



# THE Word of Faith

MAY 2015

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

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## the Word of Faith



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1025 W. KENOSHA  
BROKEN ARROW, OK 74012

**VOLUME XLVIII, NUMBER 4  
MAY 2015**

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### SUBSCRIPTIONS

THE WORD OF FAITH has no subscription or newsstand price and is supported through contributions from readers worldwide. Gifts to this ministry are tax deductible as allowed by the IRS.

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### POSTMASTER

Please send address changes to Kenneth Hagin Ministries, P.O. Box 50126, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74150-0126.

**PUBLICATION MAIL AGREEMENT #40032023**

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PLEASE SHARE WITH A FRIEND OR RECYCLE.

# You Have a Destiny

You have a destiny. Did you know that? God cares so much about you that He has prepared a special plan for your life. Jeremiah 29:11 says He has “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future” (NIV). You are alive right now for a specific reason and purpose.

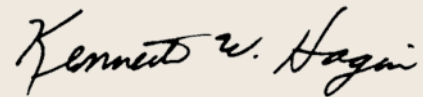
What were you born to be and do? Ephesians 2:10 says, “We are God’s workmanship, CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS TO DO GOOD WORKS, which God prepared in advance for us to do” (NIV 1984).

Friend, you must realize that God has destined you for more than going through this life poor, sick, defeated, and without purpose. You were created for “good works!” And as you take time to read the Word and pray and seek God’s face, He will show you those works. He will reveal to you your specific destiny.

My prayer for you this month is that you will find God’s destiny for you indelibly stamped upon your heart. And I pray that His purpose and plan for you will change the way you live. Then you’ll be in line with the vision God has placed within you!

I want to help you get started. Make this statement of faith your continual confession: “I cannot be defeated, and I will not quit. I don’t have to be poor, because God has destined me for abundance. I don’t have to be sick, because God has destined me for health. I don’t have to be defeated, because God has destined me for victory. I accept all that God has destined for me. I will walk in my specific, God-given destiny, and I will take my future by storm.”

Hallelujah! God has great things in store for you! Spend time with Him, find out what those things are, and then go out and possess them in the Name of Jesus!



PS. This month we celebrate Memorial Day. Let’s remember and honor those who gave their lives so we could live free.



## THIS ISSUE



### 4 Blast Your Way Out of the Valley!

**KENNETH W. HAGIN**

Does it seem as if you’re in a valley of defeat with no way out? Learn how to blast your way through the obstacles and experience victory!

### 14 Pray Boldly

**KENNETH E. HAGIN**

Christians today need to be bold in prayer. And a bold prayer life comes from understanding who we are in Christ.

### 17 Turning Stumbling Blocks Into Stepping-Stones

**LYNETTE HAGIN**

Our faith is often tried during life’s difficulties. But as we put our trust in God, He proves time and time again that trials can take us to a higher level in Him.

8

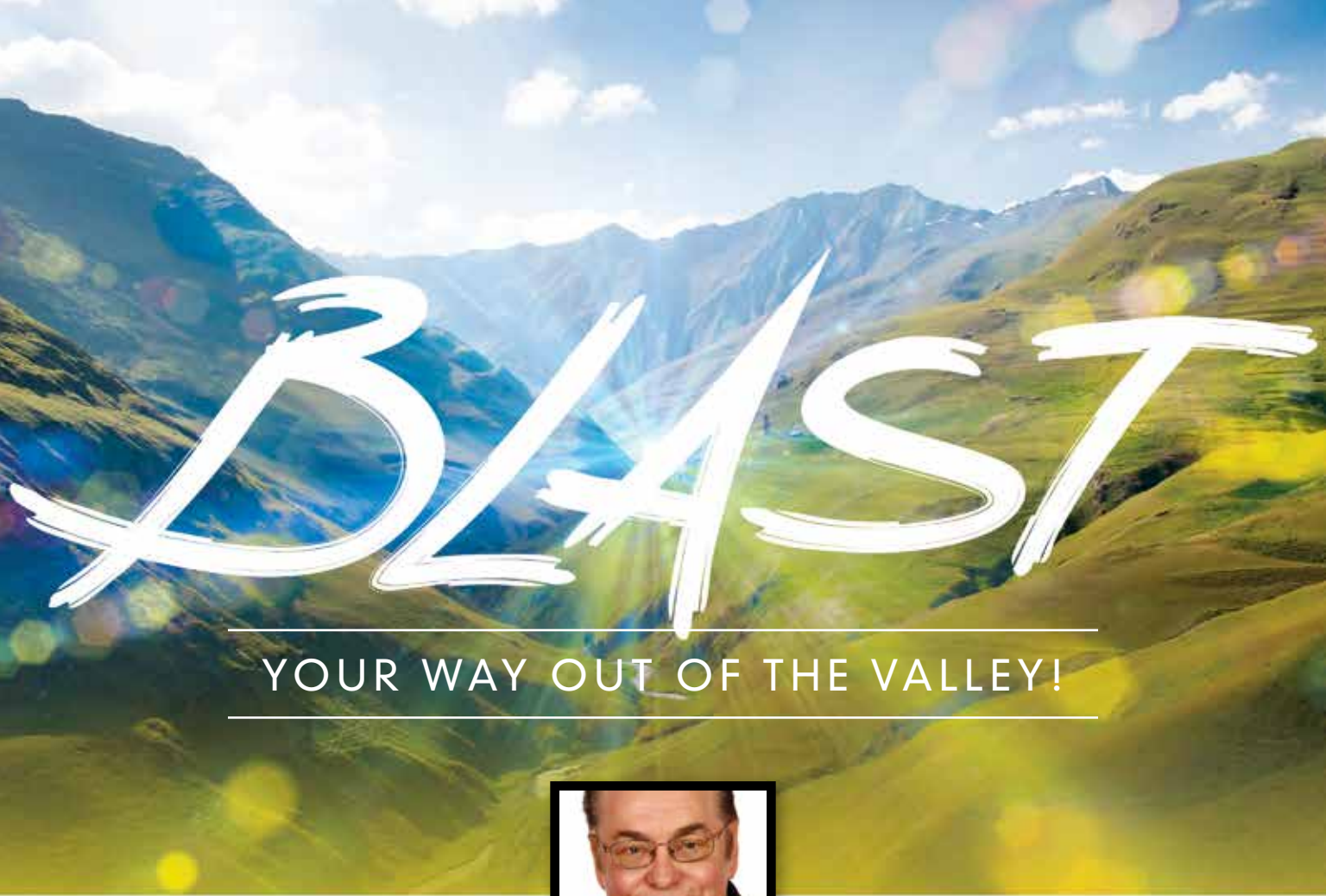


BO & CATHY LOWE

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### Special Report:

Bo and Cathy Lowe minister in the remote corners of northern Nevada. Read more about their amazing story.



