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Join us for a special week of Christmas broadcasts!

We expect the year ahead to bring thousands to total healing!

Dear Partners and Friends,

The day Jesus was born was the glorious day "the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). Jesus—the Baby in the manger, the Teacher of the masses, the Savior of the world—came into this earth with a life-changing agenda.

Jesus came to heal mankind of every spiritual, mental and physical disease. And He fulfilled His agenda by the very WORD He embodied and The WORD He declared. He walked among the people, seeing them through the loving eyes of His Father, hearing the voice of His Father about them, and healing everyone who came to Him. Jesus' compassion for people, His attention to God's WORD, and His response to The WORD healed the masses! They encountered the living WORD and they heard The WORD He spoke, and their lives were changed!

Now, here we are going into 2020 with the same agenda as Jesus, because so many people are awaiting the Love, The WORD and their healing. We expect the year ahead to bring thousands to total healing. They will be saved, delivered and healed because our Partners and Friends have joined us to bring The WORD to them. We declare, "They will hear and they will be healed!"

Since the day Jesus was born, The WORD has been dwelling among us—in us and through us—and bringing healing to the world! That's our agenda, and we fulfill it with you by our side. All glory to God!

We thank our Father every day to have you as our Partner in ministry. Our prayer is that you join with your family and friends this Christmas season, celebrating Jesus with great joy! As always, the Copeland family will be together celebrating right along with you—our worldwide family! You will be in our thoughts and prayers!

We declare God's Love, The WORD and healing over every family, every day, in the coming year. You know we love you and hold you always in our hearts!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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"We bought land in Kenya, and in 2017 we broke ground for a school. We also worked in a refugee camp 6 miles from the South Sudan border."

-Matthew Palant

Hear and Be Healed

by Kenneth Copeland God put His healing power in His WORD. Hear what He says about healing, by faith receive it and be healed!

Take It to the Shepherds

by Terri Copeland Pearsons God chose shepherds as the first ones to hear the good news of Jesus' birth. Find out why—and what it means to us today.

Man On a Mission

by Melanie Hemry At 20 years old, Matthew Palant had no idea who he was or why he was on this earth. Bipolar, he was addicted to drugs that made his life bearable. One day his mom asked him to go with her to church for Mother's Day. Although he didn't respond to the altar call, and didn't pray, something happened on the inside. Matthew was touched by God, and his life was dramatically changed!

The General's Christmas Challenge

by Pastor George Pearsons See how one word inspired an entire army...with a message and mission that still live on.

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by Bill Winston God is giving Kingdominspired dreams and the provision to see them through. Accept His assignment and trust Him to provide what you need to complete it.

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by Gloria Copeland As a believer, it's your birthright to walk in THE BLESSING of God. Don't be like Esau and forfeit what's yours for a temporary, fleshly pleasure.



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by Kenneth Copeland

HEAR & Be Healed

If you've been sick and you're waiting for God to heal you, I have some extremely good news for you today: You're not waiting for God, He's waiting on you!

He's waiting for you to open your Bible and draw out of it the healing power He put in His WORD. He's waiting for you to take that WORD like medicine and do what He said in Proverbs 4: "My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh" (verses 20-22).

What does it mean to incline your ear to The WORD?

It means when you read a verse like 1 Peter 2:24, that says, "by [Jesus'] stripes you were healed" (*New King James Version*), you lean into it. You meditate on it, confess it and keep agreeing with it, even in the face of contradictory circumstances. Instead of arguing with it and saying, "Yeah, I know the Bible says that, but I'm still hurting and I've received a bad report from the doctor," you stay focused on what God said and get your "yeah, but" out of the way.

"But Brother Copeland, you don't know how serious my situation is."

No, but I know how seriously powerful God is, and His WORD can do anything He can do. It can work miracles in your physical body and accomplish what medical science might say is impossible. And God has provided it so He can do for you the same thing He did for the people in Psalm 107:20: "He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions."

Talk about a serious situation! According to the surrounding verses, those people were near the gates of death. They were in so much distress, that in the natural, there was no way they were



Faith is what connects you to God's healing power. Rom. 10:17

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2 Faith begins where the will of God is known. 3 John 2 **3** God's time for healing is always now. Matt. 8:2-3 4 Put The WORD first place and it will be life and health to your body. Prov. 4:20, 22 5 God's WORD can do anything He can do. Ps. 107:20

"When sickness attacks, you should take The WORD like medicine three times a day and if situations get worse you should double the dose."

going to make it. Yet, when they cried out to God, He was able to save them from their trouble and restore them to health.

How did He do it?

By His WORD!

You see, "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17), and faith is the connector to God's power. So, the more time you spend in the healing scriptures, the more of His healing power you're able to receive. The more you see in 3 John 2, for instance, that it's God's will for you to "prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth," the more faith will begin to rise up in you to prosper and be well.

When you get your heart full to overflowing with God's healing WORD, you don't have to sit around for six months waiting for Him to do something for you. You can take hold of your healing by faith



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and start walking in it immediately. You can say, "I believe I receive right now," take what God has already provided for you, and the devil himself won't be able to keep you sick.

Sickness is the work of the devil. Either directly or indirectly he's behind every bit of it, and he has no defense against God's healing WORD. When someone takes hold of that WORD by faith, the devil is sunk. There's not a thing he can do to keep his work in place. If there were, he would have stopped the deliverance of the madman of Gadara. Have you read about him? He was the most demonically controlled man you can imagine. He had anywhere from 3,000 to 6,000 evil spirits living in him. Yet, when he fell at Jesus' feet and worshipped Him, and Jesus cast out those devils, they had to leave him. The words Jesus spoke instantly set him free.

God's Time for Healing Is Always Now

"Well," someone might say, "God doesn't work that quickly in every instance. Sometimes it's His will for us to put up with sickness for a while and wait for Him to heal us in His own good time."

No, it's not!

I know some people have taught that, but it's not scriptural. For something to be scriptural, you must have scripture for it, and there's no place in the Bible where someone came to God for healing and He told them no, or that they'd have to wait.

You won't find Jesus in the Gospels sending anyone away and telling them to keep seeking for their healing for another minute, much less years. With Jesus, the time for healing was always now. Time and again, He responded immediately to those who came to Him in faith.

When the leper came to Him, saying, "If You're willing You can make me clean," Jesus didn't even hesitate. He "put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed" (Matthew 8:3).

When the centurion came asking Jesus to heal his servant, Jesus said, "Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed *in the selfsame hour*" (verse 13).

When Peter's mother-in-law was sick with a

fever and they asked Jesus to heal her, He "rebuked the fever; and it left her: and *immediately* she arose" (Luke 4:39).

Even the woman in Mark 5 who'd been sick for 12 years with an incurable hemorrhage of blood received her healing instantly. She said by faith in verse 28, "If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole," touched the hem of Jesus' garment, and *"immediately*| the fountain of her blood was dried up, and [then] she felt in her body that she was healed" (verse 29, *New King James Version*).

"But Brother Copeland, Jesus isn't here on earth anymore. He's in heaven. I can't press through and get hold of His garment."

No, but you can get hold of His WORD. You can press into what it says about healing and keep it in front of your eyes, in your ears and in your mouth. When you do that, you'll make the faith connection, and God's healing power will flow into you and go to work immediately, healing and making you whole.

LaShea McKinney can testify to it. A Partner with this ministry and a minister herself, a few years ago she was dying of lymphoma. Her liver and spleen were several times larger than they were supposed to be. She was so weak she could hardly breathe, and she'd been told by the doctors she had only 30 days to live.

As she says in the interview that we play at Healing School, "I remember walking by the mirror, I saw the shadow of death. I knew by the looks of things I wasn't going to make it, and instead of fighting, I just laid down on the couch and succumbed.

"After a couple of days my father came in and said (in a way that didn't sound too nice), 'You're going to die if you don't get up from there. You are a minister of the gospel and the devil is fighting you because of what you're doing for the kingdom of God. So, physician, get up and heal yourself!"

Nice or not, those words stirred LaShea's spirit. She got up off the couch, grabbed her Bible, and began to walk back and forth, reading and declaring the healing scriptures.

She'd heard Gloria say that when sickness attacks, you should take The WORD like medicine three times a day and if situations get worse you should double the dose. So, for the next 28 days she walked three times a day with her Bible in hand, quoting healing verses and speaking them over her life.

