

Count Your Blessings!



Heart to Heart

With Kenneth W. Hagin

This month in the United States of America we celebrate Thanksgiving—a time that was set aside by early leaders of this country to give thanks and praise to God. But how can we possibly thank the Lord for *all* the good things He’s done for us? He’s done so much!

Sometimes when we think about what we *don’t have*, we tend to become negative. But I love the old song that says, “Count your blessings. Name them one by one. Count your many blessings. See what God has done!”*

If I could talk to you personally, you would probably have a story to tell me of God’s goodness, mercy, provision, and protection. You would tell me how God has guided you and watched over you—how He’s healed you and blessed your life!

The wonderful thing about the Gospel is the fact that our God cares about us! Jesus said in Matthew 10:30 that the hairs on our head are numbered. God loves us so much that He sent His Son Jesus Christ to die on a cross so we would be redeemed from our sins. If we can’t think of anything else to be thankful for, we can thank God for the saving power of the Gospel.

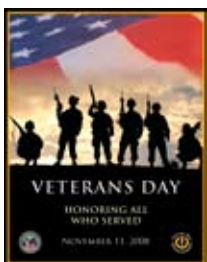
What do we have to be thankful for? We have a Heavenly Father who is at every moment saying to us, “Whatever you need, I’m here for you!” We can go to the Lord in our hour of need.

I want to ask you a question today. Where would you be right now without the Lord? That’s a sobering question, isn’t it? Why don’t you lift your hands and lift your heart to God and begin to thank Him for His blessings!

Let’s do what the psalmist says in Psalm 106:1, “*Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.*” I believe if we’ll count our blessings *every* day, our hearts will always be filled with praise and thanksgiving to our God!

Kenneth W. Hagin

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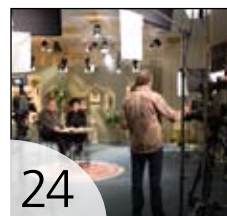


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(F-earless, A-nointed, I-nward-Led, T-rustworthy H-eirs of God) If you're a kid, this page is for you. We've included Bible lessons, puzzles, and riddles for you to enjoy. Have fun!



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Tapping Into the **POWER** of Praise

KENNETH W. HAGIN

(Editor's Note: This article was adapted from the book The Untapped Power in Praise.)



There is power in praise! The power of God is released to the believer while the believer praises God. But to be effective, praise must come from the heart and be a lifestyle—not just a mechanical gimmick used as a means of escape when we get into trouble. That's not true praise. True praise flows out of a loving relationship with our Heavenly Father; we praise God because we love and trust Him, not because we're trying to manipulate Him to do something for us.

In the healing of the ten lepers in Luke 17:11–19, we get a glimpse of one of the benefits

of praise and thanksgiving. While Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem, He came in contact with 10 lepers who cried out to Him for cleansing. When you study Bible types, you find that apart from being an actual disease, leprosy is also a type of sin. In reality, these 10 lepers were healed of a literal physical disease. But we can also say that anyone who has sin in his life is in need of cleansing by the blood of Jesus.

All 10 lepers cried out to Jesus for cleansing, and Jesus cleansed them all. But only one of the 10 lepers returned to Jesus to give thanks, and Jesus commended him for it. In fact, Jesus indicated that this leper's praise and thanksgiving had something to do with his faith making him *whole*.

While all of the lepers were cleansed, only one was made *whole*! And he was made whole after he spent some time in thanksgiving! This leper received an immediate return or reward from his praise—he was made whole.

The phrase “*he was a Samaritan*” in Luke 17:16 is significant. In Jesus’ day, the Jews and the Samaritans hated each other because the Jews considered the Samaritans a half-breed race.

In fact, rather than take the short way to Jerusalem and go through Samaria, the Jews would walk miles out of the way, simply to avoid passing through Samaria.

However, I imagine it didn’t matter to any of these lepers that one of them was a Samaritan because they were *all* covered with leprosy. They were all considered unclean outcasts, and they all wanted to be healed and set free.

When people are hurting or they’ve become social outcasts because of sickness or disease, cultural distinctions become unimportant. People all over the world have the same basic need to be healthy and fulfilled in life.

This Samaritan—the one who was an outcast in the eyes of society—was the only one who came back to give

God will always answer the cry of the one whose **heart is hungry**, whoever the person may be or whatever his problems may be.

thanks to God. God doesn’t look on man the same way people do. God’s love knows no limitations. His love is extended to those whom society has long disregarded. God will always answer the cry of the one whose heart is hungry, whoever the person may be or whatever his problems may be.

Also, many times when we read the story of the 10 lepers and see the ingratitude of the nine who never returned to give thanks to God, we condemn them saying, “Oh, isn’t that terrible! Only one of them returned to praise God!” But how many times do *we* as God’s own children fall short of praising Him!

We must always remember to live in an attitude of thanksgiving to God for His bountiful blessings to us.

Many times new converts are so thrilled to be a part of the family of God, and their praise and gratitude to God is refreshing. They sometimes put those of us who have been born again for some time to shame by their exuberant praise!

For example, I witnessed as one particular young man was saved in a church service recently, and it was gratifying to see his demonstration of praise and his gratitude to God. His praise was infectious and joyful. He was so grateful to God for his salvation, he kept exclaiming, “I feel like a brand-new person. I feel totally different! I’m brand-new!”

Very often people who have been born again or healed are deeply grateful to God and praise Him continually for His blessings. Yet sometimes it seems that those of us who have been saved for many years and have walked under the protective hand of God fail to praise God as we should. It’s almost as if we take God’s blessings for granted.

I believe Christians are missing out on the power that is available to them through praise. Many times they don’t realize that praise is a demonstration of their faith.

Romans 4:20–21 tells us that praise empowers our faith.

ROMANS 4:20–21 (Amplified)
20 No unbelief or distrust made him [Abraham] waver (doubtingly question) concerning the promise of God, but he GREW STRONG and was EMPOWERED BY FAITH as he gave PRAISE and GLORY to God,
21 Fully satisfied and assured that God was able and mighty to keep His word and to do what He had promised.

