that church than anyone else. In fact, no one else showed up. They voted on everything and ended up taking over the city. They started turning the whole city around in one night.

The city council realized what was going on, but there wasn't any way they could turn them off. They were in every city council meeting—two or three hundred of them—filling the whole room up. They turned

that whole city around in a matter of weeks, and eventually changed the city council.

"Is that the right thing to do?" you ask.

It is when you're right. And being part of the political system—exercising your voice and being heard—is right!

It's time for you to be heard. But you can't if you don't stand up and speak out. It starts with sowing your seed. Your vote really does count. 



You have to blame us.... Because we quit praying, we quit believing God and we quit voting.



LIVING THE HIGH LIFE OF

PEACE

Out in the country, in the middle of the Arkansas woods, Ken and I have a place we like to go to get away. We call it our “prayer cabin.” We built it to be a place where we could get quiet, spend time with the Lord and just enjoy ourselves.

by
Gloria
Copeland



But a number of years ago I realized it had also become something else. Over time, as we'd fixed it up with all the comforts of home, it had become a place full of *things* that compete for our attention.

It still amazes me sometimes how much stuff we've accumulated out there and how much time it can take to maintain it all. When we go there, we can easily spend the first two or three days just getting everything up and running.

One time Ken and I were driving from the cabin into town (probably to get a part for something that needed to be repaired), and I was feeling a little frustrated about whatever "thing" we were dealing with that day. We passed our neighbors' house a few miles down the road and they were just sitting outside on the porch enjoying themselves. As I noticed how peaceful and relaxed they looked, it suddenly hit me: They didn't have anything to maintain!

They didn't have any electricity. They didn't have

any running water. They didn't have a heater, or an air conditioner, or a lawnmower. So they didn't have one thing to fix.

As I thought about that, I determined I was going to change my attitude. Although I enjoy nice things, and I certainly don't want to live without electricity, I decided I was not going to let *things* frustrate me and take up all my time! They're not that important. They're certainly not important enough for me to let them steal my attention away from God and His Word—and if I allowed it, that's exactly what they'd do.

This is something those of us who believe in divine prosperity must be sure to remember. The more prosperous we get in this life, the more things we will tend to have; and if we don't keep our priorities straight, those things will take over our lives. They'll weigh us down and keep us in the lowlands of this natural world. They'll keep us from living the spiritual high life.

If you don't believe it,

THIS IS SOMETHING THOSE OF US WHO BELIEVE IN DIVINE PROSPERITY MUST BE SURE TO REMEMBER.

I decided I was not going to let *things* frustrate me and take up all my time! They're not that important.



Don't let the things of this world keep you in the lowlands of the natural. Rise up and live the high life God has planned for you! Here are some points to get you there:

1

If we let them, natural things will steal the Word from us. Mark 4:19

2

Natural things are temporary, but the benefits we receive from attending to God's Word are eternal. Luke 10:42

3

You can do things for God on this earth you won't be able to do for Him in heaven, so dedicate your life to Him now. Hebrews 12:1-2

4

Keep looking at the big picture by setting your spiritual sights on eternity. Colossians 3:1-2

5

Wash away the carnal thinking that will keep you down and become spiritually minded by spending time in God's Word. Ephesians 5:25-26



read about Martha. She let natural things rob her of one of the most priceless spiritual moments any of us can imagine. She let them stop her from literally sitting at Jesus' feet and hearing Him teach the Word of God. Think of it. Jesus Himself was right there in her own living room speaking words of life and she was too busy tending to things in the kitchen to listen to Him.

As you may remember from reading the story, however, Martha's sister Mary made a different choice. She chose to set natural things aside, draw near to Jesus and focus on His Word. That upset Martha so much that she complained to Jesus about it.

She went to Him and said, "Lord,

we're on the earth, but at most we'll only be here for 120 years or so. After that we'll keep on living throughout eternity—and compared to eternity 120 years isn't very long.

