

# THE Word of Faith

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2017

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

**HUSBANDS:**  
Live the Love

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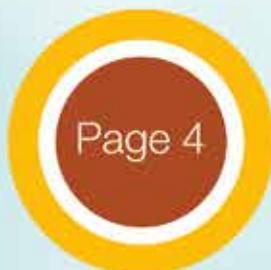
**How to Influence**  
Your Children

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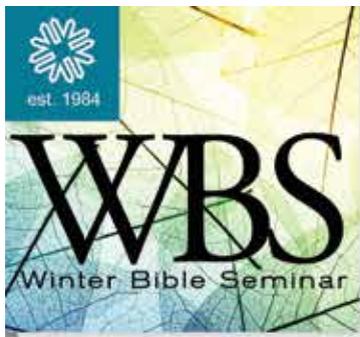
**FEELING ANGRY**  
**AFTER A LOSS**

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HOW SHOULD  
WE EXPRESS OUR



**Thanks?**



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# the Word of Faith



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**VOLUME L, NUMBER 8**  
**OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2017**

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### POSTMASTER

Please send address changes to Kenneth Hagin Ministries, P.O. Box 50126, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74150-0126.

**PUBLICATION MAIL AGREEMENT #40032023**

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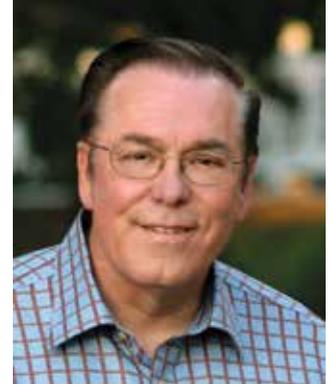
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## Tap Into the Change Maker!

The Holy Spirit has been given to us and lives in us. He is greater, stronger, bigger, mightier, and more powerful than anything we will ever face! He will help us in every situation. We may get in a panic, but He never does. To us, our situation may look impossible. But to God, it's possible.

When we get a hold of Jesus and the Word and recognize that the Holy Spirit lives in us, our lives will never be the same. Our minds can be renewed. Our bodies can be healed. Our families can be restored. Our circumstances can change!

When it seems like all is lost, don't give up. God says, "I can change that." When everything looks like it's over, your Heavenly Father says, "It's not over. I'm changing it."

It's easy to look at your situation and give in to the pressure that surrounds you. But in the middle of your circumstances, start expecting them to change. In the middle of the biggest mess you've ever been in, say, "Something good is going to happen to me!" No matter what is going on, you can believe God's Word, speak it, and expect it to come to pass in your life.

As you relax and wait patiently on the Lord, your change will come. Hold tightly to God's promises. Let His power and ability work on your behalf. You will see what everyone said could never happen—happen!

Don't miss a single page of this month's issue. Lynette's article on page 10 gives godly tips on raising children and my dad's article on page 22 teaches you how to respond to your enemies with God's love. Be sure to share your favorite quotes from the articles with us on social media. Just #RhemaWOF.

*Kenneth W. Hagin*

PS. All of us at Kenneth Hagin Ministries pray that you have a happy and blessed Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends!

## THIS ISSUE



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**KENNETH W. HAGIN**

Anytime is a good time to give thanks to God. Learn how to cultivate a lifestyle of thanksgiving every day of the year!

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**LYNETTE HAGIN**

Every parent desires for their children to be successful in life. Lynette shares tips on how to guide them along the right path.

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### Special Report: Life Is So Short!

At age 67, Lois Meyer went on the mission field for 21 years. As she turns 100, she shares her wisdom, experiences, and perspectives.

# A Lifestyle of Thanksgiving

WE SHOULD BE IN SUCH A HABIT OF EXPRESSING THANKS THAT WE DO IT AUTOMATICALLY.

**THANKSGIVING** was first celebrated as a federal holiday during the Civil War. On October 3, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national day of “Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens.”

It’s great to live in a nation that has an official day for giving thanks. But the act of thanksgiving was originally God’s idea. The following verses in the Book of Psalms makes this clear.

*“Offer unto God **thanksgiving**; and pay thy vows unto the most High.”*

—Psalm 50:14

*“I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with **thanksgiving**.”*

—Psalm 69:30

*“Let us come before his presence with **thanksgiving**, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.”*

—Psalm 95:2

*“Enter into his gates with **thanksgiving**, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.”*

—Psalm 100:4

However, instead of entering God’s courts with praise and thanksgiving, we often come before our Heavenly Father with a list of gimmes. There’s nothing wrong with telling God what we need and what we’re believing for. But before we start asking



**KENNETH W. HAGIN**

God for things, we should tell Him how much we appreciate and love Him.