## YOUR WAY OUT OF THE VALLEY!



**KENNETH W. HAGIN**

**IT'S A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT** to stand on a mountaintop and look down into a valley. But it's a different perspective altogether when you're in that dark valley trying to get up to the mountaintop!

We have probably all had "valley experiences" or times of trouble and hardship. But it is possible to get out of those valleys. God wants us to live continually on the mountaintop of His victory in Jesus Christ!

You have to come out of your valley if you're going to experience the abundant life God intends for you to have. God has provided the way for you to come out of the valley, but He's not going to do it *for* you.

You have to get yourself out of your valleys—the valleys of sin, past mistakes, financial despair, and sickness—by coming in line with God's Word. Then you have to make confessions based on what His Word says about your situation.

### **FAITH THAT RECEIVES**

The woman with the issue of blood in Mark chapter 5 blasted her way out of the valley of sickness by receiving the *dunamis*, or the power, of God by faith. She didn't know it, but she was using the same faith principles that Jesus gave us in Mark 11:23. In this scripture, Jesus taught us how to activate God's power to blast

away obstacles so we can walk out of any valley the enemy tries to put us in.

### **MARK 11:23**

**23** For verily I say unto you, That whosoever SHALL SAY unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but SHALL BELIEVE that those things which he SAITH shall come to pass; he SHALL HAVE whatsoever he SAITH.

The law of faith Jesus is talking about here is to believe in your heart what God says, confess it with your mouth, and then act on what you believe. Let's see exactly how the woman with the issue of blood obeyed this spiritual law.

What did this woman do when she heard about Jesus? She *said*, "I know what I'll do. I'll go to Jesus and touch the hem of His garment. And when I touch Jesus, I'm going to receive my healing" (Mark 5:28). She *said* it!

First, she *believed* in her heart that Jesus could heal her. Second, she *said* it with her mouth. Third, she *did* something about it. She went to Jesus and touched the hem of His garment in faith. And then she *received* what she had said was hers! (See Mark 5:25–34.) That's exactly what Jesus said to do in Mark 11:23!



**READ MORE:** To learn more about faith, go online to [khm.com/increasefaith](http://khm.com/increasefaith) and read the article "How to Increase Your Faith" by Kenneth E. Hagin.

The Bible says, “Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Rom. 10:17). Jesus is the *living Word* (John 1:1). So when this woman heard about Jesus, faith came to her.

In the same way, when we read or listen to the written Word, faith comes to us. That’s the only way we can make our faith grow. We don’t get more faith by praying for it. The Bible says God has given every person the measure of faith (Rom. 12:3). We don’t have to get any more faith. We just need to *use* and *develop* the faith we already have!

### DYNAMITE FAITH

Faith in God’s Word is like a blasting cap to a stick of dynamite. If you throw a stick of dynamite down on the ground and it doesn’t have a blasting cap on it, nothing will happen. But once you put a blasting cap on that dynamite, watch out! If you throw it down and that blasting cap hits just right, that dynamite will ignite and explode!

#### FAITH NUGGET

### It’s Your Choice!

Many people think they need to stay in their valley because *God* put them there. They think God is a mean Ruler looking down on the earth with a giant flyswatter in His hand, just looking for someone to hit. And every time someone does something wrong, He swats them and says, “Ha! I got you, buddy!” Many people picture God that way. But He’s not that way at all!

The devil—the *enemy*—is the one who’s mean! He tries to entangle us in his snares and bog us down in his valleys of defeat. He likes to keep us trapped in the shadows where we can’t even see daylight because the mountains are so high.

**THE DEVIL WILL HOLD YOU CAPTIVE IN HIS VALLEYS OF DEFEAT AS LONG AS YOU LET HIM.** You see, it’s your choice. You can choose to keep walking in those valleys. In fact, you can be born again, filled with the Spirit, and Heaven-bound, and still live in the valley all your life.

But God doesn’t want you to live in the valley of defeat. He wants you to act on His Word in faith, blast your way out of the valley, and live an abundant life in Jesus! Living for Jesus is the greatest life there is!

In the same way, when you use the measure of faith according to Mark 11:23, it becomes a blasting cap to the dynamite power of God. Just add that blasting cap of faith to God’s power. It will blast you out of any valley the enemy tries to trap you in!

What happens if you hook up a bundle of dynamite sticks to a detonator, put the dynamite on a mountainside, and set off the charge? The blasting caps will ignite, and the explosion will blow a huge hole in that mountain!

That natural example of dynamite can help you understand how to operate the spiritual law

of faith. The power of God, which is like the power of a dynamite blast, is available to us. We just have to ignite it with our faith. We do that by believing God’s Word in our hearts and confessing it with our mouths.

You *can* come out of any valley you may be in right now by blasting your way out with God’s Word! There’s no use for you to wallow in the muck and mire of sin, condemnation, poverty, or sickness! There’s a way out of that mess!

I don’t care if the devil has thrown all kinds of obstacles onto the path that leads out of the valley you’re in. Jesus already told you in Mark 11:23, “Just believe in your heart and say to any problem or obstacle, ‘Get out of my way!’ and it will be removed.” That’s how to blast those obstacles out of your way so you can come out of *any* valley!♥

THE *power of God*, WHICH IS LIKE THE POWER OF A DYNAMITE BLAST, IS AVAILABLE TO US. WE JUST HAVE TO *ignite* IT WITH OUR FAITH.

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# Want Your Finances to Prosper?

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YOU CAN'T REAP A CROP—NATURALLY OR SUPERNATURALLY—WITHOUT *sowing seed*.

**THERE IS A LAW** of sowing and reaping in both the natural and the spiritual realms. And it's a law that works! Yet many believers have not realized and understood the importance of this biblical principle, especially in the area of finances.

We know **WE CAN RECEIVE OUR NEEDS MET BY FAITH IN GOD'S WORD, JUST AS WE CAN RECEIVE HEALING OR ANY OTHER BLESSING FOUND IN GOD'S WORD BY FAITH IN THAT WORD.**

We could also be blessed materially through a manifestation of the Holy Ghost. Remember the widow woman in the Old Testament? God spoke to her through the prophet Elijah. And although there was a famine in the land, her oil cruse just kept pouring out oil and the meal barrel just kept giving her meal (1 Kings 17:16). That was just as good as money.

There are supernatural manifestations for us very often in the area of finances when we faithfully obey God and sow seed. These manifestations of the Holy Spirit are as *He* wills. We can't *make* them happen. However, whether there is a manifestation of the Holy Spirit or not, we always have the Word to act upon.

