



THE Word of Faith

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2016

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

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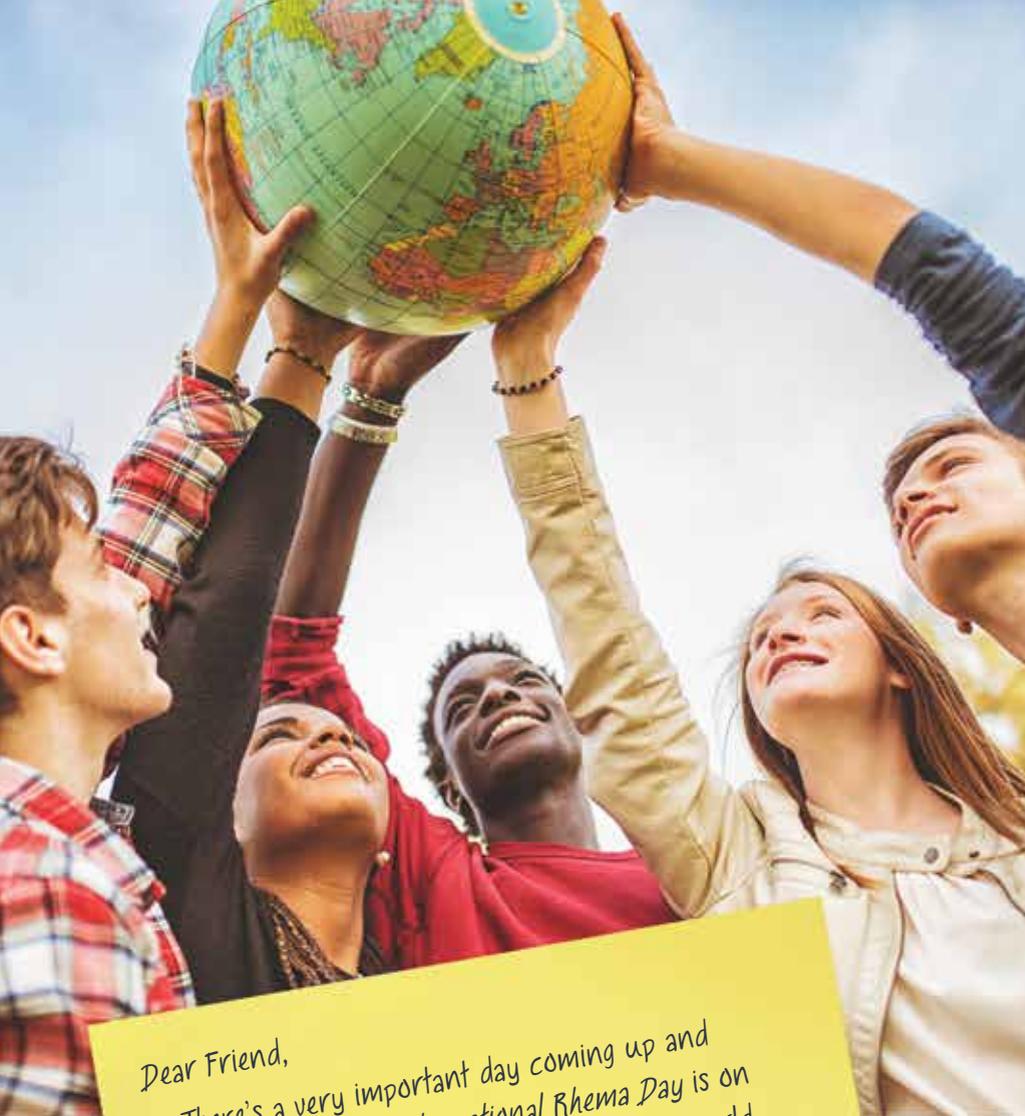
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The Word of Faith



KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES
Working Together to Reach the World!

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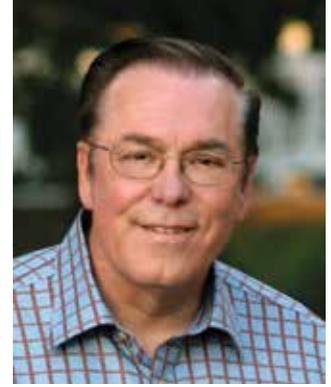
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Are You Ready to Receive?

We all face a choice. We can be satisfied where we are, or we can choose to move to a new experience with God. We are still His people, no matter which direction we take. But we are the ones who decide whether we will enjoy all of His blessings.

I know that sometimes it can seem as if there is no way out of our situation. But look at what Second Corinthians 6:2 (NEB) says: *“The hour of favour has now come; now, I say, has the day of deliverance dawned.”* The dawn of a new day is here! Dawn means a new beginning. Dawn means the old darkness has faded away and the light of a new day has come. We can rise from the darkness that we’ve been in—the darkness of hardships, trials, tribulation, and all the other difficulties the devil is throwing at us. We can enter that new day!

It’s time for us to wake up and realize that God is not only with us—He’s ready to deliver us and set us free! He deals in abundance, and He is ready to bring us the maximum, superabundant, over-the-top blessing. He is always ready. The question is, are we ready to receive?

You see, it’s up to us to take action and receive. In His Word, God has given us all the direction we need to receive His blessings. If we wait for Him to just drop the blessings on us, it will be too late. We must decide to go after them. Now is the time for us to believe God and speak His Word in order to receive the blessings He has for us!

If you are ready to receive, I encourage you to dig into this issue of the magazine. I especially enjoy my son, Craig’s, article this month. He will have you whipping all the giants in your life and enjoying God’s victory!

Don’t forget to share with us on social media your favorite quotes from his article (and from all the other articles too!) Just #RhemaWOF.

And remember, the reason we have any blessings to receive is that Jesus defeated the devil for us. He triumphed over him at the cross. God has given us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Happy Resurrection Day!

Kenneth W. Hagin

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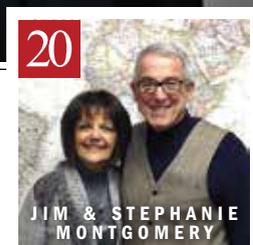
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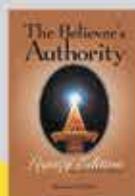
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HOW TO WHIP YOUR GOLIATH



CRAIG W. HAGIN

AT ONE TIME or another, everyone faces struggles in life. We all have unexpected things happen. This shouldn't come as a surprise, because we see in John 10:10 that *"the thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy."*

Whenever adversity strikes, we can find help and inspiration in the Bible story of David and Goliath. We can look at how David won his battle against Goliath, follow the same principles, and come out on top in any situation we face.

At that time David was a young shepherd boy who tended his family's sheep. His encounter with Goliath was no doubt the biggest battle he had faced up to that point.