She didn't feel anything change during those 27 days. But she stayed with the program and on the 28th day, something happened. "Faith kicked in and I knew that day I was healed!" she says.

THE BLESSING... includes the new birth, prosperity and healing."

"[The curse] included spiritual death, poverty and sickness.



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Sacramento Victory Campaign

April 23-25 / Sacramento, Calif.

Midwest Victory Campaign

May 28-30 | Southfield, Mich.

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June 29-July 4 / Ontario, Calif.

Southwest Believers' Convention

Aug. 3-8 / Fort Worth, Texas

Washington, D.C. Victory Campaign

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Join Pastors George and Terri Pearsons

Brisbane Spirit-Led Prayer Conference Mar. 12-14, 2020 Queensland, Australia kcm.org.au/slpc20 When she went back to the doctors on the 30th day, they examined her and took more X-rays. They compared the new X-rays to the old and they called in more specialists. After they talked among themselves for a while they brought LaShea over and showed her the new X-rays. "Where is the cancer?" they asked. "It's not here!"

The doctors couldn't understand it, but LaShea understood it perfectly. "The Word of God isn't just something in the Bible," she says, "when we take it, it becomes life!"

Just Wishing Won't Get It

"I sure wish something like that would happen to me, Brother Copeland."

It can happen to you—but it won't come by wishing. It will happen when you do what Proverbs 4:20-22 says and incline your ear to The WORD. If you keep doing that, it can't not happen because The WORD has divine power in it to bring itself to pass. It is *The WORD of God!*

His WORD has so much life and health in it that it destroyed all the cancer in LaShea McKinney's body in 28 days. You might not think a miracle like that could happen in just 28 days, but with God it can happen in 28 seconds—particularly in a meeting where the anointed WORD of God is being preached.

Think about the miracle that happened in Acts 14, for instance. The Apostle Paul was preaching in the city of Lystra, "and there sat a certain man...impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked: The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked" (verses 8-10).

What did the man hear that empowered him to receive that instant miracle?

Acts 14 doesn't tell us exactly. It just says Paul "preached the gospel" (verse 7). But we can assume he said in Lystra much the same thing he wrote in his letter to the Galatians: "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ..."(Galatians 3:13-14).

Threefold Curse, Threefold BLESSING

The curse came on mankind through Adam's sin and it was threefold. It included spiritual death, poverty and sickness. THE BLESSING of Redemption that Jesus provided through His life, death and resurrection is also threefold. It includes the new birth, prosperity and healing.

That's what the man at Lystra heard! He found out about Jesus. He found out Jesus had redeemed him not only from the curse of sin, but from the curse of crippled feet. He found out about THE BLESSING that makes whole—spirit, soul and body received it by faith, and leaped up and walked.

In some Bibles, at the beginning of that story the translators added a subhead that says, *Paul Heals a Man at Lystra*. But that's wrong! Paul didn't heal that man. It was The WORD of faith that healed him.

Wouldn't it be more accurate to say it was God that healed him? you might wonder.

No, it would be saying the same thing because God and His WORD are One!

That's why when the sower sows The WORD, as Jesus said in Mark 4:14-15, "Satan cometh immediately" to steal The WORD that was sown. It's why he works so feverishly, once we start getting The WORD in our heart, to choke it out with offenses, distractions, and the cares of the world. He knows if we receive The WORD and refuse to let it go, it will come to pass in our lives. It will bear fruit, 30 and 60 and a hundredfold.

That's what happened with Regi McCorkle, another Partner with this ministry whose testimony we share in Healing School. She had spent 15 years in a wheelchair. Migraine headaches had affected her body much like a series of strokes, and she'd lost the use of her right leg and right arm.

The doctors had told her she'd never recover, but in July 2015 she and her husband, William, discovered the Believer's Voice of Victory Network[®]. They started hearing The WORD and got so hungry for it they didn't watch anything else on TV and didn't read anything except the Bible. They just immersed themselves in The WORD.

One night before Regi went to bed, what she'd been hearing got so big in her she could hardly contain herself. "Lord," she said, "I want to wear Your glory so that people will be drawn to You! I want to walk in Your authority, so they know who You are. Heavenly Father, reveal to me who I am, and who You are, and what I have."

After praying that, she fell into a deep sleep until about 3:30 in the morning when she was awakened by the voice of The LORD booming on the inside of her. *Regi*, He said, *you have everything that I say you have. Just take it!*

Oh, OK, Lord, she thought.

Then, she heard His voice again, even louder: *I said open up your mouth and take it!*

"OK, Lord," Regi replied aloud. "I have everything You say I have."

Repeating Himself for the third time, even louder, God said yet again, *Open up your mouth and take it with authority!*

So, Regi threw her left arm up in the air and shouted, "Father God, I have everything You say I have. I take it now by faith in the Name of Jesus!"

As she spoke those words, the power of God hit her. She jumped out of bed and before she realized what had happened, she had walked across the room, stepped over the dog and was standing in the doorway, totally healed and 100% whole!

"I'm so glad for the opportunity to share with people that God is real," Regi says. "He's alive, He loves all of us the same, and He wants to give us everything we need. All we have to do is put His Word in our hearts, open our mouths, and take it."

Couldn't have said it better myself, Regi. Glory be to God and amen! \mathbb{N}

Several years ago I was pondering the story of Christmas, looking to see past the images imposed by tradition that reduce the whole event to a Christmas card. Those kinds of impressions can become so established in your thinking that it takes a thought from the Holy Spirit to shake you loose.

by

Terri

Copeland Pearsons

> It's kind of like having to sing one song to yourself to get rid of another that is stuck in your head (Disney's "It's a Small World" always works for me!). I wanted a Christmas thought that was outside the usual worldly or even Christian perspective. In short, I wanted a heavenly thought. Asking the Lord for insight into Him, followed by praying in tongues, is a sure way to open doors to mysteries. Oh, how the Lord loves to share His heart with those who are hungry to see into it!

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I really didn't know what to expect, but I was pleasantly surprised by the sweet insight He gave me. The first part of my answer came in the form of two questions: The first was, *Who were the first ones to hear the good news*? The second was, Who was invited to first witness heaven's crowning moment?

The shepherds, I thought.

The next question it seemed the Holy Spirit asked was, *Why*?

Although I am sure there are several theological explanations deeper than my own, the answer that came to me touched me with tenderness from the heart of God. All I can say is there seemed to be a love-light turned on those shepherds and I saw what they represented. In that light there was an outpouring of love toward them, but not because of mercy or pity. It was because of gratitude. Oh, how love was flowing through that light to them because God was so grateful *to* them.

The Lord has always referred to His people as "His sheep" and to Himself as their "Great Shepherd." Psalm 23 reveals the joy of life that comes to those whom He shepherds and the satisfaction He has in giving it. Jeremiah and Ezekiel prophesy with godly anger against shepherds who harm or abandon the sheep instead of leading them to the Great Shepherd. His heart was often grieved when Israel wandered like sheep who had no shepherd, even though He was always there with rod and staff to comfort them.

So, on the night Jesus was born, it made perfect sense for the news that the Good Shepherd had been born to go first to those who would relate to it the most.

"...Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people. For to you is born this day in the town of David a Savior, Who is Christ (the Messiah) the Lord!" (Luke 2:10-11, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

Think about how those words came across to those shepherds, especially while they were actually surrounded by sheep. "In the town of David" was the birthplace of the Scriptures' most notable shepherd, and no doubt their role model.

They knew what it meant to be a savior; for no doubt they had countless times rescued wandering sheep and brought them into the safety of the fold. They understood Christ—the Anointed One and His Anointing—because they would carefully pour soothing oil on the head of each sheep, anointing them with protection from the stinging bites of flies and the harshness of sun and wind.

But when the angel declared, "Who is Christ the Lord," they were shaken to their core. So often they had seen the disastrous results of a flock left in the hand of a hireling, one with no true heart for the sheep. The wolves could mingle unnoticed and thieves steal the little ones away. But when the master of the house comes, he is fierce against any enemy and no one dares try to take even one lamb from his hand, for the sheep belong to him.