## Complaining: The Enemy of Thanksgiving

One thing that doesn’t show God how much we love and appreciate Him is complaining. It’s a habit that is very easy to fall into. But when we do this, we only make ourselves miserable and those around us unhappy.

We also have to realize that complaining lessens our ability to handle adversity when it comes against us. Psalm 77:3 says, *“I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed.”* Complaining leads to being overwhelmed and being overwhelmed leads to passively accepting whatever life hands us.

Some people are waiting for life to improve before they change their attitude. But it doesn’t work that way. We must first change our attitude and learn to give thanks in the middle of our situation. Thanksgiving enables God to change adverse circumstances. We will see amazing changes in our lives when we consistently keep an attitude of gratitude.

## How Should We Express Thanks?

From verses in the Book of Psalms to other passages throughout the Bible, we know that it is a biblical command to give thanks to God. Here are five different ways we can express gratitude to our Heavenly Father, as well as how to make thanksgiving a lifestyle every day of the year.



### Make It a Habit

There are many bad habits that can be physically, emotionally, and spiritually harmful to us. Giving thanks

## What Are You Thankful For?

*“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”*

—Colossians 3:17 (NKJV)

God commands us to be thankful—both for our good and His glory. There are practical ways we can cultivate gratitude. It can be as simple as writing a thank-you note expressing our appreciation or picking a time every week to reflect on and write down our blessings. However you choose to express your gratitude, begin today!

### My Gratitude List

Today, I'm thankful for \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 I really appreciate \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 Today, I show my gratitude by \_\_\_\_\_ .  
 Thank you God for everything in my life!

There is a natural side to Thanksgiving, and we should be mindful of our nation's heritage and blessings. But there is also a spiritual side to giving thanks.

It's good to make a habit of thanking God and to show Him courtesy through our thanks and praise. We should continually thank Him as an act of our worship and faith. And the best reason to offer thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father is simply because we love Him.

As we approach Thanksgiving, let's be thankful for all the blessings God has poured on us. But let's not forget to give thanks to God *every day* of the year. When we do this, we will see circumstances change because we're living a life of thanksgiving!♥

to God, on the other hand, is a good habit! In fact, we should be in such a habit of expressing thanks that we do it automatically. As believers, giving thanks to a God Who has blessed us beyond measure shouldn't be something we need to be reminded of. Thank-giving should naturally flow out from within us. We should be so filled with appreciation for everything God has done for us that we just can't keep silent.



### Be Courteous

We expect people to say thank you to us, and we should return the courtesy to others. When a waiter brings something to our table, or when someone opens a door for us, we should thank them. In fact, when we're driving and someone lets us merge in traffic, we can show our thanks by waving. It's good manners to say thank you. The same holds true with God. He has done so much for us and has given us countless blessings.



### An Act of Worship

Expressing thanks is an integral part of worship for every believer. The Bible is filled with examples of individual people and the Church as a corporate body giving thanks to God. The psalmist David worshipped God with thanksgiving for what He had already done and what he was going to do. In looking at the lives of Jesus, the Apostle Paul, and men and women in the Early Church, we can see how they worshipped God through thanksgiving. Likewise, we should always give thanks to God as an act of our individual and corporate worship.



### An Act of Faith

Expressing thanks is an act of faith because we are declaring our belief that our present blessings came from God. In our circles, we encourage believers to keep the switch of faith turned on. Continually giving thanks to God is one way to do this. It keeps our faith active. We're also giving thanks because we believe that the future blessings we desire are on their way! This is what real faith is all about—thanking God ahead of time that His promises are going to come to pass in our lives.



### An Act of Love

Thanksgiving can be a way of saying I love you. True love doesn't take things for granted. When we love God, we don't take Him or His blessings for granted. We then express our love and gratitude by giving Him thanks!

The Thanksgiving holiday is so much more than eating turkey, dressing, gravy, and sweet potatoes. And it's more than family and friends coming together to enjoy food, fellowship, and football!

#### SPECIAL OFFER

## Count Your Blessings

God has done great things for us—too many to be counted in one day! That's why we must overflow continually with thanksgiving for the material and spiritual blessings He has given us.