Jesse, David's father, had given David food to take to his brothers who had joined King Saul on the battlefield. When David got to the front lines, he heard Goliath, a huge Philistine soldier, taunting the Israelite army.

David asked, *"What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel?"* (1 Sam. 17:26 NKJV).

The fate of the entire army of Israel rested with the man who would face Goliath. Instead of the Israelite and Philistine armies battling each other, this encounter was to be between two men—a fight to the death with the winner taking all. Until David arrived, no one in the Israelite army was willing to take on Goliath.

When King Saul was told about what David said, he quickly had the lad brought to his tent. The king, however, took one look at the shepherd boy and didn't believe he could take down Goliath. David reassured Saul saying, *"The Lord, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine"* (v. 37 NKJV).

David was confident that God would help him. Why? Because he remembered how God had helped him in the past. This same principle is true for us. Whenever we face our biggest battles, we have to remember all the smaller battles God helped us win.

Often when we face adversity, we become fearful. We can become so worried about the situation that we forget about God's faithfulness. Regardless of how big or small the battle is, God is able to deliver us. The same God Who heals us from the flu also heals cancer.

How Big Is God?

We serve a big God. We need to know that—especially in the midst of trials. It doesn't matter what giant we are facing. Our

God is bigger. The reason we become worried in adversity is that we don't know what our God is able to do.

David didn't go into battle against Goliath in his own strength. He may have been armed with a staff, a sling, and five smooth stones, but he understood that his strength and ability came from God. David wasn't coming against Goliath with sticks and stones. He was coming against the giant armed with the power of God.

1 SAMUEL 17:45-46 (NKJV)

45 Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

46 "This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel."

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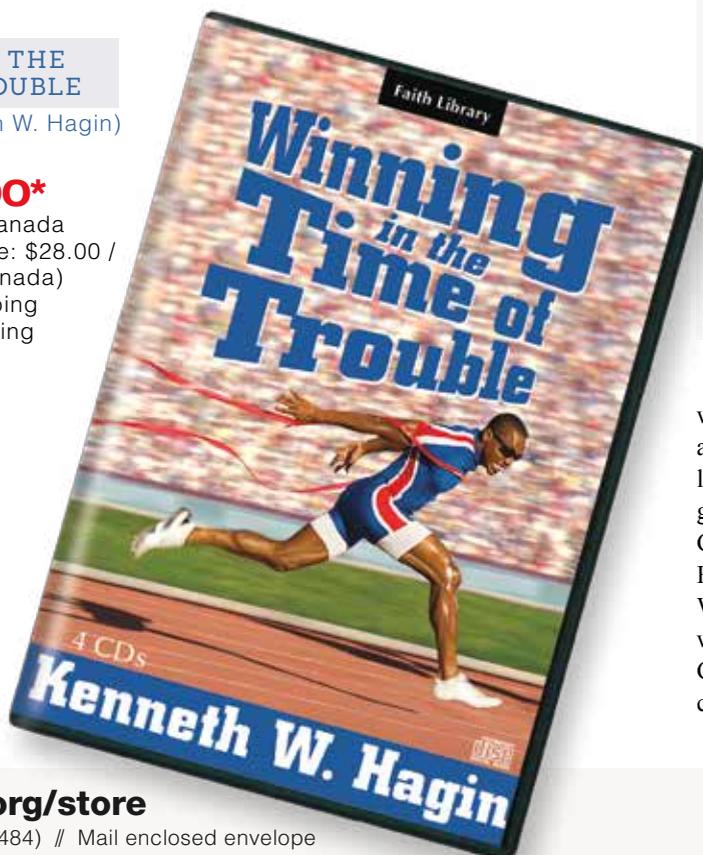
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Trust God

We will experience adversity in life. Remember, the Bible does not tell us that weapons won't be formed against us. It says that no weapon formed against us will prosper (Isa. 54:17). In other words, whatever comes against us won't be able to take us out. When we know Who our God is and the authority we have in Christ, we don't need to be fearful or worried. We simply need to trust God.

When you really think about it, it's not what comes against us that matters. What really counts is Who is for us. If God is for us, then who cares what adversity rises up against us?

God's Word calls us victorious. It says that when a mountain is in our way, we can move it. We only have to believe. David believed that whatever weapon he used against Goliath would be enough to win the battle.

Often with us, though, when we face a battle, instead of knowing that God will cause us to triumph in the midst of a trial, we think our weapons are not enough. We think that because we're looking at our own ability. And if we rely on that, we won't win any battles. But it's not about our strength, ability, or might. It's all about God. It's knowing that we're not alone. It's knowing that when we lean on God, He'll strengthen us through the entire battle.

Regardless of how big or small the battle is, God is able to deliver us. The same God Who heals us from the flu also heals cancer.



#RhemaWOF

God is a good God. He loves us, and He wants to see us conquer everything that comes against us. So whenever we're facing a Goliath, instead of getting all caught up that a giant is in front of us, let's get caught up in God. Let's keep our focus on Who He is and His ability to turn any circumstance around. When it looks as if our situation is impossible, we can know that all things are possible with God. And when God is for us, nothing that comes against us can cause us to fail. ♥



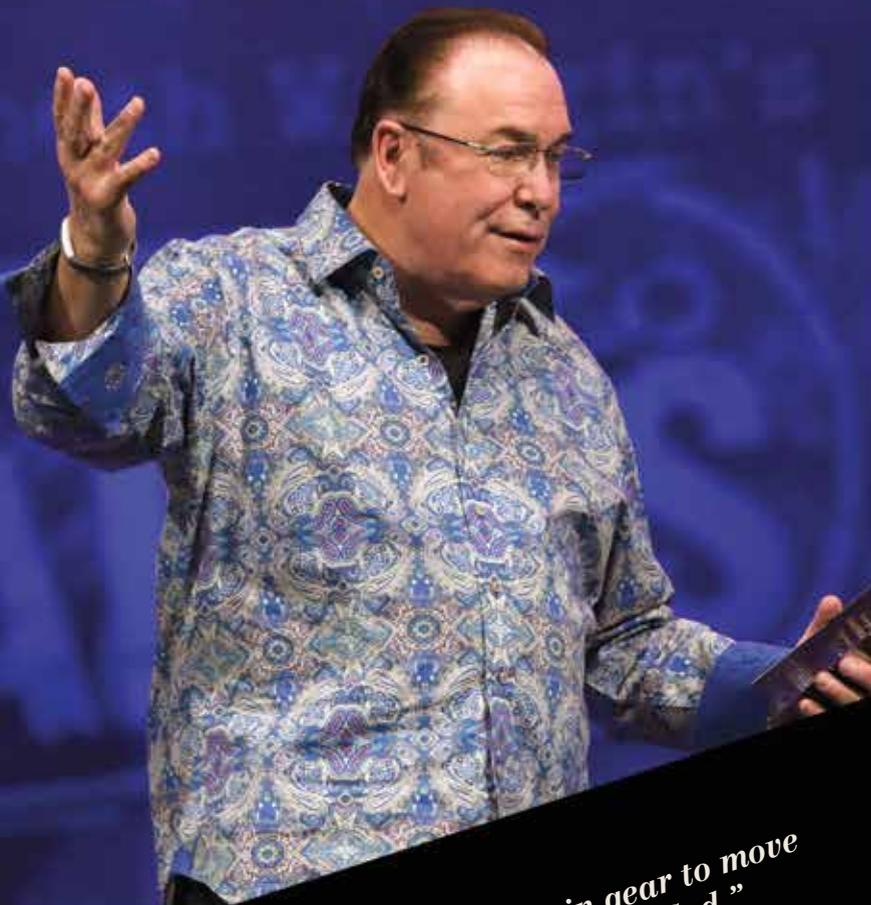
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Kenneth W. Hagin's