As I sensed the depth of God's tenderness toward the shepherds swell in my own heart, I

Oh, how love was flowing through that light to them because God was so grateful to them.



realized that these shepherds of Bethlehem's hills represented all those who truly care for the sheep. First, to those who have given their whole lives to feeding the sheep of His pasture. Hebrews 13:17 says those who teach the Word are responsible to watch over the souls put in their care and will stand a greater judgment (James 3:1). God is very serious about how His flock is handled. On the other hand, 1 Timothy 5:17 says that those who labor in the Word and doctrine are worthy of double honor. Our heavenly Father displayed His esteem for the shepherds by honoring them as the first to hear the news, the first to see the Son of God, and the first to know that God was dwelling among His people.

Shouldn't we follow His example and give honor where honor is due? Every faithful pastor, as well as field minister, ought to be thanked and blessed for the spiritual food and guidance they bring into our lives.

Secondly, I believe every person who tends the sheep, young or old, should be openly appreciated and thanked for all they do. Where would we be



Terri Copeland Pearsons, the eldest daughter of Kenneth Copeland, is chief of staff of Kenneth Copeland Ministries and president of Kenneth Copeland Bible College[™]. Along with her husband, George Pearsons, she is also senior pastor of Eagle Mountain International Church at KCM in Fort Worth. where would we be without Sunday school teachers, ushers or traffic teams? Where would we be without one another?

I encourage you to do something all through the year to honor, bless and love the ministry gifts God has put in your life, but especially during the Christmas season. It's the example God gave us! (V)

Win the World With Love by Gloria Copeland

"Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king." 1 Peter 2:17

The reason we, as God's children, are living on this earth is so that we can advance the kingdom of God. Certainly, God wants to bless us and give us wonderful lives, but if that's all He wanted to do, He would take us to heaven the minute we made Jesus the Lord of our lives. After all, the least that heaven has to offer beats the best we have on earth.

But God left us here so we can influence others for Him. He told us to share the gospel with lost people so they can get born again. One of the most powerful ways we can do that is by simply loving them.

The love of God is one of the most evangelistic forces of all. The whole world is looking for love all the time, everywhere they go. You may not realize that if you've been a Christian for a while. You may almost take love for granted. I know I sometimes do. My whole family is saved, all my friends are saved, everyone I work with is saved...and since they all have the love of God flowing through them, I'm surrounded by love almost all the time.

Worldly people don't have that experience. They're surrounded

by a selfish, dog-eat-dog society. They're not exposed to the love of God very much, and they're starved for it.

If you'll just let God's love within you flow out to them, you'll be amazed how it will minister to them. If you'll just honor them and respect them, treat them like they're the most precious, valuable beings in the world, God's love will touch them and open their hearts. Then, when you have the opportunity to share the gospel with them, they'll be eager to hear it. They'll be prepared and ready to receive.

In times past, the Church missed it in this area in a big way. We focused so much on the sinfulness of sinners that we began to disregard and look down on them. We developed an inner attitude of disdain toward those who were in rebellion against God and weren't born again.

But the Bible doesn't teach us to do that. It says we should honor *all* men. It says we should be like our Father who loved not just the righteous but the whole world so much, He sent Jesus to die for their sins. Even in our fallen and dishonorable state, God still saw in us the wonderful beings He created us to be. He recalled what we were before the Fall, looked through the eyes of Love, and saw, through His Redemption, what we could once again be.

When we start seeing the lost in that same light, we will love them just as He does...and that love will draw them to Him. \mathbb{V}







Man On ^{by} Melanie Hemry

IT WAS ANOTHER PERFECT DAY

IN SOUTH FLORIDA AS 20-YEAR-OLD MATTHEW PALANT CLIMBED ONTO HIS MOTORCYCLE AND REVVED THE ENGINE. A THOUGHT CIRCLED HIS MIND, REFUSING TO SETTLE: YOUR FRIEND JUST DIED. GO PUT ON YOUR HELMET AND JACKET.

His friend *was* dead. The same friend who'd taught Matthew how to ride his motorcycle. He'd died in a motorcycle crash. Matthew had been at the hospital when they pulled the plug on life support. It had been grim...but it had not been Matthew's first encounter with death.

The truth was, a number of his friends had died—either in car wrecks, motorcycle accidents or from drug overdoses. And given his lifestyle, Matthew might well be next. He'd started smoking pot at 15, and by the time he was 17 it had become a daily habit. He also drank, used cocaine, ecstasy and prescription meds—all in addition to high doses of lithium for bipolar disorder.

A high functioning addict, Matthew still managed to hold down a job as a medical assistant in a doctor's office and supplemented that income by selling drugs. Having been taken to jail for the third time, his parents had kicked him out of the house. So he slept in his car and sofa surfed at friends' houses. His dad, a police officer, had gotten him out of the minor troubles he'd had with the law. But now his dad hadn't spoken to him in months.

Turning off the motorcycle, Matthew went back inside and grabbed his helmet. He didn't bother with the jacket. He was only going 6 blocks.

Seeing one of his biker friends, Matthew laughed and gave chase. They carved their way through a neighborhood at 60 mph on a road with multiple S curves. Matthew rounded a curve and saw a vehicle in front of him. Hitting the brakes, he threw his bike into a slide, skidding on one side of his face and body.

> 2-hour ride by

motorcycle

Base

Camp

Chelebi, Kenya Travel

1 to 6 hours to minister in villages

4-hour

ride by

van

"I had no idea who I was or why I was on earth. No concept of the meaning of life."

BVOV : 13





We bought land in Kenya, and in 2017 we broke ground [for a school].... We also spent days... ministering in a refugee camp 6 miles from the South Sudan border. As he hurtled across the pavement, Matthew felt no fear. No emotions. No regrets. Why should he? For him, there was no God. Life was to be lived until you died. Then...*nothing*.

Mother's Day Gift

"I lived through the accident," Matthew recalls, "but I needed to go to the hospital. So, I called my mother to ask if I was still on their insurance. She'd always used tough love with me. She refused to give me money or enable me. But we'd maintained a good relationship, and she always reminded me that she loved me. She was out of town that day, though, so my dad answered the phone and met me at the hospital. Our relationship wasn't good, but he was there for me."

Matthew was the oldest of three boys. With his middle brother already following in his footsteps, his parents were trying to protect the youngest brother from his influence, but without the benefit of any faith to back them up.

up. "Mom had been a Christian when she met Dad," Matthew explains, "but he was Jewish. So, they decided to raise us as neither. They wanted us to make our own choices. I had no idea who I was or why I was on earth. No concept of the meaning of life."

Then, in May 2007, 22-year-old Matthew got an unexpected call from his mother. "All I want for Mother's Day is for you to go to church with me," she told him.

"Church?"

She explained that a friend had invited her, and she'd attended a couple of times.

"If it will make you happy," Matthew said, "I'll go."

The day Matthew showed up at church, the message was entitled, "I've Screwed Up Through Addiction."

"What's that pastor going to tell *me* about addiction?" Matthew asked. "I've already been to AA, NA and outpatient rehabs. Besides, I'm not an addict."

During the service, everyone was given a river rock. The pastor explained that it represented addiction. The concept seemed odd, but otherwise for Matthew the service was uneventful. When he left church with the rock, he knew something was happening in him. That evening, Matthew sat alone and wept for three hours. All the pain and stuffed emotions poured out. The next morning, he awoke conflicted about the rock, so he stuck it in a drawer. A thought that sounded like a voice said, *No, when you put it in that drawer, you can go back and get it when things get hard.* Matthew threw it in a lake.

From that day on, he never used drugs again.

Over the next weeks and months, he gave up alcohol and cigarettes. His desire for them was replaced by something new. He had a ravenous appetite for the things of God.

A Different Man

"I went to church and attended the college group," Matthew says. "But I was a different bird. I had tattoos, and I was scary looking. I was a street thug and weighed 280 pounds. The church kids stared at me. They talked about Noah, David, Goliath and Samson. I'd never heard about them, so I started reading the Bible. My family was hopeful but on edge, waiting for the next storm."

While the church Matthew attended hosted 5,000 to 8,000 people in multiple services each weekend, only about 10 showed up for the college group. It seemed like a small number, but what could someone like Matthew do about it? The thought that sounded like a voice gave him the answer: *Can you reach out to people like you*?