This passage tells us that our giving praise and glory to God enables us to grow strong and be empowered by faith. When our back is against the wall, so to

(continued on page 7)

Praise: A Reservoir of Power

Christians have yet to tap into the unlimited power of praise. It is the greatest reservoir of power the world has yet to see demonstrated. Praise makes the power of God available to the believer. God’s power released in praise is the same power He used to create the earth, sun, moon, stars, and the rest of the universe. It’s the same power God used to create mankind.

This awesome power of God can be tapped into by our sincere, heartfelt praise. We have not fathomed the depths of power that praising God releases on our behalf.

To experience this power and live in victory, first make sure you are obedient to God and His Word. Determine to live a life of consecration to God in every area of your life. Then learn to consistently praise God from a heart of love and appreciation.

Victory is always assured when you stand in faith on God’s Word. Standing on God’s Word in absolute faith and confidence, and praising God for



your victory before you see it manifest in the natural, will take you beyond the natural. It will take you beyond what you ever imagined or thought possible, because God’s ways and His power are so far and high above our ways or ability.

So let praise become a way of life for you, not just something you do once in awhile. But let it become so natural to you that you automatically praise God no matter what circumstances you face.



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speak, and every circumstance is against our success in life, instead of griping and complaining, we ought to begin to praise God and give Him glory. Changing our focus will change our life!

Putting our trust in the Lord changes our focus from being on the *problem* to being on *God*. Our focus—what we are giving our attention to—is an all-important key to succeeding in life. And praise helps us put our focus on God and keep it there!

You'll find that praise is one way God has provided for us to rise above those circumstances in life which sometimes try to press in upon us and keep us down and discouraged. God knows the power that is released into our lives as we praise Him. If we'll begin to actively demonstrate our faith by praising Him, we'll find ourselves on the other side of those seemingly impossible circumstances! ♠

FAITH IN ACTION

Rejoicing in the Lord Always!

"Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice."

—Philippians 4:4

The Apostle Paul instructs us to rejoice at all times. He knew it was to our benefit to stay in an attitude of constant praise! Here are some benefits of tapping into the power of praise:

Benefit #1

Continually rejoicing and praising God lifts our spirits and causes us to see the test or trial we may be facing from a different perspective—namely from God's viewpoint.

Benefit #2

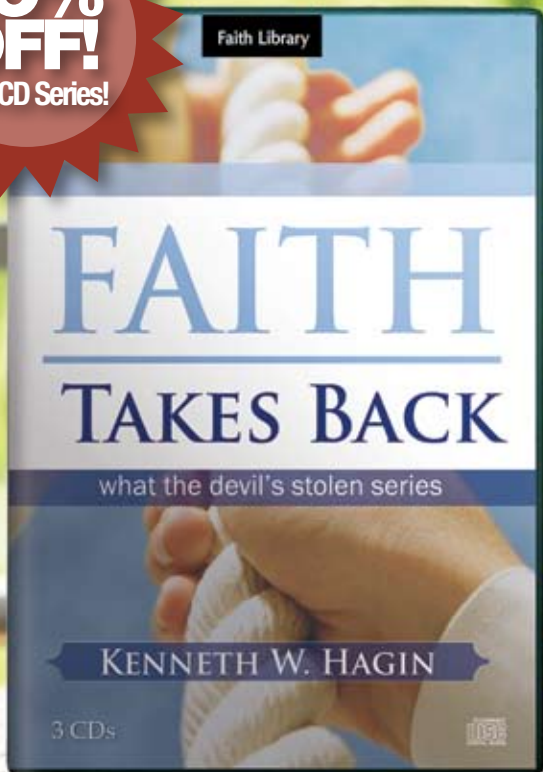
Praise lifts and encourages our spirits to continue standing in faith instead of giving up.

Benefit #3

Expressing our confidence in God through praise will bring us peace in the midst of any storm.

When the pressure is on and you're under great strain, spend extra time waiting on God in an attitude of praise. If you'll be faithful to do this, you'll find that instead of the pressure getting to you, you'll get to the pressure!

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Timeless
Teachings
of Kenneth E. Hagin

Resisting THE Devil



(Editor's Note: This article was adapted from the book How to Keep Your Healing.)

I was holding a meeting for a friend of mine a number of years ago when I was awakened at 1:30 in the morning by alarming symptoms in my body. (I knew something about them because I'd been born with a deformed heart and became bedfast from it. Doctors had said I could die at any minute, but I was healed by the power of God when I was 17.) These severe symptoms were in the region of my heart and chest.

The devil said to my mind, "Uh-huh, you're going to die. That's exactly what's going to happen to you. You've just been lucky you got by this far. Remember what the doctors said?"

(That sounds like something the devil would say, doesn't it?)

"This is one time you're not going to get your healing," he kept repeating like a voice speaking to my mind. "Now it's all come back, and you're going to die. In fact, you're dying now."

Let me tell you what I did. It was in the winter-time, so I pulled the covers up over my head and

I didn't feel like laughing. And while there is such a thing as laughter inspired by the Spirit of God where you just can't help it, this laughter wasn't Spirit-inspired. **I put this one on.**

started laughing. Now, I didn't feel like laughing. And while there is such a thing as laughter inspired by the Spirit of God where you just can't help it, this laughter wasn't Spirit-inspired. I put this one on. I made myself do it. I

covered my head (because I didn't want to wake up the rest of the people in the house) and laughed out loud. It seems to me I must have laughed about 10 minutes.

Finally the devil asked, "What are you laughing about?"

"I'm laughing at you," I said.

(He doesn't like to be laughed at any more than you do.) "What are you laughing at me about?" he asked.

"I'm laughing at you," I said, "because you said I'm not going to get healed."

"That's right. This is one time you're not going to get healed."

I said, "Ha, ha, ha." (I made myself do it.) I went on and on and on.