## Another Side

Yet there's another side to faith in God's Word for finances. You can't reap a crop—naturally or supernaturally—without sowing seed. You can't just go out into the backyard and say, "I'm going to pick some tomatoes," if you haven't *planted* any tomatoes! Or you can't say, "I'm going out into the field to pick cotton tomorrow," and expect to pick any cotton if the ground hasn't been prepared and the seed sown. If cotton hasn't been *planted*, you're not going to pick any cotton!

I think that folks often miss it in this area when it comes to faith for finances. They want God to bless them, all right, and it's amazing how He'll have mercy on them and help them sometimes. But oftentimes, they're trying to exercise faith principles to reap a crop when nothing has been planted!

**FROM MY EXPERIENCE THROUGHOUT MY MANY YEARS OF PREACHING FAITH, I THINK MORE PEOPLE FAIL WHEN IT COMES TO FAITH FOR FINANCES THAN ANYTHING ELSE.** The reason is that they're trying to exercise faith for finances, but they haven't planted any seed.

### LUKE 6:38

**38 GIVE, and IT SHALL BE GIVEN UNTO YOU; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For WITH THE SAME MEASURE THAT YE METE WITHAL IT SHALL BE MEASURED TO YOU AGAIN.**

You see, the Bible plainly says, "Give, and it will be given unto you. With the same measure with which you sow, it shall be measured back unto you." Jesus Himself said it.

Second Corinthians 9:6 says, "*He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.*" **IF YOU WANT A BOUNTIFUL CROP, YOU'VE GOT TO SOW BOUNTIFULLY.**

So in your own life, just go ahead and obey the Bible in the area of finances. Pay your tithes and give offerings. Act on God's Word in faith and He will bless you, because He's faithful and true to His Word.♥



KENNETH E. HAGIN

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin's book *Biblical Keys to Financial Prosperity*.]

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# Cowboy PREACHERS

**THE RUGGED WILDERNESS** of northeastern Nevada offers crystalline lakes, majestic mountains, and spectacular scenery. It's a place where the morning silence is broken by chirping birds, buzzing flies, and lowing cattle. It's also the place Bo Lowe, a 1994 Rhema Bible Training College grad, and his wife, Cathy, call home.

In the summer of '92, after seriously seeking the Lord, Bo had an encounter with Him on a lonely dirt road. Bo had loaded salt blocks for livestock in the back of his truck and was headed down the dusty road with a broken heart. He thought God didn't care about him enough to talk to him the way He spoke to others.

Tears welled up and Bo couldn't see to drive. He had to pull over. He reached for his Bible and it fell open to Psalm 32. There he read, "I will lead you and guide you. I'll watch over you. Do not be like the horse or the mule that have no understanding" (vv. 8-9).

Bo worked with horses and mules. He knew God had spoken specifically to him and given him direction for his life. And at that moment he also knew he was supposed to go to Rhema Bible Training College.

Shortly before Rhema classes began that fall, Bo and Cathy sold their milk cow to help with expenses, hitched up the horse trailer, and loaded up their possessions. Leaving the pristine countryside behind, they made the 1,500-mile cross-country trip to Broken Arrow.

For Bo, moving to Oklahoma was like moving to a foreign country. He loved the rugged ranch life. He, Cathy, and their daughter Shawna lived in cow camps and followed the cattle as they grazed on the wide-open mountain ranges.

The Rhema brochure Bo received said the school's campus covered 80



BO & CATHY LOWE



acres. With a Nevada buckaroo mindset, Bo thought they could just set up camp on the back side of Rhema's property and live there while he went to school. They even brought their horse so he could ride to class!

When the Lowes arrived at Rhema's suburban Tulsa campus, Bo's first thought was "Oh, no! What have I done?" Then he asked Cathy, "Now what do we do?"

## DIVINE CONNECTION

Discouraged, the Lowes stopped at a nearby gas station and Cathy used a pay phone to call the only contact they had. When a recording told her the number had been disconnected, her heart sank. But before she hung up, they heard a man behind them ask, "Are you Bo and Cathy Lowe?"

The man—the son of a Nevada buckaroo they had once met—happened to be driving by, saw their flat-brimmed buckaroo hats, and knew they had to be from Nevada. So instead of pitching their wall tent on Rhema's back 40, Bo, Cathy, and Shawna set up camp on the man's property until they got an RV. And he had pasture for their horse.

## SEND ME ANYWHERE, BUT PLEASE NOT NEVADA!

While Bo attended Rhema, he often told the Lord he would go anywhere—even Africa. The one place he *didn't* want to go was



» **DIRECTION** for the next step

**TO LEARN MORE** about Bo and Cathy Lowe and their ministry, Morning Star Outfitters, Inc., email [msoranch@filertel.com](mailto:msoranch@filertel.com). Or call (775) 755-2132.



Some time later their ranch manager, who had witnessed these healings, had a stroke and became paralyzed on one side. He had never been open to the Gospel. But when Bo and Cathy visited him in the hospital, he grabbed Cathy's hand and said, "I want what Priscilla got." The Lowes laid hands on him, and he later returned to the ranch without any paralysis!

### GOING TO THE REMOTE PLACES

There are very few churches in northeastern Nevada. Before Bo and Cathy came to Rhema, they drove three hours one way to attend church once a month!

God began dealing with the Lowes to bring the Word to ranch hands and people in small, remote Nevada towns. They decided to start in the mining town of Jarbidge.

When they got there, they learned that the town was going to hold a street festival called "Jarbidge Days." Vendors could buy space along the dirt road—the only road—that ran through town. Bo wanted to set up their wall tent as a church. But he was told that first he had to talk to Jack.

The Lowes found Jack at the bar in the Tired Devil Saloon. Bo said to him, "I'm a preacher of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I want to buy some street space to set up a tent and have cowboy church Sunday morning."

"You can set up right out there," said Jack.

"How much do we owe you?"

"Nothing," Jack replied. "You can't charge God."

The Lowes set up their tent during the festival and around 30 people showed up. That may sound like a small crowd, but at a later Sunday service, everyone who lived in Jarbidge except two people came to church!

### CIRCUIT COWBOY PREACHERS

The Lowes' outreach to small northern Nevada towns has expanded. Every week they travel to a different place to bring the Gospel to ranch communities. Their services are geared to ranch families and workers, which means church starts later in the morning so people can feed the animals and finish chores.

From their home in Jackpot (pop. 1,195), Bo and Cathy can drive to Jarbidge in two hours. The last Sunday of the month they make a 2 1/2-hour trek to Starr Valley. And twice a month they drive 4 1/2 hours to Owyhee (pop. 953) to hold services on the Duck Valley Indian Reservation, the most remote reservation in the U.S.

The Lowes don't plan to stop what they're doing. "I always tell people, 'I'm not a pastor. I'm all you have till one gets here,' " says Bo. "But it doesn't seem like anybody is coming."