Seek Those Things That Are Above

We need to start looking more at the big picture! We need to enlarge the scope of our spiritual radar so we can see things from an overall perspective. Instead of setting our attention on what's happening right now, or even on what might happen for the next few decades, we need to practice seeing things from God's eternal point of view. When we look at things from His perspective, we can see what really matters. We can

We must dedicate our lives to God and "lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and...run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith" (Hebrews 12:1-2).

"Gloria, are you saying it doesn't matter whether or not we prosper financially or receive healing for our bodies or see God's goodness manifested in the natural affairs of our lives?"

Of course those things matter! God loves us and wants us to receive all the BLESSINGS He's provided for us, both temporal and eternal. He also wants others to see what He's done for us so they'll be interested in finding out more about Him.

People in this world aren't looking for more trouble. They aren't looking for sickness and lack. They're looking for a way out of trouble; for healing and abundance and solutions to their problems. They're looking for witnesses who will say to them, "I've got the answer and His Name is Jesus!"

God has always desired His people to be elevated in the earth so that those who don't know Him can see His lovingkindness. He's always wanted the Church to have such a supernatural reputation that even the unsaved would be saying, "You want to be healed? Go down there to the Believers' Convention. You want to receive from God? Go to that church down the block. They'll pray for you and something amazing will happen for sure!"

That's the kind of life that belongs to us as born-again children of Almighty God. He intends for us to walk this earth in the same power and anointing and results that Jesus Himself did. But we're not going to do that by being carnally minded and preoccupied with the things of this world. We have to be spiritually minded. We have to keep our sights set on what we're called by God to do and on where we're headed in the eternal scheme of things.

In Colossians 3:1-5, the Apostle

LIVE YOUR LIFE ACCORDING TO THE DICTATES OF YOUR BORN-AGAIN SPIRIT, NOT ACCORDING TO THE DICTATES OF YOUR FLESH.

dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her" (Luke 10:40-42).

Look again at what Jesus said there. He essentially said that time spent with Him in the Word shall never be taken away from us. It will provide us with permanent benefits because the things of God are eternal. They last forever.

Natural things don't last forever! They eventually pass away. They might benefit us to some degree for a brief time while

more easily lay aside the unimportant things—things that won't even matter a year from now—and invest more of our time seeking God.

While we're on this earth we can do things for Him we can't do after we go to heaven. We can shine for Him as lights in the darkness. We can be His ambassadors, laying hands on the sick, sharing the gospel, and ministering His love to the lost.

We're the Body of Christ on this planet. He's the Head, but we're His arms and His legs. We are His light in this world and He needs us to shine now! He needs us to reach the people around us, and to do that we can't always be caught up in temporal things.

Paul put it this way: "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth."

Get in the Tub and Scrub!

If you're wondering what it means to "mortify your members which are upon the earth," it just means this: Live your life according to the dictates of your born-again spirit, not according to the dictates of your flesh. "For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit" (Romans 8:5).

Minding your flesh is essentially yielding to what your body and your carnal mind want to do. It's doing what you'd want to do naturally, apart from the leading of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God. Before we were born again, all of us minded the things of the flesh. Because our spirit man was dead, that's all we knew to do. We didn't really have any choice. Now, however, we do have a choice. Having received Jesus as our Lord, our spirit is alive to God and we can become spiritually minded by learning how to think like God thinks.

Sadly, however, multitudes of believers never do that. They never change their minds from natural thinking to spiritual thinking. As a result, they miss out on many of the BLESSINGS that belong to them as believers. They leave the door open for Satan to come and steal from them, destroy their families and even their lives.