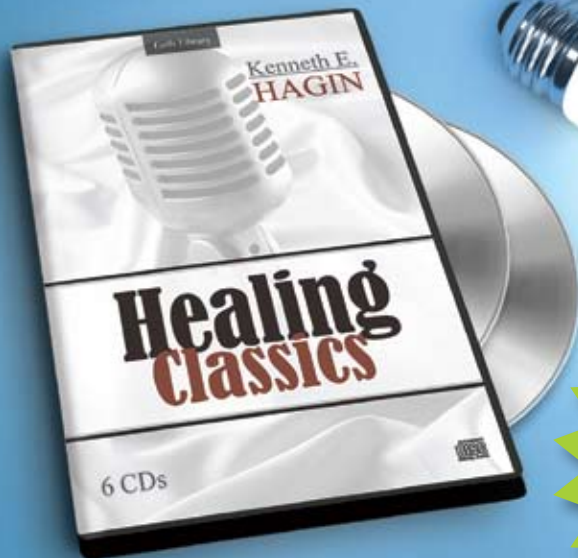
FAITH IN ACTION

Healing Scriptures

Faith begins where the will of God is known. The Bible is the written will of God, and we can build our faith on any given subject by reading what the Bible has to say about that subject. Consider the following healing scriptures, believing that God wants you well and has already provided for your healing.

- "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil . . ." (Acts 10:38)
- "And ye shall serve the Lord your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and [He] will take sickness away from the midst of thee" (Exod. 23:25).
- "There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling" (Ps. 91:10).
- "He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions" (Ps. 107:20).
- ". . . Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses" (Matt. 8:17).
- "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage" (Gal. 5:1).
- "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed" (1 Peter 2:24).
- "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4).

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Finally the devil asked again, "What are you laughing about?"

"I've already told you," I said. "I'll tell you again: I'm laughing at you."

"What are you laughing at me about?"

"You said I'm not going to get healed."

"That's right. This is one time you're not going to get your healing."

I said, "Ha, ha, Mr. Devil. Sure I'm not going to get it. What do I need to get it for? Jesus already got it for me! I don't need to get it. All I have to do is accept it."

"Now, in case you can't read," I said, "I'll just quote First Peter 2:24 to you. It

When doubt comes, just say, **"Doubt, I resist you. I refuse to doubt."** When fear comes, speak to it. Say, **"Fear, I resist you. I refuse to fear."**

says, *'Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye WERE healed.'*

"If we WERE, I WAS. So I don't have to get it; Jesus already got

it for me, and because He got it for me, I accept it, claim it, and have it. Now you just gather up your little symptoms and get out of here."

You never saw anybody scurry about, gather up his belongings, and take off as fast in your life.

The Bible says to resist the devil and he'll flee from you (James 4:7).

I don't know what some people are waiting on before they start resisting. Maybe they're waiting until something comes along with long horns, a long tail, hooves, and a pitchfork.

Friend, resist anything that is of the devil, and you're resisting the devil.

When doubt comes, just say, "Doubt, I resist you. I refuse to doubt." When fear comes, speak to it. Say, "Fear, I resist you. I refuse to fear." When sickness comes, speak to it. Say, "Sickness, I refuse to be sick. I refuse sickness. I resist you in Jesus' Name. You must go." And it will leave. You've got that right.

I don't know why some Christians don't stand against the devil and against everything that is of the devil. Sickness is not of God. Sickness does not come from Heaven. Sickness is not a blessing.

I'm not going to accept anything that doesn't come from Heaven. I know sickness doesn't come from Heaven, because there's none up there. Someone said of his sickness, "God put it on me." Well, God stole it if He did. There's no sickness in Heaven! God would have to steal sickness from the devil to put it on you. Do you see how ridiculous that is?

No, God didn't put that sickness on you—the devil did! Then the devil lied to you and told you that God did it, and you accepted it.

Repeating the following confession—getting it into your spirit—will help you receive and keep your healing.

When Symptoms Return

You can receive healing as a result of another person's faith or from manifestations of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. But you must develop your faith in God's Word concerning His healing provision for you in order to keep your healing when symptoms return later.

With your faith grounded in God's Word concerning healing, you must then stand firm and say, "Devil, you can't put that sickness back on me! The Lord has healed me. I won't accept it back."

After your healing manifests, the way to stay healed is the same way a new convert grows in the Lord. When someone gives his life to the Lord, he must establish himself in

the Word of God to become spiritually mature. Likewise, you need to become established in the Word of God concerning healing if you are going to stay healed.

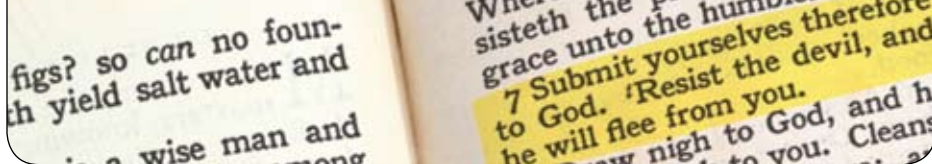
After you have received your healing, the devil will try to put symptoms back on your body. When a symptom reappears, your first thought may be, *Oh, I thought the Lord healed me. I guess He didn't.* Next, you begin to say, "I guess I lost my healing." By doing this, you open the door and allow sickness to come back on you.

Instead, stand up to the devil. Use the Name of Jesus and the Word of God to command the symptoms to leave your body. The symptoms have no choice but to obey you as you speak God's Word!

Confession:

In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I exercise authority over this body of mine. Sickness and disease, I refuse to allow you to stay. This body, this house, belongs to God. It is a temple of God.

