

# Word of Faith

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Manksgiving

Thanksgiving is a time for us to count our blessings. Tor us, you are one of them. Thank you for helping us spread the Gospel.

Happy Thanksgiving from Vermeth Hagin Ministries!

# There Is Power in Thanksgiving

This is the season of thankfulness. It's a time to count our blessings and praise God—a time to be thankful for what He has done for us.

Psalm 100:4–5 (NKJV) says, "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures to all generations." The Lord is good! He not only created us, but He personally takes care of us. He is working for us right now. And even when we don't feel like it, we need to give thanks and praise to Him.

That's the real test of our Christianity, isn't it? Can we thank God in every situation thrown our way? Paul and Silas could. They were beaten and locked up in chains in an inner prison. (See Acts 16:16–34.) They could have grumbled and complained. That would have been easy. But Acts 16:25 says they began to pray and sing praises to God.

In a bad situation, these men chose to give thanks to their Heavenly Father. They weren't giving thanks because of their situation. They were giving thanks because they knew God was their source. And He delivered them!

Likewise, we don't give thanks to God because of circumstances. We give thanks to God because we know He's our deliverer! First Thessalonians 5:18 says, "Thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live" (Message).

It's not always easy to thank God in difficult situations, but that's what we're supposed to do. Why? Because there is power in thanksgiving! Continually thanking God strengthens our faith. It keeps our expectancy level up. And when our faith is strong, we'll be able to endure every situation successfully, knowing we will have the victory God has promised.

Whatever you're facing today, I encourage you, don't quit! Instead, start thanking God. Begin to count your blessings. Your faith will be strengthened, and you will come through victorious.

Happy Thanksgiving from our family to yours!

Kennet 2. Hagai

# THIS ISSUE



SEED THOUGHTS Page 30 FAITH ACADEMY Page 31



# Faith That Won't Quit!

When you stand in faith, do you refuse to take no for an answer? Read about a man in the Bible who had that kind of faith.

# God's Got a Victory Party for You

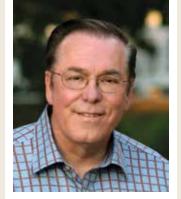
Learn to resist the devil's pity parties and enjoy the victory God has already provided.

# 6 God Has No Favorites

Rev. Hagin reminds us that God loves each of His children with the same love.

# • Special Report: Campmeeting 2015

The Rhema campus was buzzing with energy at *Campmeeting* 2015 as speakers encouraged believers to stand strong in their faith. Read highlights from this exciting week of meetings!





*"Strong faith* won't quit; it *refuses to be silent*; it won't be denied, because it knows god will answer from on high!"

FAITH THAT

This

**51** "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked. "My Rabbi," the blind man said, "I want to see!"

**52** And Jesus said to him, "Go, for your faith has healed you." Instantly the man could see, and he followed Jesus down the road.

From the natural standpoint, Bartimaeus had no hope and no future. He was a blind beggar, crying out to others just so he could barely get by in life. The

**THERE IS A MAN** in the Bible who would not give up on his faith in God—even in the face of insurmountable obstacles. Mark chapter 10 gives us an account of Bartimaeus. He was a blind and poor man who sat by the road begging alms. Let's read his amazing story of courage.

#### MARK 10:46-52 (NLT)

**46** Then they reached Jericho, and as Jesus and his disciples left town, a large crowd followed him. A blind beggar named Bartimaeus (son of Timaeus) was sitting beside the road.

**47** When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus of Nazareth was nearby, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

48 "Be quiet!" many of the people yelled at him. But he only shouted louder, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"49 When Jesus heard him, he stopped and said, "Tell him

to come here." So they called the blind man. "Cheer up," they said. "Come on, he's calling you!"

**50** Bartimaeus threw aside his coat, jumped up, and came to Jesus.

THINK IT OVER

Were you once standing in faith for something promised you in God's Word, but you began to doubt, and you quit believing? Don't let the devil keep you from receiving what God has promised. Lift your voice in faith today, stand firm, and you will receive!

4 THE WORD OF FAITH // Oct/Nov '15

word *beggar* carries the connotation of a dirty, dusty, unkempt person clothed with worn and tattered garments. The circumstances of life couldn't get much worse than what Bartimaeus probably experienced.

But apparently Bartimaeus had heard about Jesus of Nazareth. We have to surmise about his reaction to learning that Jesus was coming his way. But I can just imagine him asking, "Isn't this the man who's healing all those people? Isn't he the one they call the wonder-worker?"

Once Bartimaeus knew Jesus was coming, he began to shout. He knew what he wanted from God, and his faith would not take no for an answer. In fact, the more the crowd tried to quench his faith, the more Bartimaeus cried out: "But he only shouted louder, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!'" (v. 48).

