



THE Word of Faith

JANUARY 2010

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES



Preaching the **Good News** in Kenya

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As it is written,

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—Romans 10:13-15 (NIV)

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the Word of Faith



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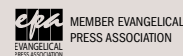
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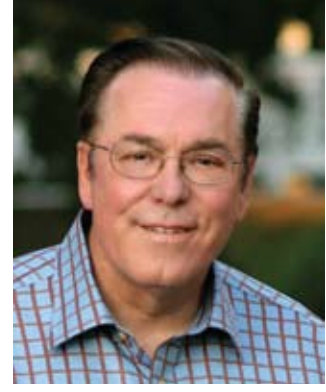
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Step Into the Power!

As we enter 2010, we have an opportunity to step into a greater dimension of God's power than ever before. The Holy Spirit did not come into this world empty-handed. He came with all the power of Heaven at His disposal. When Almighty God called us to go into all the world and preach the Gospel, He didn't call us to go empty-handed (Mark 16:15-18). He called us to go with His power and anointing!

We're living in the midst of a generation that doesn't know the moving of the Spirit and the operation of His power. God has sent us as beacons of the light of the Gospel to the lost. He has made us carriers of the Living Bread to the hungry. And He has created us as vessels to take His power to the sick, the helpless, and the brokenhearted!

It's time for us to demonstrate God's power, not just a knowledge of His Word. You see, the Word without the power isn't going to save the lost, heal the sick, or set the captive souls free! So let's not be satisfied with having just a little bit of God's power. Let's determine to step out of our comfort zone and carry the message of faith, deliverance, and salvation to a hurting, suffering world. This is not the time for the Church to hold back. God wants us to rise up and touch our generation with the mighty power of God!

As you probably know, Pastor Billy Joe Daugherty of Victory Christian Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma, went home to be with the Lord a couple of months ago. He crossed over into glory shortly before this issue went to press.

Pastor Billy Joe was a longtime friend of our family and will be deeply missed. His influence in the Body of Christ was worldwide. Billy Joe was a fine example of someone who boldly demonstrated the power of God to this generation. We stand with his wife, Sharon, and the Daugherty family as they carry on the great work that he began.

The Sunday of Pastor Billy Joe's passing, I preached a powerful message to RHEMA Bible Church about our need to trust in the Lord no matter what happens. You'll find highlights of that message in my article this month.

Kenneth W. Hagin



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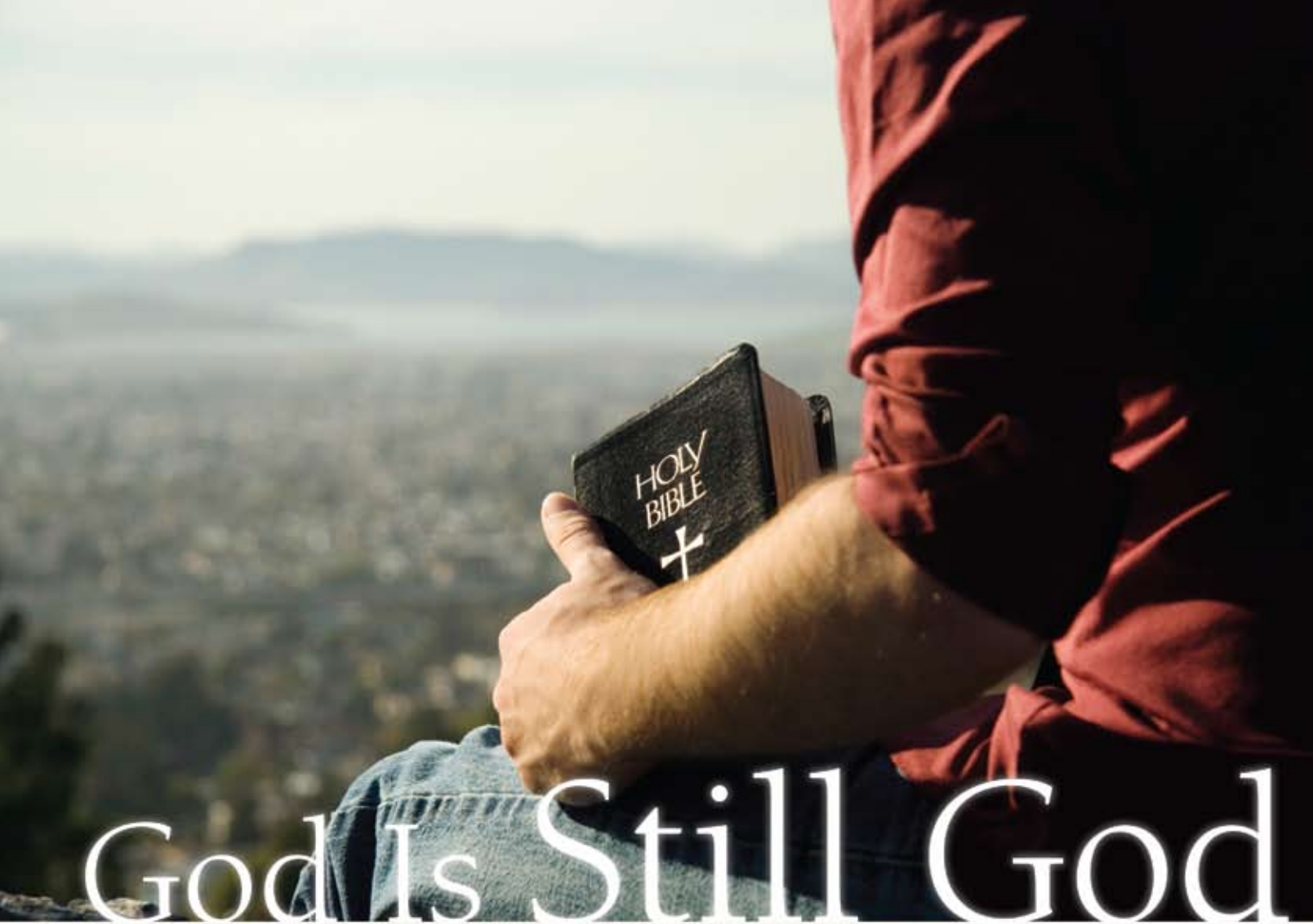
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Special Report: Preaching the Good News in Kenya
A RHEMA team traveled to Kenya and sowed both spiritual and natural seeds. Read highlights.