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge," God said. "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace" (Hosea 4:6; Romans 8:6). Talk about two very different options! Destruction and death, or life and peace are polar

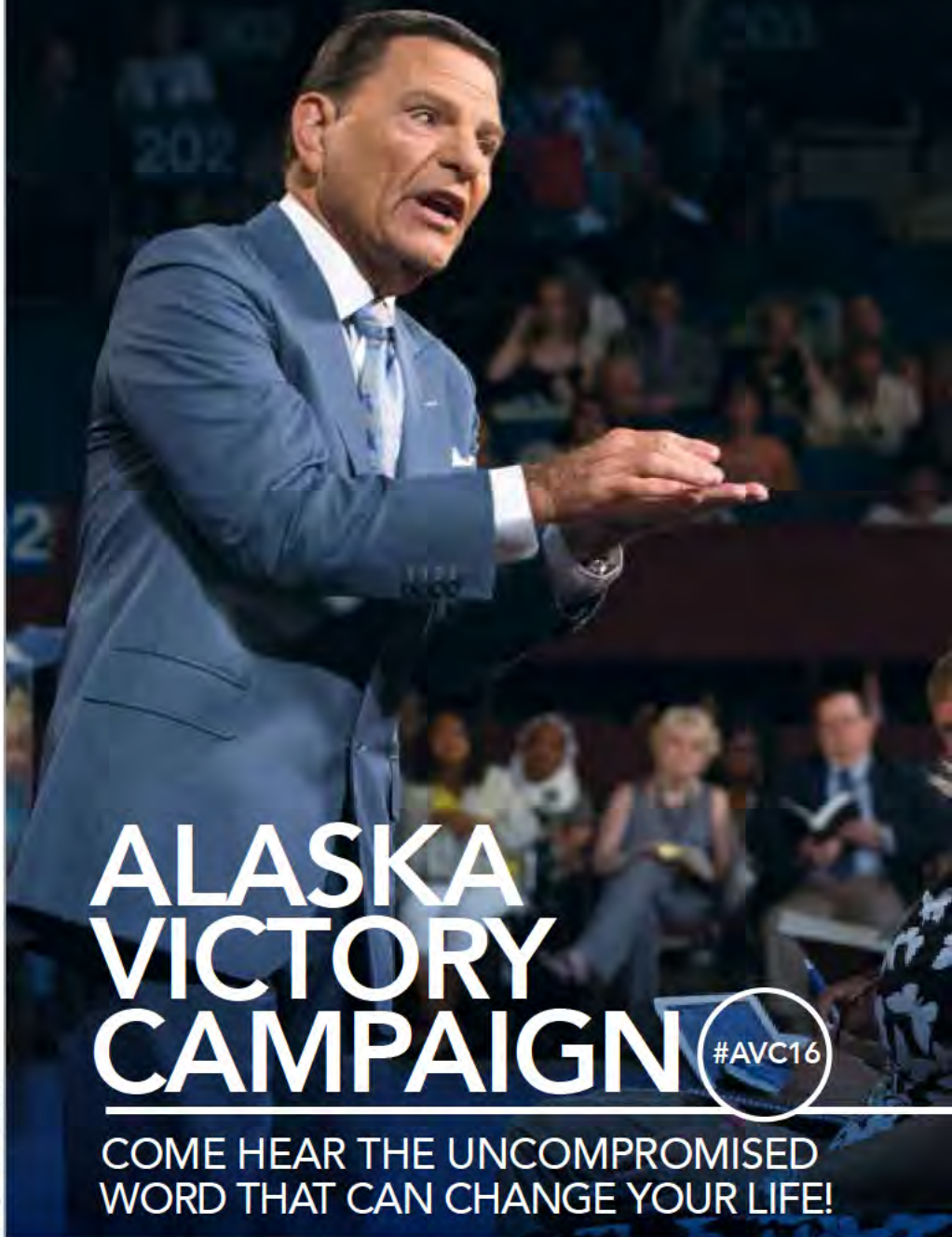
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Questions & Answers

by
*Kenneth
Copeland*


Q: I've always heard that it's God's will for His Word to produce a hundredfold blessing. But when I plant the Word of God in my life, it seems like things get worse instead of better.

What am I doing wrong?