Bartimaeus let out a loud cry because he wanted to get the Master's attention. His faith would not be denied. Bartimaeus wanted something from God. He wanted to see!

# Activate Your Faith!

The same Jesus Who passed by Bartimaeus that day is passing by you this very moment. He's passing by, and He's asking the same question today that He asked so many years ago: "What do you want Me to do for you?"

Do you want to be free from cancer? Do you want to be free from heart trouble? Do you want to be free from diabetes? Are you ready? Reach out to Him right now. In the Name of Jesus, be healed today!

#### **KEYS TO REMEMBER FOR YOUR HEALING:**

5 You must **BE SPECIFIC** 1 You must get up and **DO** SOMETHING. WITH GOD about your needs. 2 You must DECLARE GOD'S WORD in the face of opposition. 6 God will give you what you ASK for, so don't ask **3 DON'T LISTEN** to people who for barely enough. tell you that you have to live with sickness. **REMEMBER**, the same Jesus Who passed by You must CAST OFF THE  $\Delta$ Bartimaeus is passing by GARMENT OF FEAR. the you today. garment of doubt and unbelief.

Faith voices its desires to God—it isn't silent and passive. The Bible doesn't say that Bartimaeus just sat down quietly and said to himself, "Well, maybe if I'm quiet and I just sort of 'project' my thoughts to Jesus, He'll come by and touch me and I'll be healed." No, Bartimaeus' faith was not passive. He did not say what we hear so many people in our day saying: "Well, *if* it's God's will, Jesus will heal me."

No! Strong faith won't quit; it refuses to be silent; it won't be denied, because it knows God will answer from on High.

Bartimaeus cried out even louder, believing that Jesus would hear him: "Jesus!! Son of David!! Have mercy on me!!!" I can imagine the very leaves on the trees were shaken with the power in the Name of Jesus as Bartimaeus cried aloud that Name which is above every name! There's power in Jesus' Name!

Faith receives an answer from God. Jesus called for Bartimaeus to be brought to Him (v. 49). Then the same crowd that was trying to silence Bartimaeus a few minutes before began pushing him forward. Although Bartimaeus' blind eyes couldn't see, he could hear the Master's voice. And when Jesus said, "What do you want Me to do for you?" Bartimaeus responded without a moment's hesitation, "I want to see!" When he heard Jesus' response—"Go, for your faith has healed you"-Bartimaeus began to praise God, because instantly, he could see! He'd had every opportunity to quit. But because he refused to give in to circumstances and obstacles, he followed Jesus down the road rejoicing!

Do you have the kind of faith that refuses to take no for an answer? It's time you begin to cry out to God with a voice of faith that won't quit. Do not allow the devil to steal from you what rightfully belongs to you by telling you God won't hear your prayer. The Bible says God always hears the cry of the righteous (Ps. 34:15). Put Satan with all his doubt and unbelief in his place by using the Name of Jesus. Refuse to quit, and you can receive what you want from God!

There is no defeat in faith. All the onslaughts of hell cannot quench our faith if we have committed ourselves to God. If we live a life pleasing to Him and claim what is rightfully ours through His Word, there's no way we can be defeated!

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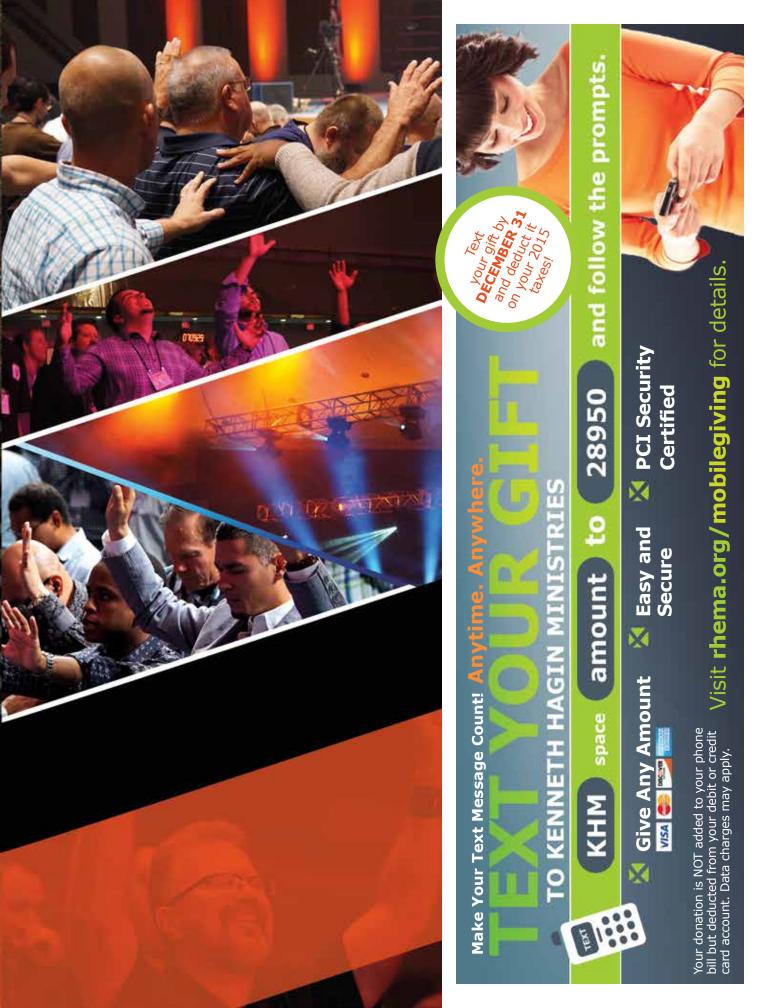
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# Follow the Playbook