God Is Still God

No Matter What!

In an hour of trouble or crisis, many people lose their trust in God and His Word. Others become fearful, and some begin to question, “Is God still with us?”

When something happens that we don’t understand, we have a decision to make. Are we going to let a setback or tragedy steal the blessings of God from us? Or are we going to stand firm and declare, “God is still God—no matter what?”

The Storm Rages

When the disciples faced a great storm on the Sea of Galilee, they forgot all about God and His Word. In Mark 4:35, Jesus had told them, “*Let us go over to the other side*” (NIV). As soon as they set sail, a furious storm erupted. The winds were howling and the

waves were crashing as the storm threatened to capsize their boat.

The disciples cried out to Jesus in absolute terror, “*Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?*” (v. 38).

Jesus’ response was, “*Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?*” (v. 40). Why did He make such a direct, confrontational statement to His disciples?

He spoke those words because they were fearful. They faced a difficulty in life and lost their trust in the Word of God.

Jesus had already told them, “*Let us go over to the other side.*” Then He went to sleep!

What made the disciples so fearful? Was it the storm? The wind? The waves? The boat being tossed back and forth? Those things were factors. But those were external things. You see, fear is not a motivating factor until it gets inside you.





// KENNETH W. HAGIN

When you speak the Word in faith, it brings **deliverance** and **salvation** to your house!

They Forgot God's Presence

Jesus was in the boat with the disciples, but when the storm struck, they lost their focus on the Presence of God. Suddenly their focus was on the storm, the wind, and the waves. For you and me, it's the circumstances of life that we begin to focus on. It's the things that don't happen when we pray and believe God. But remember, Jesus is still there, even in the midst of the storm.

When the enemy tries to make you turn loose of your faith, the key to resisting him is to remember that Jesus said, "... lo, I am with you always" (Matt. 28:20 NKJV). No matter what happens, Jesus is still on board!

They Forgot God's Promise

The disciples also forgot that the words spoken by the Master were stronger than any storm. When the storms of life come, we often forget what God has said to us.

But God's promises will get you through the storm! Trust me. I've been there. His Word will take you to the other side!

Six years ago last September, I raced across town to my father, Kenneth E. Hagin's, house. It was a shock to see his seemingly lifeless body lying there, and only a few days later we had a memorial service for him.

One week after that service, I was in Augusta, Georgia, preaching a crusade. As I laid my hands on the sick and believed for them to be healed, the enemy taunted me, saying, "He didn't get up. What are you doing this for?"

I immediately declared, "The promises of God are true, no matter who didn't get up!" No matter who lives or who doesn't live, the Word of God is still true. And I will hold onto His Word forever!

Today you may be faced with the same kind of situation I was. Your heart may be broken. You may have suffered a tragic loss. But now you have a decision to make. Will you turn your back on what you have believed, or will you

believe God? Remember, it doesn't matter what the circumstances are, God is still God. His promises are still true. We must hang onto that.

Jesus said to the storm, "Be still," and the storm was still (v. 39). You and I can release the power of God with our words just as Jesus did.

What happens in your life from this day forward is up to you. You must choose to speak God's Word. You must release the power of God with your faith. When you speak the Word in faith, it brings deliverance and salvation to your house!

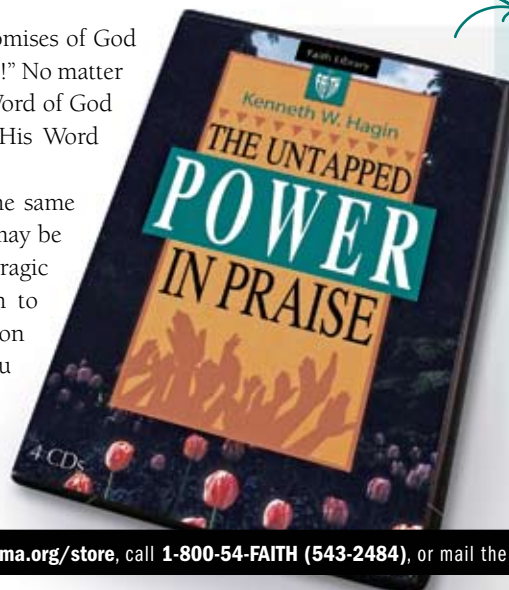
I have made my choice. I will speak the Word of God in the face of every howling storm and raging wind that comes my way!

Yes, we all face the question of not understanding everything that happens. But we must not let those things cause us to lose our faith in God.

I have faced those questions many times in my life, and every time, I have come back with a boldness to believe that the Word of God is true. I will shout it from the housetop. As long as I have breath in my lungs, I will declare, God is still God—no matter what!♥



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CROSSING THE FINISH LINE

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

— HEBREWS 12 : 1



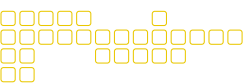
CRAIG W. HAGIN //

God has a plan and purpose for every one of us. And He wants each of us to run our race in line with His plan. But to complete our race, we will have to lay aside the weights that are holding us back from accomplishing what God has called us to do.

