

America at a Crossroads



Heart to Heart

With Kenneth W. Hagin

My wife, Lynette, often says that she's married to a man of "red, white, and blue," meaning that I'm an American down to my toes, so to speak, and deeply proud of my country. As a young man, I served in the United States Army, and I believe we all have a part to play in protecting the freedoms God has given us as Americans.


I also believe it's important for us to understand the true spirit of America. You see, the United States of America represents freedom throughout the entire world. The Stars and Stripes wave high from our nation's Capitol as a symbol of that freedom.

Many have tried to cut the ropes and drag our flag to the ground. Many have tried to crush this nation under their feet. *But none have succeeded.* And as long as the Christians of America will pray for our nation and exercise our democratic freedoms, we will stand!

As election day draws near, America is at a crossroads. Who will govern this nation in the future? Will our freedoms be protected, or will they be eroded by those we elect this year?

I pray that God will stir the hearts of Christians all across this nation to pray for America and for our leaders like we've never prayed before—and to pray for divine guidance as we go to the polls and vote. Remember, freedom is not free. We have a responsibility to keep our natural freedom alive, and one way we can do that is by voting!

I can't tell you who to vote for, but you can investigate the candidates for yourself and then vote according to your heart. As we pray and exercise the precious freedoms God has given us, we can keep this great country "the land of the free and the home of the brave!"


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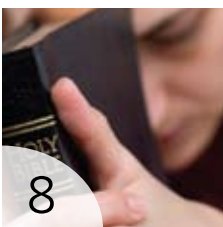
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Each month, thousands of readers worldwide receive *The Word of Faith* free of charge. To share in this outreach of Kenneth Hagin Ministries, please check the box on Order Form I of the envelope and enclose your offering. **Thank you!**

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Taking On the Offense of Others

kenneth w. hagin



(Editor's Note: This article was adapted from the new book *Avoiding the Trap of Being Offended*.)

As believers, every one of us can receive from God and walk in His highest and best. However, I often see confused Christians whose faith has been all but shipwrecked because they thought they were standing their ground in faith, yet something bad happened in their life.



I won't pretend to know all the answers as to why people fail to receive from God. But I can present one very good reason why people might not walk in God's highest and best. And that is because of the damaging effects of *offense*.

We must avoid this trap called offense by recognizing and combating this deadly deception of the enemy. There are several telltale signs that show us if we've been trapped by offense. And as we recognize these signs, we must extract ourselves from offense's venomous snare. I encourage you to make identifying offense—and finding freedom from it—a priority in your life.

In this article, I want to show you how taking on the offense of others can affect your life.

When God dealt with me about harboring offense, He said, "Many of My people who know the Word are not living where I want them to live because of offense." Then He said something else that astounded me. He said, in effect, "And many times, the offense wasn't even done to them personally. They have picked up someone else's offense."

Some people are unaware that offense is stirring within them. They'll say, "I have a great family, a great job, great friends, and I attend a great church. Everything is fantastic.

Why should I be offended?" Yet every time they hear a certain person's name mentioned, they become upset or angry because of what the person supposedly did to hurt someone they care about.

Offense can result from a number of things, and one thing that can cause us to take offense is an *insult*. If someone were to attack you verbally, you would probably become offended. Offenses also come when there's *strife*, *division*, or *backbiting*. But notice the culprit in each of these causes of offense: *the tongue!*

Let's look at a familiar passage in James concerning the power of the tongue.

JAMES 3:2-5 (NLT)

2 We all make many mistakes, but those who control their tongues can also control themselves in every other way.

3 We can make a large horse turn around and go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth.

4 And a tiny rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot wants it to go, even though the winds are strong.

5 So also, the tongue is a small thing, but WHAT ENORMOUS DAMAGE IT CAN DO. A tiny spark can set a great forest on fire.

Have you ever witnessed someone's words causing a great "fire" to occur? And have you ever seen that fire *spread* because of more words?

When an offense occurs, it often spreads like wildfire when the person who was offended begins repeating the offense to others. Why does the offended person repeatedly talk about the offense to other people? Because he wants others to become offended too! And it often works. People who were never personally hurt will become offended

because they heard what So-and-so did to their spouse, relative, friend, or co-worker. These people who weren't involved in the original situation at all, often become offended nevertheless when they listen to the words of the offended party and begin to carry that offense themselves.

How does this happen? Let's suppose someone you know gets hurt by another person, and this friend or loved one confides in you about it, repeating in great detail the entire incident from start to finish. If

If you keep listening to a person's grievance, before long, **offense will begin to stir in you** over something you never even experienced!

you're not careful, those words can begin to affect the way you view your loved one's offender, especially if the person who's been wounded talks about it over and over again, day after day. If you keep listening to this person's grievance, before long, offense will begin to stir in you over something you never even experienced!

We need to be cautious when someone begins talking to us about someone else. Sometimes people legitimately want to work past their offense, and they need to confide in someone to help them work through the process God's way. But sometimes, the only reason people want to tell someone else about their trouble is to stir that other person up too—to fan the flames of offense!

A person who likes to spread offense to others could be characterized as a *talebearer*. More often than not, a talebearer will portray himself in the best possible light when telling his side of the story. And he will portray the other person in the worst possible light. Why? To gain pity or sympathy so that we will side with him against that other person.

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One Rotten Potato

An eighth-grade teacher, wanting to teach her students the effects of offense, once asked her students to each bring a five-pound bag of potatoes to school for an experiment. The students were first instructed to empty their bags on their desks. The teacher then gave each student one rotten potato to place at the bottom of his or her bag. The bags were refilled with the good potatoes, labeled with each student's name, and placed high on a shelf.

In a few days when the bags were checked, the students discovered that several of the potatoes close to the rotten potato at the bottom of the bag were showing signs of decay. Days later, more potatoes were affected. Before long, the entire bag had decayed. All of the potatoes had been "infected" by the one rotten potato.

The point of the experiment was to show the students how keeping company with "a rotten potato" (someone who has allowed himself to become infected with bitterness and negativity over an offense) would affect them.

Over time, one person's "rotten" attitude toward life would influence their way of thinking, believing, and acting.