A: The answer to your problem can be found in Mark 4. There Jesus said that after God's WORD is sown in the heart, satan immediately comes to take it away.

What tools does he use to dig up the planted WORD? Jesus tells us: afflictions, persecutions, cares of this world, deceitfulness of riches and the lust of other things.

Whenever you sow The WORD, satan is going to send some of those things your way in an attempt to pry you loose from The WORD of God because he knows that WORD will give you victory over him. So be prepared to resist him. No matter what happens, stick with The WORD. Study it and apply it every day. Learn to take that WORD and use it as the sword of the Spirit to stop satan's attack (Ephesians 6:10-18; 2 Corinthians 10:4-5).

As you persist in speaking and acting on The WORD, satan will flee (James 4:7). And that's when you'll begin to see the hundredfold return become a reality in your life! 

opposites. Personally, I made my choice between them a long time ago. I decided I don't want to be destroyed. I want to enjoy God's high life of peace. So I'm going to do whatever it takes to become spiritually minded.

"Exactly what does it take?" you might ask.

First and foremost it takes doing what Mary did the day Jesus came to her house. It takes spending time with the Lord in His Word. The Word is what sanctifies us. It's what separates us from our old worldly ways of thinking. As Ephesians 5:26 says, we are cleansed by "the washing of water by the word."

God's Word has the power to wash away from you the things that are getting in your way spiritually. It can wash away old habits and straighten out your priorities. It can wash away strife, unforgiveness and the frustrations you've been feeling about the natural things of life.

Before the Word can wash you, though, you have to get in the tub. You have to put the Word first place in your schedule and spend time in it every day. The more you scrub your thinking with the Word, the freer you'll be from the weights of this world that have been holding you down. The more you listen to what God says in the Scriptures and by His Spirit, the more you'll be transformed by the renewing of your mind into a glorious believer "not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but...holy and without blemish" (Ephesians 5:27).

Show Your Flesh Who's Boss

"I don't know," someone might say, "my carnal mind has some pretty stubborn spots and wrinkles."

I know what you mean. I've had a few stubborn tendencies of my own over the years. But I learned how to deal with them. The secret is in Romans 6. There the Apostle Paul, reminding us that we're partakers of the power of Jesus' death and resurrection, says:


Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.... Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace (Romans 6:4, 11-14).

This is the key! This is how you deal with sin and any other carnal tendency in your life you want to get rid of: Stop seeing yourself as a sinner dominated by pressures of the flesh. Instead, consider yourself dead to sin and the flesh, and alive to God. See yourself as the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus and your body as an instrument of that righteousness.

Then, by faith, take dominion over your body. Tell your body what it can do and what it can't do. Tell your mind what it can and cannot think. Tell your flesh, "Flesh, just sit down and shut up. We're not going to spend this entire day on natural things. We're not going to sit around eating cupcakes and watching TV. We're going to get in the Word today. We're going to fast and pray!"

Do you know what you'll discover when you do that?

You'll discover that sin, the flesh and the things of this natural world, truly have no dominion over you. You have the power to set those things aside and choose to fellowship with Jesus, like Mary did. You can make His Word your No. 1 priority and, just as John 8:32 says, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Free to live the high life in God! 





how to have a prosperous soul

**COMMIT
YOURSELF
TO THE
PROCESS OF
RENEWING
YOUR MIND.**

Romans 12:2

**SET ASIDE TIME DAILY
TO SEEK GOD THROUGH
HIS WORD.**

Proverbs 2:1-2

**LET THE HOLY SPIRIT
MAKE THAT WORD
ALIVE TO YOU AND
TEACH YOU WHAT YOU
NEED TO KNOW.**

John 16:13

**SPEED UP YOUR
SPIRITUAL GROWTH
BY LISTENING OFTEN
TO WORD-BASED
TEACHERS
AND PREACHERS.**

Ephesians 4:11-12

**EVEN IF IT TAKES
TIME TO SEE RESULTS,
PERSEVERE IN THE
WORD.**

James 1:25



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