Identifying these weights can be both easy and difficult. A weight can be something as obvious as watching television when you should be spending time with the Lord. Today, the Internet can be a weight as more and more people are spending hours on social networking sites.

At one time, playing video games was a weight for me. I’m very competitive and have stayed up all night trying to beat a game level. I’ve even stayed up every night of the week playing video games. Nothing of value was accomplished, and what I needed to do throughout the week was affected by my lack of sleep.

Weights that might not be so obvious include shyness or anger issues. I was very shy in high school. Shyness was a weight I had



Moving Forward

"Brethren . . . this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

—Philippians 3:13-14

You might need to forget some things from your past. If anything is weighing you down and keeping you from moving forward for God, put it behind you. You can't change your past, but you can change your future. Stop looking at your problems and your past and begin looking at the Greater One inside you.

When you dwell on the Greater One, you won't have a problem with your past. God is greater than your past. He is greater than your mistakes. The blood of Jesus is greater than anything you might have done. Forget the past and press toward the mark!



. . . we must shake off any weight that prevents us from fulfilling our **purpose** in life.

to overcome to fulfill the call on my life. In the Book of Acts, we see the believers praying for boldness to preach the Gospel (Acts 4:29).

Other weights can include relationships. By no means am I trying to suggest that dating is wrong. But sometimes people can become so engrossed in dating relationships that they don't take care of necessary responsibilities in their everyday lives.

Weights are things that keep us from running our race. Whether it is something that steals our time or hinders us from stepping out, we must shake off any weight that prevents us from fulfilling our purpose in life.

Hebrews 12:1 says, ". . . let us run with patience. . . ." This is letting us know that our race may not go as fast as we want it to.

My grandfather Kenneth E. Hagin had been pastoring for nearly 12 years when the Lord told him that he was about to enter the first phase of his ministry. It took him nearly 12 years to get to the point where he was ready to enter the first phase of what God wanted him to do. But if my grandfather hadn't spent this time pastoring, he would not have been able to accomplish what God had called him to do.

Notice that Hebrews 12:1 also tells us to run ". . . the race that is set before us." We have to focus on *our* race, not another person's. Just because someone else is doing something doesn't mean that God wants us to do the same thing. We don't win our race if we run in someone

else's lane. Although we may be a blessing to people along the way, we won't hear, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant!" when we stand before the Lord.

And finally, we have to realize that our race is a marathon, not a sprint. Our race will span our entire life. So we must run with perseverance. *Perseverance* means "the ability to bear difficulties calmly and without complaint."

Perseverance keeps going when others have quit. And it's not bothered by the mistakes we make. It keeps getting back up and moving forward. It keeps trying again, and again, and again.

No matter what we encounter during the course of our race, we can finish. Philippians 4:13 says, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." There may be days when we think we can't make it—that we're not going to finish. But those thoughts are not from God. They're from the devil. He will try to stop us from running our race, but we must stand strong in the Word and keep running.

We can do all things through Christ Who strengthens us. When we say, "I can't," we are speaking contrary to the Word of God. The Bible says we *can*. Many people try to run their race in their own strength. In ourselves, we can only do so much. But in God, we can do all things!

Let's pick up the baton and run the course that God has laid out for us. And let's make the decision not only to run our race, but also to finish it! 🏆



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“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh **I live by the faith** of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me”

— GALATIANS 2:20

WHEN PAUL SURRENDERED his life to Christ, he knew that his life was no longer his own. He willingly gave up his rights and chose to become a bond slave to his Lord and Savior.

The same is true for us today. After we give our lives to the Lord, we don’t belong to ourselves anymore. We belong to Christ. It’s not a matter of what we want to do, but of what Christ wants to do through us. Our life should be one of servitude.

Jesus had an attitude of servitude from an early age. When He was 12 years old, He went to Jerusalem with His parents to celebrate Passover. Afterward, as Jesus’ parents were returning to their hometown, they did not realize that Jesus had stayed behind. After searching for Him, Jesus’ parents found Him in the Temple. When His parents asked for an explanation, He replied, “. . . *Did you not know that I must be about My Father’s business?*” (Luke 2:49 NKJV).

We, too, must be about our Father’s business. While we are here, we have work to do. Thank God for all of the benefits we have in Christ. We’ve escaped eternal damnation, and we can walk in health and live in prosperity. But we would be negligent if we didn’t share what we have with others. Our life in Christ is about service. It’s about yielding to something greater than we are. When Jesus sent His disciples out, He said, “*Freely you have received, freely give*” (Matt. 10:8 NKJV). God gave each of us a gift, and He expects us to use our gifts in service to others.

Some people have gifts and talents but don’t use them. We must not allow the gifts that God has given us to become dormant. Paul told Timothy to “. . . *stir up the gift of God, which is in thee . . .*” (2 Tim. 1:6). We nourish our gifts by actively using them. One of the best ways to do this is by being involved in your local church or hooking up with a ministry.

Kenneth E. Hagin often said, “Never pray, ‘Lord, bless me.’ Instead, pray, ‘Lord, make me a blessing.’ ” When we give ourselves to the Lord this way, God will make us a part of something bigger than we are.

God will plant us in a local church or connect us to a ministry. He will join us to something that is greater than we are. And when we’re part of something that’s greater than any man is, we’re part of a mandate from Heaven.

Some people may struggle with this because they don’t want to give themselves wholeheartedly to the Lord or to anybody else. But I’m not suggesting that we follow a man; I’m suggesting that we hook up with what God has placed inside of us.

Are you using your faith to reach the backslider? Are you using your faith to get people filled with the Holy Spirit? Are you using your faith to see that people are set free from the bonds of the devil? If not, it’s time to be part of something greater than yourself.