"I figured I could," Matthew says, "so I stood in the lobby at each service handing out cards with our college group service times to young adults. Within a few months, the college group numbered 80 to 100 people. It grew steadily Matthew and Shany pack four months of clothing and goods in their backpacks for their African trips.

until we had 300 to 400 in the database. I sent out a scripture or an encouraging word about five times a week." Eventually, Matthew started a college group at another campus.

Still something in Matthew wasn't fulfilled. He was hungry for more of God. So, he continued to search, and before long the Lord led him to a ministry connected with Kenneth Copeland Ministries.

"This was pivotal in my life," Matthew says, "because I learned the Bible at a whole new level. I downloaded the daily *Believer's Voice of Victory*/TV broadcast and the teachings of Keith Moore. I listened to them from one to three hours a day. As I learned to live and walk by faith, I received the fullness of the Holy Spirit."

In 2010, Matthew received a text from a woman in the church he first attended. She said she was hungry for more of God, and that the Lord had instructed her to contact him. For years, Matthew had steered clear of women because he didn't trust himself to handle relationships well. But after praying, he agreed to meet Shany, a teacher who was from Mexico, and her friend at a coffeehouse once a week. During those meetings, they would read the Bible and listen to teachings by Kenneth Copeland and Keith Moore. When the meetings ended, Matthew would leave, never taking time to engage in personal conversation.

After meeting with Shany for about eight months, Matthew heard these words: *She is your wife*. At first, he rebuked the devil. When he heard them a second time, he decided to fast. What Matthew didn't know, was that about the same time he was hearing those words, Shany heard a voice telling her, *He is your husband*. Just like Matthew, she rebuked the devil. When she heard them a second time, she also fasted.

In November, Matthew proposed and Shany accepted. Six weeks later they were married.

Two weeks after Matthew and Shany married, Matthew left for Africa on a mission trip. There, he quickly built relationships with local pastors, held meetings, preached faith and prosperity, and saw many people healed. Over the next three years, he went to Kenya and Uganda five times.

In 2014, they went to Mozambique for three months to attend a missions school, then to

Kenya to follow up with the local pastors they had built relationships with. Finding the schools there to be few and overcrowded, with 100 to 150 students per teacher, Shany asked several children what they would ask for if they could have anything in the world.

"A school," they replied.

"We bought land in Kenya," Matthew says, "and in 2017 we broke ground and began construction. Since then, we've put three teachers through college. We planted six village churches that are still running. We've built four classrooms for our school. We saw a man, whose arm doctors wanted to amputate, get healed and restored to full mobility; a boy lame from birth get healed and run, which led to a village drunk giving his life to Jesus. From 2014 to now, the ministry in Kenya has continued to grow and reach into Uganda, where we also spent days sleeping and ministering in a refugee camp 6 miles from the South Sudan border."

Words of Life When Facing Death

In October 2015, Matthew and Shany moved to Reynosa, Mexico—just across the border from McAllen, Texas. One of the most dangerous cities in Mexico, life there was marked by cartel wars, carjackings, kidnappings, shootouts and gunfire that went on all night. Living by faith wasn't optional. Each time they left home, Matthew and Shany hurried to their vehicle, locked the doors and prayed in tongues while they drove around the city.

Despite being pregnant with their first child in 2017, Shany continued to serve alongside Matthew, working with local pastors, hosting and facilitating pastors conferences, and ministering in churches, prisons, brothels and bars. She never suffered so much as a single symptom of morning sickness.

November 13, Shany went into labor. They arrived at the hospital at 4 p.m., and less than 30 minutes later their daughter, Zoë, was born...*dead!*

"Why isn't she crying?" Shany asked Matthew. "Is everything OK?"

Knowing that first words matter, Matthew told his wife, "Everything is going to be OK."

The doctor and nurses stood across the room working on Zoë. When the doctor stepped

DEC READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

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away for a moment, Matthew stepped up next to his daughter. Laying his hand on Zoë's forehead he said, "In Jesus' Name, you will live! Zoë, come back to life!"

Movement flickered in her body. Color infused her face and Zoë took a breath. She was put in an incubator in the nursery. Twenty-seven hours later, Zoë and Shany were discharged. A short time after the incident, Matthew said he received a letter from the daughter of the charge nurse at the hospital. She said one of the nurses who was in the delivery room when Zoë was born had described what she witnessed.

"My mom is in charge of the nursing staff at the Christus Muguerza[®] hospital," the letter said. "A very amazed nurse came up to tell her about the wonder that happened at the birth. She told her that everyone saw how the baby was born without life, but that afterward they saw how Matthew got down and prayed for Shany, and that he started talking in a very strange language.... At the same time they were asking for the girl to live, but what surprised them, is that they could feel something strange inside them, something beautiful, and were amazed to see that by praying, the girl had life. When my mom told me, I knew instantly that it was you. Glory to God for the work He did."

"March 2018, we moved to the Dallas/Fort Worth area after hearing a word from God," Matthew said. "The day after we moved, KCM called and offered me a job. In January 2019, Shany became pregnant with our second child. Once again, she felt great during the pregnancy. The only problem was that our son was lying transverse, or horizontal. At 32 weeks, during the last ultrasound, he was still transverse.

"We talked to him in the womb and told him to move into position for birth, and he did," Matthew recalled. "His due date was Sept. 13, but Shany started having light contractions on Aug. 30."

When they arrived at the hospital, Shany was already dilated to 5 centimeters.

"When it was time to deliver and Shany began to push, the baby's heart rate dropped," Matthew said. "When she stopped pushing, it went back up. The on-call doctor was doing a C-section elsewhere, so one of the nurses called a team from the neonatal intensive care unit.

"After 12 hours of labor, our son, Judah, was born. The umbilical cord was wrapped once around his neck and once around his body. He had a weak heartbeat, he was purple and wasn't breathing."

While the nurses performed CPR, Matthew and Shany began to pray and call their son back to life, he said. Suddenly, Judah started breathing. After he was stabilized, the doctor walked in and saw Shany's placenta wasn't coming and wanted to perform immediate surgery. Matthew heard God say, *Buy time!*

How do I do that? Matthew wondered. He quickly asked the nurses to bring Judah to Shany's bedside. When they did, her placenta dropped and surgery was averted.

"Judah never went to the NICU, and they were discharged less than 48 hours after he was born,"

> Matthew said. For a second time, he and Shany used their faith to believe God, and saw life restored to their children who had been born dead.

"The teachings that we've learned through KCM have transformed our lives," Matthew says. "We've learned how to live and walk by faith. We've been empowered to walk through difficulties and triumph over them. Zoë is 22 months, perfect in every way and speaks two languages. Judah, still a baby, is strong and thriving. God has not only redeemed my past—He's given us the world."

Shany's mother, Elsy, with Judah



Shany with Zoë



JOIN MATTHEW & SHANY HOW TO USE THEIR FAITH.

KCM.ORG.AU/PARTNER

by Pastor George Pearsons



Gen. William Booth is not a familiar name to most. He was a military man, of sorts. His arsenal was not stocked with rifles and cannons, but rather with Bibles. food, clothing and the message of salvation. He was a soldier of The LORD.



George Pearsons is CEO of Kenneth Copeland Ministries and senior pastor of Eagle Mountain International Church, located on the grounds of KCM. For more information or ministry materials go to emic.org.

The General's Christmas Challenge

In the early days of his ministry, the Rev. William Booth was a prominent Methodist evangelist. He majored on the necessity of repentance and the promise of God's love and redemption for all mankind.

Returning late one cold evening from an evangelistic service, Booth took notice of the poor sleeping under the London Bridge and was overcome with compassion. At that moment, he knew he had to do something to help the homeless. The LORD called, and Booth answered.

The Salvation Army was born

In 1865 he and his wife. Catherine, opened The Christian Revival Society in the East End of London. There, they conducted services every evening and on Sundays, ministering to society's most needy, including alcoholics, criminals and prostitutes.

Soon after, they established "Food for the Million" soup kitchens. Large bowls of soup and bread were offered to the poor. Lodging houses provided the homeless with a safe haven from the bitter winters.

In 1878, the name of the organization was changed to "Salvation Army." It was modeled after the military, complete with its own flag, uniforms and marching bands. The "soldiers' would "put on the armor" for evangelistic meetings and ministry work.

William Booth became known as "The General."