Don't miss any of our awesome speakers at this year's men's conference. Check out pages 6–7 for all the details. AS MEN, leading our households, we have to understand who our enemy is and what he tries to do. John 10:10 says that Satan comes to steal, kill, and destroy us. He'll try to destroy our families, marriages, and jobs. He'll try to destroy our dreams, finances, and health. That's why it's so important for us to know the playbook—the Word of God. We've got to know what we possess, and we've got to act on the authority it gives us. We must be doers of the Word.

#### Don't Be Moved

James 4:7 says to resist the devil and he will flee from us. It doesn't say he'll think about it or pray about it for 40 days and nights before he flees. It says he will flee. Why? Because he has no authority or ability to operate in our lives if we don't give it to him. Remember what First Peter 5:8 says? The devil is seeking whom he *may* devour. I don't know about you, but I'm of the class of people he may *not* devour because I know who I am in Christ.

You see, when we know who we are in Christ, nothing will move us. Fear won't move us, what we see with our physical eyes won't move us, and what we feel won't move us. We will only be moved by the Word of God that's on the inside of us. And the Word says Jesus is with us. It says He'll never forsake us. He won't leave us homeless. He won't leave us stranded. He won't leave us not knowing what to do.

### Get in the Game

There are so many Christians today who have heard the Word again and again. They may have acted on the Word in the past, but things have happened to them and they've been beaten down. They don't know what to do, so they're doing nothing. They're holding.

God is saying, "Get in the game. Follow the playbook."

It's knowing and acting on the Word that changes our lives. John 15:7 (NKJV) says, "If you abide in Me and My words abide in you, [THEN] you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you." If we don't know the Word, we don't know we can ask. But when we decide to go all in with the Word, *then* God can go all out in our lives.

#### Stir It Up!

When things start happening around you, when you're tempted to fear, stir up the Word on the inside.

Man's wisdom may say there's no way. Man's wisdom may say it's impossible. Man's wisdom may say, "You're going down." But God says, "I'm your strength. The things that are impossible to you are possible with Me. Trust in Me—follow My Word—and you'll see those things that you thought would never be come to pass."

It's all about the Word! Know the Word. Speak the Word. Live the Word. The Word always works for me and for you! $\dot{\Psi}$ 

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Craig W. Hagin's message at the 2014 A Call to Arm's Men's Conference.]

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LYNETTE HAGIN

# FOR YOU!

**NO MATTER WHO** we are—no matter how strong we are in the Word—Satan will try to defeat us. He'll bring negative thoughts our way and try to get us to have a pity party. But pity parties are not of God. God is involved in victory parties!

When the devil brings a pity party our way, we must recognize and resist it. Jesus said, *"See that you are not troubled"* (Matt. 24:6 NKJV). We must be bold! We must be motormouths, speaking the Word of God.

At times I have literally said aloud, "Satan, I am standing on the Word. I don't care what you bring my way. This Word shall prevail! I shall not fail." Bless God, the enemy is not going to defeat me! But I can tell you from experience that he will not stop trying.

I remember a particular day several years ago when I wasn't feeling well. I'm naturally a positive person, but I hadn't had a lot of sleep that day. I went into the office anyway because a lot of things were going on. I was there by faith.

As I began to read through my mail, I came across a letter from someone who was complaining about one of our graduates. Although that kind of letter always hurts, I could normally just put it on the spot. (My trash can was named "the spot"!) But Satan always comes to us when we're not feeling our best, and he was having a heyday with me. I began to have a pity party.

#### 'I Want to Quit'

As I sat there at my desk, I began to tell the Lord, "My husband and I have worked ourselves to the bone. We've tried to train these students right, and all they do is go out and mess up. It's not worth it, God. I want to quit."

Have you ever been there and said something similar? I think we all have at some point.