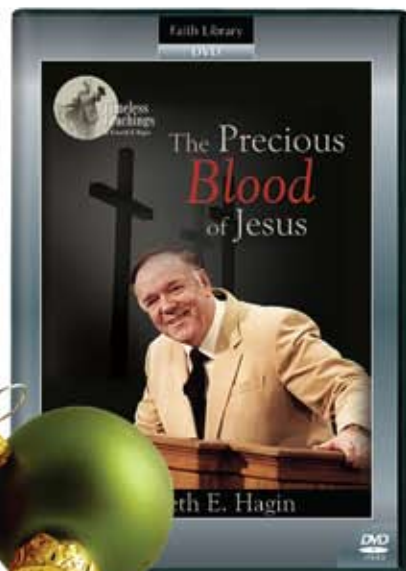
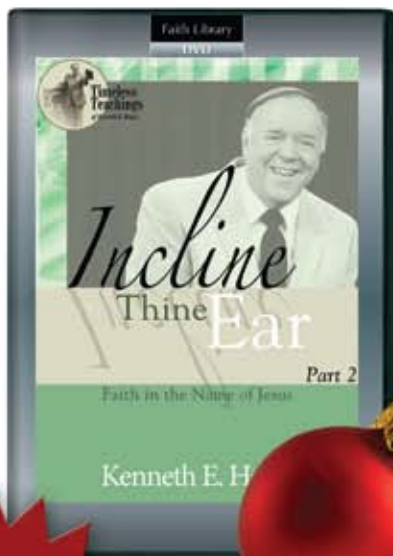
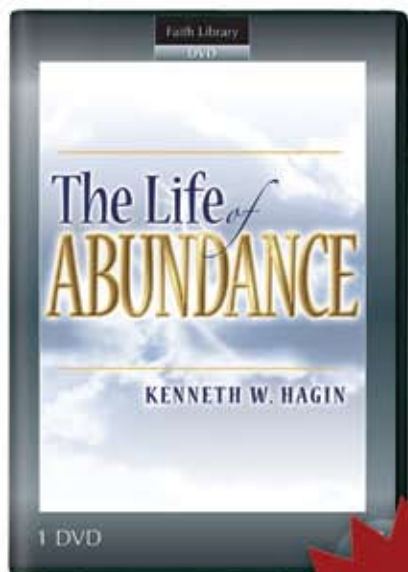
Satan, you have no right to trespass on God's property. Now get out. Leave my body. I've got authority over you. I know it, you know it, and God knows it. I am holding fast to what I have, and I am keeping my healing! 🛡️



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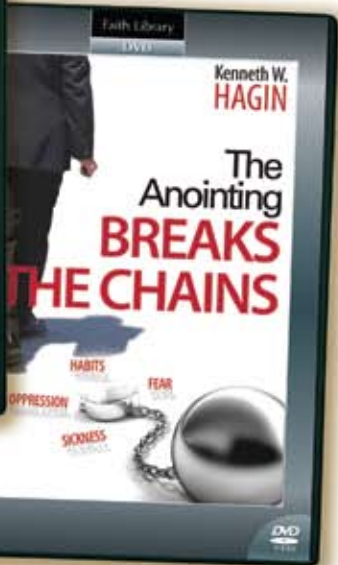


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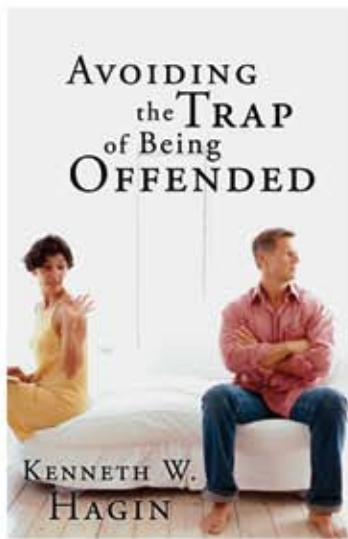
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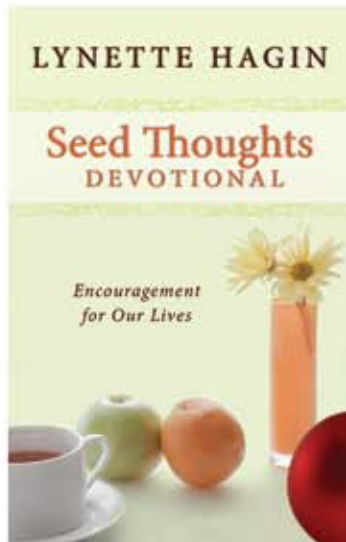
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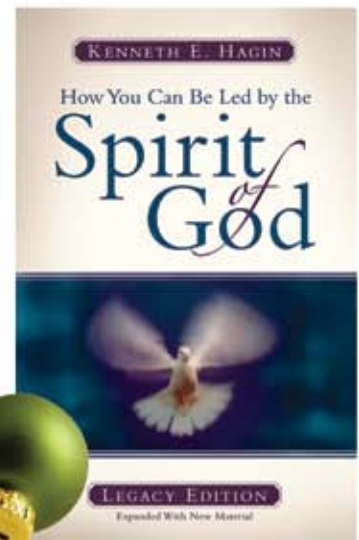
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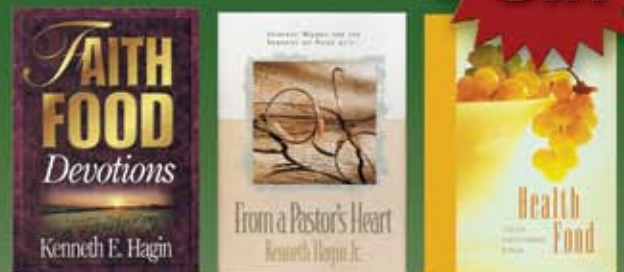


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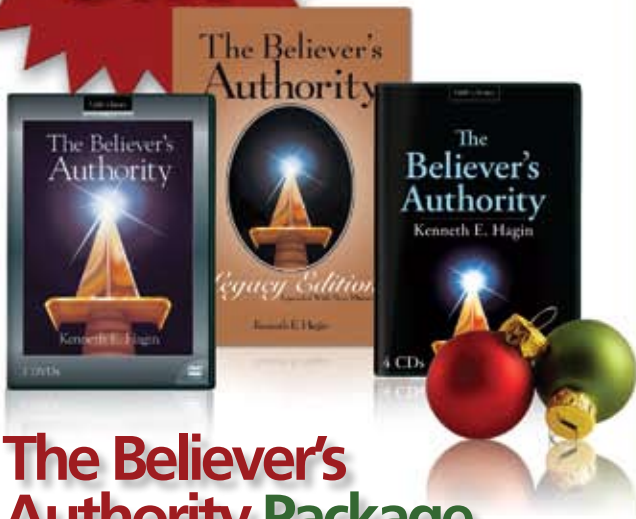
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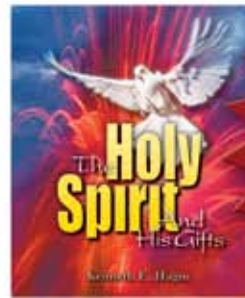
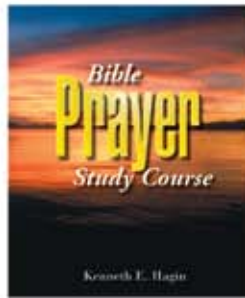
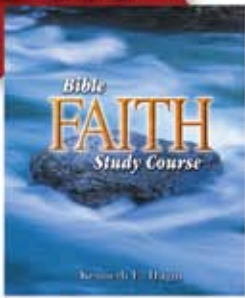
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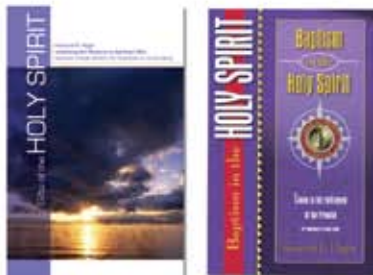