The army grew rapidly. Operations spread all over the world-the United States, France, Switzerland, Sweden, Australia, Canada, India, South Africa, New Zealand and Jamaica-58 countries in all. Booth preached more than 60,000 sermons and traveled some 5 million miles.

No small task for one man. And certainly no small army to keep motivated and inspired.

Christmas was always the most demanding time of the year, and 1911 was no different. Everyone, it seemed, needed extra help. That is why Booth would send a telegram to his "soldiers" every Christmas Eve. His annual message was always a welcome encouragement to the weary servants of God.

A Word to Encourage

This Christmas, however, would be Booth's last on earth. He went home to heaven the following year. How significant this final Christmas Eve communication would turn out to be

He sat down to compose the telegram.

A paragraph of heartfelt words flowed from his pen. Surely, the troops would be uplifted by his Christmas charge. But, upon realizing the cost of the telegram, and driven by his passion to minister to as many as possible, he began to edit his message.

The paragraph became three sentences. Then, one sentence.

Booth kept writing and editing, struggling to summarize his yearly charge in three words. Even at that, three words were still too many.

Finally, he decided to send only one word. One word to inspire an entire army to win souls, feed the hungry and provide shelter on this Christmas Eve.

Finally, that one word came. The word that would help his troops make it through the night.

It was simply the word...others.

What was born in Booth's heart after seeing the homeless became a lifetime of service to others.

The soldiers of the Salvation Army were inspired on that Christmas Eve in 1911. They carried on their work with bravery, courage and especially compassion. They were able to take their eyes off themselves and meet the needs of ... others

As we celebrate this holy season and worship the King of kings, let us reach out to others in a fresh, loving and compassionate way.

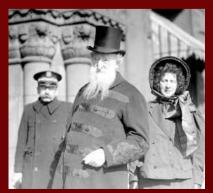
Let others be our mission.

Let others be our purpose.

Let others be our passion.

After all, "For God so loved [others] that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

May your Christmas season be filled with joy, celebration and...others!



Gen. William Booth (center)

GoodNEWSGazette

'Prayer Changes Things'

I just want to thank you for the Word you preach, and also for your pravers for me and my family. My niece, who comes to our church, was in a terrible car accident that claimed the life of a 15-year-old boy and his 18-year-old sister. The car went into the river. My niece, who was claiming Psalm 91, was able to get out. Thank you again for your prayers. Prayer changes things. Glory to God!

S.M. | Canada

'We Only See Victory!'

I just wanted to thank KCM and Kellie Copeland for teaching us how to stand on our faith and praise the Lord for His protection! We recently had some bad weather come through. We pleaded the blood in the Name of Jesus over us and halleluiah. we had only minor damage. Trees and telephone poles less than a mile away were severely damaged. We had several large parts of trees down that destroyed nothing (except a playhouse we were taking down anyway)! Our house, van, barn, prayer garden, etc., were all spared. Satan tried to damage us, but we only see Victory! Praise the Lord!!

J.A. | Miami, Okla.

Paid in Cash

Thank you for your teaching about sowing seed. I sowed a seed into your ministry for a new

car. I paid cash for it and it cost \$2300 less than it was worth. It is in excellent condition with low mileage. It is wonderful having a nice car paid for in full, and I know it's because I sowed seed.

P.G. | Medford, Ore.

<u>Just like faith</u>

connects us to

the anointing,

fear blocks the

anointing.



appointment. My husband had a blood test today to ensure he is cancer free. We got the results back, and glory be to God, his PSA test shows he is indeed cancer free. Thank you for all your prayers!

Cancer Free

Mv husband and

I called the prayer

ahead of a doctor's

line earlier this week

C.H. Winston-Salem, N.C.

NO FEAR IN EL PASO

Thank you for calling me on Aug. 5, following the shootings in El Paso. Liz prayed with me right at the moment fear was trying to attack me.

C.R. | El Paso, Texas

'God Really Loves Me'

Kenneth Copeland

I was feeling very down. Oh, but God! He gave me a breakthrough. I picked up your letter and as I was going through the storm and was about to throw in the towel, everything you said in the letter, God has been saying to me all week long. We are on the same ground. God really loves me and has a special plan for my life.

Lynessa G. | Westchester, III.

Sitting in Jail, Yet Happy

Wow, I'm at a loss for words, and I'm happy these days more than I've been in 20 years...and sitting in jail. Something has changed my life this past year—getting clean is one, and the Man upstairs has put this gal in my life. And that has changed my whole world. The first book I got in the mail from KCM was *Real People. Real Needs*. *Real Victories*. What a book! It was like a drug for me—I had to have it and needed it bad—so badly it turned my life upside down.

C.B. | Kansas





SUNNY AND BRIGHT

I was up late one night watching Gloria Copeland and Pastor George Pearsons on VICTORY™. I remember her saying that God gives us power to speak to things. She also gave her testimony that there was a time when **Brother Copeland** was out of town and a storm was headed her way, so she went outside and spoke to that storm.

Because of her testimony, I went

outside last Thursday, Aug. 29, 2019, and lifted my hands toward the East Coast and said, "Hurricane Dorian, you cannot come this way!"

It was like God showed me in my spirit that on Saturday it was going to be sunny and bright. And it was! To God be the glory and Jesus is Lord!

L.B. | Leesburg, Fla.

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).

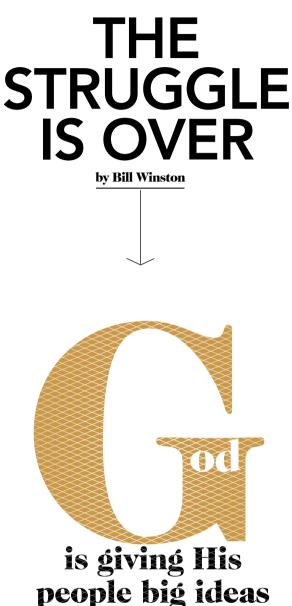
I take You at Your Word. I confess that Jesus is Lord. And I believe in my heart that You raised Him from the dead. Thank You for coming into my heart, for giving me Your Holy Spirit as You have promised, and for being Lord over my life. Amen.

connect with us

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! kcm.org/salvation

PRAYER IS OUR PRIORITY. 1300 730 433 or +617 3343 7777





people big ideas in these end times.

Perhaps He's dropped a life-sized dream in your heart. If you have a dream like that, but are struggling to see it come to pass, I'm here to tell you that your days of struggle are over. God is going to give you what He's placed in your heart.

You're part of the Kingdom, and the kingdom of God is inside you (Luke 17:21). But to see your Kingdom-inspired dream come to pass, you must walk through a threefold process that leads to your success.





First, you must understand that your inheritance comes in proportion to your new identity. In other words, your inheritance comes as you see yourself the same way God sees you.

In Luke 15, Jesus tells the parable of the prodigal son. Likely, you know the story. It's about two boys who didn't see themselves the way their father saw them. They didn't see themselves as righteous.

One day the younger son went to his father to inquire about his inheritance, and said, "Give me the portion of goods that falleth to me" (verse 12). *The Message* offers a more literal translation. It says, "Father, I want right now what's coming to me." In other words, the son said to his father, "Give me my money. I'm out of here!" He literally wanted out. The Bible says the boy's father gave him what he wanted and the son left, went to a far country and before long, "wasted everything he had" (verse 13, *MSG)*. Next thing you know, he was down so low he contemplated eating the hogs' food.

The Bible says, "he came to himself" (verse 17) and said, "How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!" He thought, *Well, now, wait a minute. To be a servant in my daddy's house is better than this. I'm going home.*

So, home he went.

When his father saw him coming, he ran up to him, grabbed him and hugged him. Though he must have been grateful

"WHEN GOD GIVES YOU A MISSION, DON'T LOOK TO YOUR OWN RESOURCES."



Bill Winston is founder and pastor of Living Word Christian Center, a 15,000-member church located in Forest Park, III. He is also the founder and chairman of The Joseph Business School and Bill Winston Ministries.

For more information go to billwinston.org.







for such a reception, the son obviously didn't get it. He said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son" (verse 21). He expected his father to treat him differently, but his daddy wouldn't allow it.

Instead, the father instructed his servants to make plans for a celebration, "for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found" (verse 24).

His father saw him as righteous, as a son. But the boy couldn't wrap his head around that.