I went on and on and on. I poured out my heart as David did in the Bible. When I stopped, I got quiet on the inside. (The most important time in prayer is the 15 minutes after we stop and let God talk to us. He loves us. And He is there to answer us if we will allow Him to. He will help us understand situations and comfort us in the midst of everything we're going through. He will help us finish our course with joy.)

As I stopped to listen, the Lord began to ask me some questions. Through those questions, He showed me that I had made a mountain out of a molehill. I could name only 10 graduates out of the 10,000 we had at the time who had messed up. It was such a small percentage compared to those who were positively impacting this world. Yet I had allowed the enemy into my life with a pity party. After that incident, I determined that I would not let the devil bring a pity party to me again. I decided I would have victory parties instead. To help me do that, I began keeping a good-report file. Every time I receive a positive report about one of our students or graduates, I put it in that file.

Now when the enemy comes and tries to get me to have a pity party, I go to my desk and get out that file. I don't have to read very many of those reports before I start shouting and having a victory party!

# WHEN THE DEVIL BRINGS A PITY PARTY OUR WAY, WE MUST RECOGNIZE AND **resist it**. JESUS SAID, **"See that you are not troubled"** (MATT. 24:6 NKJV).

You can do the same thing! When the enemy brings a pity party your way, remember all of the good things God has done and is doing for you. He's constantly working on your behalf. He's answering your prayers, providing for you, and changing circumstances in your life—every day! Woo! Just thinking about this will cause you to have a victory party.

You see, times of discouragement will come to all of us. That's why we've got to gird ourselves up! Philippians 4:8 (NLT) says, *"Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise."* This verse tells us to think about things that will build us up, not tear us down.

We must focus on the positive. When we do, we won't have time to worry, complain, and get discouraged. We won't have time for a pity party. We'll be confident that when we stick with God, He will stick with us. He will see us through every difficult situation.

## God Is Working It Out

When the enemy comes with his pity parties and tries to destroy us—when he rocks our world—we must choose to look to the Lord. We must look to His Word, draw strength from it, and begin to think victorious thoughts.

Psalm 91:15 says, "*He shall call upon me, and I* [God] *will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.*" Did you notice that the Lord said, "I will deliver him"? That wonderful promise of God's deliverance is for your life and mine.

Romans 8:35, 37 says, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? . . . Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." Notice that it says we're not just conquerors. It says we're "more than conquerors"!

Our lives might not look good right now. But whatever circumstances we're facing, God is going to work it out for us. He has the best wisdom—the perfect answers. And when we place our trust in Him, we can leave the pity parties behind and enjoy His victory parties!

Every one of us could have a pity party for the rest of our lives if we chose

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to. But instead we need to declare, "I am not a victim. I am a victor!" We're victorious in life because God's Word says, "Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4).

We cannot allow the enemy to draw us into a pity party. We have to keep our focus on the Lord, Who is our Deliverer. Satan will try to get us off-track and focused on the problem. But when our minds are focused on God and His Word, that's when miracles happen!

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# Must Christians Suffer?

#### KENNETH E. HAGIN

WHEN CHRISTIANS get into the area of suffering, they get tangled up. Many think all suffering is the same. But when the Bible talks about suffering, it doesn't mean "sickness." Christians have no business suffering sickness and disease. Jesus redeemed us from that. A lot of times people who are sick say they are suffering for the Lord. No! They are not suffering for the Lord.

But the Bible does speak about things we will suffer.

#### 1 PETER 2:19-21

**19** For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully.

**20** For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.

**21** For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, *leaving us an example*, that ye should follow his steps.

Here is something we need to distinguish: the *example* of Christ in suffering and the *substitution* of Christ in suffering. We can follow His example in suffering, but not His substitution. In that He was taking our place.

First Peter 2:23 goes on to say, "Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously."

We suffer persecution like this too. People talk about us and criticize us. When Jesus was reviled or threatened by people, He didn't threaten them. He went right on. This is the example we should follow.

.....

Philippians 2:7 shows us what Jesus suffered: "But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men." Think about what this cost Him.

Scripture says that Jesus learned obedience through the things He suffered (Heb. 5:8). He was already obedient to the cross. He didn't learn that. He was already obedient to come and do His Father's will. But He was made perfect

through the things He suffered.

Hebrews 2:18 tells us Jesus suffered temptation:

"For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted." WHENEV-ER WE ARE TEMPTED, JESUS IS ABLE TO HELP US, because He was tempted in all points as we are (Heb. 4:15).

## Paul's Sufferings

In Acts 9:16 the Lord says about the Apostle Paul, "I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake." Paul, however, didn't suffer sickness and disease. That's where people get mixed up. What did he suffer? We find the answer in the following verses.

#### 2 CORINTHIANS 11:24-27

**24** Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one.

25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;

**26** In journeyings often . . . in perils by the heathen, in

perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;

**27** In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.

We can see that Paul did not suffer with pneumonia, a bad cold, or the flu. If we suffer like Paul suffered, we will suffer persecution and all those things that go with it!