God has not called us to live apart from other people. He’s called us to minister to those around us. So let’s commit to follow Paul’s example and live a life of service.♥



// TAD GREGURICH

Our life in Christ is about service. It’s about *yielding* to something greater than we are.

(Editor’s Note: Tad Gregurich is dean of RHEMA Bible Training Center USA and an associate minister at RHEMA Bible Church in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.)

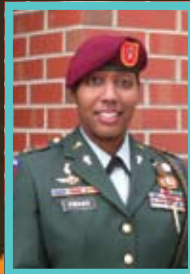


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CPT Pinkie Fischer—Afghanistan

Chaplain for United States Army

Pinkie Fischer, a 1995 RBTC graduate, always had a heart for missions, but wasn't sure in what capacity. The Lord put it in her heart to become a military chaplain. She then joined the National Guard and earned a master's degree. She now serves as one of a handful of female chaplains ministering to soldiers in Iran and Afghanistan.



JOHN & ALBA ROMICK—BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA

Directores de RHEMA Colombia

John se graduó de RBTC en mayo del 1984, y él con su esposa, Alba, han sido misioneros a tiempo completo en América Latina desde septiembre de ese año. Ellos son los directores de RHEMA Colombia y RHEMA/CEBCO, un Instituto Bíblico interdenominacional con más de 2,400 estudiantes matriculados por todas partes de Colombia. John es el Pastor de la Iglesia de Colombia en Bogotá.

John graduated from RBTC in May of 1984, and he and his wife, Alba, have been full-time missionaries in Latin America since September of that year. They are the directors of RHEMA Colombia and RHEMA/CEBCO, an interdenominational Bible School with over 2,400 students currently enrolled throughout Colombia. John is also the Senior Pastor of Iglesia de Colombia (Church of Colombia).



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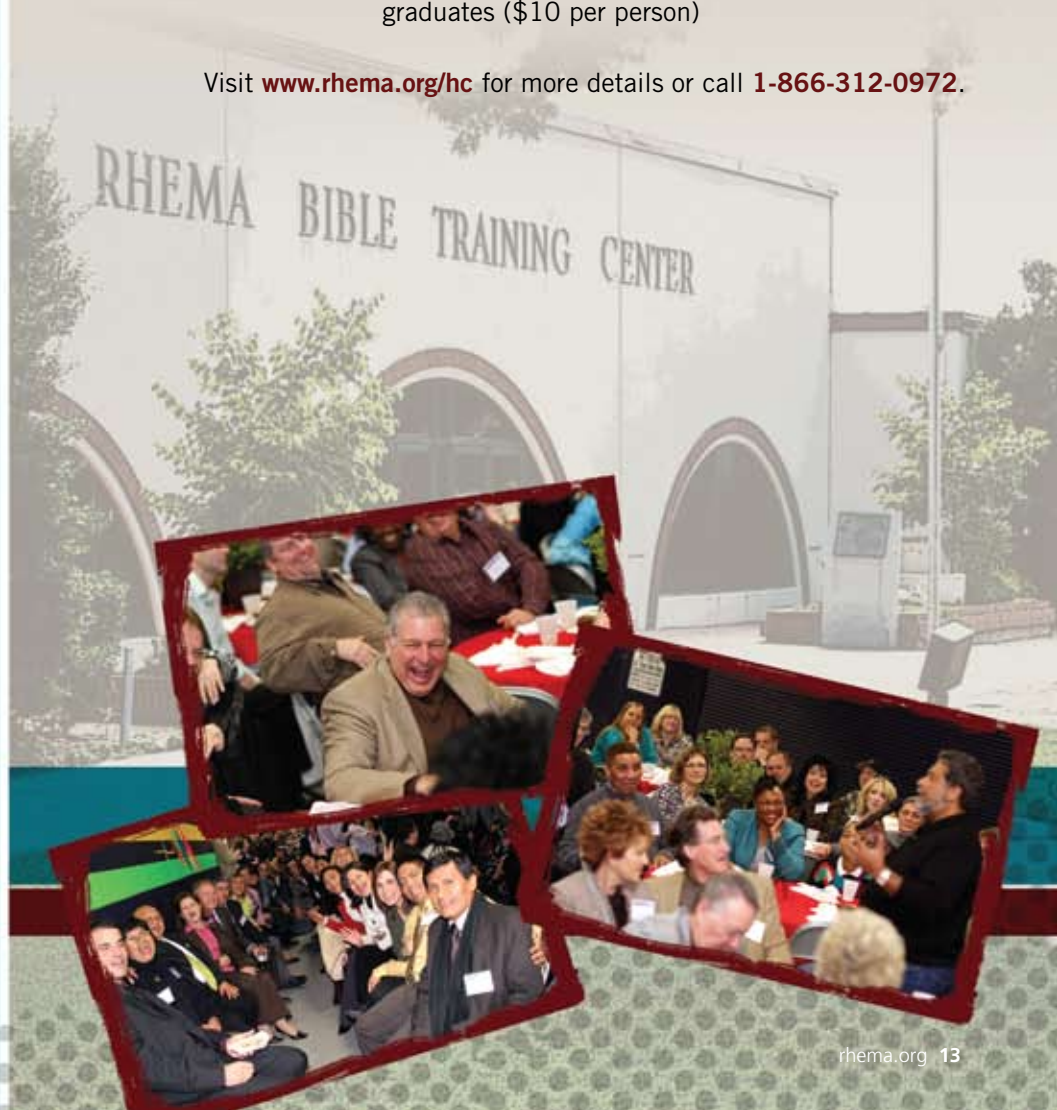
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- We're turning off lights in unoccupied areas, reducing HVAC usage, and finding other ways to conserve energy.
- Doing the work of the ministry has required a lot of paper. Wherever possible, we're recycling paper, cardboard, and other items. And we're increasing the use of electronic documents in our day-to-day operations.
- We constantly check our mailing list to make sure that postal pieces go only to those who want them and that addresses are accurate. This reduces

printing and postage costs and paper use.