Highlights From Campmeeting 2008

Attitudes of the Heart



"Don't touch the rats! Don't touch the rats!" went the chant filling the RHEMA Bible Church children's auditorium as some of the younger attendees at *Campmeeting 2008* squirmed excitedly in their seats waiting for the fun to begin.

With a French restaurant kitchen backdrop replete with pots and pans, cooking utensils, spices, and brightly colored food, the stage was set for a week of "Rattitude," the theme of this year's *Campmeeting* evening children's services. Philippians 2:5 (NIV) served as the focus: "*Your attitude [Rattitude] should be the same as that of Jesus Christ*." Youngsters were encouraged to take on Jesus' attitude in all areas of their lives and to have pure hearts, full of praise and determination.

Adapted from a popular animated children's film, this year's theme followed the plight of a young rat who escaped colony life in the sewer and found himself cooking up delicious food in a Paris restaurant. As the young rat faced capture, considered returning to his former way of life, and engaged in hilarious antics with his human counterparts, children learned lessons on salvation, the baptism in the Holy Spirit, faith, healing, prosperity, and much more. During *Campmeeting* week, David White, RHEMA Bible Church children's pastor, explained, "It's a positive message in a format the kids can understand. . . . We try to have fun and keep them hooked up . . . and more than normal, they're totally into it."

Morning services also had the youngsters full of enthusiasm as they learned the importance of faith and speaking the right words. With Psalm 91:1-2 as his focus, Rev. White told the children "Words of faith have great power. . . . You're going to have to say it, you're going to have to do it, and you're going to have to be strong."

Amid action-packed games, giveaways, comical skits, and a lot of fun, children's lives were changed. Many accepted Jesus as Savior and were filled with the Holy Ghost. Still others grew exponentially in their faith walk and had their hearts turned on even more for God. "*Campmeeting* is a time where kids get refreshed," said Rev. White, "and they need that. Kids need things built into them, and *Campmeeting* allows time for those things to sink in."



Campmeeting 2008

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We need to guard ourselves against taking up someone else's offense. No matter who's been wounded or how much we love him or her, if we become offended too, we may pay a great price for what we think is simply lending a sympathetic ear. In other words, we might think we're helping and being a good friend by listening to the repeated complaints of someone

A person who likes to spread offense to others could be characterized as a **talebearer**.

who's been hurt. But if we take on the offense ourselves, we could find ourselves in a position spiritually where we can no longer help anyone.

Our goal in life should be to follow the Apostle Paul's admonition in Ephesians chapter 4: "As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." (Eph. 4:1-3 NIV). We should strive to forgive as Jesus Christ has forgiven us and to walk in love toward everyone. When we walk in love and keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, our faith will be strong and we will be able to stand against the wiles of the enemy. ♥

FAITH IN ACTION

Don't Fellowship With Offended People

Have you ever noticed that when people become offended, they often surround themselves with as many people as possible who will take up their offense? *The want others to be offended at their offender!*

Offended people often run in groups. They attract one another in friendships because they draw to themselves others who also harbor grudges and negative emotions. That way, they'll always have someone to complain to who will "understand" and sympathize with them.

As these offended people get together, they often take their negative emotions with them into other situations. They can cause disharmony among friends, married couples, or co-workers on the job. Because they never dealt with their offense, they seem to go through life *expecting* to be offended. And they often come across to others as hostile and antagonistic.

You might say, "Well, I know So-and-so has a chip on his shoulder. But if I hang around him, I can influence him for good. I won't take on his negativity."

That attitude is not scriptural. The Bible has something to say about the company we keep and the effect it will have on our lives. "Do not be misled: 'Bad company corrupts good character'" (1 Corinthians 15:33 NIV). "He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm" (Proverbs 13:20 NIV).

This does not mean you shouldn't try to help people. And certainly you should walk in love toward an individual who is carrying a grudge and needs to see the love of God in demonstration. But that doesn't mean you have to become a close friend to that kind of person.

The environment you live in will influence what you eventually become! You will be affected by your associations and your environment—for good or for evil. If you live in a negative atmosphere, you will eventually become a negative person. On the other hand, if you live in a positive environment, you will become increasingly positive in your attitudes.

NEW BOOK
by Kenneth W. Hagin

Avoid the Trap of Being Offended

The opportunity to be offended comes to everyone. But instead of being offended, you can choose to take the higher road and walk in love. In Kenneth W. Hagin's new book *Avoiding the Trap of Being Offended*, you will discover:

- The high cost of offense
- How love triumphs over offense
- How to resolve conflicts in a godly way
- And much more!

Avoiding the Trap of Being Offended

(book, Kenneth W. Hagin)

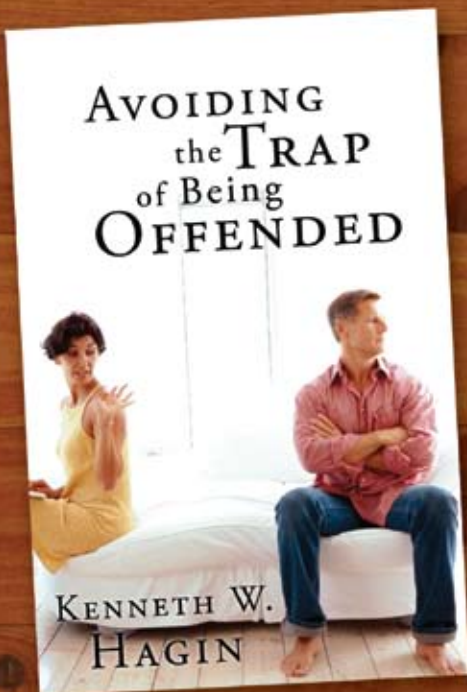
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For more information visit

www.rhema.org/crusades



(Editor's Note: This article was adapted from the book *Tongues: Beyond the Upper Room*.)

One of the reasons praying in tongues is of such value to believers is because we are praying in line with God's perfect will when we pray in tongues. The Holy Spirit not only knows what God's will is, but He will also never lead us away from the Word. That means as we yield to the Holy Spirit and allow Him to help us pray, He will always lead us in line with what God has said.

Paul talks about this particular role of the Holy Spirit in our lives to help us pray out God's perfect will.