# Christians have no business suffering sickness and disease.

Some people have the idea that they are going to sail through life and everything is going to be "hunky-dory." They think they'll never have any trials, tests, or suffering of any kind. Then somebody rises up and says something about them and they're ready to quit.

We're going to have persecution. Jesus said in John 16:33, **"THESE THINGS I HAVE SPOKEN UNTO YOU, THAT IN ME YE MIGHT HAVE PEACE.** In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

We have to suffer through some of these things. Remember that Christ was made perfect through the things He suffered. The Greek word translated "perfect" also means "mature." Christ was made perfect or reached maturity. Whether we like it or not, these are the things that mature us.♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from the book *Must Christians Suffer*? by Kenneth E. Hagin.]





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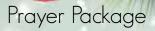
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"There's power in the blood, and it changes things. The old prayer warriors often said, 'I plead the blood.' When they were up against something that needed changed, they knew the power of the blood. God sent Jesus so His blood would change us. Then He sent the Holy Spirit to live in us and be there to help us. *We* may get in a panic, but God never does. **WHENEVER WE GET HOLD OF THE WORD, GET HOLD OF JESUS AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, LIVES CHANGE.** Minds change. Bodies change. Circumstances change. He's the great Change Maker that lives in us! When all hope is gone, He says, 'I'm able to change that situation.' When it seems like all is lost, He says, 'I can change that.' When everything looks like it's over, God says, 'It's not over until I change it.'" // KENNETH W. HAGIN

"SOME CHRISTIANS HAVE MENTAL PIGPEN EXPERI-ENCES. They've been given a great inheritance from God, but they've squandered it by not using it. They've been given healing, prosperity, protection, and peace. But instead of appropriating what belongs to them, they live from one pigpen experience to another. They wait until their life has fallen apart and they've reached rock bottom before calling out to God. It doesn't have to be this way." // CRAIG W. HAGIN



Kenneth Hagin Ministries' *Campmeeting* keeps getting better and better! Every year the Holy Spirit moves in awesome ways. Young people in the Rhema Kids services were drawn closer to the Lord. Teens in Summer Blitz became more on fire for Jesus as they determined to be "all in" for God. Those who came or watched online were encouraged to stand strong in their faith and were wonderfully refreshed in the Lord. One thing is certain: no one left the same way they came! Here is a sampling of what *Campmeeting 2015* speakers said.





"It doesn't matter what's going on around us or in us. God is still God, and He is faithful to His Word. When we align ourselves with that Word, we tap into God's faithfulness, and it will work in our lives. No matter how we feel, we must judge God faithful." // CHARLES COWAN

"You get your identity—all that you are in Christ (Gal. 2:20). You're not who your momma and daddy made you. You're not who your past or problems made you. You are the workmanship of God created in Christ! God put into Christ everything He wanted you to be." // MARK HANKINS

"We're always asking for rain, but we get upset when the sky gets dark and clouds come. If you're asking for the floodgates of Heaven to open, it's going to get dark and a little tough first. **Understand that that is the doorway to you going to another level.**" // ANDY THOMPSON

"In John 3:3 [NKJV] Jesus said, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.' " If you're born again, Heaven is your reality. Heaven is where we are living out of right now. The things of this world shouldn't affect us, because we're just passing through." // CHAD GONZALES



"The door to the supernatural swings on two hinges—believing and speaking. Faith won't work effectively for you if you just believe in your heart. You must also confess what you believe. Confession builds the road where faith's cargo needs to go." // DAVID SHEARIN

"When you know who's in your boat, the wind and waves that the enemy brings for your destruction can be what powers you to your destination. The wind and the waves that try to paralyze you with fear can be what powers you in faith." // DON DUNCAN

"Every one of us born again is given a purpose from God. It's not going to be easy to do. We're going to have to fight to lay hold of what God has called us to do. We're going to have to hold fast to our confession, believe God, and stand on the Word." // DARRELL HUFFMAN



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# SUMMER BLITZ 2015 All In for Jesus

STUDENTS FROM all over the United States and around the world attended Summer Blitz 2015. The 6th-through-12th graders experienced powerful, intimate times of worship. They heard anointed messages on surrendering it all to Jesus and being committed to following Him, even if they have to stand alone. They prayed fervently for their families, friends, and peers who didn't know Jesus. And they were encouraged to share the Gospel boldly and courageously.