- We're using e-mail and other Web-based media to communicate with our partners and friends, using less paper and packaging.

We're doing everything we can to minimize costs and sustain the environment. This means that some changes are coming your way where *The Word of Faith* magazine is concerned—changes that will have a positive effect on you, this ministry, and the environment. During the past three years, printing and production costs of our publications have escalated, and postage has risen dramatically. **Beginning with this issue, *The Word of Faith* magazine will be mailed every 40 days**, instead of the 30 days we've all been used to. This will save the ministry over \$300,000 annually.

We're always looking for new ways to stay connected with you. Just recently we began making the articles and other content from each issue of *The Word of Faith* more easily viewable online at www.rhema.org. And you can download a copy of the magazine in pdf format. We constantly post updated ministry news and information on our Web site. And we've



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Now—more than ever—we are dedicated to fulfilling the mandate that God gave Kenneth E. Hagin to “Go teach My people faith.” And as we wisely utilize the resources God gives us and work together, we will continue to reach and impact the world.

Beginning with this issue,

The Word of Faith magazine will be mailed every 40 days . . .



Preaching the Good News in KENYA

“I HAVE SEEN a lot of television commercials about the hungry in Africa and feeding the poor,” said Kirk DuBois, an instructor at RHEMA Bible Training Center USA. “I have to say I knew it to be true. But I was never truly impacted until now, because I’ve seen it with my own eyes.”

DuBois and Mike Eavey, a 2008 RBTC USA graduate, accompanied RBTC Dean Tad Gregurich in August on his 15th trip to Kenya. The 11-day trek sowed seed for long-lasting results, both naturally and spiritually.

The three-man team purchased several 200-pound bags of corn that were used to feed more than 300 orphans and 75 widows whose lives had been impacted by the AIDS virus and malaria. Two acres were also plowed and planted with corn and beans to make future provision for those in need. And the team paid to have a roof put on a bush church in Olengo.

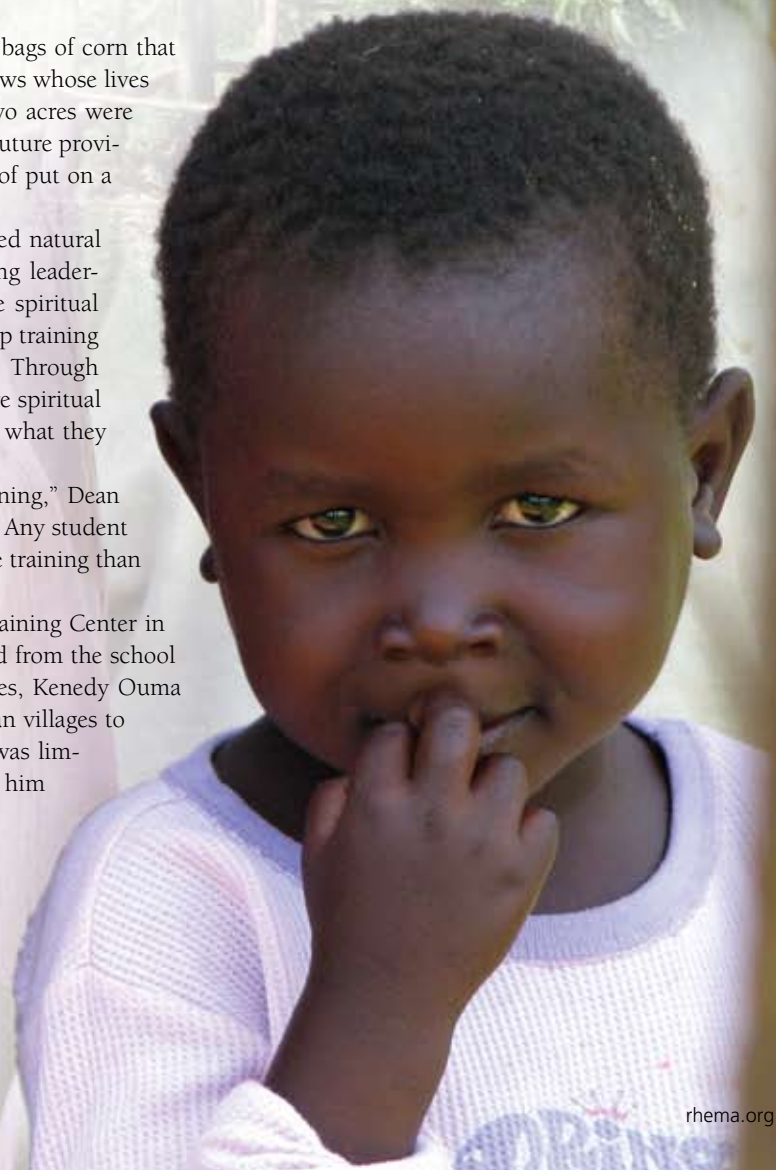
Roofing a church and feeding needy people provided natural help. But the primary focus of the trip was conducting leadership training meetings and church revivals to provide spiritual help. In the town of Muhoroni, the team held leadership training sessions for more than 50 pastors and church leaders. Through this training, the RHEMA team “planted seed” for future spiritual food, since these leaders and pastors will teach others what they have learned.

“Many of the pastors in Kenya don’t have any training,” Dean Gregurich said. “Some of them don’t even have a Bible. Any student who has finished one year at RHEMA would have more training than the majority of the pastors over there.”