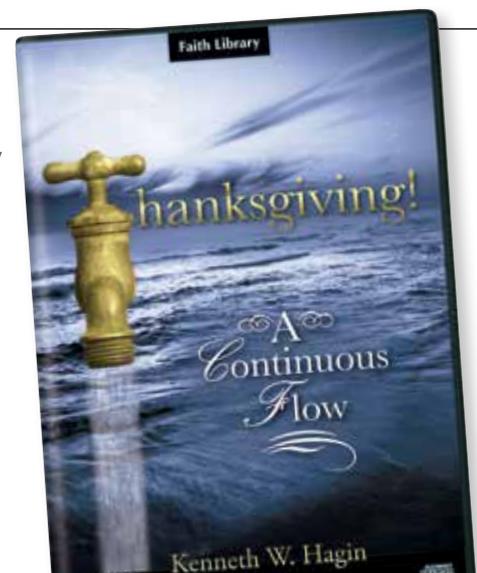
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*"Come and stay until you get healed and have your faith built up enough to stay healed."*

—KENNETH E. HAGIN

# Live the Love

JERRY WEINZIERL

**SOME MARRIAGES** are in desperate situations. No matter what a couple is going through, God can make any mess beautiful. My marriage is proof of that. If He can make mine good, He can do the same for anybody.

God can do anything! But it **TAKES TWO PEOPLE AT THE SAME TIME WANTING TO SUBMIT TO THE WILL AND WORD OF GOD** and to **BE WILLING TO DO THE HARD WORK.** And that's not common. To make our marriages work, we have to live what the Bible says about love.

God is love. We are never going to be more like God than when we walk in love (1 Cor. 13:13; 1 John 4:7-8). Husbands are told to love their wives as Christ loves the church, giving Himself up for her (Eph. 5:25). **MEN ARE NEVER GOING TO BE MORE LIKE JESUS THAN WHEN THEY LOVE THEIR WIVES.**

I want to have a better marriage next year than I do this year. Do you? Husbands, here are six ways for this to happen in your marriage.

## 1) Focus on Her Needs

My life verse is Matthew 6:33 (NKJV), *"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."* If you live out this principle in your marriage, it will show love at a different level! Your needs will be abundantly met if you focus on your wife's needs first.

## 2) Build Her Self-Esteem

Women often think they're not good enough. Unfortunately, the enemy uses us men to reinforce that feeling because we often point out their faults and mistakes. Psalm 8:5 talks about being crowned with glory

and honor. In the Hebrew language, this phrase is amazing. It's magnificence, excellence, and value. God has intrinsically created these in us. Rehearse this in your wife's ears, "Honey, you are the most important thing in my life. I love you. You are magnificent." Build into your wife what God says about her.

## 3) Celebrate Differences

We're not wired the same. Learn to celebrate each other's differences! God made us different for a reason. Listen to this carefully. A man needs sex to respond affectionately. Women need affection to respond sexually. Husbands say, "As soon as I get what I want, then I'll show her affection." No. That's not how God created us. God created a woman to be a receiver and a responder. They *respond* to us! Show your wife affection—not because you're looking for anything, but simply because you love her.

## 4) Live the Love

Love your wife with the language she speaks. My wife was not responding to the love I was showing because I was missing her love language. Hers is quality time. Mine is acts of service. I would love her with *my* language—shopping—when she wanted me to go for a walk with her.

## 5) Be Quick to Forgive

Learn to forgive each other. Husbands and wives have to learn to let go of the things they've done to each other. Live "born-again marriages" where old things have passed away and all things have become new (2 Cor. 5:17).

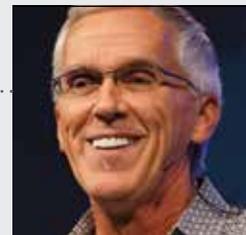
## 6) Learn Mutual Submission

We love to quote Ephesians 5:22 about wives submitting to husbands. But verse 21 talks about *"submitting yourselves one to another."* Submission is not a demand from an overbearing husband. Submission is a response by a wife to a husband who loves her like Christ loves the Church.

Men, this is how we are to live. Our culture celebrates symbolism over substance. Many people celebrate Christmas without a Messiah and Easter without a blood-spattered cross. We give gifts of flowers and chocolates on Valentine's Day but oftentimes it's just symbolism.

**WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT WHAT WE'RE SAYING LINES UP WITH THE WAY WE'RE ACTING.** Let's get some substance over the symbolism in our lives. We want our wives to see our growth and notice that something is different about us.♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Jerry Weinzierl's session on love and marriage at *A Call to Arms*® 2016.]



**SPEAKER HIGHLIGHT**

*A Call to Arms*® 2017 is around the corner! See **next page** for details.



*Build into your wife what God says about her.*

Kenneth W. Hagin's



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# HOW TO INFLUENCE YOUR CHILDREN



LYNETTE HAGIN

**MANY CHRISTIANS** have become so wrapped up in their own work and life that they have neglected their highest calling—the spiritual development of their children. Parents have the most powerful influence in a child’s life.

That gives those of us who are parents an awesome responsibility to prepare our children for

success in life. I would like to give you a few guidelines on how to do that.

First and most important is to acquaint your children with the Heavenly Father. The verse my parents instilled in me—“*Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you*” (Matt. 6:33)—has been the guiding force of my life. I am so thankful they continually emphasized this principle to me. The repetition constantly reminded me that God must have first place in my life.