ROMANS 8:26-27

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Notice that phrase "helpeth our infirmities" in verse 26. Often people misunderstand the meaning of this word "infirmities," thinking that it always means physical sickness or disease. But the word "infirmities" in this case is used in connection with our *shortcomings*. And one of our infirmities is found in the next phrase: "*for we know not what we should pray for as we ought.*" Our prayer "weakness" is that we don't always know what we should pray about!

Sometimes to understand what someone said, you first have to find out what he *didn't* say. Notice, Paul didn't say we don't know *how* to pray. We *do* know how to pray. How do we

know? Well, we know we're to pray to the Father in the Name of Jesus because that's what Jesus Himself taught us.

JOHN 16:23

23 And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.

We know we're to pray to God the Father in Jesus' Name. But just because we know *how* to pray doesn't mean we know *what* to pray for as we *ought*. Although we do know

As we yield to the Holy Spirit and allow Him to help us pray, He will always lead us in line with what God has said.

to some extent what to pray at times, we don't know what to pray *as we ought to know*.

Why not? Because there's no way in the world for us to know everything there is to know about a given situation. We can only observe circumstances from the natural standpoint. Even those

people we pray for may not know exactly what to pray for their needs!

You don't even know what to pray for yourself the way you ought to know. Of course, if you're hungry, you know to pray for something to eat. If you're behind in paying your rent, you know to pray for your finances. But you don't know the future. Sometimes you don't even know underlying conditions that are causing your problems. And unless God shows you, you can't see into the spirit world and observe the activity

of demons that may be trying to come against you.

EPHESIANS 6:12

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

There are evil powers behind the scenes, trying to work against us. So in order to be effective, we have to deal with those unseen forces in prayer.

These are some of the reasons why we don't know what to pray for as we *ought* to know. For example, we may know something about a trial a fellow Christian is going through, and we may know to pray that God would bless and help that person. Beyond that, however, we may not really know exactly how to

pray about the matter according to God's perfect will. But, thank God, the Holy Spirit does!

Let me give you an example from my own life. I was holding a meeting in South Carolina at the time of the Cuban missile

Our prayer "weakness" is that we don't always know *what* we should pray about!

crisis. It was also the time when my son Ken had just entered the military.

My wife and I were greatly concerned both about our son and the nation during that crisis. I remember kneeling on the platform of the church in South Carolina

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Seven Important Facts About Prayer

God wants us to understand the important subject of prayer. As we learn how to pray more effectually, we will bear much prayer fruit for the Kingdom of God. And as we endeavor to pray according to biblical principles, we will grow closer in fellowship to our Heavenly Father. Below are seven important facts about prayer that will cause our prayer life to become more effective.

1. Pray to the Father in Jesus' Name.

"And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full" (John 16:23-24).

2. Believe that you receive when you pray.

"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:24).

3. Forgive if you have ought against any, for prayer won't work unless you have a forgiving heart.

"And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But

if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses" (Mark 11:25-26).

4. Depend on the Holy Spirit to help you in your prayer life.

"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered" (Rom. 8:26).

5. Depend on the Holy Spirit to help you pray the prayer of intercession.

"And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God" (Rom. 8:27).

6. Take time to build yourself up by praying in tongues.

"But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost" (Jude 20).

7. Interpret your tongues, as the Holy Spirit wills, in your private prayer life.

"Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret" (1 Cor. 14:13).



Nuggets of Truth From Campmeeting 2008



"A description of what it means to have faith in God is similar to the saying on your money—'**In God We Trust.**' The Bible says if you can believe God, you will receive your healing. It doesn't say you will receive if your pastor can believe God for you. It's up to you. Only you can change your destiny. How do you do that? By your faith in God. It's that simple: 'In God We Trust.' "

—Craig W. Hagin



"**God is searching for people who will stand in the gap for America.** The Lord told me not long ago to gather people together to pray for our nation because we're entering into a critical time in America. I don't want the strong hand of God's judgment to come upon this nation—I want to stand in the gap for our country! I'm asking you today: *Will you stand in the gap for America?*"

—Lynette Hagin

Campmeeting 2008



(Editor's Note: In November 2007, more than 1,000 men gathered on the RHEMA USA campus in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, for the sixth annual A Call to Arms® Men's Conference. The following article is adapted from Kenneth W. Hagin's Thursday evening message.)

"Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." —Romans 8:37

The *New Living Translation* renders Romans 8:37 as, "No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us." The Apostle Paul is letting you know that you are *already* a conqueror. This verse doesn't say that sometime in the future you will be a conqueror. No. It is talking about right now.

You see, your destiny is not found in your current circumstances, what you see, what you are going through, or what someone is telling you. Your destiny is found in what God said in His Holy Word. And God said you are *more than* a conqueror. Not *just* a conqueror, but *more than* a conqueror!

However, in order to win in life, you have to be determined to reach your destiny. And God has already given you what you need to win. He deposited skills, talents, and gifts within you. But it's your job to discover and hone the things God placed inside of you.

Think of all the great athletes you know. Each of them had great potential within them, but they didn't just sit around and rely solely on their potential. No, the athletes who win the gold medals are the ones who spend many long, hard, lonely hours developing their talents until they became the best in their field. And all great athletes have an inner determination to never quit.

Benjamin Disraeli, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom in the mid-1800s said, "Through perseverance

many people win success out of what seems destined to be certain failure." During your lifetime, you will have many opportunities to quit. But if you determine in your heart to never give up, you *will* be successful.

After the death of Moses, God commissioned Joshua son of Nun to lead the Israelites. The young leader had many opportunities to be fearful and quit. In God's charge to Joshua, three times God told Joshua to be strong and very courageous. (See Joshua 1:6-7,9.)

Anytime you feel weak, realize that the Greater One is dwelling inside of you. And because of that, you can't go under. You can't lose, because you are a winner in Christ.

You see, conquering is really about attitude. Winston Churchill once said, "A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."²

God gave you everything you need to win, so there is no reason to quit. He gave you His precious Son who died on the Cross of Calvary to redeem and set you free. And because Jesus shed His blood on that Cross, you can receive forgiveness and walk in fellowship with God. You have also been given the Name of Jesus, and

In order to win in life, you have to be **determined** to reach your destiny.