Gregurich wrote the curriculum for Trinity Bible Training Center in Kenya in 1999. Since then, 75 students have graduated from the school and most are in active ministry. One of those graduates, Kenedy Ouma from the class of 2009, often traveled on foot to Kenyan villages to minister the Gospel. But because he had to walk, he was limited in the places he could reach, so the team bought him a bicycle.

“Now he can get to two remote villages in one day,” Dean Gregurich said. “He also used to have a 30-minute walk to his church in Kakamega.”

In Luke chapter 4, Jesus read from the prophet Isaiah, “*The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He*



has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor' ” (vv. 18–19 NIV). The three-man RHEMA team carried out the same kind of ministry that Jesus did—preaching the Good News at church revival meetings in Kakamega and Olengo.

“The church revivals went really well,” Dean Gregurich said. “Our emphasis was on righteousness, who you are in Christ, the authority of the believer, and the Holy Spirit. In Kakamega we saw 15 people get filled with the Holy Ghost, including an 89-year-old woman and her 19-year-old grandson. That was one of the highlights of the trip.

“The church in Olengo is a bush church,” he added. “There were four or five different pastors who came to those meetings. We taught very strongly on who you are in Christ, which is a message that they really need.”

The messages that were preached blessed more than just those present in the services. A woman in the village was unable to attend the meetings because of severe back pain. As she lay in her thatch-roofed hut, she heard the Word being preached. Her faith was strengthened, and she asked for someone to bring the pastor of the church to speak to her.



The Kenyan pastor arrived and spoke with the woman, and she asked him to pray for her healing. Applying what he had learned in the revival meeting, the pastor prayed for her. The next day she was able to walk to the meeting and testify about what God had done for her.

The work of this short-term missions team is just one small example of what RHEMA graduates are doing in Kenya. Four recent RBTC graduates are moving to Kenya to teach at Trinity Bible Training Center. Another graduate has been ministering in Kenya since 1999 and started a mobile Bible school in 2006. One couple has been ministering in the nation for more than 10 years. Their work has included pastoring a church and pioneering a Bible school in 2005.

RBTC is having the same kind of impact around the world through RHEMA graduates living and ministering in more than 100 countries.

“I would encourage people to continue to support RHEMA and RHEMA Bible Training Center with their faithful giving,” Gregurich said. “It enables us to continue to train men and women to go into these regions and not only get people saved and healed, but also to teach and train them.”♥



Holding the Ropes

We need each other and the *support* that comes from strong *relationships.*

BEING PART OF A TEAM—

having a base of support—is invaluable to any endeavor. No one can be successful in this life as a lone ranger. We need each other and the support that comes from strong relationships.

William Carey of England knew the value of strong relationships. He knew the importance of having friends who would support him in his endeavors.

Carey was ordained in August 1786. During a ministers meeting that year, Carey suggested that Jesus' command to His disciples "to teach all nations" was still in effect. Mr. Ryland, the meeting chairman, rebuked him and accused him of being an enthusiast!

Carey was greatly embarrassed. His fellow ministers treated his ideas as impractical. But that same year he met Thomas Potts, who had been to America and seen the need for missionary work. Potts supported Carey in his vision.

Carey began to realize that his dreams would never be fulfilled if he worked on his own. In time, God brought other people across his path who encouraged and helped him. As a direct consequence of Carey's work, the first Evangelical missions agency was created in 1792.

One day in 1793, Carey and some friends were discussing the need for foreign missions. Andrew Fuller, a fellow minister who was at that gathering, recalled, "We saw there was a gold mine in India, but it was as deep as the center of the earth." Fuller asked who would venture to explore that mine. Cary spoke up and addressed his friends: "I will venture to go down, but remember that you must hold the ropes."

By "holding the ropes," Carey meant consistently praying for him, financially supporting him, and regularly communicating on his behalf with the churches in England. His friends agreed.

Carey went to India and made possible the translation of the Bible into numerous languages. Many have called Carey the father of modern missions, but he saw his relationship with his supporters in England as a brotherhood. He traveled to India, but he knew he was only able to accomplish what he did because his partners back in England were "holding the ropes."♥

Hold the ropes for us as we reach people and nations around the world. Visit www.rhema.org and click on "contacts" to submit your comments or prayer requests or "donate" to give financially. Thank you for your support! Together, *we can* make a difference.



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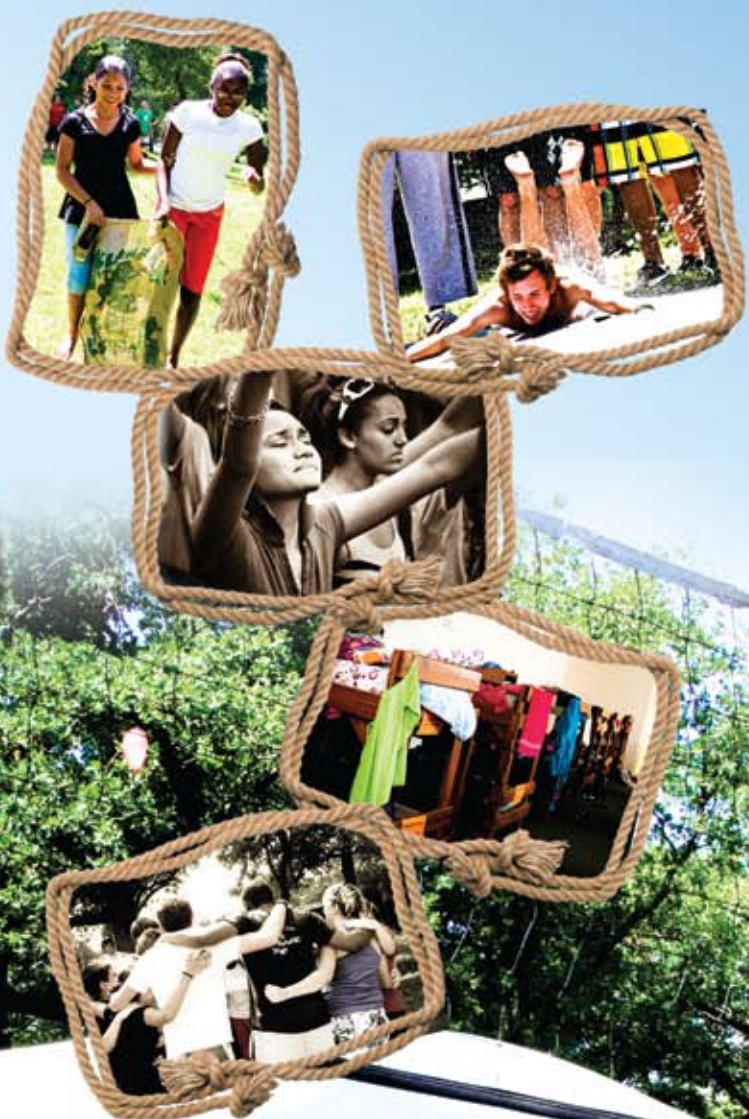
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Learning to **Hear**