Bo and Cathy are happy to crisscross northern Nevada to minister in these out-of-the-way places. God cares deeply for these people, and the Lowes are committed to bringing the Gospel to them. ♥



MINISTRY TEAM AT OWYHEE



BO HOLDING COWBOY CHURCH AT A RANCH-HAND RODEO IN WINNEMUCCA, NV



BO WITH FELLOW MINISTERS DAVE AND JOANNE WILSON AT SIMPLOT FEEDLOT



back to Nevada, because "they know who I am there."

The buckaroo culture is unique. These men and women think and live differently from city folks. But by the time Bo graduated, he knew he and Cathy had to go back to Nevada!

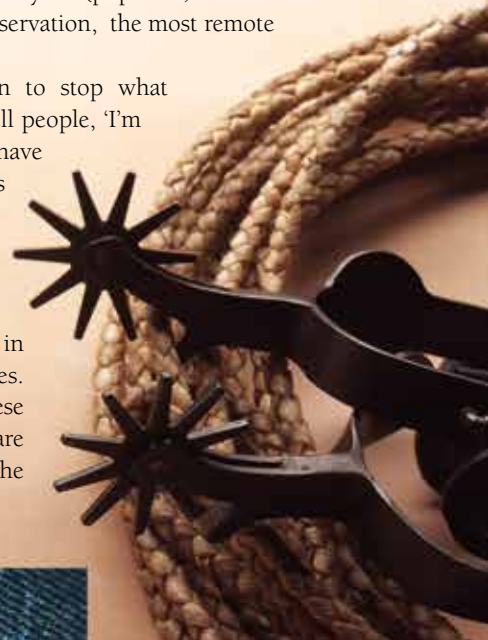
### RAISING UP SICK ANIMALS

"I never had any intention of preaching," says Bo. "I just thought I'd go back and work on the ranch. If someone asked me about Jesus, I could tell them. That was my whole plan."

The Lowes fell right back into ranch work. They started noticing animals that needed to be healed. No one told them they couldn't pray for animals, so they prayed for cows, horses, sheep, cats, dogs . . . you name it, and they prayed for it. And the animals were healed!

One time a cow had a difficult time giving birth and the calf had to be pulled out. As a result of the rough delivery, the cow became paralyzed. She couldn't get up and was lying flat on her side. Bo and Cathy laid hands on her, and about two weeks later she was up and walking—totally healed!

In another instance, a blind sheep named Priscilla received her sight after prayer. Then she was badly kicked by a horse. She was paralyzed, had a broken leg, and was bleeding from her mouth. After the Lowes prayed for her, she completely recovered within two weeks.



# TRANSFORMING IMPRISONED HEARTS

*Thank you for all you have done. I was in prison and you allowed me to receive your magazine. You also allowed me to receive many books from your ministry. It blessed me and many, many other men and even people outside the prison. I was released from prison in July of 2013 and am now receiving your magazine at home. I live with my mom and we support the local church I was born and raised in. Again, thank you so much!*

*Darren O.*

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# Hope—The Missing Ingredient

DARRELL HUFFMAN

**FAITH OPERATES** in the unseen realm. It is a spiritual force that we can't see, taste, touch, hear, or smell. So we must find another way to know more about this subject.

In my search to know more about faith, the Holy Spirit began to speak to me about the importance of hope. He said, "Faith is motivated by your hope; frustration is motivated by your problems." He further said, "My people are in frustration; they are not in faith." Then God said, "If

hoped for, and the evidence of things not seen." Since that's the case, I must first understand what hope is if I ever want to be a person who operates in faith. **THE LORD THEN BEGAN TO SHOW ME THAT WITHOUT HOPE, MY FAITH HAS NOTHING TO GO AFTER.**

Hope is the missing ingredient. Without it, we won't make the finish line. Hope is what our faith is running to obtain. Hope is our goals, our visions, and our dreams; it is the revelation of what God said He would do for us. Faith, well-grounded in Bible hope, will go out to get whatever we need and bring it back to us. However, too many of us are trying to release faith

let him know you are ready to throw, the dog comes!

Now think of it this way: The dog represents your faith (I call him "Faith Dog"), and the ball represents your hope. You need to take your hope (your dreams and God-given plans) and throw! Your faith then has something to go after. Don't be fooled, though. Faith will sit at your feet—just like a dog—until it has something to fetch. Faith cannot run after something that's not there!

So throw your hopes, visions, and God-given dreams out there. This will give your faith something to go after. We don't have to be consumed by our problems. It leads us only to frustration. Instead, we can choose to be consumed by hope. Then we'll be in faith, and through faith we'll see God's promises become a reality in our lives. ♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Darrell Huffman's book *Faith or Frustration*.]



**SPEAKER HIGHLIGHT**

Don't miss Campmeeting this year! See **PAGES 12-13** for details.

Share This!

HOPE IS WHAT OUR FAITH IS RUNNING TO *obtain*.

you get consumed with hope, you will be in faith, but My people are so consumed with their problems that they are frustrated."

I answered, "OK. But Lord, I need to see something here. What is this hope and faith?"

Looking at Hebrews 11:1, I saw that "faith is the substance of things

when faith has nothing to go after.

For the sake of illustration, think about a well-trained dog. One of his favorite games is "fetch." If you toss a ball, he takes off. The dog will run to the toy, grab it, and bring it back to you; and he will do this over and over and over. Hours, days, or months may pass, but as soon as you

## FAITH IN ACTION

### Ask God to Show You What to Hope For

If you have nothing to hope for, here's one way to fix that. **ASK GOD TO SHOW YOU WHAT TO HOPE FOR—TO LEAD YOU TO WHAT HE HAS FOR YOU AND WHAT HE WANTS YOU TO DO** (see Eph. 1:16–18; James 1:5). He has said that His children will be led by His Spirit (Rom. 8:14). So open your heart and pray, "Lord, what is Your hope for my life? Please show me my hope, my goals, and my vision. Give me a revelation of Your will so I can use my faith for it. Make hope a reality in my life." Then expect Him to answer your prayer.

go after hope



# KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES' campmeeting

## July 19–24, 2015

ON THE RHEMA USA CAMPUS IN BROKEN ARROW, OK

### SERVICES

**SUNDAY** 6:00 p.m.

**MONDAY-FRIDAY** 10:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

- Adult Services
- Summer Blitz (6th–12th Grade)
- Rhema Kids (Infants–5th Grade)



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KENNETH W. HAGIN



LYNETTE HAGIN



CRAIG W. HAGIN



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## SPEAKERS



**CHARLES COWAN**



**DON DUNCAN**



**CHAD GONZALES**



**MARK HANKINS**



**DARRELL HUFFMAN**



**DAVID SHEARIN**



**ANDY THOMPSON**

# PRAY

# BOLDLY



Timeless  
Teachings  
of Kenneth E. Hagin

**EFFECTIVE PRAYER** involves boldness. There are many things we do not need to pray for—but it is all right to pray for boldness.