Second, parents need to begin training their children at birth. Did you know much of the foundation of a child’s spiritual and character development is laid during infancy? Experts say that 50 percent of it is formed by the time he or she is three, and 75 percent by age five. Those facts may be startling, but they remind us that we must begin early to guide our children in their spiritual and character development.

Family devotions are an important part of spiritual development. Our family gathered for devotions every morning before school and read the *Faith Food* devotional published by our ministry. After making the daily confession in it, we would ask Craig and Denise what they wanted to come to pass. We then would encourage them to make their own personal confessions. It was always exciting to see those confessions become realities for them.

Child specialists agree that every human being has a need to be loved, and meeting that need is basic to proper development. A parent’s love is always more important to a child than wealth, education, or any kind of material possession. But a parent’s love is most important to a child when that child is the least lovable.

A word of caution about love—you should not condition your love upon your child’s good behavior. A child’s willingness to please should not determine parental love. The God-kind of love is unconditional. The most important thing is to love your children because they are yours—not because they play the trumpet well, are in the accelerated program at school, or are great at sports.

I can’t emphasize enough these next three points. *Don’t demand perfection from your child.* That is unreasonable. When children consistently fail to meet their parents’ expectations, they lose confidence in themselves and in life.

*Don’t try to live your unfulfilled dreams through your children.* Some parents do that by demanding their children do extremely well in an area in which the parents regret not applying themselves.

*“Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”*

—PROVERBS 22:6

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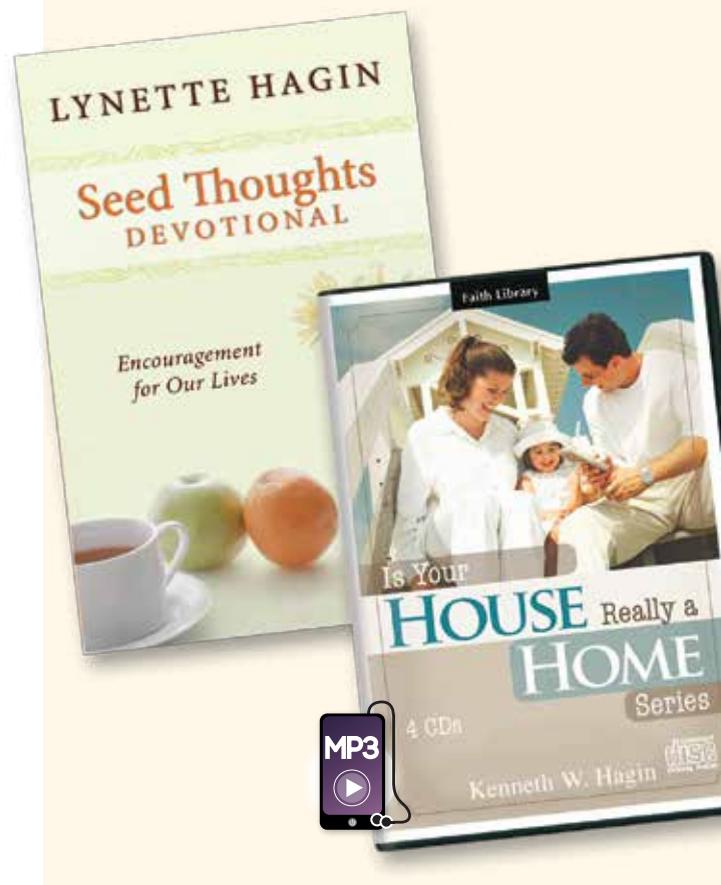
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*Don't compare children with their siblings.* A child who grows up in the shadow of a brilliant sister or brother may have a hard time with self-image.

Something else I strongly encourage is that you attend church together as a family. Go to a church that meets the needs of each family member. This is especially important when your children are teenagers.

Your church should minister to the needs of the entire family, so keep your children in mind as you select which church to attend. If each family member becomes involved in the church, attending church will be meaningful and important to every one of you.

Lastly, prepare your children for their roles as adults. Children learn by imitation, so make sure you are giving them the right things to imitate—especially in marriage.

Teach them how to make good decisions, and train them in financial affairs. Believe in your children. Speak positive words into their lives. Remind them that with God they can succeed in life.