Men's Conference



"We must get our minds in gear to move into the place of victory in God."

A Call to Arms 2015

HUNDREDS OF GODLY MEN gathered on the Rhema USA campus in November to hone their faith, be built up in the Lord, and live above any attack of the devil. Speakers at Kenneth W. Hagin's *A Call to Arms Men's Conference* aimed to strengthen, challenge, and encourage those who attended. They left refreshed and better equipped to enforce the victory Jesus has already won for them. *A Call to Arms 2016* will be held November 3–5. Be there!

Take Control of Your Thoughts // KENNETH W. HAGIN

"So roll up your sleeves, put your mind in gear, be totally ready to receive the gift that's coming when Jesus arrives."

—1 Peter 1:13 (Message)

WHEN WE EXERCISE self-discipline in our thought life, we can beat the devil's attacks and always land in the winner's circle. Unfortunately, too many Christian men are losing this battle. As a result, they aren't able to help themselves or anybody else.

NO MAN HAS SUCCESSFULLY SERVED GOD WITHOUT FIRST TAKING CONTROL OF HIS THOUGHTS. We must get our minds in gear to move into the place of victory in God. If we can escape the prison of our own thoughts, we can rise up to be all God wants us to be.

Here are four simple keys to help you change your thinking.

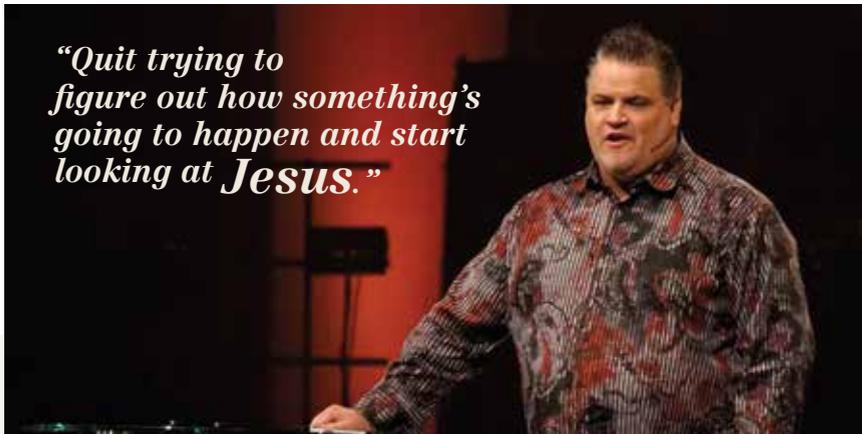
1. Read and meditate on the Word of God. Don't do this every once in a while, but for at least 15 minutes every day. Spend time letting it soak in (Joshua 1:8).

2. Take authority over Satan's efforts to control your thinking. When he tries to put ideas in your mind, use the Name of Jesus against him. Luke 10:19 (NKJV) says, *"I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you."* What is authority? Delegated power.

3. Confess the Word every day (Mark 11:23).

4. Regularly attend a Bible-believing church where there is an anointing to break the enemy's grip over your mind (Heb. 10:25). *Regularly* means all the time, not once a month or every six weeks.

“Quit trying to figure out how something’s going to happen and start looking at Jesus.”



We Already Have Jesus // CRAIG W. HAGIN

THE STORY OF the man at the Pool of Bethesda is found in John chapter 5. This man hadn’t walked for 38 years. He was lying by the pool hoping to be the first person to get in when an angel troubled the waters. People often focus on the angel and the pool. They get stuck there and miss the fact that it’s Jesus Who touches lives. They’re looking at the pool and not the Savior . . . not the Healer.

The man at the Pool of Bethesda probably knew he was never going to be the first one in the water. But he kept sitting there. He kept trying. He was going to do whatever it took. Then one day Jesus decided to visit him.

How many Christians today are still looking for the pool? They say, “God, do something!” They’re asking for something that’s already happened.

Quit looking at the pool. Quit trying to figure out how something’s going to happen and start looking at Jesus. He’s already made it happen.



“God wants us ‘to command’ our children and household so that He can bring upon us His blessings. ‘To command’ means to set things in order.” // **LOREN HIRSCHY, FINDING YOUR FAMILY**



“Where our minds dwell, our actions will eventually follow. We have to use our authority to cast down imaginations that are against God’s Word.” // **JERRY WEINZIERL, LUV: MORE THAN A 3-LETTER WORD**



“You always lead with vision. Keep a vision in front of your wife and children. It’ll help keep you on the right path.” // **CHARLIE DANIELS, LIFE OF A LEADER**



“What has a man gained if he acquires wealth and loses it all because of his health? We cannot accomplish God’s plan for our lives if we do not take care of our bodies.” // **BRACKEN CHRISTIAN, LIVING HEALTHY AND WHOLE**



“Money is a secondary resource to the big three: time, energy, and attention. Amazing things can happen when you take these three and focus them on a goal.” // **DON BURNS, MASTERING THE MONSTER—MONEY**



“When God put us on the planet, He said, ‘I see greatness in every one of you!’ Men need to rise up and charge after the superabundant, ‘above all that we can ask or think’ of God!” // **CLIFF GRAHAM, A LIFESTYLE OF ADVENTURE**



“Sometimes it seems like the ladies are the loudest praisers or shouters in the church. Men will get loud about something they are passionate about. It’s time for men to display their emotions about the goodness of their Lord. In Psalm 27:6 (NLT) King David says, “*At His sanctuary I will offer sacrifices with shouts of joy.*” My question to men is, **how can we stay quiet in church after all the Lord has done for us?**” // **AARON HANKINS**