God ministered to the students in many powerful ways. Many were born again and received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. There were healings too! One young man who had battled attention deficit disorder testified he was completely healed after hands were laid on him. He said he could now focus. Summer Blitz proved to be a life-changing experience



Jenise Burns

"Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were all in for God. They were facing death. They'd refused to bow down to a statue the king had set up, because they didn't want to break God's laws. What are the things that we normally bow down to? They are things that try to get

us to leave our commitment to Christ and not go all in for Him. JESUS NEEDS US TO BE ALL IN SO WE CAN BE A LIGHT TO THE WORLD **AROUND US." // DENISE BURNS** 



"Matthew 10:39 [NKJV] says, 'He who loses his life for My sake will find it.' Going all in is sacrificing our life for Jesus' sake because He died for us. **OUR LIVES ONLY MATTER WHEN** THEY'RE LIVED FOR HIM."

### THE FUTURE OF THE FAITH OF YOUR GENERATION DEPENDS ON

YOU BEING ALL IN. We have to lay off every chain-worldly pleasures and fleshly desires-that will hinder us from running the race that we need to run."

> "Proverbs 28:1 [NKJV] says, 'The wicked flee when no one pursues. but the righteous are bold as a lion.' WHEN YOU STEP OUT IN BOLD-LESS FOR THE GOSPEL KNOW-ING THAT THE SPIRIT OF GOD DWELLS IN YOU, SIGNS AND WONDERS WILL FOLLOW."



Julia Post

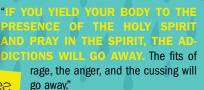
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"Millions of people everywhere are 'all in' for false idols and dead gods. If Christ never rose from the grave, what we're doing is pointless. THE REA SON I'M 'ALL IN' IS THAT JESUS HAS RISEN FROM THE GRAVE!"

"WHAT DOES BEING 'ALL IN' LOOK LIKE? Reading God's Word. Our faith grows when we know the Word. Praying. That strengthens us with power. Trusting God with all of our heart. Obeying Him, and being fully committed to Him."

> "WE CAN'T DO GREAT THINGS FOR GOD BY SITTING ON THE

> SIDELINES. We have to first get off the bench and get onto the fieldthat's when we're able to walk into what God has for us. He wants us to be all in."

### **"THE PRAYER THAT I LOVE TO PRAY** IORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE IS

/E YOUR WAY.' Because God's ways are higher than our ways. His thoughts are higher than our thoughts. He sees the full picture. We can place our trust in Him."



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STRONG FAITH. STRONG FOUNDATION. STRONG FUTURE. RHEMA STRONG. WHY DON'T SOME people believe that their faith in God will work? I know from experience that a lot of people have faith in *my* faith and the faith of others. But they do not have confidence that their own faith in God will work. For some reason, they do not believe in themselves. They do not believe in what Christ has wrought for them. They do not believe who and what they are in Christ Jesus.

This kind of thinking can defeat anyone. When we don't know the truth of God's Word, Satan can rob us of the blessings God intended for us to have and enjoy in Christ.

A Bible fact that gave me faith was this: *God, my Heavenly Father, does not have any favorite children.* He loves every one of us with the same love.

Sometimes natural parents have a favorite child, but God doesn't have any favorites. Get that fact down in your spirit by saying out loud, "God has no favorites."

*Every person born into the family of God has the same redemption.* You are not any more saved than I am, and I am not any more saved than you are.

Somehow in people's faulty thinking, they assume that another Christian has more than they do. Yes, somebody else may have more light, and they may be walking in that light, but everyone born into the family of God enjoys the same redemption.

The child of God has been redeemed out of the hand of the enemy. Every one of us has. Satan was conquered for you personally. *Satan was conquered for me personally*. (When I say it like that, it buoys up my faith.)

The believer can say, along with the Apostle Paul, "[Jesus] *was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification*" (Rom. 4:25). A translation I like better reads, "He was delivered up on account of our trespasses, and He was raised for our justification."

# Timeless Teachings of Kenneth E. Hagin

It's ours—mine and yours! It belongs to us, so I can make that personal. I can say He was delivered on account of *my* offenses, and He was raised for *my* justification.

Redemption belongs to every one of us. Furthermore, I'm not any more justified than you are, and you're not any more justified than I am. (The same Greek word translated "justified" can also be translated "made righteous.") Jesus didn't die for my trespasses any more than He died for your trespasses. It's ours, glory to God!

#### COLOSSIANS 1:13–14

13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins.

#### FAITH IN ACTION

# Increase Your Faith!

Know the facts of God's Word-what belongs to you and who you are in Him. Here is one such Bible fact: In the mind of God, we were raised up with Christ (Eph. 2:6).

To increase your faith, make this fact personal. **REPEAT OUT LOUD**, "But God, Who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved me, even when I was dead in my sins, made me alive together with Christ. By grace have I been saved (or healed). And He raised me up with Him, and made me sit with Him in the heavenlies in Christ (Eph. 2:4–6)." The Christian, then, can confidently say, "He delivered us," or to make it personal, "He delivered me."