When a crisis comes involving your children, look to the Lord for direction. Trust Him to give you the right words to say and the right actions to turn that situation into a victory in your home.♥

### FAITH IN ACTION

## Faith Confessions

*According to God's Word there is power in positive confession and prayer (Prov. 18:21; James 5:16b). Parents, make these confessions over your children to surround them with faith and love.*

### My children love the Lord with all their heart, soul, and might.

*"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength" (Deut. 6:5 NKJV).*

### My children are taught by the Lord and great is their peace.

*"All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children" (Isa. 54:13 NKJV).*

### My children are increasing in wisdom, prestige, and favor with God and men.

*"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men" (Luke 2:52 NKJV).*

### God is giving my children knowledge, aptitude to understand, and wisdom to excel in school.

*"As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams" (Dan. 1:17 NKJV).*

### My children connect with others who love the Lord.

*"Do not be deceived: 'Evil company corrupts good habits' " (1 Cor. 15:33 NKJV).*

## A PRAYER FOR PARENTS

### PARENTS, LET THIS BE YOUR PRAYER.

*Thank You, Lord, for Your wonderful gift of children. Fill me daily with Your wisdom, strength, love, and guidance. Show me how to nurture and prepare this child You have entrusted to my care for a successful life, in the Name of Jesus.*

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# Why Am I Angry?

TONY COOKE



**WHEN WE** consider something to be unfair or unjust, we naturally have an emotional response. When something (or someone) we value is taken from us, or when we feel threatened, something within us reacts. **ANGER IS A FORM OF PROTEST.** We may say it out loud or merely feel it within ourselves, but something says, “This is not fair!” One of the common emotions felt following the death of a loved one is anger.

Many Christians have been trained to believe that anger is undesirable and wrong. As a result, they are not honest with themselves or others, and they seek to hide or repress their anger. They may say the socially appropriate and acceptable words, and they may “act” properly. But inside they are dealing with anger.

## Job Lashed Out in Anger

Job was a righteous man who experienced devastating loss. His children were killed, his vast economic empire was decimated, and his health deteriorated terribly. Out of deep emotional distress, Job lashed out against his three friends and God.

It is important to remember that Job had no Bible to turn to for answers. He had no way of knowing that it was Satan who had attacked him. He felt it was God Who had bought devastation into his life, and he was angry about it. Job perceived all of his woes as a great injustice.

Further, Job’s three “friends” who came with the intention of comforting him reacted strongly against his outbursts. They condemned him and told him (incorrectly) that all the problems he experienced were the result of sin in his life.

No one would dispute that Job had become an angry man. However, much later in the story, Job received a revelation about who God really was. He then repented for many of the things he had said (Job 40:4-5; 42:3-6).

## Does Injustice Deserve Forgiveness?

Anger can be especially intense when a great injustice has occurred. When someone we love is killed, it is not unusual to feel an enormous amount of outrage. Not only was someone precious to us killed, but

we feel personally violated too. It wasn’t just an attack on the person who died; it was an attack upon us as well! It may seem that our own sense of safety and security has been ripped away, and we wonder, “How could someone do this to me?”

It is difficult to reconcile seemingly contradictory facts. However, the truth is that *God is good and life is unfair.* As challenging as it to embrace both of those truths, they are nonetheless realities of our existence. **TO NOT BELIEVE THAT GOD IS GOOD WOULD LEAVE US CYNICAL AND COLD, WITHOUT HOPE AND COMFORT.** To not realize that life is unfair—at least in the temporal sense—would leave us naive and ill-prepared to face the challenges of life.

## The Power of Forgiveness

Some people are hurting so badly after a tragedy that they don’t want to hear about forgiveness. We really don’t engage in forgiveness for the benefit of the person who committed the wrong against us. We forgive so that we don’t become a perpetual victim of the wrong. We may have been a victim once—the person we loved is no longer with us, and in some ways, our life is forever changed. However, to hold unforgiveness against someone is to allow that offense to continue to plague our life. We can’t bring our loved one back, but we do not have to let the offense continually torment us and be an incessant extension of the original loss.

Forgiveness is our way of releasing bitterness, resentment, hostility, and rage that would perpetually hold us captive. **WHEN YOU FORGIVE ANOTHER PERSON, THE PERSON YOU ARE REALLY LIBERATING IS YOURSELF.** ♡