That boy's elder brother had the same issue. He came in from the field and saw what was going on and couldn't believe it. He said, "What? You mean after this boy has taken all of his inheritance and spent it, wasted it on riotous living and come home, you're going to give him a celebration? What about me?"

"Wait a minute, son!" the father responded. "All that I have is yours. You could have had a celebration any time you wanted." Of course, I'm paraphrasing the conversation, but you get the picture.

What kept the elder brother from celebrating? Only one thing: how he saw himself.

Both boys needed to see themselves the same way that their father saw them. They needed to see their true identities.

First John 3:2 says, "Beloved, now are we the sons of God." That is *youn* identity—and you must take hold of it in Christ. When you do, success is waiting for you. You'll discover that everything God is going to do for you, He's already done. The enemy wants you to come out of the eternal and drop down into the natural so he can delay your harvest. But it's time for your abundance—right now! You don't have to wait for anything. You can get it right now!

God Is Your Source

The second part of the process that leads to your success is realizing that God must be the only Source of your expectation. Psalm 62:5 says, "My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him." This reminds me of 1 Samuel 17, when Goliath stood on the front line, terrorizing Israel, and David said, "I'll fight him." The account continues: "And Saul said unto David, Go, and the Lord be with thee. And Saul armed David with his armour, and he put an helmet of brass upon his head; also he armed him with a coat of mail. And David girded his sword upon his armour, and he assayed to go; for he had not proved it. And David said unto Saul, I cannot go with these; for I have not proved them. And David put them off him" (verses 37-39).

By offering David his armor, Saul was trying to help, but David knew that wasn't the best solution. Saul's armor may have seemed like a good idea, but David knew those resources would become stumbling blocks. He had to stay vigilant and make sure the armor didn't become his source. He wanted to keep trusting in God, so he "put them off" and won the battle.

When God gives you a mission, don't look to your own resources. Just say, "Yes, Sir." Receive the assignment He's given you, because He's going to empower you like you've never had power before. And He's going to do it quickly because He's doing a quick work in these last days. Jesus is coming soon and He's preparing the way.

Belief Produces Performance

The third part of the process that leads to your success is that what you believe produces God's virtue for performance. You can see this principle at work in Mary's life. An angel came and told her she was going to have a child—but not just any child. She was going to give birth to the Son of God. Talk about living large!

Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.... For with God nothing shall be impossible. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her (Luke 1:34-35, 37-38).

Did you catch that? When Mary learned

If you legitimately need something to finish your assignment, then it's yours.

about this great work, she simply said, "Be it unto me according to thy word." She took hold of the angel's word by faith. When God gives you a promise, you've got to take it by faith!

A few verses later we read that she went to her cousin Elizabeth's house. When Elizabeth, who was also pregnant, saw her, she said, "For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord" (verses 44-45).

What you believe provokes God's virtue for performance. Belief is unqualified committal. It's saying, "I commit to this. This is what I'm going to believe. I believe it and I'm going to receive it."

Right now you believe something about your dream. Is it what God told you, or what the enemy told you? It doesn't make any difference how big it is, you've got to take hold of God's promise and keep speaking it over yourself.

That's what Mary did. In verse 49 she said, "For he that is mighty hath done to me great things." She started speaking the truth right away.

All the Resources You Need

Sometimes, when believers start walking through this process that leads to their success, they don't see how they'll have the resources to do everything God has called

them to do. If you're feeling like that, read what the Bible says in Mark 11:1-7:

And when they came nigh to Jerusalem, unto Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount of Olives, he sendeth forth two of his disciples, and saith unto them, Go your way into the village over against you: and as soon as ye be entered into it, ye shall find a colt tied, whereon never man sat; loose him, and bring him. And if any man say unto you, Why do ye this? say ye that the Lord hath need of him; and straightway he will send him hither. And they went their way, and found the colt tied by the door without in a place where two ways met; and they loose him. And certain of them that stood there said unto them, What do ye, loosing the colt? And they said unto them even as Jesus had commanded: and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus.

Whatever you need, God can provide. He owns everything. And guess what? He's given it to you! It's there for the taking. All you have to do is bring it in by faith. If you legitimately need something to finish your assignment, then it's yours. Jesus needed a colt, so He called it in.

Is what you need-your "colt"-sitting tied up somewhere? How long are you going to leave it that way? Remember, you serve a God who takes great pleasure in your prosperity (Psalm 35:27). Your days of struggling are over!

When David was in battle, he asked the Lord what to do. The Lord responded, "Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all" (1 Samuel 30:8). It's your time to pursue, too.

Take hold of this three-part process of success, understanding that: Your inheritance comes in proportion to your new identity; God must be the only Source of your expectation; and what you believe produces God virtue for performance.

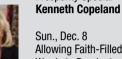
Then, get ready because He's going to give you Kingdom-inspired dreams. He's going to give you not just one breakthrough, but a whole series of them because it's time for the struggle to be over! (V)

BVOV DEC BROADCAST CALENDAR



Sun., Dec. 1 Declare the Promise by Faith **Kenneth Copeland**

Kenneth Copeland Dec. 2-6 **Prosperity Special**



Sun., Dec. 8 Allowing Faith-Filled Words to Dominate **Kenneth Copeland**



Gloria

Copeland

Dec. 9-13 Living in the Garden of Eden **Gloria Copeland and George Pearsons**

Sun., Dec. 15 THE BLESSING Is More Than Enough Kenneth Copeland

Dec. 16-20 Healing School **Kenneth Copeland**

Sun., Dec. 22 **Obedience Is Better** Than Sacrifice **Kenneth Copeland**

Dec. 23-27 The Anointing Came at Christmas Kenneth & Gloria Copeland

Sun., Dec. 29 Receiving a **Mighty Harvest Kenneth Copeland**

Dec. 30-Jan. 3 Looking to 2020 With Great Expectation **Kenneth & Gloria** Copeland



by Kenneth Copeland

God's Wisdom Your Priority!

Every one of us has been faced with a crisis or a decision that baffles us. The situation may be simple or it may be complex. It may be relevant for a moment, a day or a lifetime.

Regardless of the situation, the solution is always located about 18 inches below our heads. It's tucked deep within our inner man, in our born-again spirits. All we need to do is get it from our hearts to our heads.

How do we do that? Ask The LORD for wisdom. I know that sounds simple, but when crises come, it's surprising how many believers forget to ask for wisdom as the first priority to solve a problem. Most of the time they get excited and start analyzing the situation, trying to figure out what steps to take to solve it. Then, after using up lots of time and energy, they finally wear themselves out and get around to asking God for His solution.

Proverbs 4:7 tells us, "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom." As believers, Christ has connected us forever to the wisdom of God. As Paul told us in 1 Corinthians 1:30, "But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us *wisdom*, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption."

We need to learn to just slow down in those situations and turn to Him first, expecting the wisdom of God on the inside of us to rise to meet our challenges and keep us in peace.

Start praising God and say: "LORD, I praise You and thank You for the covenant of peace. I refuse to let the devil take that peace from me in this situation. LORD, I know Your WORD says that You are with me in trouble and You deliver me. Christ Jesus is my wisdom. So I'm asking You now to reveal Your wisdom in this matter. Please reveal to me how to pray and skillfully use my faith."

Then finish that prayer off with some time praying in the spirit and listening for the wisdom.

Regardless of how confusing your problem may seem—you can pray that prayer in confidence *knowing* God will answer it because James 1:5 says, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

The Most Valuable Thing

I remember one time in particular when The LORD demonstrated that in my life. At the time, Gloria and I were facing a situation that was very serious. We didn't have the slightest idea what had caused it. To be honest, at first I simply reacted. I started saying every scripture and praying every way I could think. But God interrupted me and said, Kenneth, it's good to confess scriptures. It's good to pray. But the principal thing you need is wisdom. So just settle your heart down knowing that everything will be all right. You don't have to get all disturbed. Pray in the Holy Ghost so you can pray the perfect will of God.

Then listen for My direction.

So that's what I did. Several days went by and I just went about my business trusting God to reveal His wisdom to me. Then, one morning I woke up knowing exactly what we were facing and exactly how to respond with The WORD. I knew what to do and what to pray. As a result, Gloria and I walked out of that situation together in victory.