Christians can limit their spiritual growth by not doing their part to grow spiritually. For example, when the Holy Spirit prompts them to spend time praying in tongues, they often override that leading and go about their daily lives. They never learn to develop in the scriptural scope of speaking in other tongues as God intends.

What is your part in growing spiritually? The truth is, the Bible tells you to do some things that will impact your life in God. If you'll obey God and do your part, you'll discover the supernatural power praying in tongues affords!

A key to developing ourselves spiritually is found in Isaiah 40:31: *"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. . . ."*

Continual renewals of your spirit come by spending time before God. When you wait before Him, praying in the Spirit not only refreshes and renews your inner man, it also affects your mind and physical being.

One benefit of waiting on the Lord is that you'll begin to discern the voice of the Spirit. As you wait in God's

One benefit of **waiting** on the Lord is that you'll begin to discern the **voice** of the Spirit.



presence praying in other tongues, He will speak to your spirit. The Holy Spirit is a guide, and He is in you. He will speak a sure word for you to follow.

ISAIAH 30:21

21 And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

People often say to me, “Tell me how I can know the voice of the Holy Spirit.”

This is my answer: “I can’t do that. You’ll have to learn the voice of the Holy Spirit for yourself—which you *can* do because He dwells in you.”

“How can I tell if it’s really the Holy Spirit talking to me?”

When a person asks that question, it tells me he hasn’t become acquainted with the One Who lives in him. He doesn’t know His voice. That person needs to spend time waiting before God. If he will stay in God’s presence long

enough, he won’t have to ask anyone to tell him how to discern the Holy Spirit’s voice!

If a person doesn’t spend time in God’s presence each day, telling him what I know wouldn’t help. He would still miss what the Holy Spirit is trying to tell him!

As for me, I’m *not* going to miss what the Holy Spirit is saying to me, because I listen to Him. He knows what’s out in front of me, and He’s faithful to show me things to come (John 16:13).

Sometimes our staff gets aggravated when they’re waiting for an answer from me. I don’t move until I get the answer from God in my spirit. I live by Psalm 127:1: “*Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it. . . .*” We may build the house, but it’s in vain if the Lord isn’t building it.

You can do a lot of good things that aren’t what God wants you to do and get into trouble. Even if what you

did was good, it may not have been what God wanted you to do. You have to find out what His plan is for you. Then follow what He tells you to do!

You might ask, “How am I going to discover God’s plan for me?” The Holy Spirit will lead you as you wait before God, praying in other tongues. As Jesus promised us, “. . . He [the Holy Spirit] will shew you things to come” (John 16:13). Besides, God promised that “*as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God*” (Rom. 8:14). That means you can be led!

I’ve always been very studious, but almost everything I know about God’s Word didn’t come from studying books. The primary way I learned the Bible was on my knees, praying in other tongues. That’s how the revelation of the Bible came to me. I’d get revelation from the Counselor that would cause me to start moving in a certain direction. In fact, every new direction I’ve ever taken in ministry, I’ve received divine guidance while praying in tongues.

That’s why many people never receive revelation about God’s plan for their lives. They don’t spend enough time praying in tongues. They never get into the Spirit to obtain their answers from God. As a result, their reasoning and planning is in the mental realm; and in the end, their man-made plan fails.

Your part is to set aside time to wait before Him. Get into God’s presence and pray in the Holy Ghost, and you’ll receive the answers you need. As you wait on the Lord, divine guidance will come.

Cultivate your spiritual life by feeding on God’s Word. Spend time fellowshiping with the Father, praying much in other tongues. Learn to follow what your spirit is saying to you. Every day the Holy Spirit will use your spirit to enlighten you to God’s will. God will direct you through your own spirit, for the Bible says, “*The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord. . . .*” (Prov. 20:27).

Learn to walk in this new realm of Holy Ghost power. Everything starts by determining to get before the Lord every day—allowing Him to lead you, teach you, and continually renew your spiritual strength. ♥



The primary way I learned the Bible was **on my knees**, praying in other tongues.