The individual Christian can confidently say, "He delivered me out of the power (or authority) of darkness." The Greek word translated "power" here is translated "authority" elsewhere in the King James New Testament. So we could say, "God delivered me out of the *authority* of darkness and has translated me into the Kingdom of his dear Son."

# Every person born into the family of God has the same redemption.

Friends this does not belong to just a few. This absolute redemption is the personal property of *every* child of God, whether he knows it or not. (If he doesn't know it, he can't walk in the light of it—but it's still his.)

This redemption is personal. It is an absolute redemption from the dominion of the devil.

Satan does not have dominion over us any longer.

Satan is not our Lord or our Master. Jesus is.

Satan has no right to rule us with sin, sickness, or anything else that belongs to him.

This redemption belongs to every believer. It's my personal property and your personal property.

### Put Satan on the Run

The Bible teaches us that Jesus put Satan to nought and He triumphed over him (Col. 2:15). Another translation reads, "He stripped him." What did He strip Satan of? His authority over man.

When Jesus put Satan to nought and stripped him of his authority, it was you in Christ who did that work. Christ acted in your stead—in your place. He did it for you.

#### 1 JOHN 4:4

**4** Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

Who is the "them" we have overcome? We find from reading the first three verses of First John chapter 4 that John was talking about the devil and all of his cohorts.

Notice he did not say we are *going* to overcome them; he said we *have* overcome them. How could we have overcome these demons? Because what Christ did was marked to our credit. He did it as our Substitute. (He did it in my place, and God marked it to my credit as though I were the one who did it!)

"Well," somebody will ask, "if we've overcome them, why are we having such a problem with them?"

Because we don't *know* we have overcome them. We don't know what the Bible says about it. When we know what the Bible says, we don't need somebody else to exercise his faith for us; when the devil comes around, we can just laugh at him.

Every one of God's children can enjoy the blessings He has provided for us in Christ Jesus. When we exercise our faith in God, according to His Word, we receive the results His Word promises. God, our Heavenly Father, has no favorites. He loves each one of his children with the same love.  $\checkmark$ 

[Editor's note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin's minibook Your Faith in God Will Work.]

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# Faith by Saying for Finances

#### **KENNETH E. HAGIN**

THE LORD TAUGHT ME how to use my faith for finances. For years, I hadn't seen it. I'd been saved and then healed by the power of God as a young Baptist boy. But I never thought about using my faith beyond salvation or healing.

Many people have gotten saved, but they've never thought about using their faith beyond believing God for salvation.

I don't know why, but early in my ministry, I went for several years and never had anything, because I didn't believe for anything much financially or materially.

I didn't have a shadow of a doubt as to whether I was in the will of God. Somebody said. "Well. if you're in the perfect will of God and you're willing and obedient, everything's going to work just right, and He'll meet every need."

But you've still got to believe. If you don't believe, even though you're in the perfect will of God, it still won't work right. You've got to appropriate what belongs to you.

Some folks think these things will just fall on you automatically like ripe cherries off a tree. But they won't. The Bible says, "Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Heb. 11:6). God is a faith God. Faith has something to do with whether you receive His blessings.

In 1949 the Lord led me to leave the church I was pastoring and begin traveling in ministry. And for the first year we struggled financially. At one point I fasted and prayed about our finances for three days.

And the Lord said to me. "Faith is the same in every realm and in every sphere. Now, you only use faith as far as salvation, the baptism in the Holy Ghost, and healing are concerned. But faith is the same in the financial realm."

The Lord continued, "Now then, if it were healing that you needed for your own body, you'd just claim that by faith. . . . You've got to do the same thing when it comes to finances."

### Using Your Faith for Finances

Mark 11:23 tells us faith will work by saying without praying. Jesus said in that verse, "Whosoever shall SAY . . . he shall have whatsoever he SAITH." Certainly faith works in prayer (Mark 11:24). But when you pray it, you still have to say it. When we claim what we need by faith, God will meet our needs.

I first put this into practice while holding a meeting in a little church

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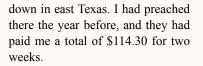
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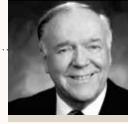


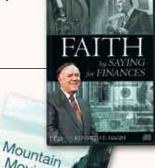
It wasn't enough to meet my budget, so I claimed the \$200 I needed by faith. When the two-week meeting was over, the pastor handed me my offering, and it came to \$240.15. He said, "Man, that's the most we've ever done. I don't understand it. I just can't figure it out."

Over the years, I have had some of the most unusual experiences in the area of finances that you've ever seen. And I experienced God's blessing in some of the most unlikely places, because God's Word works!

Faith works! When you believe that those things which you say shall come to pass, you shall have whatsoever you say. You can use your faith for the financial prosperity the Lord has provided for you.♥

[Editor's note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin's book Mountain-Moving Faith.]