God's wisdom is the most valuable thing you can ever receive from Him. Whatever your situation, no matter how impossible it may seem in your eyes, or in the eyes of your family and friends, The LORD has the plan to deliver you. If you'll make your priority praying the situation through and receiving God's wisdom about it, not only will you come through that trouble, but you'll also learn how to keep from getting into it again.

Turn the Tables on the Devil

What's more, God will show you how to turn the tables on the devil, taking the situation he devised for your destruction and turning it into a tool of blessing—not just in your life, but in others' lives as well.

One of my favorite examples of that kind of turnaround came for a church I know. Several years ago, someone broke into their building and stole their sound system. Instead of moaning and crying about it, that congregation used wisdom. They got together and started praising God. Then they skillfully used the word of righteousness and commanded satan to bring their stuff back in the Name of Jesus.

As it turned out, the man who stole the equipment was already in jail. He had been arrested for another crime. The police didn't even know he had stolen the church's stuff. But he started hollering from his jail cell, begging someone to go to his house, get the church equipment he'd stolen and return it.

As a result, the police called the pastor of the church and the pastor went down to the jail, shared the gospel with that young man, and he became born again! Now that's what I call turning the tables on the devil!

You can do the same thing in any situation you may face. Simply ask God for wisdom *first*. Then listen and obey. After all is said and done, you'll not only come out in victory, but the devil will be sorry he ever messed with you. And you will most likely help The LORD change someone else's life along the way!



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We don't want to be people who, like Esau, sell out THE BLESSING that belongs to us.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

by Gloria Copeland

We all like to read about the great heroes of faith in the Bible. Seeing how they believed God, obeyed Him, and walked on the earth in His BLESSING, inspires us to follow their example. It fires up our own faith and causes us to say, "I want to live like that!"

As fun as it is to read about such people, we can also learn a lot from their opposites: from those who didn't do what God said and, as a result, missed out on THE BLESSING He had in store for them. Those whose stories remind us of what *not* to do, and cause us to say, "I *don't* want to be like that!"

Take Esau, for instance.

You probably remember him. He was Abraham's grandson and he could have been one of the great faith examples of the Old Testament. Born of the lineage of the man Romans 4:16 refers to as the father of our faith, he was not only an heir of the Abrahamic covenant and a member of the wealthiest, most powerful family on earth, he was positioned to be its primary heir. As Isaac's eldest son, the birthright of the firstborn belonged to him.

Sadly, however, Esau gave up that birthright by making a foolish choice one day. He came home very hungry from working in the field, and finding his brother, Jacob, had cooked a stew, Esau said, "I'm starved! Give me some of that red stew!"

Read how their conversation went in Genesis 25:31-33, *New Living Translation*):

"All right,' Jacob replied, 'but trade me your rights as the firstborn son" (verse 31).

"Look, I'm dying of starvation!' said Esau. What good is my birthright to me now?" (verse 32).

"But Jacob said, 'First you must swear that your birthright is mine.' So Esau swore an oath, thereby selling all his rights as the firstborn to his brother, Jacob."

Talk about a lousy deal!

Esau was not dying of starvation. He was just hungry. His flesh wanted food and wanted it *right now*. But instead of saying no to his flesh he gave in to it. Rather than trusting God to provide for him some other way, he traded away his BLESSING as the firstborn (not to mention his place in the faith hall of fame)—for one...single...meal.

"Well, that's a sad story," you might say, "but it's in the Old Testament. What does it have to do with us, as New Testament believers?"

A lot, because if we're not watchful, we can replay it in our own lives.

We can let the carnal demands of our flesh trick us into making unholy choices that will keep us from walking in THE BLESSING that belongs to us as joint heirs with Christ. We can get our eyes off who we are in Him, let the downward pull of our flesh deceive us, and wind up trading the high life of God for the low life of temporal fleshly gratification.

We don't like to think we'd ever do that, but the book of Hebrews warns us it's a danger. It lists in chapter 11 the Old Testament heroes who by faith overcame that danger, and says to us in chapter 12:

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith [Let us] pursue ... holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God...lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears (verses 1-2, 14-17, New King James Version).



3 Make a decisive dedication of your body to the Lord. Rom. 12:1

4 Fill your mind with God's Word so that you increasingly think, talk and act like Him. Rom. 12:2

5 The more you fix your eyes on Jesus in the Word, the freer you'll be to live like who you are in Him. 2 Cor. 3:18

Who's the Boss?

Those are serious words! They may not be as fun to meditate on as some other words in Scripture, but we'd be wise to keep them in mind.

We don't want to be people who, like Esau, sell out THE BLESSING that belongs to us, as sons and daughters of God, just to satisfy some fleshly desire. We don't want to let the devil and the carnal temptations and distractions of this world trick us into giving up our inheritance.

On the contrary!

We want to live as God said in Deuteronomy 11:21, in "days of heaven upon the earth." We want to prosper and be in health even as our soul prospers (3 John 2). We want to be right in the middle of what God is doing these days and be part of the Church described in Ephesians 5:27 as "a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing...holy and without blemish."

How do we make sure we walk in all those blessings?

For one thing, we stop letting our flesh boss us around. Instead of giving in to it, when our flesh puts ungodly demands on us, we yield to our reborn spirit and mortify the deeds of our body (Romans 8:13). We say, "No, flesh! You don't have dominion over me anymore. I don't have to do what you say. I belong to Jesus, and I do what He says!"

In other words, we follow the instructions given by the Apostle Paul in Romans 12, where he said: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (verses 1–2).

Notice those verses say we're to present our bodies as *holy*. The word *holy* means "devoted to God." It refers to something that's set apart for Him, to be used only by Him and for His purposes.

The tithe, for example, is called holy in the Scripture, because it belongs to God and God alone. People who take the tithe and spend it on themselves are taking money that doesn't belong to them. They're literally stealing from God. (See Malachi 3:9.)

The New Testament applies the same principle to the physical bodies of believers. It tells us our bodies are not our own. They are temples of the Holy Spirit and they belong



to the Lord. He tells us in His Word what we can and cannot do with our bodies, and He has every right to do so because they're His. "For ye are bought with a price," 1 Corinthians 6:20 says, "therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

"But Gloria, that sounds like religious bondage to me."

No, it's not bondage. Obeying the Word of God is freedom. As Jesus said, God's "word is truth.... And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 17:17, 8:32).

What God tells us to do in His Word is always to our advantage. He wants things to go well with us. He wants to do us good. That's the reason He gives us instructions about how to live. Things don't go well with us when we're not walking in His ways. He can't do us good when we're devoting our body to someone besides Him and living in sin like the world does.

Sin shuts the door on THE BLESSING of God. It robs us of joy, peace and the many other benefits He has provided for us. It reduces us to the level of the world, and the world doesn't have anything good to offer. It can give pleasure for a little while, but unlike the pleasures of God that last forever, the sinful pleasures of the world quickly fade.

They also have some terrible side effects. "For to be carnally minded" (or, in other words, to set your mind on things of the flesh) "is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace" (Romans 8:6).

No wonder God says, "Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind"! No wonder He wants us to quit thinking like the world and to learn to think increasingly like Him!

The more we think like Him, the more we'll talk like Him and act like Him—and that's how we operate in His abundant life. It's how we take possession of our kingdom-of-God privileges and promises and bring forth His wonderful will on earth as it is in heaven.

God Doesn't Change With the Times

Don't ever let anyone talk you out of thinking like God does. What He says is right is right and what He says is wrong is wrong. His ways don't change with the times. He's the same yesterday, today and forever, and what He said in 1 Corinthians 6 is still true: "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God" (verses 9-11, *NKJV*).

In this current world culture, those verses aren't considered politically correct. Especially when it comes to sexual behavior, society these days thinks that anything goes. It claims that things like fornication, adultery and homosexuality are all just fine. People on television even laugh and make jokes about them.

But immorality is no joke! It's a deadly form of darkness that tears up people's lives. That's why the devil is always trying to promote it. It's why he tells people it's no big deal and that they can't help how they act sexually because it's part of who they are.