We do not need to pray for faith, because our faith is increased by feeding it on God's Word and exercising it. But the Bible does show us that we can pray for boldness.

Peter and John were bold when they used the Name of Jesus to minister to the lame man at the gate called Beautiful. They were bold when they proclaimed the Name of Jesus to the crowd that gathered. The Jewish authorities noticed their boldness and commanded them to preach and teach no more in the Name of Jesus (Acts 4:13, 18).

Being let go, they went to their own company and reported all the chief priests and elders had said to them. Then the whole company of believers lifted up their voice with one accord in prayer unto God.

#### **ACTS 4:29–30**

**29** And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and *grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word,*

**30** By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

That prayer was answered!

#### **ACTS 4:31**

**31** And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with *boldness*.

Another New Testament example of someone seeking boldness is Paul. This apostle of faith asked the Church at Ephesus to pray for him *“that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am*



*an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak”* (Eph. 6:19–20).

The Ephesians' prayer for Paul was a prayer of supplication.

#### **BOLDNESS TO ACT**

We may not know what to pray for, but thank God, the Holy Spirit does. We need boldness to act on God's Word and on what His Spirit may say to us. I can sense the Spirit searching for those whom He can trust to pray and act with boldness. He needs them.

Many people have jobs and duties that prevent them from giving themselves wholeheartedly to intercession. Yet I have found that as we go about doing whatever we have to do, on the inside of us, we can be praying.

There are jobs where it would be very difficult for you to pray while working. So God would have to seek out someone else. But there are some jobs—particularly if you are not working with your mind but with your hands—where you could give yourself to prayer even while you're working.

Don't throw off that burden to pray when it comes. Be bold to act on it.

One day while I was still pastoring, I was driving along attending to some business and visiting people. Suddenly, I had an urge to pray for my younger brother. He was backslidden at the time and not walking with the Lord. An alarm went off within me.

So I went along praying on the inside, even while I was talking to other people. On the inside of me, something was reaching out to God on his behalf. I carried that thing around with me two or three days until it just lifted. I didn't know what it concerned.

Later on, in conversation, my brother said to me, “I'll tell you one thing. The Lord sure helped me the other day.” At that time, he owned a ranch. He told me that a 5-gallon can of gasoline he was holding in his hand exploded. He was not the least bit hurt!

But three days before it happened, I was praying. I am satisfied if I had thrown that off and not yielded to it, my brother could have been severely burned and perhaps killed.

What if I hadn't prayed?



## BOLDNESS BEFORE THE THRONE

### ISAIAH 43:25-26

**25** I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

**26** Put me in remembrance: let us plead together: declare thou, that thou mayest be justified.

Here is a challenge from the covenant-keeping God to Israel. It is also a challenge to the Church. For if God kept His covenant with them, He will keep His covenant with us.

The believer has covenant rights in prayer, as well as other covenant rights.

Yet one outstanding problem defeats believers in their prayer life. When we come to God, we have a feeling of inferiority, a sense of sin consciousness, because we know we have failed. We have a guilt complex. And when we come into the presence of God, we don't know whether He hears us.

But look at what God said: *"I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins"* (Isa. 43:25).

Why did God say He would blot out our transgressions? He did it for His own sake. He wanted to bless us, and He couldn't without doing this.

When we know that God blotted out our sin—that He doesn't remember we ever did anything wrong—we can come to Him with confidence and faith. We lose sin consciousness and instead have Son consciousness!

We are sons of God. We are joint heirs with Jesus Christ. We are covenant people. We have a legal right—a gospel right, a family right—to enter the throne room.

When Jesus went into the presence of the Father, He didn't go in with just His head, leaving His little finger outside saying, "Oh, I'm embarrassed." No! He didn't have any condemnation in His little finger.

We are the Body of Christ. That means the Body can go into the presence of God the Father with the same confidence and assurance that the Head can. Boldly!♥

DON'T THROW OFF THAT BURDEN TO PRAY WHEN IT COMES. BE BOLD TO *act on it.*

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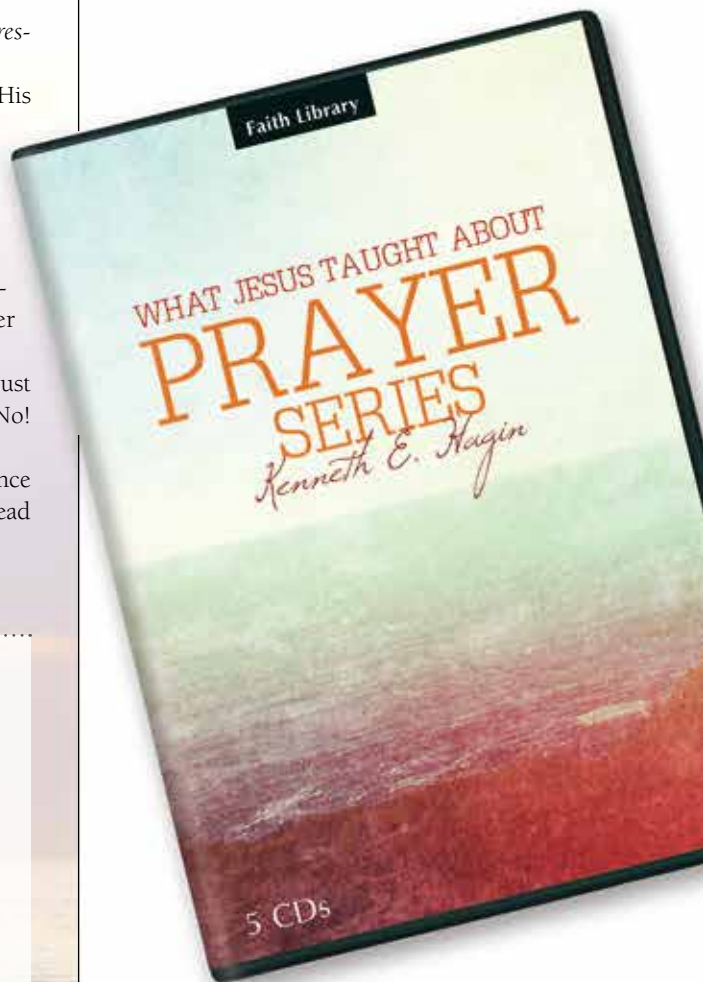
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## FAITH IN ACTION

### Bear One Another's Burdens

Scripture tells us to *"bear ye one another's burdens"* (Gal. 6:2). The word *bear* means "to lift with the idea of removing." **PRAYER IS ONE WAY WE CAN REMOVE PEOPLE'S BURDENS.**

### HEBREWS 12:1

**1** Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

This scripture mentions two things that hinder Christians in their race—weights and sins. We can help fellow believers run their race better by helping lift these burdens through prayer. We don't need to criticize them; we need to pray for them. When we take our places in prayer for each other, we help the entire Body of Christ mature.