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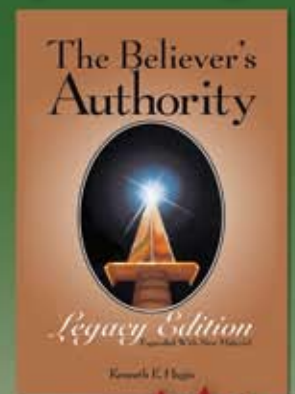
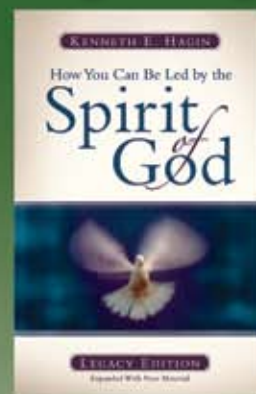
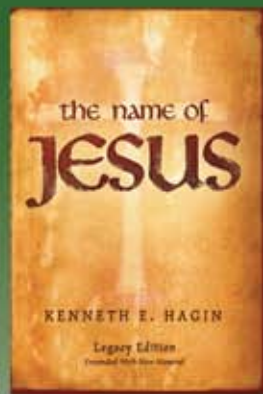
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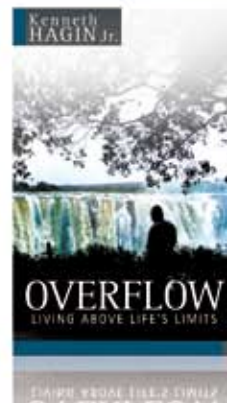
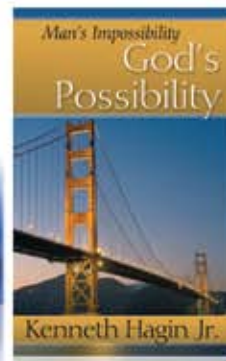
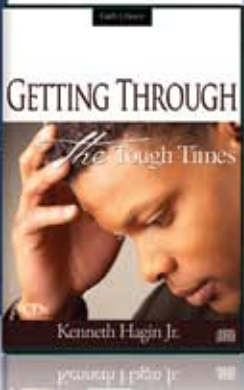
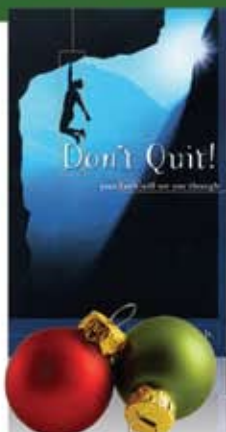
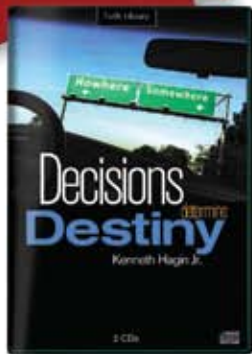
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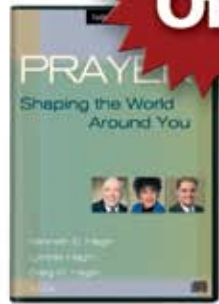
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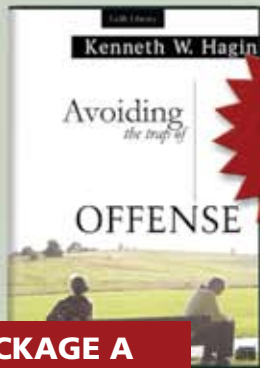
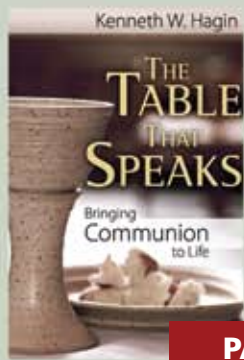
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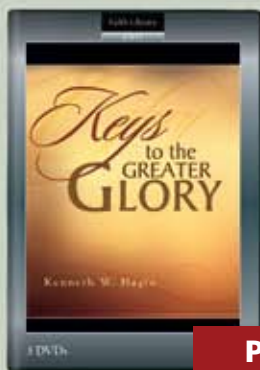