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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 HAS BEEN** estimated that a person makes 35,000 decisions every day. Life is made up of decisions—both large and small. There are decisions that we make daily, such as what time to awaken, whether to brush our teeth and go to work, what to eat, and so forth. We make those decisions automatically. They are so basic that we rarely realize they even *are* decisions. However, we also make major decisions each day that can have a favorable or adverse effect on our lives.

A story is told in management seminars about a young manager who was to replace a retiring executive. The young man approached the older gentleman and asked, "Sir, I know of the success you have had in life and in this company. Could you give me your secret?"

The older man pondered the question and responded, "Three words: make good decisions!"

"That is good advice," the young man replied as he wrote it down. "And what is the key to making good decisions?"

"One word," the veteran executive replied: "experience."

"And how do I get experience?" the eager young man asked as he scribbled *experience* on his paper.

"Two words," the retiring man answered: "wrong decisions." I am sure that you can identify with this story. All of us have gained experience by making wrong decisions. Proverbs 14:12 (NKJV) says, "*There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.*" Wrong decisions can lead us down the wrong path. Decisions determine our direction, and our direction determines our destiny. It is important to make right decisions.

My dad always cautioned me, "Lynette, before you make a decision, consider all of the ramifications of that decision and make sure you are willing to live with the consequences." As I

applied that formula, I realized many times that the decision I was contemplating would reap wrong consequences, and I went a different way.

Many people have made irreversible decisions that have hurled them onto a wrong path for the rest of their lives. God doesn't make our choices for us. However, He will lead us down the right path to make the right choices through His Word and the voice of the Holy Spirit. But we must take the time to listen to His voice and direction.

Never make a decision based on the difficulties of today, not considering the effect

that it will have on your future. Don't make decisions based upon your human reasoning. Oftentimes decisions are made under adverse circumstances. Don't be hasty. Proverbs 19:2 (Amplified) says, "Desire without knowledge is not good, and to be overhasty is to sin and miss the mark."

Many times my father-in-law would give me projects to complete, and I would need decisions from him in order to carry out the assignments. When I began working with him, I would become very frustrated, because deadlines would be looming and I thought he was procrastinating in giving me his decision. He would say, "I'm still seeking the Lord on the right direction for this." Sometimes I would think, "I sure wish God would hurry up and give him the answer, because I am on a deadline."

As I sat and patiently waited on the answer, I learned a valuable lesson that I implement now in managing staff. I learned the value of waiting on God to give the perfect answer and instruction for the project. Often our decisions are wrong because we are not patient enough to wait and hear God's instructions.

Psalm 25:4–5 (NLT) says, "Show me the right path, O Lord; point out the road for me to follow. Lead me by your truth and teach me, for you are the God who saves me. All day long I put my hope in you." I do not always get God's direction when I want it. How do I hear from Him? I talk to Him continually. When I am getting ready in the morning and while I am driving to work, I constantly remind Him that I need the answer to what I am asking.

It always seems that at an unexpected time, when I am just thanking and praising God for Who He is and what He means to me, suddenly He gives me the answer and direction for my question.

I admonish you to include God in every major decision you encounter. He will always lead you down the right path. He knows your future, and He will set you up for a successful life.

Lypette

30 THE WORD OF FAITH // Oct/Nov '15

# MESSAGE IN THE MOVIES

FOR CAMPMEETING 2015, kindergarteners through 5th graders learned spiritual truths a kid's way, and they had fun doing it!

For morning sessions, youngsters were "recruited" as F.A.I.T.H. Academy® Flight Cadets, learning to be F-Fearless, A-Anointed, I-Inward-Led, T-Trustworthy H-Heirs of God. And there were plenty of games and prizes.

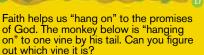
Each evening the children eagerly jumped into energetic praise and enjoyed intimate worship. Then came the messages, illustrated with brief clips from popular children's movies.

Sunday night's lesson, using Beauty and the Beast, showed how the power of God's love transforms hearts and lives. After hearing the story of Jesus' death and resurrection, four children received Him as their Savior!

Using the movie Tangled, the kids were taught how to share Jesus with others. Through A Bug's Life, they saw that they're never too small to do big things for God. From Chicken Little, they learned how to be brave and not be bullied out of their giftings. And finally, from Toy Story, the children saw how each of them is unique.

Throughout the week children were healed, both in their bodies and in their emotions. Kids Campmeeting 2015 was truly remarkable!

Hang in There With Faith



#### FARIS ON FE WATTER

As the sun goes down behind the water, Little hearts dance on the waves of the sea. How many hearts can you count in the picture? As I counted, my eyes played tricks on me!



Hearts on the Water • Answer: 15 Where the tops of the waves touch the bottoms of the there the tops of the waves touch the bottoms of the hearts an upside down heart is formed. Can you see it? **Change in There With Faith • Answer: C** 

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