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LYNETTE HAGIN

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## TURNING STUMBLING BLOCKS INTO STEPPING-STONES

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**THE FAITH WALK** is not a walk of ease. It's not always fun to endure life's problems. But James 1:4 tells us to let endurance run its full course. We would probably rather go through life on "flowery beds of ease." But that's not the way life works. We live in an imperfect world with imperfect people, and life is not going to be easy all the time.

We need to understand, however, that our faith won't grow without being tried and proven. In life, we will experience trials of our faith. But during those things we must "*count it all joy*" (James 1:2). The *basis* for faith is the Word of God, and the *proof* of faith comes from living a *life* of faith.

God never promised that the Christian life would be free of tests, trials, and adversity. But He did say in Isaiah 43:2, "*When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee.*"

When we hold on to God in the waters of adversity, we have His promise that we're not going to drown. It doesn't matter if we can't swim, because the Lord is going to hold us up in that water.

Our Heavenly Father wants us to rely totally on Him. So many times we want to do everything in our own strength. We try to fix the situation.

Jesus said, "*Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest*" (Matt. 11:28). God wants us to trust Him completely. When we do, He is able to fix the situation.

### UNSHAKEABLE FAITH

We must base our entire life on our faith in our Heavenly Father. Everything around us may fall, but if we will hold on to His hand, He will hold us up in the midst of every storm.

The enemy goes about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8). He's trying to shake our trust and confidence in God. He's trying to get our eyes on our problems.

Now what do we do when life brings problems our way? What should be our response? There is a saying, "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." Lemonade is pretty good—just add a little sugar to it and it's wonderful! So when life's problems come, we can go to God with them and let Him turn them around for good.

### CLIMB ON THOSE BUMPS!

That reminds me of a story about a little boy who was leading his sister up a mountain path. The way was not easy. Finally the little girl said, "Why, this isn't a path at all! It's too rocky and bumpy!" To this her brother replied, "Sis, the bumps are what you climb on!"

You may think, "Hey, I've had a whole lot of bumps in my life. Maybe I'm going to climb really high!" That may be the case, because the enemy loves to throw his biggest bumps in the paths of those who he knows are going to be great successes for God.

So instead of allowing those bumps to become stumbling blocks, use them as stepping-stones! In my own life, I've always tried to take that attitude concerning problems. I say, "I won't let bumps cause me to stumble. I'm going to step higher and higher until I climb over the top of those bumps and obstacles."

God doesn't promise to remove every obstacle from our path. But He does promise to help us overcome them and climb higher in spite of them.

Difficulties can help us climb higher if we'll use them as stepping-stones. Too often, though, we only want to complain about them. Sometimes we may try to kick them out of the way or jump



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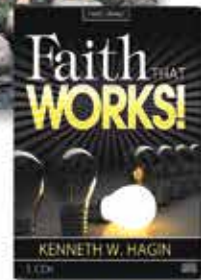
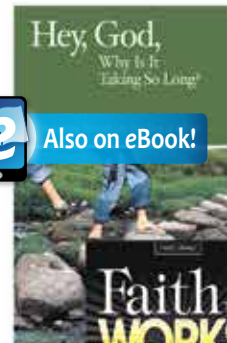
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stone and say, "My God has delivered me. He has healed me. By His stripes I am healed" (Ps. 34:19; 1 Peter 2:24). If fear is surrounding you, get on that stone and say, "God has not given me a spirit of fear but of power, love, and a sound mind" (2 Tim. 1:7).

Whatever the circumstance, find a promise in the Word concerning your situation. Then confront the problem and say, "I cannot go under for going over" (Mark 4:35). "I am standing on the Rock—the Rock Christ Jesus—and He will put me over!" (2 Tim. 2:19 TLB).

This is how we climb over adversity. Trials come to every one of us. And they don't just come one time—they keep coming.

Asking "why" when tests and trials come only hinders us from defeating those trials and walking in victory. And continuing to ask "why" will defeat us every time.

Maybe you can't get over the circumstances of life because you've been asking, "Why, God? Why me? I've stood on Your Word. I've prayed. I've lived life as well as I know how. Why is this happening to me?"

The Lord wants us to stop questioning Him and start trusting Him. He *will* bring us through every situation. So let's stop spending time questioning the circumstances. Instead, let's use those circumstances as bumps we can climb on.

Start turning your stumbling blocks into stepping-stones. Find scriptures that deal with whatever circumstances you are facing. Then begin to "step" on each stone with the Word until you are victorious in Christ. Start praising the Lord for victory over those stumbling blocks. Use them as stepping-stones and climb to the place God has destined for you! 🕊️

over them. Or more often, we try to go around them. But when we finally get around one, there's sure to be another bump in our path.

When facing these bumps, it's easy to want to turn around and go another way. But we don't have to quit or give up, because we *can* turn stumbling blocks into stepping-stones!

When circumstances come, I encourage you to get up on those stones and say, "I'm more than a conqueror through Christ Jesus" (Rom. 8:37). "Greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4).

When you get to the next stone, your body might be racked with pain or weakened by a serious disease. But get up on that

# 10 tips TO HELP YOU IN LIFE

Craig W. Hagin shared these thoughts with this year's Rhema Bible Training College USA students. But Craig's tips can help all Christians successfully run the race set before them (Heb. 12:1) and reach their world for Jesus.

1

## ENJOY THE RIDE.

Often we try to figure out what God has for us next on our journey. But we need to enjoy where we are.



2

## RUN YOUR RACE, NOT SOMEBODY ELSE'S.

It's not about anybody else's journey—it's about your journey. What God has called you to do is for you. It's not for anybody else. Don't compare yourself with others.



## KNOW WHO'S FOR YOU AND WHO'S AGAINST YOU.

I'm not referring to other people being against you; I'm talking about the devil. John 10:10 says the enemy comes to steal, kill, and destroy. When circumstances come against us to try to get us off course, we must know it's from the devil.



3

4

## KNOW WHO YOU ARE.

You are beautifully and wonderfully made (Ps. 139:14). See Jesus living inside of you. Romans 8:37 says we're more than conquerors through Christ Jesus. If you don't know who you are, then you don't know what you can do.