“Florence Chadwick failed at her first attempt to swim the Catalina Channel because of dense fog. Florence was only a mile from shore on the 26-mile swim when she quit. Afterwards, she said it was not being able to see land that made her stop. Later, she attempted the same swim and fog settled in again, but the mental image of the shoreline kept her going. The dream thief comes to steal God’s vision out of our hearts. **In order to fight the weapons of mass distractions, keep your eyes on Jesus.**” // **JEFF PERRY**



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—KENNETH E. HAGIN

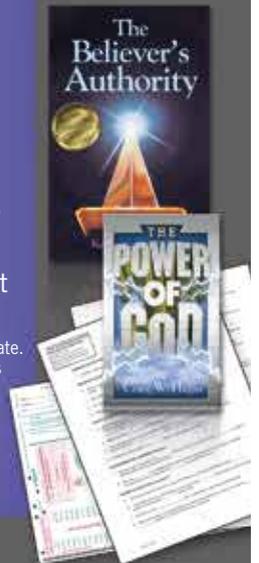


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KENNETH W. HAGIN

Put Your Spirit in Charge

SOME CHRISTIANS don't realize they are three-part beings. You *are* a spirit; you *have* a soul; and you *live* in a body. When you are born again,

your spirit is recreated. To grow in Christ, your mind must be renewed with the Word of God (Rom. 12:2).

What, then, are you to do with your body—the house you live in (2 Cor. 5:1)? Remember, your body is not who you really are. Your spirit is the real you.

Most Christians don't live like they are spirit beings. They seem unaware that the Spirit of Almighty God lives in them. Many allow their bodies to control the way they live.

It shouldn't be that way. A Christian who lives according to his physical senses will run into trouble. He won't be able to accurately listen to his heart and follow the Holy Spirit's leading.

Your Spirit and Your Body

The Bible says your spirit plays a part in controlling your body. Notice what Paul said in First Corinthians 9:27: "*I keep my body under control*" (CEV). Another translation says, "*I discipline my body and bring it into subjection*" (NKJV).

Who is the "I" Paul is referring to? If he considered his body to be the real Paul, he would have said, "I discipline *myself* and bring *myself* under control."

Paul knew he was a spirit being who lived in a body. He knew his inward man needed to control the behavior of his outward man.

Paul made a strong statement telling believers what to do with their bodies.

ROMANS 12:1 (NLT)

1 I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice.

Paul wasn't talking to sinners here—he was talking to believers. He was telling people who were "new creatures in Christ" that *they* needed to do something about their bodies.

When you become a new person in Christ, old things do pass away and all things become new (2 Cor. 5:17). But that is true only in regard to your *inward* man. Your *spirit being* becomes new. When you were born again, your body didn't change. It will always want to do things it's not supposed to do.

Controlling Your Body

If your body never wanted to do what's wrong, Paul would not have had to say, "I keep my body under control." You don't have to *keep* something under control that doesn't have a tendency to *get out* of control.

For instance, as long as your car is parked, you don't have to control the direction it's going. When you begin driving the car, you have to guide it with the steering wheel. If you don't, you will lose control of the vehicle.

Just as a steering wheel guides a car, your spirit needs to control your body. Otherwise, your body will control you.

What happens if you continually give in to the flesh rather than walking according to the Spirit? The Bible says you will cause decay and death to come into your life (Gal. 6:8 NLT).

That's why it's so important to keep your body under the control of your spirit and learn how to listen to your heart. Your recreated spirit doesn't have a sin problem. Your spirit wants to obey the Word of God and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Your problems will be with your body and your unrenewed mind. Why? Because your body always wants to fulfill the desires of the flesh.

For you to be a victorious Christian, your *inward* man must control your *outward* man (Gal. 5:16–18). How do you keep your body disciplined and under the control of your spirit?

First, you decide to live by your spirit instead of being body-ruled. You can use the same principles of faith you use to believe for other needs in your life. Just apply those principles to this area of taking control of your body. *Say* what you believe (2 Cor. 4:13) and *act* upon what you have spoken (James 2:14, 17).

That's what Paul did. First, he had to *believe* according to God's Word. He believed he was able to control his body and bring it under the control of his spirit (Phil. 4:13). Next, Paul *spoke* what he believed: "I discipline my body. I keep it under control" (1 Cor. 9:27). Finally, Paul *acted* on his faith. He daily presented his body as a living sacrifice to God. He submitted to his spirit and not his flesh.

Know that when you stop doing something your flesh has enjoyed for a long time, it's not going to feel good. But if you want to walk closely with God and fulfill His plan for your life, it's important to say no to your own desires—no matter how much your flesh dislikes it (Gal. 5:24; Rom. 8:13 CEV).

Left to itself, your flesh will lead you into sin. You have to realize that you will have a body to contend with as long as you live on this earth. Once you understand this, you can determine to keep your body under the control of your spirit according to the Word.

It's up to you to tell your body what to do.



#RhemaWOF

Tell Your Body What to Do

The best way to get any part of your body under control is to find out what the Word says on the subject. Once you discover that, be a doer of the Word. Listen to what the Holy Spirit prompts you to do and *make* your body obey His leading.

Your body should not dictate to you what you will do. You should dictate to your body what *it* will do.

You are the only one who can discipline your body and bring it under the control of your spirit. If you don't, you will decrease your sensitivity to what the Holy Spirit is saying to your heart. Your entire Christian walk will be hindered if your body is not kept under the control of your spirit.

Decide today to become spirit-ruled—not body-ruled. Speak by faith, "I bring my body under the control of my spirit." Then put action to your words by daily presenting your body to God. You *can* lay aside those weights that are hindering you, because the Bible says you can do all things through Christ Who strengthens you (Phil. 4:13).♥

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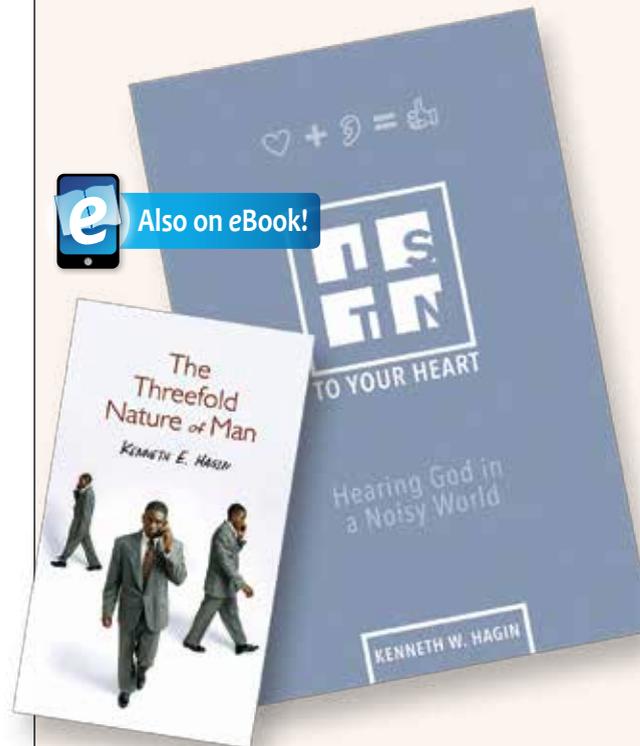
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Vision: Seeing a Long Way Off

JOHN GRUNEWALD



SPRING
COLLEGE
WEEKEND

INSTRUCTOR
HIGHLIGHT

DURING THE MID-1980s, Kenneth E. Hagin held prayer meetings at Rooker Memorial Auditorium on the Rhema USA campus. He often told those present to stretch their hands toward the large maps of the world's continents that covered the walls of the room and pray for those nations. During one season of time, Brother Hagin always had us pray for Europe.