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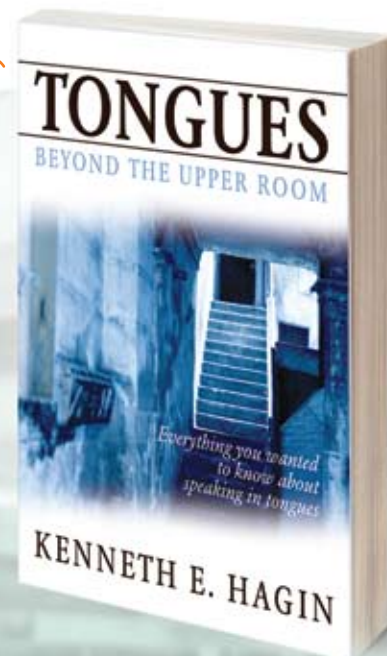
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—ISAIAH 53:5

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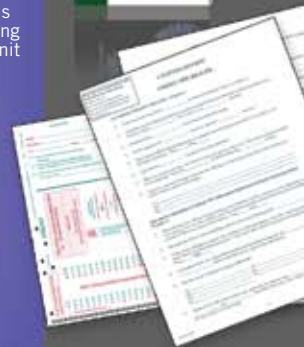
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"THE LORD WILL GUIDE YOU ALWAYS; HE WILL SATISFY YOUR NEEDS IN A SUN-SCORCHED LAND AND WILL STRENGTHEN YOUR FRAME. YOU WILL BE LIKE A WELL-WATERED GARDEN, LIKE A SPRING WHOSE WATERS NEVER FAIL."
— ISAIAH 58:11 (NIV)

IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE that we are embarking upon the 10th year of this century. I remember very vividly the last days of 1999. Many were filled with fear. There was a scare concerning computers. Some didn't know if they would make the transition into the year 2000 without complications. People were storing up food and water. I remember my husband addressing our congregation at RHEMA Bible Church concerning all of the rumors that were circulating. He told them, "Do not fear! God will take care of us."

I have lived by that motto all of my life. Do not fear—trust God! I lean every day on Proverbs 3:5 and 6: *"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."* We are beginning a new year, and I am excited. At the end of each year I begin to meditate and ask the Lord for direction for the coming year. For 2010 two words He gave me are "Gear up!"

I believe it is time for us all to gear up and listen intently to the directions of the Lord. It is time for each of us to take our places in His army. He has assignments for all of us. God likens the Body of Christ to the human body. He made us all with talents that He wants us to use in His service.

Romans 12:4–8 (NLT) says, *"Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly."*

The problem is that often we want someone else's talent rather than our own. We are discontented with how and where God wants to use us. Sometimes I like to imagine what God is thinking. I am sure that He is not pleased when we continue to wander around instead of taking our place in His army. Psalm 37:23 (NLT) says, *"The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives."* God wants to be involved in every detail of your life. He will direct you and keep you on the right course if you will simply turn your life over to Him.

However, it seems we are all very independent beings. We want to direct our lives until we hit bumps in the road, come to the end of our rope, and don't know which way to turn. Suddenly in despair we call out, "Help me, Jesus!" My youngest grandson, Wesley, who is 5, is always coming up with things that make us chuckle. One day my daughter found him going around the house saying, "Help her, Jesus. Help her, Jesus." My daughter suddenly realized that she often says, "Help me, Jesus. Help me, Jesus."

I am so glad that Jesus is always there to help us. The Lord wants to direct our steps. He wants us to take our places and concentrate on His kingdom business. As this new year begins, I encourage you to make a new dedication to the Lord. Allow Him to choose your path this year. Gear up for His assignments. Time is short; we must accomplish God's tasks.

You might ask, "How do I know what God's assignments are?" Jeremiah 29:11–13 (NIV) says, *"'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.'"*

Spend concentrated time seeking the Lord this year. As you begin to seek God, He will reveal His perfect will for your life. He will keep you on the right path, and you will complete the assignments He has for you. ♥

Lynette





Kids' Page

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



PSALM 100 SPIRAL

See if you can find 10 words from Psalm 100, verses 2-4, in the spiral of letters above. Use the *King James Version* of the Bible.



The Sheep of His Pasture

Psalm 100 says that we are the sheep of God's pasture. One of these four sheep is different from the others. Can you figure out which one it is?

ANSWERS:
 Thanksgiving Scramble—ANSWER: salvation, health, family, answered prayers, friends
 Colored letters: Holy Spirit
 Psalm 100 Spiral—ANSWER: (Starting from center) GATES, COURTS, PRAISE, ENTER, SINGING, JOYFUL, SHEEP, PASTURE, THANKSGIVING, GOD
 THE SHEEP OF HIS PASTURE—ANSWER: A

God's Front Door



When you go to visit someone's house, most likely you enter their house through the front door. Well, to enter into "God's House," there is a "front door" that He wants all of us to use . . . **The Door of Praise.** Lots of folks try to get to God through the "back door." They come to Him with their prayer requests and complaints. But Psalm 100 tells us the correct way to enter into God's presence. "**Come before Him with joyful singing. Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise**" (vv. 2, 4 NASB). The next time you go to church, remember to take these three things along: a joyful song, a thankful heart, and praise on your lips! That's the way you'll enter God's front door . . . The Door of Praise!

THANKSGIVING SCRAMBLE

Enter His gates with thanksgiving! What? Can't think of anything to be thankful for? Here are a few things you should be thankful for, but the words are scrambled. Unscramble them and then put the letters in the colored circles in the correct order to discover someone to be thankful for.

ationalals
 theahl
 malify
 sanwered rapreys
 refinds

jokes & riddles



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

What has forty feet and sings?

The school choir

Why did Humpty Dumpty have a great fall?

Because he wanted to make up for a boring summer.

What do you call the first person to get in the bathtub?

The ring leader

Why did the chicken cross the road?

To show the possum that it could be done

Knock Knock!
 Who's there?
 Cockadoodle . . .
 Cockadoodle who?
 It's not Cockadoodle who, it's Cockadoodle doo!

Knock Knock!
 Who's there?
 Atch . . .
 Atch who?
 God bless You!

What do you call a frog with no legs?

Unhappy!!



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