5

## KNOW THAT YOU ARE A "HAS BEEN."

Because of Jesus, everything in your life "has been" changed. Jesus took care of all your situations and problems when He died on the cross 2,000 years ago (1 Peter 2:24). Now salvation, healing, and joy all belong to you!



6

## QUIT TRYING AND START RELYING.

Stop trying to figure it out. Quit trying to make it happen. If you could have made it happen, especially financially, you would have. Give it to God and let Him work it out.



7

8

## IT'S NOT ABOUT YOU.

Life is never about you or making a name for yourself. This leads to my next point.



9

Jesus

## IT'S ALL ABOUT JESUS.

We have to be sold out for Jesus and be willing to go out and touch our world for Him. When you don't know what else to say, just say "Jesus." When you don't know what else to do, just proclaim Jesus. In His Name, demons have to tremble. In His Name, situations have to change.

10

**BE RELEVANT.** Don't be an 8-track tape to an MP3 generation. Be relevant to this generation when sharing about Jesus. Be able to share Jesus with anyone.



PICK YOUR FAVORITE QUOTE FROM THIS ISSUE AND POST IT ON SOCIAL MEDIA. AND BE SURE TO LET US KNOW HOW IT ENCOURAGED YOU.

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# Winter Bible Seminar & Rhema USA Homecoming 2015

## An Extraordinary Week

WINTER BIBLE SEMINAR & Rhema USA Homecoming 2015 was not “business as usual.” Those who came and the many who watched online were built up, challenged, and comforted.

Frequent themes were that we are in the last days, the time is short, and we must keep our hearts and lives right so we can hear God’s voice and do His work. Whether that work is prayer, sharing Jesus with others, or building up the Church, we must know the Holy Spirit and follow Him closely to be effective.

Throughout the week, Rhema Bible Training College instructors taught in the morning sessions. And Rhema alumni from around the world enjoyed hugs, laughter, and catching up with classmates and friends. Here are highlights.



### EXPERIENCE IT

Watch archived messages from Winter Bible Seminar & Homecoming 2015 online at [vimeo.com/rhema/channels](http://vimeo.com/rhema/channels). Just click on Winter Bible Seminar 2015.



### A Spiritual Reality Check

**“BEFORE WE CAN HAVE REVIVAL IN OUR LAND, WE MUST BE REVIVED OURSELVES.** We can’t resuscitate others if we’re half dead! That’s why it’s so important for us to consistently do a spiritual reality check. We need to look at ourselves and be honest. Many of us have lost our joy—our enthusiasm. We’ve been doing the Word, but we haven’t allowed the Lord to refresh and renew us. Our cry should be, “Oh God, revive me! What do You want me to do?” We must get back to our first love—our passion—for God.”

// **LYNETTE HAGIN**



### Living in the Last Days

“We are living in the last days. If we are not careful, we can allow fear to creep in and let it rule our lives because of all that is going on in the world today. **THE LAST DAYS ARE NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF.** We should not tremble in fear, hide in caves, or buy survival packages. The last days need to be preached from the standpoint that you understand what’s going on. And when you have your strong faith in God, you will be taken care of no matter what happens.” // **KENNETH W. HAGIN**



“God gave us a guide through the transitions and seasons of life—the Holy Spirit. But we often tune Him out instead of saying, ‘Lead me; guide me.’ That’s why many people don’t know where to go next. **WE NEED TO DIAL IN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT, BECAUSE HE’S GOING TO SHOW US THINGS TO COME.**”

// **DENISE BURNS**

“The Lord wants us to bear as much fruit as possible (John 15:8). But we can’t bear that fruit unless we stay with our own branch—our own roots. **RHEMA IS WHERE GOD HAS PLACED YOU. AND WE NEED YOU.** We all achieve more working together as a team.”

// **CRAIG W. HAGIN**



“The bull’s-eye life is the **righteousness life.** It is the mark for believers to reach. Sin causes us to miss this mark. To maintain this position, we must be doers of God’s Word, and not hearers only.” // **DOUG JONES**



“Decide you’re not going to be weak, wounded, and weary. Get in the Word, renew your mind, and **God will give you wisdom and strength.** He’ll lead you in the path of victory!” // **BILL RAY**



“Your life may be in a mess, but **God is not finished yet!** God will not quit working until He does what He did in Genesis 1:31. He made everything very good!” // **MARVIN YODER**



“In life there are tasks and problems that we deal with that seem insurmountable—like mountains. But **God’s Word says you are more than a conqueror!** You can overcome!” // **BOB KEICH**

## Rhema Kids Were “Outta This World”



**DURING** *Winter Bible Seminar*, Rhema Kids learned how astronauts train and live in space and compared that to how they should complete missions on earth as Christians. Lessons included:

- YOU'RE** *Outta This World*—being a new creation in Christ
- THOUGHTS** *Outta This World*—renewing your mind
- WORDS** *Outta This World*—saying the right things
- DREAM** *Outta This World*—doing big things for God at a young age
- LIVE** *Outta This World*—telling others about Jesus
- LOVE** *Outta This World*—sharing God's love

The kids played Galaxy Games and made awesome space crafts. They even watched videos from the International Space Station and learned how to brush their teeth and make peanut butter sandwiches in space. There were many great times in the presence of God through worship and ministry.



## Youth Winter Blitz

JV



**JUNIOR VARSITY YOUTH** enjoyed their own Winter Blitz services and special worship times. One night JV Youth director Will Post invited to the altar those dealing with emotional hurts. Another night the Holy Spirit spoke through several young people from the stage during worship. The words encouraged others.

## Varsity



**GUEST SPEAKER** Ty Ward and Varsity Youth director Rob Post shared during Winter Blitz week on what love is. They discussed the many different kinds of love but focused on God's unconditional love for us. During a question-and-answer time with Student Ministries director Denise Burns, speakers shared from their hearts about God's love in our everyday lives. The week was full of laughs and growth in knowing His love.

Winter Blitz ended with a special combined JV/Varsity youth party at the Ninowski Recreation Center.



“The life of the Christian is one of increase in every area. And the greatest thing increase does is give us a greater ability to serve and to help others.”  
// **TAD GREGURICH**



“It is easy to obey God's command to love our neighbor when the people that we don't like are excluded. But Jesus also tells us to love our enemies. We have the responsibility to love one another.”  
// **TONY MCKINNON**



“Jesus said all authority in Heaven and earth is given unto Him (Matt. 28:18). Jesus gave us His authority. The number one place we demonstrate our authority is in prayer.”  
// **KIRK DUBOIS**



“Do your part. You have a place, giftings, and a supply. But there will be a slowing down if you're doing good stuff that's not the right stuff.”  
// **JOE DUINICK**

# SEED

# Thoughts

// LYNETTE HAGIN

"THE LORD WILL GUIDE YOU ALWAYS; HE WILL SATISFY YOUR NEEDS IN A SUN-SCORCHED LAND AND WILL STRENGTHEN YOUR FRAME. YOU WILL BE LIKE A WELL-WATERED GARDEN, LIKE A SPRING WHOSE WATERS NEVER FAIL."  
— ISAIAH 58:11 (NIV)

**THIS MONTH** we set aside one Sunday to honor mothers. As I have said previously, I came into this world on Mother's Day. I often told my mom that I would never be able to top that gift to her. She would just grin, laugh, and have a witty comeback as only my mother could.