Little did my wife, Michelle, and I know that God planted a seed in our hearts then. It was the beginning of a vision—something He was going to have us do. We didn't

Peak was 100 miles away. Zach was playing with his Gameboy and didn't see the sign.

"Zach, look up" I said. "You can see Pike's Peak. How far away do you think it is?"

"Ten miles?"

"No, it's 100 miles away."

"Huh. I didn't know I could see that far."

This same thing happens with vision. When God drops something in our hearts, it looks like it's 10 miles away. And we think we'll get there right away.

But what we're seeing is really 100 miles off. That means it might take 10 times longer to get there. Instead of five years, it may take 30 to 50 years to accomplish. Some people never see the complete fulfillment of their vision.

There's still a lot of work to be done in the mandate "Go teach My people faith."

#RhemaWOF

know what it meant or what to do with it. We just knew that there was something big in our hearts about Europe.

For years we helped anybody we knew who was going there. However they needed help, we'd lend a hand. We often prayed about going to Europe, but we always had a check in our spirits. For a long time we thought God wanted us to stay in the U.S. and help from here. It was 13 years before we finally got the release to travel to Europe. And within six months of that trip, we moved to Germany.

Seeing Farther Than You Thought You Could

Many years ago I was driving in Colorado with my oldest son, Zach. He was 12 at the time. We had just passed a road sign that said Pikes

"Go Teach My People Faith. . . ."

In 1950 God told Kenneth E. Hagin, "*Go teach My people faith.*" He often prayed, "How am I going to get this message out?" Brother Hagin began seeing the fulfillment of this vision when Rhema Bible Training College opened in 1974. The school grew far beyond his first expectations. He never saw the explosive growth of Rhema campuses around the world. His vision is continuing long beyond his lifetime.

Vision is an interesting thing. It comes in both small and large packages. The small packages are things dealing with our personal lives. The big packages relate to what God wants to do in the earth. All of the small packages fit into God's big plan.

"Go teach My people faith" was Brother Hagin's personal mandate. It was what God wanted him to accomplish. But it also fit into a bigger picture of what God wants to be done worldwide.

What's Your Part?

As members of the Body of Christ, we are told to win the lost and build the Church. To do this, we must discover our personal part.

Some people say, "God has never given me a vision. What am I supposed to do?"

The answer is simple: Hook up with someone else. Help them accomplish what God told *them* to do.

There's still a lot of work to be done in the mandate "*Go teach My people faith.*" Many people still need to hear this message. The possibilities of what God can do on the earth are endless. It will take all of us to make sure the vision continues.

When we stand before God, Brother Hagin will not be the only one held accountable for fulfilling this vision. I will be—and you will be.

God will ask, "What did you do to perpetuate this vision that I connected you with?" I don't know about you, but I don't want to be embarrassed and hide. I want to hear, "Well done."♥

[Editor's Note: John Grunewald is an International Director over Rhema campuses in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. He also is a guest instructor at Rhema USA.]



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All In for God

DENISE BURNS

BEING “ALL IN” means different things to different people. When I think about being all in, I think of football fans.

Some of the craziest people I know are football fans who are seriously all in for their teams. Have you ever seen them? They’re the ones in the camera shots screaming—with their shirts off and their team’s colors painted all over their bodies. They don’t care what anybody thinks of them as they make fools of themselves.

In the Bible we learn about three individuals who were all in for God. In the Book of Daniel we see the story of three young Hebrews—Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They lived in Babylon, a rich and prosperous city, but one with practices against the ways of God. These three men were officials in the court of King Nebuchadnezzar, but they feared God and served Him.

One day, King Nebuchadnezzar built a 90-foot-tall statue made of gold. He wanted the people to worship it. The King gathered a huge band of musicians. At the sound of the music, everyone in Babylon was to fall down and worship the gold statue. If they didn’t bow down and worship the statue, they would be thrown in a fiery furnace.

The first time the music played, everybody fell and worshipped the idol except Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. It was immediately reported to King Nebuchadnezzar that the three Hebrew young men refused to do as he commanded.

The king was furious. He called them up front and gave them one more chance to bow down to the statue or be thrown into the furnace. These three young men answered the king this way.

DANIEL 3:16–18 (Message)

16 Your threat means nothing to us.

17 If you throw us in the fire, the God we serve can rescue us from your roaring furnace and anything else you might cook up, O king.

18 But even if he doesn’t, it wouldn’t make a bit of difference, O king. We still wouldn’t serve your gods or worship the gold statue you set up.

That certainly didn’t go over well with the king. He immediately had them thrown into a hot furnace. And God saved them. They walked out of the furnace not even smelling like smoke! God saved them because they put their trust in Him.

Here’s what we need to learn from Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These three Hebrew young men faced death, but they chose to be “all in.” Their faith said, “God can save us.”

But their commitment said, “Even if He doesn’t, we’re still not going to bow down.” They chose not to give in to peer pressure or fear.

Peer pressure can keep us from being all in. It can be pressure from

friends to do things that go against God’s Word. It can be the pressure that “everybody’s doing it” or the fear of losing friends if we don’t do it. These thoughts and emotions come against all of us. They try to get us to leave our commitment to Christ.

Living for God, though, is more important than these things. Jesus needs us to be a light to the world around us. He needs us to show others what it means to live a Christian life—to be a Christ follower. He wants us to tell others about Him.

We can be like the three Hebrew young men—Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. We can be all in for God and choose not to bow to things that go against His Word. We can be light to our friends and show them that it’s great to be all in for God.♥

[Editor’s Note: This article was adapted from Denise Burns’ Sunday night message at *Summer Blitz* 2015.]




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**SPEAKER
HIGHLIGHT**

God saved them because they put their trust in Him.