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FAITH IN ACTION

The Holy Spirit—Our Helper

Jesus promised that He would send the Holy Spirit to be our Helper. *“And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever”* (John 14:16).

“Comforter” is translated from the Greek word *paraclete*. *The Amplified Bible* gives a sevenfold meaning of that word.

- **Comforter**
- **Counselor**
- **Helper**
- **Intercessor**
- **Advocate**
- **Strengtheners**
- **Standby**



As our Helper, the Holy Spirit will help us pray through to victory as we pray in tongues. He'll do the job *through* us, but He won't do the job *for* us.

Nowhere in the Bible do you ever find the Holy Spirit doing anything apart from you. For example, you never read in the Book of Acts where the Holy Spirit meets someone on the street and saves them, heals them, or fills them. However, you do read where men, full of the Holy Spirit, preached the Gospel and people were saved—and where believers laid their hands on people to receive the Holy Spirit. You also read where people were healed through the ministry of Spirit-filled believers who allowed the Holy Spirit to work through them. So in your life as a Christian, expect the Holy Spirit to help you, but don't expect Him to live it for you.

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where I was holding my meetings and praying, “Lord, I'm concerned about the Cuban crisis. Are we going to get into war? Spirit of God, I don't know how to pray about this, so please help me.” Then I began to pray it out in other tongues. It wasn't long before the Spirit of God spoke to my heart and said, “Don't bother about it. The crisis will be over in a day

or two. Everything will be all right.” And it did turn out all right, praise God!

So let's train ourselves to be sensitive to the Spirit of God! Then, when things arise that we're ignorant about, we can get on our knees and talk to the Holy Spirit. We can say, “Holy Spirit, I don't know what to pray for as I ought regarding this situation, but You do, so please help me pray.” And He will be faithful to do just that! ♣

Nuggets of Truth From Campmeeting 2008

“Faith is non-negotiable.

You cannot negotiate with God where faith is concerned.

You don't meet in the middle with God and inject a little bit of what you said and a little bit of what God said. You don't give a little, take a little, and come to an agreement. It's either His way or no way.”

—Charles Cowan



“As a Christian, you want to live your life with a spirit of faith. **Be a person who is always expecting**, no matter what kind of news you hear, no matter what circumstances are thrown at you each day. When you get up to face each new day, face that new day with a spirit of faith.”

—Reggie Scarborough



“Jesus is our role model on having total reliance on the Holy Spirit. There is not one recorded miracle of Jesus that happened before He was filled with the Holy Spirit . . . It won't be until after we are filled that miracles will come forth in our ministries—and you have a ministry. **Jesus wants us to rely on the Holy Spirit the way He did.**”

—Joseph Ripley

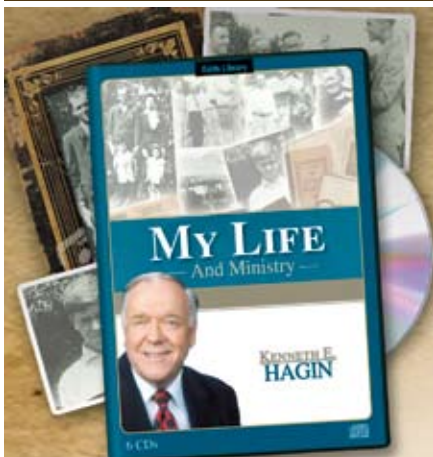


Campmeeting 2008

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NOVEMBER 6-8

2008 Speakers



Kenneth W. Hagin



John Bevere



Steve Houpe

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On the RHEMA USA campus in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma!

Workshop Speakers: Mark Bintliff, Joe Cameneti, Craig W. Hagin, Joe Hernandez, Mike Kalstrup, Bill McNeese, Joel Sims, Jerry Weinzierl, and Rob Wynne.

Kenneth W. Hagin's



Men's Conference

HOTEL INFORMATION

Call the listed hotels directly to reserve your room. To receive the listed discounted prices, ask for the "RHEMA rate." These rates do not reflect state and city taxes.

Holiday Inn Express
(918) 355-3200 >> \$80-\$89
Full Hot Breakfast

Candlewood Suites
(918) 294-9000 >> \$79
Full Kitchens

Renaissance Hotel
(918) 307-2600 >> \$119

Hampton Inn Broken Arrow
(918) 251-6060 >> \$79
Deluxe Continental Breakfast

Clarion Hotel
(918) 258-7085 >> \$59
Continental Breakfast

Staybridge Suites
(918) 461-2100 >> \$85.99-\$110.99
Hot Breakfast Buffet

Comfort Inn Broken Arrow
(918) 258-8585 >> \$59
Continental Breakfast

Best Western Kenosha Inn
(918) 251-2795 >> \$65
Deluxe Continental Breakfast

EVENT SCHEDULE

Thursday

3:00-7:00 p.m. Registration
7:00 p.m. Opening Session >> **John Bevere**

Friday

8:30-8:50 a.m. Worship
9:00-9:50 a.m. Workshops
9:50-10:10 a.m. Fellowship
10:10-10:30 a.m. Worship
10:30-11:45 a.m. General Session >> **Steve Houpe**

Noon Luncheon
1:30-2:20 p.m. Workshops
2:30-5:30 p.m. *Special Bonus Session at Bass Pro Shop
7:00 p.m. General Session >> **Kenneth W. Hagin**

Saturday

7:15-8:15 a.m. Pancake Breakfast
8:30-8:50 a.m. Worship
9:00-9:50 a.m. Workshops
10:00 a.m. Prayer & Communion Service >> **Kenneth W. Hagin**
11:30 a.m. Drawing and Giveaway
Noon Dismissal

Don't miss the Special Bonus Session at Bass Pro Shop on Friday from 2:30-5:30 p.m.!



Registration Information

- ✓ Cost: \$60 (Includes one luncheon and one breakfast)
- ✓ Bring your son for only \$40! (He must be age 16-18 and must register with you.)

Register Now!