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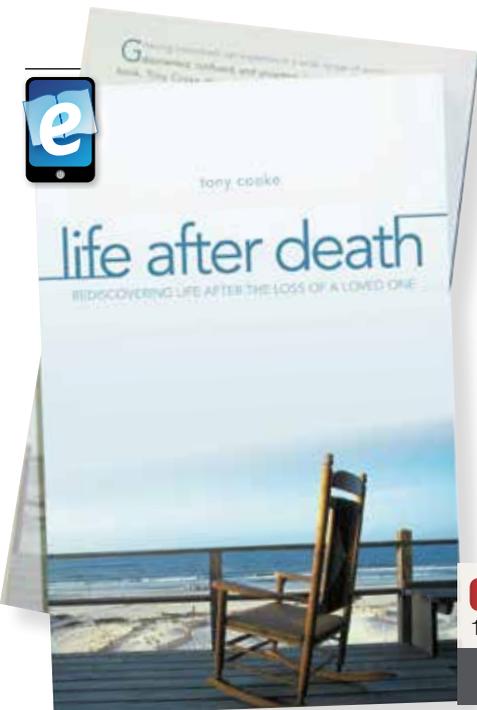
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**WHILE WATCHING** *Winter Bible Seminar 2016* via livestream at her church in Iowa, Tiffany Wuertzer heard someone say, “Once Rhema family, always Rhema family.” She immediately thought, “I want to be a part of that,” and began praying about moving to Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, to attend Rhema Bible Training College.

As an active reservist with the Iowa National Guard, Tiffany still had commitments with the ING. Although she would have to attend drills in Iowa, it was clear that God was orchestrating her steps to enroll in RBTC.

The military was willing to work with Tiffany if she missed drills because of school. And Rhema was willing to work with her if she missed classes because of drills. As everything began falling into place, Tiffany knew that attending Rhema was the Lord’s direction for her.

Rhema is a 2017 Top 10 Gold-level Military Friendly® School,

ranking 9th in private vocational schools. Knowing she would be able to use her military benefits to pay for school helped make the decision to attend RBTC even easier.

## A Dream Come True

During RBTC’s orientation week, Tiffany listened closely as Kerri Sharp, coach of Rhema’s Lady Eagles basketball team, addressed the student body. Coach Sharp said she believed there was one more girl who was supposed to be on the team. Tiffany felt a nudge inside. That feeling was confirmed by people God sent across her path.

When Coach Sharp first met Tiffany, she knew Tiffany was the missing piece and asked her to join the team. Tiffany always dreamed of playing collegiate basketball. After sitting on the bench in high school and playing pick-up games in the military, landing a spot on the Lady Eagles basketball team was a huge thrill.

Being part of the team has pushed Tiffany and stretched her faith. It has also reinforced principles—such as discipline, respect for leadership, obedience, and submission to authority—that she learned while serving in the National Guard.

## A Test of Faith

Tiffany “loves school” and credits instructors with helping her grow in every aspect of her life. “They are really led [by the Holy Spirit] when they teach,” she says. However, growth hasn’t come without challenges. Her faith was put to the test

when she experienced a couple of potentially sidelining injuries during basketball season.

One was a painful back injury. Through prayer, standing on the Word, and the faith-filled support of her teammates, Tiffany was completely healed! “In one day, I had a crazy change where there was no pain,” she shares.

## Fulfilling the Mandate

Before Rhema, Tiffany had never thought about her faith and military life intersecting. But now she hopes to use her RBTC schooling and military training to make an impact for the Kingdom of God through the military’s chaplain program.

Tiffany describes the military community as “hurting.” The thought of being able to bring faith to them both excites and motivates her.

“That’s where my heart is—to share the hope I’ve been given to people who feel hopeless,” she says. “The military lifestyle wears on people—their marriages and emotions. It breaks my heart to see someone going through something without knowing there is hope. I want to be a part of changing that idea. I want to be a part of bringing faith to the military community.”♥