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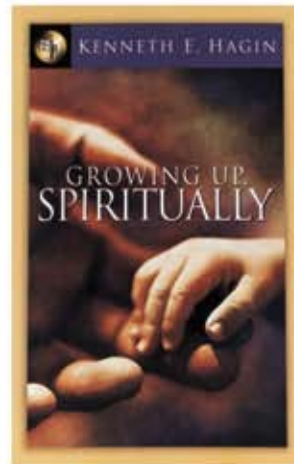
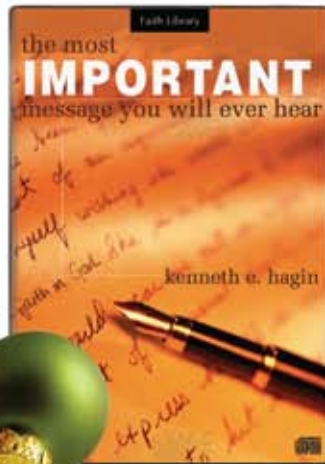
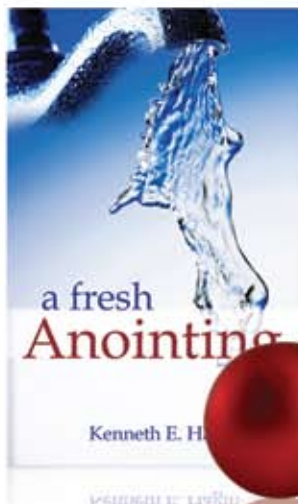
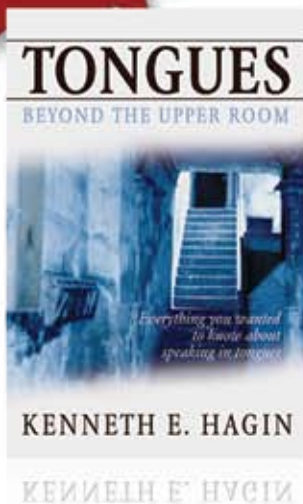
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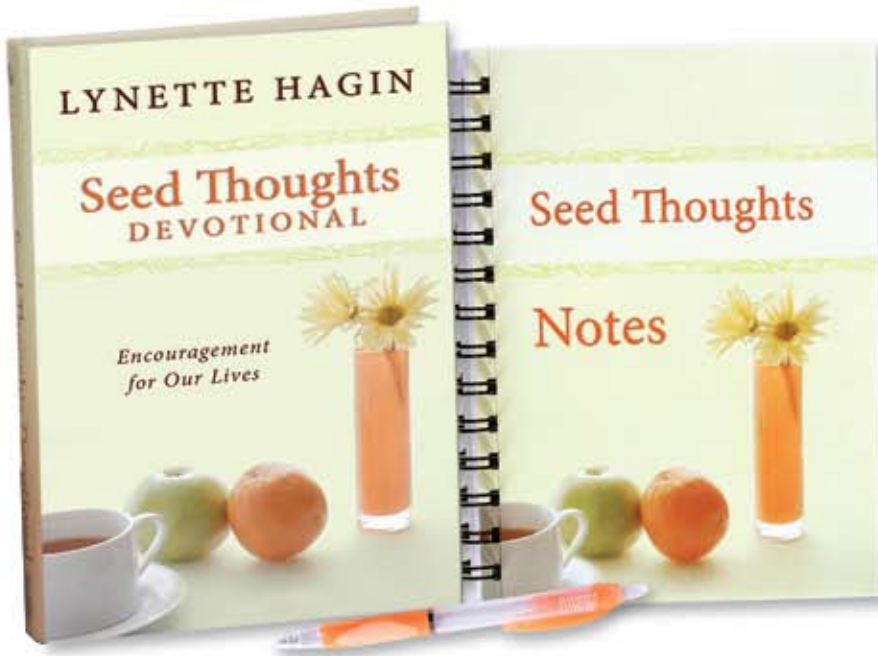
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* For you non-texters, here is a translation:

- Hey. Are you still in the military?
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- What are you doing now?
- I'm going to RHEMA Bible Training Center. They accept the GI Bill.



Digital Television Upgrade

Equipping KHM to Reach More for Christ

A major upgrade of television production capabilities is enabling Kenneth Hagin Ministries to continue to reach the world through the *RHEMA Praise* weekly broadcast and expand programming to reach millions over the Internet with the anointed message of salvation, healing, and deliverance.

KHM and other ministries, as well as secular program producers around the U.S., are currently replacing older analog television production equipment with newer gear that utilizes digital technology. The switch is required because beginning on February 17, 2009, all U.S. television stations will broadcast only in digital signals instead of using both analog and digital signals as most TV stations currently do.

The complete switch from analog broadcasting to all-digital communications is mandated by the federal government and is designed partly to free up the airwaves for more effective police, fire, and emergency rescue communications, according to the Federal Communications Commission.

But digital signals will give TV viewers a better picture, superior sound quality, and more channels. Digital will also allow for advanced wireless services for consumers.

Televisions that currently use antennas to receive analog broadcast signals will have to be equipped with a special converter box to receive digital signals, or be replaced with new digital television sets. Viewers who subscribe to cable and satellite

should not have to purchase extra equipment or new televisions, although they should consult with their cable or satellite provider to make sure.

Digital TV programming equipment is expensive. But with the financial support of ministry partners and friends, Kenneth Hagin Ministries is purchasing new cameras, switches, recording gear, and other required accessories in order to continue making *RHEMA Praise* available each week to 170 million households in the U.S.

“The high cost pales in comparison to the reward of ensuring that the life-changing message of faith continues to permeate the airwaves around the globe,” said Kenneth W. Hagin, President of Kenneth Hagin Ministries.

The equipment will provide more capabilities to get the word of faith out over the Internet as the use of that medium continues to expand rapidly worldwide.

“We now broadcast live all of our services online,” said David Groves, the ministry’s Director of Broadcast Media.

“We are producing some new programming to air online at our Kenneth Hagin/RHEMA Channel at iWorshipHere.com, and we are going to use the older analog equipment for student training, along with providing them the opportunity to learn on the new digital equipment.”

Additional programming capabilities through more media will allow the ministry to reach more people with the saving power of Christ and to teach them about faith in God’s Word and reliance on the Holy Spirit.



RHEMA Praise is available each week to 170 million households in the U.S.



The equipment will provide more capabilities to get the word of faith out over the Internet as the use of that medium continues to expand rapidly worldwide.

People regularly tune in to *RHEMA Praise* to hear the Good News that Jesus saves, heals, and liberates. A once hard-hearted young man in Zambia happened across the program one day, seemingly by chance.

“I was a stubborn person and had never thought about God until I switched on the TV and *RHEMA Praise* was on the air,” the young man wrote in a letter to the ministry. “It was Pastor Kenneth Hagin preaching, and the message touched me. Suddenly, I began to weep. I knew if I had died at that moment, hell was waiting for me. But I praise and thank God for using you to help me give my life to Christ!”

A woman in Texas suffering from shingles received a miracle from the Lord while watching *RHEMA Praise*.