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Nuggets of Truth From Campmeeting 2008

"We have to get back to living in expectation and **be influenced by the Spirit of God** and use our gifts for God. It's time we really believe that God will heal people if we lay hands on the sick, really believe God will answer if we pray in faith, really believe we can sow in faith and see an increase, really believe God will turn our cities around if we ask Him to do it."

-Darrell Huffman



"The blood of Jesus isn't just applied in Heaven, **the blood reaches into your conscience and purges and cleanses you.** It silences the voice of self-condemnation and declares that you have been made righteous. The blood reaches to the highest place in Heaven, but it also reaches into the deepest part of your personality, any place that sin has ever hurt or damaged you, and it sets you free."

-Mark Hankins

Campmeeting 2008

Campmeeting 2008:

A Call to Action



For believers around the world, *Campmeeting 2008* served as a call to action. Thousands who attended power-packed services in person—or viewed from around the globe via the Internet and satellite television—were reminded that God has already done His part to empower believers to accomplish His will in the earth.

Now, God expects Christians to step out in strong faith in His Word and total dependence upon the Holy Spirit's power to secure all the Lord's provisions for them personally—and to minister salvation, liberation, and healing to a

dark, troubled world in need of answers.

People from 26 nations and 39 states gathered for the 36th annual *Campmeeting* on the RHEMA USA campus in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, July 20–26. With great expectation, Christians came to receive anointed instruction in the Word of God, impartations of power from the Holy Spirit, and divine direction on banding together to do the work of the ministry in their churches, families, and nations.



Anointed services were geared specially for adults, youth, and children. Adult sessions, held each morning, afternoon, and evening, were transmitted around the world via the Internet on www.iWorshipHere.com. An evening service was televised to homes via satellite by the Daystar Television Network.

In response to powerful teaching and preaching throughout the week, the Lord confirmed His Word with manifestations of physical healing and deliverance from personal hurts, inadequacies, and abuses. People accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior, and others received the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

In a practical message with deep spiritual significance, Kenneth W. Hagin told believers on Tuesday evening to appreciate who they are and to avoid comparing themselves to others as they get about the business of doing what God has called each of them to do.

In his message titled “I Am Not, but I Know the I Am,” he encouraged believers to “get comfortable with you.”

(continued on page 20)



(continued from page 10)

you can walk in the authority of that Name.

God gave you His Word, so you can pattern your life by it and walk in the knowledge of God's will. You've been given the Holy Spirit, and you can now have intimate fellowship with your Heavenly Father. And God gave you His angels to keep you safe from all harm. You have been given spiritual armor so you can defend what belongs to you and conquer anything that comes against you.

With everything God has given you, there is no reason to give up and quit. You have every reason to keep going. How do you do this? By taking one step at a time. It doesn't matter how you feel. Your boots may feel heavy, but just keep on walking and keep on talking.

Never stop saying what the Bible says about you. You are more than a conqueror through Christ Who strengthens you (Rom. 8:37). No weapon formed against you shall prosper (Isa. 54:17).

You are the righteousness of God in Christ (2 Cor. 5:21). All of your needs are met in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:19).

Your circumstances may not look good, but if you get up when you are knocked down and keep walking, you will find that success is just around the corner. And when you feel tired, reach down on the inside and give it a little extra.

William Jennings Bryan said, "Destiny is not a matter of chance; but a matter of choice. It is not a thing to be waited for; it is a thing to be achieved."³ The choice is up to you. Are you going to quit, or will you decide to keep going? Remember that when you are determined to keep fighting, your fight will never be alone. The Lord of Hosts, the God of the Universe, will be there to fight with you. You are destined to be more than a conqueror in everything you do! ♠

Footnotes:

1 <http://www.quoteworld.org/quotes/3761>

2 <http://www.quotationspage.com/quote/4039html>

3 <http://www.quoteworld.org/quotes/2011>

Avoiding Pitfalls

God has destined you for victory in every area of your life. But it is up to you to keep pushing until you cross the finish line. You can't be defeated if you don't quit. Keep in mind, that when you are close to the finish line, the devil will try to take you out. This is his final attempt to get you to quit. Here are some pitfalls the enemy uses to keep you from finishing what God has called you to do.

1. Procrastination

Some people never get close to the finish line because they wait until everything is perfect before they step out. But what usually happens is that they never accomplish anything. Start where you are, and tackle each obstacle as it arises.

2. Distractions

It's easy to become distracted by things that look good. But you have to ask yourself, "Is this what God wants me to do?" Be sure to stay focused on what God has placed in your heart.

3. Fear

Fear will paralyze you and keep you from stepping out in God's plan for your life. But the Word of God will give you a firm foundation for each step you take.

No matter what walk of life you are in and no matter what road God has destined for you to travel, you can rise to the top and stay head and shoulders above everyone else. God sees you as a winner. Anytime you feel like quitting, look to the Greater One in you. He will give you the wisdom you need and enable you to win in every situation.



Nuggets of Truth from Campmeeting 2008

"God will help us accomplish the vision and plan that He has given us. **You can't give up and you can't give in.** There is a time and a season for everything in your life . . . It takes time for God to develop you. Sometimes people want to prepare three years for 30 years of ministry. Jesus trained 30 years for three of ministry."



—Randy Grier



"Deuteronomy 28:2 (NKJV) says, 'And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you.' It doesn't matter what is coming against you: your body, your church, your finances, or your family. The important thing is *what is in you*. **Whatever is in you is going to come upon you and overtake you.** If you've got victory in you, victory is going to come on you!"

—Scott Webb

Campmeeting 2008

Lynette Hagin: A Philippians 4:13 Woman!



Most of us have heard of “the Proverbs 31 woman,” but what is a “Philippians 4:13 woman”? It’s a woman for whom there is no “mission impossible.” It’s a woman who truly believes what the Bible says in Philippians 4:13: *“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me, (NKJV).”* And that’s a perfect description of Lynette Hagin!

For as long as Lynette can remember, she’s known she had a call of God on her life to be in ministry. Raised in a pastor’s home, ministry was second nature to Lynette. “Some people struggle with yielding to God’s call,” she explains, “but I would have been disappointed if the Lord had not called me to minister. I love to minister to people!”

“My dad [Rev. V. E. Tipton] was a very nurturing pastor. He loved his people, and he was there for his flock—day and night. And through his example, I developed that same love for people.”