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STAYING COMMITTED IN THE LAST DAYS

IN MY OPINION, if there is one thing lacking among Charismatic Christians, it's consecration and commitment to God. We need people with backbones like crowbars. Too many have a backbone like a thread. Anybody can twist them around their finger. These people give up too easily, and I don't understand that kind of thinking.

I got saved when I was 15 and was healed when I was almost 17, and I left that bed of sickness preaching. The thought to give up never entered my mind. I sometimes had to work on the side to supplement my income, but the thought never entered my mind to do anything but obey God. I said, "Here I go, live or die, sink or swim, go under or over" (and it looked like I was going to do all of them). But I didn't look back, praise God. I just kept going. I just kept plowing, even when it looked like it was not working. Why? Because I had made a commitment, a dedication, a consecration, and I stayed with it. We need people like that today. **Those are the people who will turn the world upside down for Jesus.**

Let's look at a passage in Paul's first letter to Timothy.

1 TIMOTHY 4:1-2

1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron.

The Spirit Paul refers to here is the Holy Spirit. And this isn't talking just about sinners. In the end times, even among

Christians, some shall depart from the faith. There will be a rise of spiritualism, and people will speak lies in hypocrisy, having their conscience seared. We've had some sad experiences along that line. Not everybody who comes to Rhema turns out marvelously. But where we've had one bad report, thank God we've gotten several dozen good ones.

In fact, I received a letter from a businessman in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, where Rhema is located, who sent \$10,000 to the school. The man wrote a little note, explaining that he felt led of the Lord to sow some seed and invest in Rhema. He said he'd had two students and their wives work for him.

He said, "In honor of these four people, I'm giving \$10,000." He saw the fruit of their lives. Thank God we're producing people like that.

God said a number of things to Daniel about the last days, so let's look in the Book of Daniel and notice the fourth verse of chapter 12: "*But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end.*"

We see that expression—time of the end, last days, latter times. What about the time of the end? The rest of verse four says, "*Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.*"

Daniel is not talking about churches; he's talking about men, the world, people in general, running to and fro. People travel more today than ever in the history of the world. And it says knowledge shall be increased. He's not talking about the knowledge of God; he's talking about the knowledge of the world.

I come from the old Model T days. And I can remember the time everybody would run out of the house if just one of those

little single-engine airplanes flew over. Think about the cars we have today and think about the improvements they have made in airplanes. Man has even gone to the moon and back! Knowledge shall be increased and men shall run to and fro. When? In the time of the end.

We need people with backbones like crowbars. Too many have a backbone like a thread.



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But God does not want us to put our faith in man’s wisdom. Paul said, writing to the church at Corinth, *“That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God”* (1 Cor. 2:5).

Now let’s look at Luke 21:28: *“And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.”*

When these things begin to come to pass, look up! Lift up your heads! Glory! Is it time for us to be downcast—to look down? No! Lift up your heads. **Look up, for your redemption draweth nigh.**

First John 3:2–3 says, *“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and . . . we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.”*

That’s a strange statement. “I thought God was going to purify us,” many will say. There are some things you have to do for yourself.

All the signs point to the fact that Jesus is coming! We have that hope, and it is a purifying hope. **People who are living recklessly, carelessly, and impurely are not expecting Him to come.** But every person who has this purifying hope in him purifies himself, even as He is pure.♥

[Editor’s Note: This article was adapted from the minibook *Signs of the Times* by Kenneth E. Hagin.]

FAITH IN ACTION

Prayer of Commitment

Heavenly Father,

I thank You for Your holy written Word. In Your Word we can see many signs that these are the last days and this is the latter time.

Thank You, Father, that we know that when Jesus shall appear, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. I have that hope in me, and it is a purifying hope. So I lay aside everything that is unlike You, Lord.

Thank You for the blood of Jesus that cleanses us from all sin. And as Paul said, we lay aside not only every sin, but every weight—those things that are not necessarily sinful, but are weights that hold us back in the Christian race.

We believe Jesus is coming again. We believe there’s a work that must be done and a harvest that must come. So we’re getting ready for it.

Thank You, Lord, for the day that is coming when the last enemy, physical death, shall be put under foot and our full redemption shall become a reality. Amen.

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'I was on the verge of giving up on life'

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—Besa

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God's Tangible Healing Power

KENNETH E. HAGIN



IN THIS ARTICLE we are going to consider the tangibility of God's healing power. Tangible, you may know, means "capable of being touched" or "perceptible to the touch."

We see an example of this in the story of the healing of the woman with the issue of blood in Mark 5:25-34. She had suffered with a flow of blood for 12 years, and no doctor could help her. But then she heard about Jesus.

MARK 5:27-29

27 When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment.

28 For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole.

29 And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague.

We know that God's healing power—His healing anointing—that went into the woman was tangible, because verse 30 says that Jesus knew *immediately* when that power went out of Him. Jesus was aware of an *outflow* of that healing power, and the woman was aware of the *reception* of that power. So the power had to have been tangible.

We can also see that the woman's faith was involved in her healing. After she told Jesus what had happened, He said to her, "*Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague*" (v. 34).

The tangible healing anointing is the power of God to heal and to undo the work of the enemy in a person's life. And that anointing works, or is transmitted and effects a healing and a cure, in connection with the person believing in it.

Here is another example of God's tangible healing power at work. We read in Acts 19:12 that from Paul's body "*were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.*" The Spirit of God indwelling the Apostle Paul transformed those handkerchiefs into "storage batteries"

of the Holy Spirit and power. When they were laid upon the sick, they charged their bodies and healing was the result.

Apparently, **cloth will act as a conductor of the power of God**, because we read that Jesus' garment absorbed the power to the extent that all who touched even the hem of His clothes were made well (Matt. 14:36). And the woman with the issue of blood touched only His garment. So you'd have to come to the conclusion from reading the Scriptures that the healing power of God is transmittable just as electricity is transmittable. And the anointing is governed by certain laws just as electricity in the natural is governed by certain laws.

The handkerchiefs and aprons in Acts 19:11 and 12 that were brought from the body of Paul unto the sick evidently *did* absorb that power. God's power flowed out of Paul into those cloths and saturated them with the anointing. Then as the cloths were laid on the sick, **that power was transmitted or transferred into their bodies**. The anointing or power

surcharged their bodies, and the diseases departed and the evil spirits went out of them.

In summary, believers need to understand that the healing anointing is a tangible force. It can be

The tangible healing anointing is the power of God to heal and to undo the work of the enemy in a person's life.



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transferred through the laying on of hands, through a prayer cloth, or in certain other means. The anointing is activated by faith. The faith of individual believers, when released, will draw the anointing into their bodies. And once there, that anointing can bring about the needed healing and cure.♥

SPECIAL OFFER

What Is the Anointing?