My mother passed away in February of 2011 at the ripe age of 95. This will be the fifth year that I have been unable to express my appreciation to her for her life, love, and example. As I reflected on my years with her, I began to realize the influence she had on my life.

Of course, she taught me many things. One thing she consistently pounded into me was, "Lynette, keep your head high and look people in the eye." She knew that two characteristics of low self-esteem were walking with your head down and avoiding direct eye contact. She wanted her children to know that with God's help, we would always be successful in life and could stand tall. When she was being photographed, I would be amused to hear the photographer constantly say, "Lower your head a little." She always held her head high.

My mother taught me more by example than by instruction. Through observing her, I learned to be a caretaker. Mother was always there to take care of any family member who was sick. We knew that her potato soup was just the right antidote for any ailment. It seemed like that soup started the healing process. And she didn't just open a can—she made the soup "from scratch," as she would say. It had the right ingredients to settle every symptom.

My mother taught me to be a protector. Her brother and other family members died in a storm when I was very young. Consequently, whenever a storm arose, she would be concerned for her family's safety. Since we did not always live in a sturdily built house, when a storm came (and they seemed to usually come in the middle of the night!), she would drag me out of bed and take me to our neighbor's storm cellar.

My mother taught me the

importance of preparing meals for my family. She loved to cook. Nothing fancy—just country cooking. Biscuits and gravy was her breakfast specialty. She always presented a beautiful table. Whether it was for family or friends, you would have thought she was hosting the president. We sat down to a tablecloth, placemats, cloth napkins, and unique china. I never saw a paper plate or a cooking pot on her table.

Did she sit down and instruct me in cooking and table-setting techniques? Absolutely not. However, I watched her prepare food time and time again, and I desired to follow her example. Therefore, I began to ask her what I could do to help in the kitchen. That is when she began instructing me.

My mother showed me by example the importance of taking time daily with the Lord. Each morning I would find her reading her Bible and praying. Whatever was going on in our lives, she assured us that God was in control and would take care of it all. I saw the importance of giving to God as I observed her each week write out the family tithe and offering checks.

My mother showed me by example how to be a ministry partner. I observed her always standing beside my dad and being just as committed to the ministry as he was. She never complained of the sacrifices required. When I was just an infant, Dad left the church he was pastoring to start a new church in South Texas. He told my mom, "Can up all the food you possibly can. At least we won't starve while starting a church." (In those years you did not freeze food—you canned it.) They often laughed as they reflected on those memories.

This brings me to my last points: my mother never lost her sense of humor, nor did she consider herself old. She would always say, "If you want to stay young, hang around young people." She'd mention that when she was around 80, someone asked for her identification to make sure she qualified for the senior citizen discount. Obviously, humor and not dwelling on her age kept her thinking young, even in her 90s.

I encourage you to take time to do something special for your mother. Express your gratitude for all she has done for you. Don't wait until it's too late for her to hear your kind words. ♥

Lynette





# Kids' Page

Fearless, A-nointed, I-nward-Led, T-rustworthy, H-airs of God

## THEY WERE GOOD SOLDIERS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ACROSS:

1. He is best remembered for his battle at Jericho (Joshua 6:2).
2. He was King Saul's army captain (1 Sam. 14:50).
3. He was a good soldier, but not for Israel . . . he was a GIANT of a man (1 Sam. 17:4)!
4. He is called a "man of war" in Exodus 15:3.
5. He killed 3 ACROSS (1 Sam. 17:50).
6. He killed 1,000 men with a donkey jawbone (Judges 15:16).

### DOWN:

1. He was the son of 7 DOWN (1 Sam. 14:1) and the best friend of 5 ACROSS.
4. He defeated the Midianite army with just 300 men (Judges 7:7).
7. He was king of Israel right before 5 ACROSS (1 Sam. 11:15).



Paul told Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:3, "Endure hardship with me as a GOOD SOLDIER of Jesus Christ." There was a GOOD SOLDIER who fought for King David named Eleazar who knew how to endure hardship. He was fighting in one battle for Israel when the enemy seemed to be defeating his army. All of the other soldiers around him grew tired and fearful, so they retreated from the enemy. But he knew the importance of enduring through tough times, and Eleazar held his ground and continued to fight. He single-handedly defeated the enemy!

When the rest of the Israelite army came back to the battlefield, all of their enemies were dead . . . and there sat Eleazar with his sword in his hand.

Second Samuel 23:10 tells us that he fought so hard and so long that his sword was STUCK to his hand when the battle was over! Now, let that be a lesson to all of us who want to be GOOD SOLDIERS in the Lord's army . . . we should all have that firm of a grip on OUR sword (the Word of God, according to Ephesians 6:17). Those who hold on tight to the Word of God will always endure the hardships of life, thus proving themselves to be GOOD SOLDIERS!

## CRACK THE CODE!

There is a reason why the Word of God (the Bible) is such a powerful weapon. To find out why, you'll have to "CRACK THE CODE" below. Substitute the letters in the key below with the symbols that represent each letter. The answer is found in Hebrews 4:12.

▲\*❁○□\*○ ▼\*❁■ ❁  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 ▼◐□ ❁❁\*❁❁ ▲◐□○\*  
 \_\_\_\_\_

- SYMBOL KEY:**
- ❁=A \* =D \* =E \* =G \* =H ■ =N □ =O
  - ◐ =P ○ =R ▲ =S ▼ =T ◐ =W

## jokes & riddles



"A merry heart does good, like medicine."  
—Proverbs 17:22 (NKJV)

- Why did the teacher marry the custodian?  
**Because he swept her off her feet**
- How is the letter "A" like a flower?  
**A bee (B) always comes after it**

When does a cart come before a horse?  
**In the dictionary**

Why did the teacher cross her eyes?  
**Because she couldn't control her pupils**

In what kind of school do you learn how to greet people?  
**"Hi" School**

**Answers:**  
They Were Good Soldiers: Crossword Puzzle  
ACROSS:  
1. Joshua 2. Abner 3. Goliath 4. God  
5. David 6. Samson  
DOWN:  
1. Jonathan 4. Gideon 7. Saul  
**CRACK THE CODE!**  
Sharper Than a Two Edged Sword



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**-MARK 16:15 (BBE)**



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