“Lynette, the words, **‘It can’t be done’** do not exist in your vocabulary!”

—V. E. Tipton, Lynette Hagin’s Father

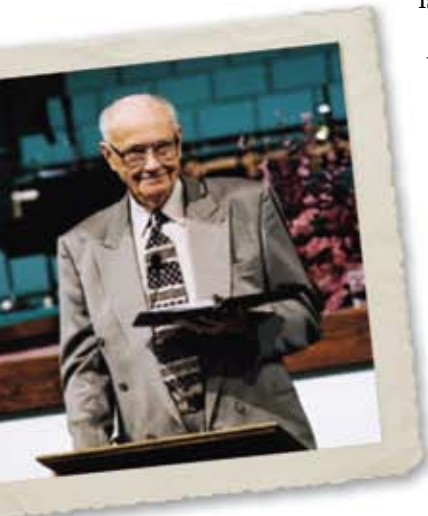
Lynette’s dad was the first person who instilled Philippians 4:13 in her spirit. When she was a little girl, he told her, “Lynette, the words, ‘It can’t be done’ do not exist in your vocabulary!” And she believed him!

When you ask her how she developed such a close relationship with the Lord, her voice trembles. “When I was growing up, I wasn’t a talkative child. When I had a problem, the only Person I talked to was God. So He became my best Friend.” And He’s still her very best Friend!

Lynette has no hesitation when she talks about her calling. “I think every minister has certain things they minister on that are their true passion. For me, I love to minister to people on the subject of prayer. I also love to help people in their relationship with the Lord and in learning how to be led by the Spirit. But, above all, I encourage people by telling them, ‘You can make it!’

“One of the things I love the most about ministering on the subject of prayer is seeing the men open up more to their spirits. It’s so wonderful to see them step out of the mental realm and open up their hearts to hear the Spirit of God.”

Lynette is truly a woman of faith, but she’s real enough to let you know that her faith walk didn’t happen overnight. As a matter of fact, if you’re ever in conversation with her, you will find she’s so real and down-to-earth that you’ll soon feel like she’s your next-door neighbor or dearest friend.



In reality, Lynette Hagin is the Director of RHEMA Bible Training Center and General Manager of Kenneth Hagin Ministries. She also assists her husband in pastoring RHEMA Bible Church and is an internationally-known speaker, author, and conference host.

How does she accomplish all of that and still find time to bake a wonderful chocolate pie for her children and grandchildren? How does she find time to “make memories” with

She thought her role would always be “behind the scenes.” But God had something else in mind!

her family, including her husband, Kenneth W. Hagin, their children, Craig and Denise and their spouses, Mia and Don, along with their five grandsons, Cameron, Blake, Skylar, Trevor, and Wesley? If you ask her how she does it, she’ll answer you by quoting her favorite Bible verse. You guessed it—Philippians 4:13: “*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*”

One of the greatest lessons God has taught Lynette is how to keep smiling even when it’s hard to smile. She recalls the first time she and her husband had to minister in place of her father-in-law, Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin.

“Honestly, my stomach was in knots the whole morning before I was supposed to minister. Everybody knew Brother Hagin was scheduled to be there, but it was just me!” she confided.

“Then a man came up to me after the service and blurted out, ‘Well, I was quite disappointed that Brother Hagin wasn’t here because I wanted to see Brother Hagin. On top of that, when I saw it was a woman speaking, I wondered what I could learn from you!’ That’s when I really started smiling . . . to keep from crying!”

Lynette continues, “But then the man said, ‘Do you know what? The revelation you’ve taught us about prayer is wonderful! I’m so excited about praying!’”

If you ask Lynette about the hard times she’s gone through in her life, she says quietly, “I’ve never seen myself as a victim. I’ve always seen myself as a victor in the Lord.”

But then she shares candidly, “One of the hardest times I’ve experienced was during the first few years of RHEMA Bible Training Center. My husband was setting up the curriculum for the Bible school, but I was at home, taking care of two small children. It wasn’t that I didn’t enjoy taking

care of my children at home, but I wasn’t directly involved in the ministry anymore!

“Those were dark days for me. I began to spend a lot of time in prayer, and the Lord told me, ‘I am bringing you through some things that will help others in the future.’”

One of the things God spoke to Lynette about during that season of prayer was ministering to women. Throughout her life, she had seen many women who felt they were victims, and her message has always been, “You’re not a victim. You can do it!”

The Lord told her, “I’m raising up a new breed of women—women of balance.” Little did Lynette know when scheduling her first *Kindle the Flame*® Women’s Conference years later that it would be held only a few days after the 9/11 attack. But God knew!

It was a pivotal moment as those first 1,400 women gathered on the campus of RHEMA Bible Training Center USA and God began to raise up an army of strong, faith-filled women of balance and valor.

God has also led her husband, Kenneth, to minister to men in an annual *A Call to Arms*® Men’s Conference, and they both feel a strong calling to minister to couples. Above all, Kenneth and Lynette Hagin have a driving passion to win souls to the Lord. They love to let people know who Jesus is and to help others get to know the Lord as their best Friend!

Lynette has always been comfortable “behind the scenes” in the ministry. It doesn’t matter to her whether she’s changing diapers in the nursery or speaking from the platform. She just wants to do what-

ever God wants her to do. As a matter of fact, she never dreamed she’d be standing in front of large audiences and sharing her heart. She thought her role would always be “behind the scenes.” But God had something else in mind!

Over the past few years, Lynette has spoken at a multitude of conferences, campmeetings, crusades, and church services. She shares wonderful stories from her own personal experiences that really make the Bible come alive. Not only do her stories bring the Bible to life, but her stories also give people the courage to do the things she is teaching them to do.

The world desperately needs women like Lynette Hagin today. She has something to say that speaks to people’s hearts, and she believes what the Bible says. She believes that Philippians 4:13 is true for all of us. Her message is clear: “You can make it, no matter what you’re going through! Through the Lord Jesus Christ, you can be a victor—because God will strengthen you!”