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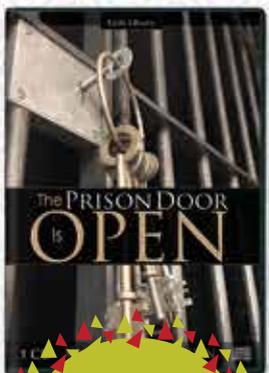
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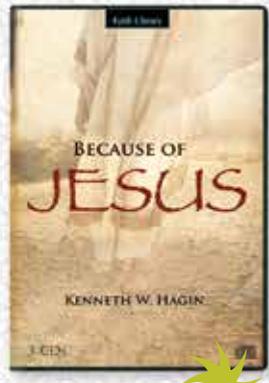
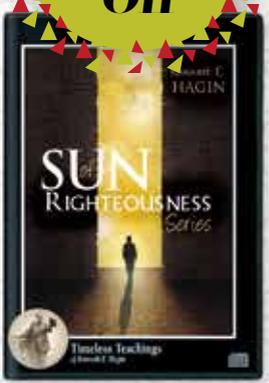
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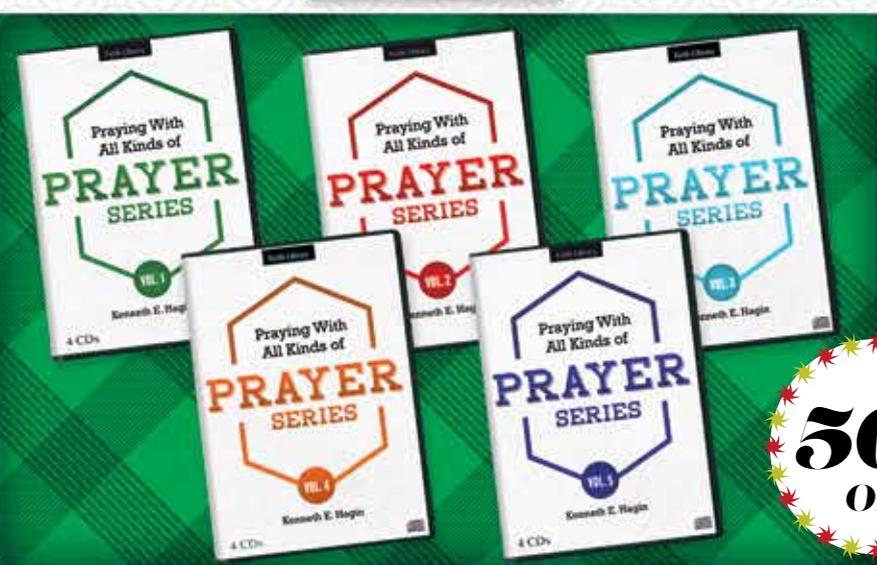
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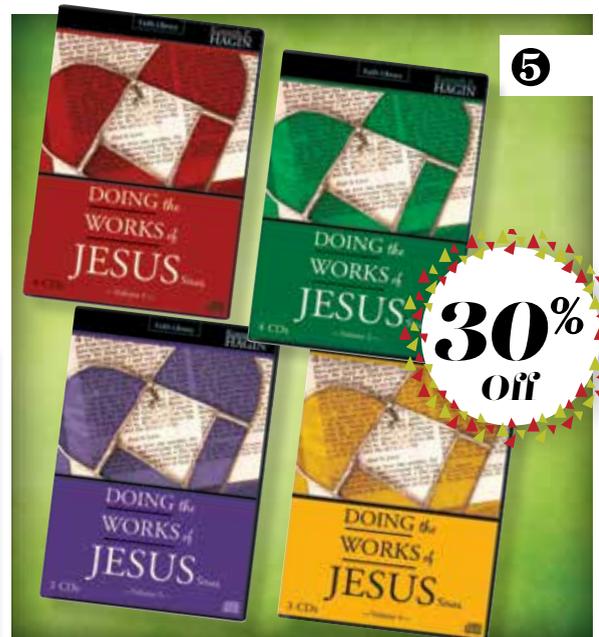
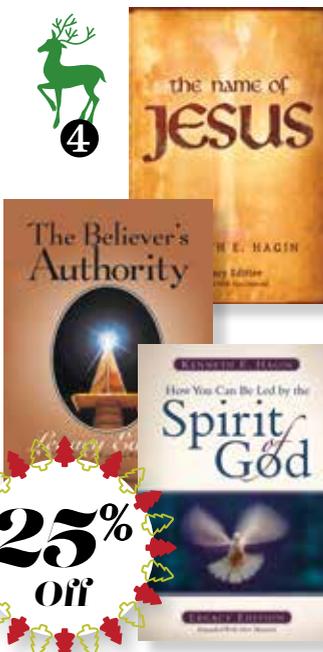
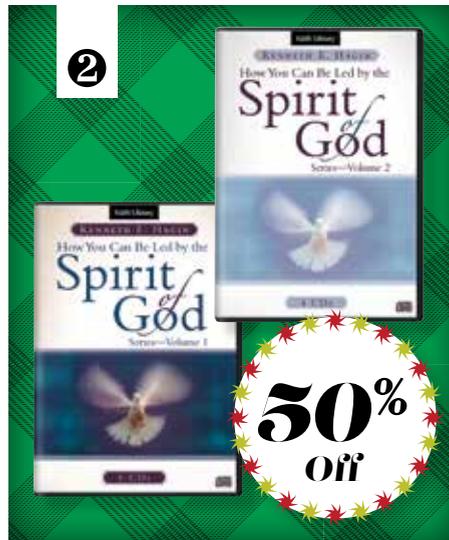
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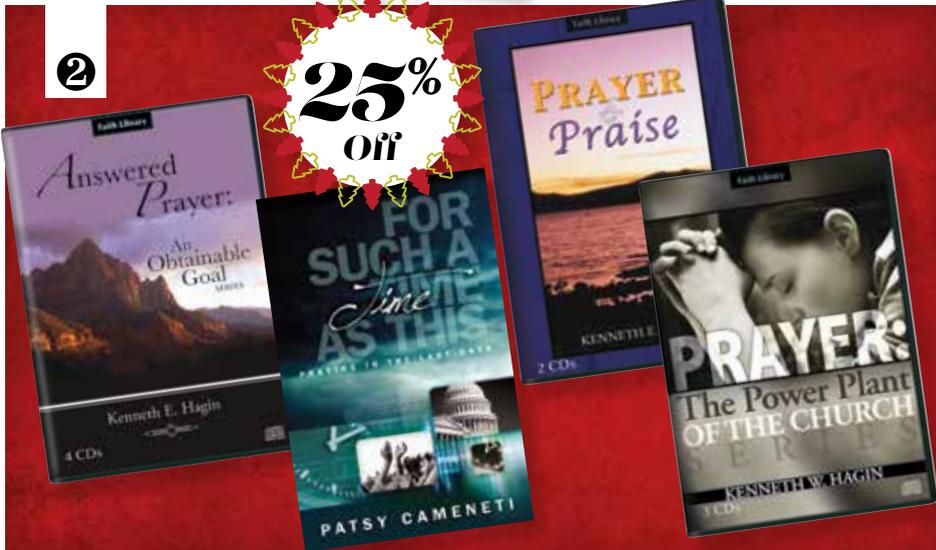
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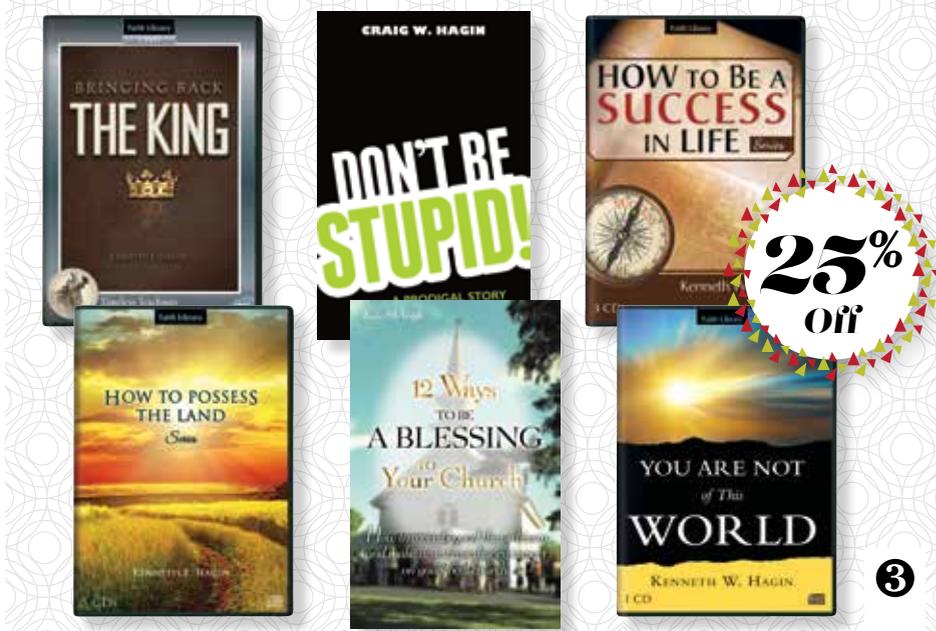
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# Praying FOR THOSE WHO Wrong YOU