“While I was watching your TV broadcast, Pastor Hagin gave a word of knowledge from the Lord about someone being healed,” she wrote. “I accepted that word, and I was instantly healed!”

Around the world, political and economic upheaval, social conflict, and spiritual darkness are taking a toll on people, but *RHEMA Praise* and KHM ministry events broadcast over iWorshipHere.com will continue to be a beacon of victorious faith and eternal hope.

“I want you to imagine a father who has just lost his job, and he’s devastated because he doesn’t know how he’s going to support his family,” said Rev. Hagin. “Or a mother who’s sitting at her kitchen table, crying, because she doesn’t have the money to put gas in her car. Or a woman who has just received a terrible diagnosis from her doctor and she

doesn’t know what to do. Thanks to our partners and friends, we are reaching people like this all over the world.”

Kenneth Hagin Ministries’ conversion to all-digital programming is being done in phases in order to keep expenses as low as possible. Rev. Hagin invites friends of the ministry to contribute to a project whose ultimate worth is measured in eternal terms: helping millions experience a life of victory, joy, health, and abundance.

“With the help of our partners and friends, we will make this conversion to digital technology and fulfill the call of God upon this ministry,” Rev. Hagin said. “Lynette and I are praying for God to bless our friends abundantly for their support.”

For more information on the nationwide conversion, go to www.dtv.gov on the Internet.

Digital Technology Helps KHM Win the World



The use of cutting-edge, digital technology will enable Kenneth Hagin Ministries to continue to produce the best possible television programs and teaching materials to reach the entire world for Christ.

Consider the following facts on the extensive scope of KHM’s television and teaching ministry:

- *RHEMA Praise* is available weekly to more than 1 billion households worldwide via cable, satellite, and the Internet.

- Through the Web site iWorshipHere.com, believers can enjoy live KHM events and RHEMA Bible Church services along with rebroadcasts of recent events. They can also feed on powerful archived video messages by Kenneth E. Hagin. Believers and congregations around the world can tune in 24 hours a day to hear the uncompromised word of faith from Kenneth W. Hagin, Lynette Hagin, Craig W. Hagin, and guest ministers just by clicking on the “Kenneth Hagin/RHEMA” link under the “Ministries” tab.

- Digital equipment will be used to produce teaching DVDs, thousands of which are sold worldwide each year.

- KHM’s digital equipment will also be used to train RHEMA USA students. After graduation, a number of those students get involved in the video ministries of local churches. There, they have a part in producing Bible-based programs and teaching materials that help transform the lives of people.

RHEMA FOR TODAY

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—Kenneth W. Hagin

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Doing the Works of Jesus

The Bible tells us in Acts 10:38 (NIV) that Jesus “*went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil.*” Our goal at Healing School (located on the RHEMA campus in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma) is to do the works of Jesus and minister to the sick. Many have arrived at Healing School with cancer, heart ailments, extreme pain, or other health issues and have been healed by their Heavenly Father. The following are just a few testimonies of people whose lives have been touched, healed, and changed by attending Healing School.

Heart Completely Healed!

I was hospitalized in February 2005 for heart problems. The doctors said I had a scar tissue deposit in my heart and also left ventricular myopathy and that my heart had thickened as a result. I started attending the morning sessions of Healing School. Three weeks ago, I had an EKG and an ultrasound of my heart. Yesterday my doctor told me that my heart is totally healthy, and I don't have left ventricular myopathy. My ventricles are healthy! My body is healed!

—J.R., Tulsa, Oklahoma

Bleeding Lung Healed

I went to the hospital with bleeding of the lung and pneumonia. A recent CT scan showed lumps on my right lung. I've been going to morning Healing School and during that time, I've had hands laid on me in prayer. I went in yesterday for a bronchoscopy, and the doctor who did the procedure told me he found nothing in my lung. He said the lumps shrunk and there was nothing to show for the past bleeding.

—D.A., Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

Healed of Excruciating Back Pain

When I came to morning Healing School on Monday, I came with excruciating lower back pain. It was very painful to sit during the teaching, but I continued Monday through Wednesday. When I came back the following Monday, I walked in with no pain! I was having thoughts that I was going to have to see a chiropractor because I had never had such bad pain before. I kept acting on the Word while I was

in excruciating pain—as much as I didn't want to, I still did it, and now I'm healed! To God be the glory!

—E.M., Tulsa, Oklahoma

Early Morning Wake Up and Healing

I was suffering from swelling and spasms in my left hand and joint pain that kept me from being able to open my hand or move my shoulders. I recently woke up one morning at 4:30 when a friend called me on his way home from work to see if I had taken my medication. My left hand was swollen at the index joint and I couldn't open it. As I began telling my friend what I had been learning at morning Healing School and quoting scriptures to him, I tried to massage the pain from my joint. (In the past, it has taken me up to half a day to massage the pain away.) I said, “I learned by Jesus' stripes I was healed.” As I spoke, suddenly the pain was gone and I was able to open my hand with no problem. The swelling is still gone. Thank you for all the loving care and preaching. I came feeling empty after four years of extreme pain. I am leaving with joy and healing!

—S.G., Frisco, Texas

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(Excerpt from Lesson 3 in *Biblical Ways to Receive Healing*)



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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)

I am grateful that when I was very young, my parents taught me that, whatever I needed in life, God was always my source. Because of that I learned to turn to Him in times of trouble. The world around us seems to be rocking, but I am so thankful that we have a Rock that we can lean on. Psalm 46:1-3 says, *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."*

Many are in a state of panic because of our nation's economy. They are asking, "What are we going to do?" Headlines in the daily newspapers could cause us to worry. Fuel prices have affected our entire lifestyle. Stress on families is at an all-time high. However, I am so grateful that God has assured us that we do not have to fear, because we have a refuge. No matter what may happen around us or to us, we can find refuge in the Lord.

The psalmist said, "Even in an earthquake I don't have to be afraid, because God is my refuge." We would say in Oklahoma, "Even if a tornado comes I don't have to be afraid." You might say in your area, "Even if a hurricane comes I don't have to be afraid, because God is my refuge."