RHEMA

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In Conjunction With *Winter Bible Seminar*

February 15-20

RHEMA Worldwide Homecoming is an event unlike any other in the history of Kenneth Hagin Ministries. RHEMA alumni from the RBTCs around the world are invited to 'come home' to RBTC USA in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, during *Winter Bible Seminar 2009* to experience RHEMA's first international homecoming.

But if you're not a graduate of RBTC, don't feel left out. If you are a follower of Kenneth Hagin Ministries, you are a member of the RHEMA family! Experience the magnitude. Witness the fruit. See the impact. RHEMA is changing the world.

Highlights of the week:

- * International guest speakers
- * Special music by the original RHEMA Singers & Band
- * Parade of flags by the states and nations represented
- * Tours of the RHEMA USA campus

www.rhema.org/homecoming

Summer Blitz 2008

Turn It Up!



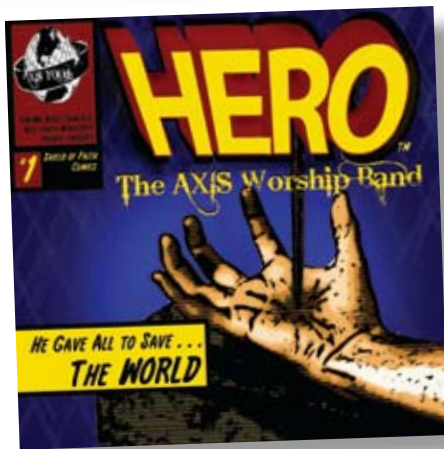
As the lights went down and the music began, teenagers rushed to the front of the stage—jumping, singing, hands in the air. But this wasn't a concert. It's *Summer Blitz*, AXIS® Youth Ministries' annual event held in conjunction with *Campmeeting*.

The theme for *Summer Blitz 2008* was "Amplify." The youth of today were challenged to amplify Christ in their lives and make a difference in their generation. "Some people are so quiet with their beliefs that you never know what they stand for," said RHEMA's Junior High Youth Pastor Keith Nachbor. "We need to live our lives at a level where those around us can hear us and know what we believe."

Brent Bailey, RHEMA's Senior High Youth Pastor, told how many radio station ads used to say, "Tune us in, turn us up, and rip the knob off!" He challenged the more than 500 teenagers in attendance to do the same with Christ in their lives.

"Once Christ is first place in your life, rip the knob off, so to speak, so that nothing else can take His place! Don't tune in to other things, looking for something else that will give you satisfaction. He is what you are looking for, so why bother searching other places? God is the answer you are looking for, so *tune into His Spirit, turn up the volume, and rip the knob off!*"

he•ro—a legendary figure often of divine descent endowed with great strength or ability



HERO, the AXIS® Worship Band's second CD, was released during *Summer Blitz 2008*, and the music is amazing! It is comparable to other popular modern, Spirit-filled worship albums. All of the lyrics and music were written by members of the band, who frequently travel with the Hagins on their crusades.

A Note From the Hagins

Our youth at RHEMA have dared to believe in the Ultimate Hero who gave His all to save the world. They have made their Hero, Jesus Christ, the center of their lives, and this recording is their way of telling His story to others. It's not just a fantasy comic-book tale—it is the story of a real-life relationship with a real and living Jesus. We pray that you will enjoy *HERO*, the CD, but we also pray that you will come to know Jesus, the Savior of the world, as your personal Hero.

God bless,
Kenneth & Lynette Hagin

HERO

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Testimonies From Summer Blitz

During the five-day event, many youth were saved, healed, and filled with the Holy Spirit, and many rededicated their lives to Christ. The following are a few testimonies from some of the youth who attended.



"After Brent said he wanted anyone of us who were fired up to go pray for people, I saw a guy on crutches and started praying for him. When I prayed for his leg, he moved it a little bit. I told him, 'It's yours. You've just got to believe.' He started walking without his crutches, and I thanked God for working through me. All I know is I'm going to 'turn it up' wherever I go. This is just the beginning!"

—M.C., 18 years old, Broken Arrow, OK

"I got bucked off a horse, hit a tree, and cracked a bone in my arm. If I touched my arm at all, it would hurt badly. On Wednesday afternoon, I went forward to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. When they were praying for me, they touched my arm, and I noticed it didn't hurt anymore. So I took the sling off. It doesn't hurt at all. Even the bruises are gone."

—H.M., 16 years old, Tiawah, OK

"I've been having back and stomach problems. A few nights ago, when Keith laid hands on me, I was totally healed. I haven't had any back or stomach problems since then."

—Z.M., 11 years old, Tulsa, OK

"When I came to *Summer Blitz*, I felt like I was the most unloved person in the world, like I didn't deserve anything and that Jesus shouldn't have even died for me. Keith prayed for me, and now I feel like everyone loves me. I'm just so happy!"

—D.B., 13 years old, Foyle, OK

Campmeeting 2008

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spare the land from judgment. As the darkness of today's world grows darker, it is time for Christians to pray for the United States and other nations so deserved judgment will not come, Mrs. Hagin said.

Those who are obedient to pray should be encouraged by the promise contained in Second Chronicles 7:14—healing and deliverance will come to their land if they humble themselves, pray, seek God's face, and turn from their sin.

"God is listening to your prayers," Mrs. Hagin said. "He's waiting for us to pray! He is pleased with our prayers." She then led the audience in extensive intercessory prayer for the nation.

During a Thursday night message

(continued from page 14)

"You are unique. There's nobody else like you in the world," Rev. Hagin said. "Learn how to be comfortable with yourself, walk with God, and do His will, because we are who we are and not somebody else. . . .

Don't let the enemy tell you that you're worthless and keep you in a state of low self-esteem. You are a child of the King. You are somebody."

Rev. Hagin noted that believers haunted by memories of past failures, addictions, and poor reputations need to realize that they have been made righteous by the blood of Christ, according to First Corinthians 6:11.