Every believer is anointed, or empowered by God. But not every believer has the same anointing. Rev. Hagin turns to the Scriptures to explain different anointings and how to minister under an anointing.

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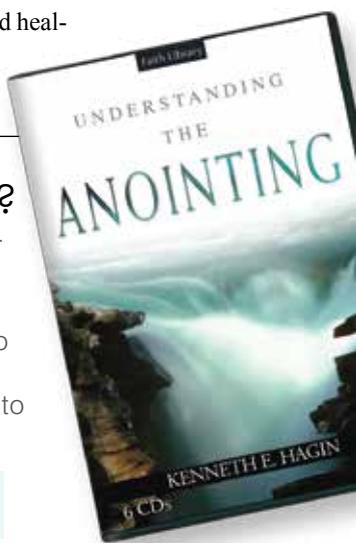
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IGNITING AN UNQUENCHABLE FIRE

HAVE YOU EVER had a defining moment in your life? A time or place where everything changed? Jim Montgomery had two such moments.

The first came when he read Kenneth E. Hagin’s book *The Believer’s Authority* in the late ’70s. This book set Jim’s life on a completely different course. He read *The Believer’s Authority* in one sitting. Afterwards he told his wife, Stephanie, “This is the message our hearts have longed for ever since we’ve been Christians.”

Jim’s second defining moment came after he and Stephanie graduated from Rhema Bible Training College in 1991. Narhari and Lata Thorat, who are now the directors of Rhema India, were in the same class. Jim was part of a missions team that helped the Thorats reacclimate to their native soil and regain momentum in India.*

“India is where God put the world in my heart,” Jim says. “Just seeing the hopelessness, suffering, bondage, and despair—that’s really where the Lord expanded my world vision.”

That six-week trip changed Jim’s concept of Christianity. “Up until that time,” he says, “I had a westernized version of a comfortable, air-conditioned Christianity. That is, we go to church, hear sermons, and come back home. It wasn’t Christianity being a radical transformation where we make the goodness of God known to every person we come in contact with.”

For Jim and Stephanie, waking up a sleeping church and getting believers to rediscover what made the Early Church great has become the heartbeat of their ministry. Jim sees the Book of Acts as God’s blueprint for how the Church today is supposed to operate.

In looking at the contemporary church, Jim says, we can easily see a big disconnect between the Early Church and today. In many corridors of Christianity, the Church has become sectarian, he notes. “Denominational theology is followed more than the red words of Jesus in the Bible! We’ve become a religion instead of a life-giving flow,” he says.



JIM & STEPHANIE MONTGOMERY



THE MONTGOMERYS ARE SEEING BELIEVERS FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT AND GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT IN OPERATION, BRINGING GLORY TO GOD AND REFRESHING TO THE SAINTS.

Wake Up the Mighty Ones!

To embolden believers to get back to their roots, Jim and Stephanie have been holding *Will the Real Church Please Stand Up?* conferences across the U.S. and around the world. They’re sounding a trumpet—calling out into the wilderness of dry-bones Christianity. They are encouraging believers to wake up the mighty man inside them and begin living in power and victory. That’s the way God always intended for the church to live, Jim says.



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BRINGING THE GOOD NEWS TO HUNGRY HEARTS IN UKRAINE.



“We should be outshining what they did in the Book of Acts,” Jim adds. “They didn’t even have the completed Bible!”

Wherever Jim and Stephanie go, they’re striking a spark in the hearts of believers, igniting a fire that

in traditional denominational churches and in Charismatic fellowships. Wherever they go, people are hungry and receptive.

Ministering the Holy Spirit

Although the Montgomerys know they are called to American churches, the Lord has opened doors for them to minister in 13 nations on six continents.

One time Jim and Stephanie were ministering in Karmiel, Israel, at the same time an international arts festival was taking place there. Some Korean evangelists were at the festival giving out Bibles.

The Koreans “just happened” to be using as their home base the same church the Montgomerys were ministering at. One night, Jim taught on the woman who was bowed over with a spirit of infirmity (Luke 13:10–13).

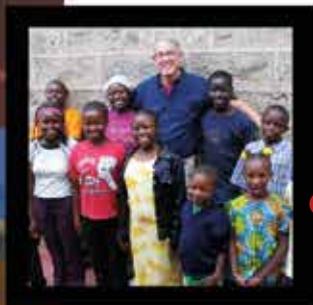
At the end of his message, Jim gave an invitation for those who needed healing. As Jim and Stephanie prayed for people, the Holy Spirit’s presence was tangible. People dropped like bowling pins when hands were laid on them! The Koreans watched in amazement.

Jim then gave an invitation for the baptism in the Holy Spirit. All of the Korean evangelists quickly came forward and were filled with the Holy Spirit! “We’ve never seen anything like this,” one man exclaimed. “Now we’re really ready to go!”

Go—Be an Ambassador for Christ

Christians come in contact every day with people who desperately need to know how much God loves them. The lost also need to experience the tangible power of God that will set them free from chains that hold them in bondage.

Jim and Stephanie are committed to empowering Christians to do this—to become beacons of hope, help, and healing to everyone they meet. As believers realize the tremendous power and ability of the Holy Spirit that’s in them, they’ll step up to the plate and do the works that Jesus did. And as He said in John 14:12, they’ll do even greater works than that.♥



RECEPTIVE HEARTS IN KENYA.

PREACHING JESUS IN ISRAEL.

cannot be quenched! They’re seeing normal, everyday people realize that they are called to step out and do the works of Jesus.

The Montgomerys are seeing believers become visible representations of their Lord and Savior. People are no longer satisfied with just going to church. They are moved with the same compassion Jesus had and are powerfully sharing the Good News.

“It’s awakened a lot of Christians to their calling,” says Jim.

“In every church we’ve gone to,” adds Stephanie, “members have become stirred. They’ve realized that they, too, are carriers of the Lord. Christians can lose sight of this because it’s easy to get caught up in day-to-day life and not realize that the Lord is depending on every person to be that supply and joint.”

God has opened doors outside of the “faith camp” for the Montgomerys to share this message. They’ve been asked to minister

MINISTRY TO THE BODY OF CHRIST IN UKRAINE.



* To learn more about Narhari and Lata Thorat and Rhema India, go to khm.com/mission15.

TO LEARN MORE about Jim and Stephanie Montgomery, go to MontgomeryMinistries.net.

SEED

Thoughts

// LYNETTE HAGIN

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

THE WORD LOVE in the English language holds many meanings. We love cars, houses, and vacations. We love food, recreational activities, and our friends. We love our parents, our spouse, and our children. And of course, the most important person we should love is God.

Because we use the word *love* in so many ways, I am concerned that often we employ it flippantly. When we greet people in church, many times we say, "Love you, brother," when we might have just met that person. We don't recognize the true meaning of the word. Most of us have been guilty of using that phrase this way.