Nothing moves or changes God. He is not affected by the occurrences of this world. He is "The Rock"—a Rock that we can run to in our time of need and find shelter from the storms of life.

God is not only our refuge—He is our strength. With our lifestyle and the pace that many of us keep, we can end up burning the candle at both ends. It can seem as if there are not enough hours in the day to accomplish every required task. I find myself working night and day and still not getting everything done. You may find yourself in the same situation. At times my body says, "Lynette, I'm tired." That is when I call upon the Lord and thank Him that He is not only my refuge—He is also my strength. I quote my favorite scripture quite often: *"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me"* (Phil. 4:13).

People often ask me, "Lynette, how do you keep up your busy schedule?" I always reply, "It is through the Lord, Who always gives me strength for the tasks that lie before me." How comforting it is to know that when we are at the end of our strength, we can rest in the arms of God's strength.

If we relied on our own strength, we would certainly grow weary and faint. However, as we rest in the arms of the Lord, He assures us in His Word, *"Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? . . . He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint"* (Isa. 40:28-31).

So I encourage you today—rest in the arms of the Lord. Our trouble so often is that we wait until we have exhausted all other avenues of help before we call on God. I am sure that sometimes God laughs at us. We fuss and fret and worry and stress out, and He must think, *I am here to help if they would only call*. I can tell you from experience that calling upon the Lord works every time.

In fact, I called upon the Lord before writing this column. The deadline was looming. I had not been able to write the column because of a horrendous week of extreme emergencies. Finally as I sat down on the airplane to travel to another engagement, I said, "Lord, I need something from You for *Seed Thoughts*." And He answered me. I opened my Bible and Psalm 46 jumped out at me. God is so good! He will do the same for you if you will call upon Him and rest in Him.

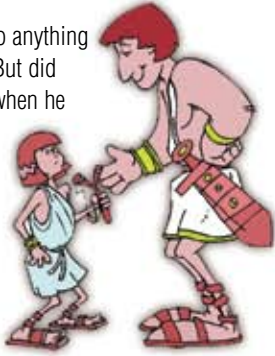


Kids' Page

Fearless, Anointed, Inward-led, Trustworthy Heirs of God

The Bigger They Are ...

Kids today might think that they can't do anything **BIG** for the Lord until they get older. But did you know that David was a young boy when he defeated Goliath? And nobody believed that he was **BIG** enough to do it! David's oldest brother was angry with him for even asking about the battle (1 Samuel 17:28). King Saul told him that he was too young to fight Goliath (1 Samuel 17:33). And Goliath was insulted by the fact that Israel had sent a "boy" to fight against him (1 Samuel 17:42-43). But David didn't think about his age or his size. He knew he could defeat Goliath with God's help. He told King Saul, "**I, your servant, have killed both a lion and a bear! Goliath the Philistine, who is not circumcised, will be like the lion or bear I killed. He will die because he has stood against the armies of the Living God. The Lord saved me from a lion and a bear. He will also save me from this Philistine.**" David wasn't bothered by how **BIG** Goliath was . . . because he knew that his God was **BIGGER!**



Find the words in red above that are hidden in this puzzle →

S	P	T	P	D	P	O	Q	P	F	G
E	A	R	M	I	R	E	D	R	R	J
R	E	V	H	P	S	A	B	M	S	O
V	C	Y	E	L	G	L	Q	E	C	S
A	I	I	L	P	O	O	A	P	A	E
R	R	G	O	L	I	A	T	H	R	
O	C	H	O	H	I	R	E	I	S	V
P	U	T	C	L	O	L	I	L	D	A
E	M	I	H	L	I	O	N	I	N	N
G	C	J	V	P	P	A	T	S	S	T
D	I	T	I	F	E	R	L	T	I	N
O	S	L	S	D	F	I	I	R	N	
O	E	I	D	B	R	J	V	N	E	H
G	D	R	T	A	R	M	I	E	S	S
B	O	A	Q	J	T	R	N	O	E	R
L	X	C	E	K	L	H	G	M	E	P

Jokes & Riddles



What state is found inside another state?

Kansas is in Arkansas

What state has 2,000 pounds of dirty laundry?

Washing-ton

Forwards, it is heavy—backwards, it is not. What is it?

Ton

What goes up, but never goes down?

Your age

Why didn't the lady run away from the lion that was attacking her?

Because she heard that it was a "man" eating lion

The more you feed it the more it grows high, but if you give it water it shall quickly die. What is it?

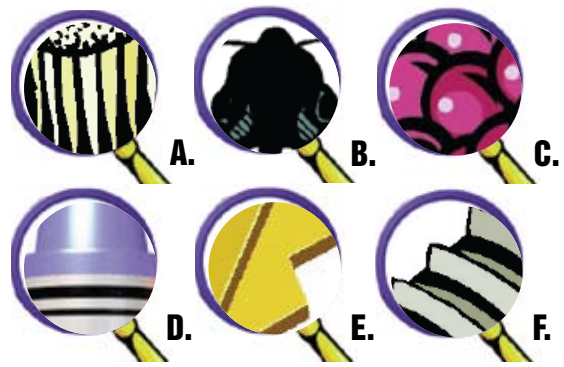
Fire

Issues, issues, issues, issues, issues, issues, issues, issues, issues, issues. What do you need next?

If you've got ten issues (tennis shoes), then you'll need socks.

Magnify the LORD... Not the Problem

Some problems look **BIG** because they **are** big, but some problems look big just because we "**magnify**" them. But the Bible tells us to "magnify the Lord," not our problems (Read Psalm 34:3). Look at these items that are beneath the magnifying glasses and see if you can figure out what they are.



FILL IN THE BLANKS

You will discover a Bible Verse that will help you defeat any giant when you fill the blanks below with the correct letters. Choose from the letters **G, R, S,** and **T**.

REA ER I HE
 HA I WI HIN
 ME HAN HE
 HA I IN
 HE WO LD

ANSWERS: **G R S T**

FILL IN THE BLANKS ANSWER: GREATER IS HE THAT IS WITHIN ME THAN HE THAT IS OUTSIDE

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