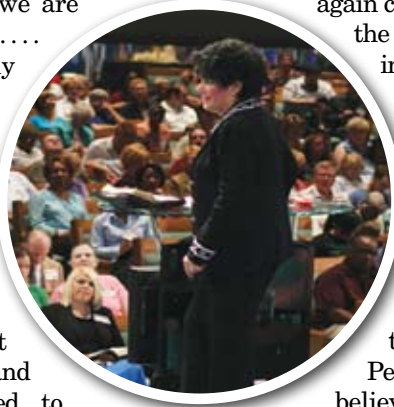
At the conclusion of the message, believers who struggled with feelings of inadequacy were invited to

come forward for prayer. Kenneth and Lynette Hagin laid hands on each of them so the power of the Holy Spirit could set them free.

That same day, Mrs. Hagin ministered in the morning service on how born-again children of God can change the course of nations through intercessory prayer.

In a message titled "Called to Action," she reminded her hearers of the need to persist in believing God's Word, confessing the truth, and interceding for the nation in keeping with the admonition of First Peter 4:7. That verse urges believers to be watchful and remain fervent in prayer.

God is looking for diligent intercessors. In Ezekiel 22:30–31, He expressed His deep disappointment that no intercessor could be found to stand in the gap for ancient Israel so God would



titled "The Past Tense of God's Word," Kenneth W. Hagin told the audience that Christ's sacrifice on the cross finished the work and established the victory for all believers. Christians need only to tap into God's provisions by faith in order to walk in liberation, abundance, and the power of the Holy Spirit.



“The words ‘It is finished’ constitute the greatest emancipation proclamation that has ever been rendered,” Rev. Hagin declared. “Because when Jesus said ‘It is finished’ on the cross, He meant that everything that mankind would ever need to live the abundant life was taken care of in full.”

The powerful service concluded with a healing line. People throughout the audience indicated they had received manifestations of healing after Kenneth and Lynette Hagin laid hands on them.

On Saturday morning, Craig W. Hagin also ministered to the sick. He taught on the need to walk by faith in the promises of God’s Word that healing is available today for all believers. Developing faith for healing—and



faith to receive any of God’s promises—should be done before the enemy attacks with adverse circumstances, illness, and other hardships.

“You need to be meditating on the Word for healing when you’re completely well and think you’re doing great, because that’s when you file

things away and gather strength,” he said. “The same devil who tries to tamper with my life tampers with your life, and the same struggles you face, I face. If I can build my faith and walk in the Word, you can do it too.”

Several believers who came forward for healing indicated they had received a healing touch from God. In conclusion, Craig Hagin prophesied of the need for Christians to sanctify themselves fully to the Lord’s work.

Throughout the week, ministers echoed proclamations of God’s truth that through faith in Jesus Christ, obedience to God’s Word, and dependence upon the Holy Spirit, believers from all walks of life can be anointed with supernatural power to carry out the Lord’s work in their churches and communities. ♥

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SEED THOUGHTS

BY LYNETTE

"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)

One attitude that I see displayed frequently these days is ingratitude. I think that often in climbing the ladder of success, we forget to be thankful in our present situation. It grieves me when I see children ungrateful for what their parents endeavor to provide for them.

In the generation I grew up in, we were thankful for small things. I was excited when my dad grilled a steak on occasion. I knew my parents sacrificed to buy food that expensive. We often ate beans and potatoes for our meals. That was all my family could afford. We rarely ate out—that was considered a luxury. I have not forgotten those days, and therefore I constantly thank the Lord for His many provisions.

When my husband and I go out for a special celebration at a nice restaurant, I am grateful. We often reminisce during those times of how as newlyweds we could only afford one corn dog and one soft drink, so we split that. Even in those circumstances we were just thankful to God that we were able to purchase one corn dog. That may sound trivial to you—but I feel that we need to remember our humble beginnings.

Remembering those things helps me be grateful for God's blessings. I still remember our first house as a married couple. When the cold north wind blew, we almost froze. Our house was so poorly insulated that the curtains blew away from the walls. We'd turn on the furnace, a heater in each room, and the oven, and we'd still be cold. However, we did not complain—we were just thankful to have a house.

Today, every time I pull into my driveway, I say, "thank you, Lord, for my house."

The Lord wants us to be grateful for what He does for us. He desires that we thank Him and praise Him. David, called "a man after God's own heart," continually showed gratitude. The psalms are full of David's praise to God. I encourage you to thank the Lord continually. Every day I thank Him for a well body, for being my provider, and for my family.

I also encourage you to express your appreciation to your loved ones and friends. Don't wait until it is too late. Many times as I have attended memorial services and heard words of praise spoken about the deceased by family and friends, I have wondered, "Did the loved ones express that appreciation while the person was alive?" Learning from that, we all would do well to give roses to people while they can still receive them.

Finally I encourage you to be content with what you have. So many people look continually to the future and do not enjoy what God has provided for them in the present. When I grow dissatisfied with my present situation, I remember the many trials that the Apostle Paul faced. Yet he wrote in Philippians 4:11, ". . . I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content."

Many years ago when my husband and I moved to Oklahoma, I grew very discontented. I loved Texas and was not thrilled about moving. I kept comparing Oklahoma to Texas. I missed the Dallas shopping malls. Finally I had to take this scripture literally and say, "Lord, I choose to be content in the state that You have me in now." It amazed me how much my attitude affected my state of mind. I grew content with where I was and found many things in Oklahoma that I preferred over Texas. Today, I tell my husband, "I am so glad that we live in Oklahoma."

I encourage you to practice being grateful daily. Make words of appreciation a natural part of your conversation. Become content with where you are. And most of all, make praising and thanking God a part of your daily life.

Lynette

New Book by Lynette Hagin!

In her new book *Seed Thoughts Devotional*, Lynette Hagin shares spiritual wisdom in amazingly practical applications for many personal needs—including family, marriage, career, stress, finances, healing, and more. Order your copy today and enjoy 52 weeks of life-changing inspiration!

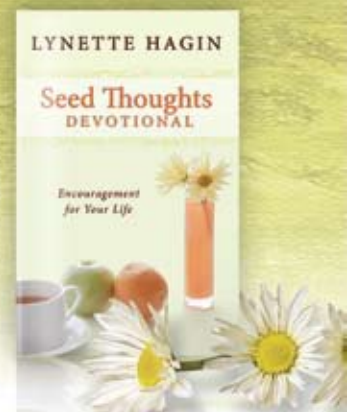
Seed Thoughts Devotional

(book, Lynette Hagin)

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