Let's look at several meanings of the word *love*. It can mean "a feeling of strong or constant affection for a person; warm attachment, enthusiasm, or devotion." I like this meaning: "unselfish, loyal, and benevolent concern for the good of another." And finally, it can mean "a person's adoration of God."

Here is how God defines love in First John 3:16–18 (Amplified Classic): *"By this we come to know (progressively to recognize, to perceive, to understand) the [essential] love: that He laid down His [own] life for us; and we ought to lay [our] lives down for [those who are our] brothers [in Him]. But if anyone has this world's goods (resources for sustaining life) and sees his brother and fellow believer in need, yet closes his heart of compassion against him, how can the love of God live and remain in him? Little children, let us not love [merely] in theory or in speech but in deed and in truth (in practice and in sincerity)."*

So many times we relate love to a feeling. The greatest act of love the world has ever known was Christ's dying for our sins. It involved Jesus praying for the cup of suffering to pass from Him, yet going ahead with it as an act of obedience. His love did not depend upon His feelings. It depended upon His seeking the best interests of others. Love is an action; it is something we do.

I am concerned about marriages in this generation. It seems that many marriage partners are self-centered—each person is seeking the best for himself or herself. In a marriage, you should seek to place your spouse above your personal desires. My husband and I just celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in December. The last 50 years have flown by so quickly.

Someone might ask, "How have you stayed married for so long and remained happy and in love?" When we said our wedding vows, we determined that we were going to love each other in the good times as well as the bad. Through the years, every marriage will experience challenges.

In difficult times it is important to review First Corinthians 13:4–7 (Amplified Classic): *"Love endures long and is patient and kind; love never is envious nor boils over with jealousy, is not boastful or vainglorious, does not display itself haughtily. It is not conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); it is not rude (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love (God's love in us) does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking; it is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong]. It does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness, but rejoices when right and truth prevail. Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening]."*

The kind of love described in these verses does not emphasize emotion but attitude and action. Love is unselfish. Love looks out for the best interests of the person loved. In a marriage, words and thoughts have to be followed up with consistent actions. It is one thing to say you love someone and another to show that you do by your deeds.

Imagine where we would be if the Lord Jesus had only talked about the cross but never followed through. Aren't you thankful that He not only *said* He loved us but followed through with the necessary action! He endured the suffering of the cross that we might have life, and have it more abundantly.

I encourage you to constantly remind yourself of the attributes that love should display. Then exhibit those characteristics toward your family, spouse, and friends.

And most of all, place loving God at the very top of your list.♥

Lynette





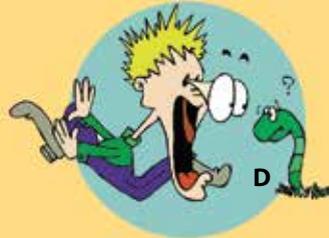
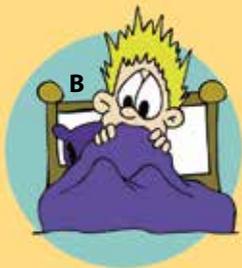
Kids' Page

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

Know God—No Fear!



If you take a look around you, there seem to be plenty of reasons to be fearful. But the Christian is reminded many times throughout the Bible not to be afraid. Do you know why? It's because fear will keep you from receiving what God promises! When Israel sent spies to the Promised Land, 10 spies came back full of fear and with a bad report, while Joshua and Caleb came back full of faith and with a good report. Because the Israelites believed the bad report, they were filled with fear also and did not receive what God promised. But Joshua and Caleb did receive because they had faith even in the midst of fearful circumstances. When you know God, there's no reason to fear!



The pictures above show some instances when you might be afraid. But you can use the Word of God to battle fear during these times. Match the following memory verses with the picture that each one goes with.

1. "You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day" (Ps 91:5 NKJV).

2. "Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy" (Luke 10:19 KJV).

3. "I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me" (Ps 3:6 NKJV).

4. "When you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down your sleep will be sweet" (Prov 3:24 NIV).

jokes & riddles



"A merry heart does good, like medicine."

—Proverbs 17:22 (NKJV)

Teacher: Tommy, you try my patience!

Tommy: No, teacher, you should try mine. I have more of it.

Teacher: What do you call the outside part of a tree?

Student: I don't know.

Teacher: Bark, silly, bark!

Student: Woof, Woof!

Teacher: You missed school yesterday, didn't you?

Student: Not a bit!

Teacher: If you had 5 apples on your desk and the boy next to you took 3, what would you have?

Student: A fight!

What can you break without touching it?

Your promise

What can run but cannot walk?

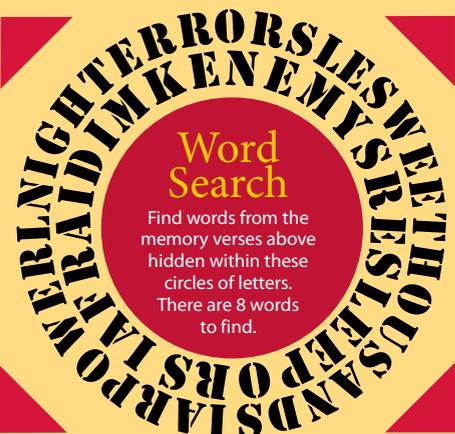
Water

What kind of lights did Noah have on the ark?

Floodlights

Where do children learn their ABCs?

At LMN-tary school!



Word Search

Find words from the memory verses above hidden within these circles of letters. There are 8 words to find.

ANSWERS:

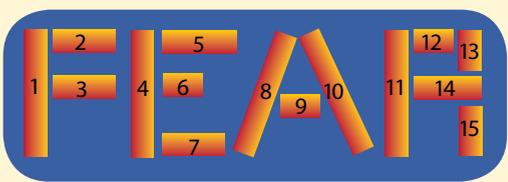
From FEAR to FAITH!
 Move letter "A" in front of letter "E." Remove horizontal bar number 12. Vertical bar number 6 and 7 into vertical bars, which make the stem of the letter "T." Bar number 5 becomes the top of the letter "T."
 Word Search • TERROR, SWEET, THOUSANDS, POWER, NIGHT, ENEMY, SLEEP, AFRAID.

From FEAR to FAITH!

Fear and Faith both start with an "F" and they both "believe" something, but that's about all they have in common. To get from FEAR to FAITH, you've got to stop believing the lies of the devil and start believing the Word of God.

CHALLENGE: See if you can rearrange the bars which make up the letters below to change the word "FEAR" into the word "FAITH."

CLUES: Swap the position of two letters, then remove one horizontal bar, then take two horizontal bars and make them vertical bars. (Horizontal bars go from side to side. Vertical bars go up and down.)





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