A WONDERFUL LIFE

KEEP GOD'S PROMISES IN THE SOIL OF YOUR HEART, BE PATIENT, AND YOU WILL REAP THE HARVEST OF A WONDERFUL FUTURE. Heb. 6:11-12

OPEN THE DOOR TO GOD'S PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE BY SEEKING HIM FIRST. Matt. 6:33 GET THE NEWS ABOUT YOUR FUTURE FROM THE WORD INSTEAD OF THE WORLD. Jer. 29:11 Those are deceptions! If you've gotten caught up in a sexually sinful lifestyle, and you've been told it's because you were born that way, you've been lied to! That's not the way you were born. It's a result of the devil preying on you in that area of your life.

He preys on all of us in some area. He knows what sinful category we each fit into before we got saved, and through temptation he tries to convince us we're still that way. But we're not! We've been redeemed by the blood of Jesus. We've been delivered out of all that darkness and born into the kingdom of God.

It doesn't matter what our past is. When we received Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we were washed. We were sanctified and made righteous on the inside by the Spirit of our God. We have a new identity, for he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit with Him.

Therefore, as 1 Corinthians 6:18 (*NKJV*) says, "Flee sexual immorality." Don't be participating in it in any way. Don't be watching it on television or the internet and joking about it. Don't be giving place to it in your mind and thinking, *Well, I'll imagine this, but I'll never do it.*



No, as a man "thinketh in his heart, so is he" (Proverbs 23:7). So don't even entertain immoral thoughts in your mind.

Instead, fill and renew your mind with God's thoughts. Put His Word first place in your life and keep it before your eyes, in your ears and in the midst of your heart. Fix the eyes of your heart on Jesus, and as you fellowship with Him, beholding in the Word as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, you will be transformed into that same image, from glory to glory, by the Spirit of God (2 Corinthians 3:18).

Ken discovered this in his early days as a believer when he was still struggling with a smoking habit. He hated the habit and after getting born again had tried to give it up, but despite his best efforts, his flesh had hung on to it. He'd get so fed up with smoking, that sometimes he'd throw an entire pack of cigarettes out the car window as he was driving down the road. A few minutes later he'd turn the car around and go back after them.

Then one day he got a call from Hilton Sutton inviting him to come to Houston to three weeklong series of preaching meetings he was holding in his church. Ken went and got so caught up listening to the Word, morning and night, that for the entire three weeks he forgot to smoke. After the meetings were over, when Ken got into the car to drive home, he saw his pack of cigarettes stuck up over the visor where he'd left them. *I don't need those anymore*, he thought...and he just threw them away.

I'm telling you, if you'll attend to it, God's Word will change you. It's more than just a book. "The word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit" (Hebrews 4:12, *NKJV*).

It will separate you from even the most stubborn fleshly tendencies and strengthen your spirit so that you can show your flesh who's the boss. It will reveal to you your true identity and the richness of your inheritance as a child of Almighty God. And it will strengthen your faith so when the devil tries to trick you out of that inheritance, you can send him packing.

You can say, "Get out of here, devil. I rebuke you in the Name of Jesus. I learned the lesson Esau left me, and I'm not trading the benefits of my divine birthright for some temporal fleshly gratification. I've offered my body as a living sacrifice to Jesus and set my heart on living the high life of God!"

Commander Kellie's Corner

HOLDING BACK NOTHING

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

Merry Christmas, Superkids! This year of giving myself to Jesus has changed me! How about you? As we celebrate His birth, don't let this become just a "Christmas story." When we focus on Jesus, His Presence IN us becomes REAL!

December brings us to the "Amen" of our prayer for 2019.

If I begin to hold anything back from You, please show me and I will give it back.

We are going to live our lives with Jesus forever, never holding back, never guitting. When we make mistakes or mess up, we invite Jesus to show us and correct us, so we can quickly turn back to Him. Satan doesn't want us to see the connection between correction and winning. He wants us to love to win but hate correction. That's messed up! Hebrews 12 shares the key to focusing on Jesus, keeping this passion and love for Him alive, and keeping Him in our daily lives (see November 2019 CKC). Jesus is the best example of staying focused. He was called to save you and me! He did what the Father called Him to do and He didn't look back. That's the only way for us to live with passion and determination and do what God has called US to do.

The Word says in Hebrews 12 that to run OUR race, we must let go of every wound and sin that would try to hold us down and trip us up. Look at verse 2 in The Passion Translation: "We look away from the natural realm and we fasten our gaze onto Jesus who birthed faith within us and who leads us forward into faith's perfection. His example is this: Because his heart was focused on the joy of knowing that you would be his, he endured the agony of the cross and conquered its humiliation. and now sits exalted at the right

hand of the throne of God!"

Wow! Jesus faced the cross focused on YOU—on His love for you!

Think about that! During the worst agony of the cross, when people and all of hell were against Jesus, God helped Him stay focused on you. "So consider carefully how Jesus faced such intense opposition from sinners who opposed their own souls, so that you won't become worn down and cave in under life's pressures. After all, you have not yet reached the point of sweating blood in your opposition to sin" (verses 3-4).

Because Jesus stayed focused on us, we can stay focused on Him. Even when it was really hard, He kept going, so you can keep going. Going to the Cross was so hard He sweat blood, but He didn't give in and cave under pressure! Why? So YOU can keep going and refuse to give up and cave in.

Surprisingly, Hebrews 12 tells us that this is just the wonderful correction of the Father. Whaaaat, Commander Kellie? You heard me! The Father helped Jesus stick to His calling

and Jesus helps you stick with yours, all by correcting your steps. Can you win a race if you step off the track?

"And have you forgotten his encouraging words spoken to you as his children?

He said, 'My child, don't underestimate the value of the discipline and training of the Lord God, or get depressed when he has to correct you. For the Lord's training of your life is the evidence of his faithful love. And when he draws you to himself, it proves you are his delightful child'" (verses 5-6).

DEA: Make your own book out of 2019 Commander Kellie's Corner, beginning with December 2018. Add your own thoughts and journal pages. If you are reading Commander Kellie's Corner for the first time, or you want a reminder of this last year's giving prayer, go back and read all the messages I have sent you. It's a good idea to keep them in front of your eyes. Ask Mom and Dad to help you print them out. We've made them available at kcm.org/commanderkellie.

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

Superkid, Jesus doesn't expect us to be perfect. He gave His life to be perfect FOR us. He asks for the right to correct us, so we can have the life He fought for, bought and paid for. dn't change His mind

He didn't change His mind when it was tough. He stayed focused on YOU.

Think about this: When the Father sent Jesus to live among us, ALL the love of the Father came with Him. Imagine being the Father and sending Your Son to earth to live among a people You had created. but who didn't love You. Yet, the Father gave the world the most precious gift heaven had when He gave Jesus. He could have changed His mind when Jesus was on the cross, **BUT HE DIDN'T. God turned** His face away from Jesus and FOCUSED on YOU while His Son was in hell, paying the ultimate price for you and me to belong to the family of God.

One more encouragement from Hebrews 12:28-29: "Since we are receiving our rights to an unshakeable kingdom we should be extremely thankful and offer God the purest worship that delights his heart as we lay down our lives in absolute surrender, filled with awe. For our God is a holy, devouring fire!"

Superkid, we have chosen full surrender. We live in this holy fire of Jesus! Make this declaration with me: "I have given my life to Jesus, fully and freely. I will NEVER hold anything back. I love my Savior's correction because I belong to **HIM.** I AM NEVER GOING TO CHANGE MY MIND or go back to the way I used to think!"

Merry Christmas, ME! And Merry Christmas to Jesus, the Father and the Holy Spirit! And a Merry Christmas to all!







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TO REGISTER & FOR MORE INFO VISIT KCM.ORG.AU/SLPC20 or call +61 7 3343 7777

w/ Terri Copeland Pearsons COS, Kenneth Copeland Ministries Pastor, Eagle Mountain Int'l Church

THE LORD TOLD ME, "THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT IT WHEN PEOPLE WHO KNOW HOW TO USE THEIR FAITH COME TOGETHER TO PRAY." fustor Ormi

Now is the time for us to gather and move things along in the plan and purpose of God for our families, our cities, our nations and in all the world.

Expect to be changed in His presence. **Register today!**

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George Pearsons

CEO, Kenneth Copeland Ministries | Ps, Eagle Mountain Int'l Church





Margaret Court

Ps, Victory Life Church | AO MBE



Registration is free. Seating is limited.

Patsy Cameneti

Ps, RHEMA Family Church & Director, RBTC AU