Timeless  
Teachings  
of Kenneth E. Hagin

TO MATURE IN GOD'S LOVE, WE ARE  
GOING TO HAVE TO LOVE OUR ENEMIES.

**THROUGHOUT THE GOSPELS**, Jesus talked about prayer and gave us principles that tell us how we can have an effective prayer life. It's interesting to note that the first statement He made in the Gospels relative to prayer was about praying for our enemies.

Praying for our enemies has a lot to do with walking in the God-kind of love. It also has much to do with whether our prayers are heard and answered.

#### **MATTHEW 5:43–46, 48**

**43** Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

**44** But I say unto you, **Love your enemies, bless them** that curse you, **do good** to them that hate you, and **pray for them** which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

**45** That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

**46** For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

**48** Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

This is the first recorded statement we have from the lips of Jesus concerning prayer. And the first thing He told us to pray for was our enemies! To get a better idea of what Jesus was really

saying in this passage of scripture, we have to understand that He was talking to the Jews.

We need to know the background of the Jews to better understand how powerful these verses really are. From reading the first five books of the Bible, we see that the Jews were well versed in the Law. But did you ever notice that the Old Testament Law didn't teach the Israelites about love, grace, or forgiveness for their enemies?

No one had heard of the love of God until Jesus began to teach people about it. The first time the Jews ever heard about the God-kind of love was when Jesus said, "*But I say unto you, Love your enemies*" (v. 44). It takes divine love to love your enemies. You won't truly be able to love them unless you are born again and the nature in your heart is changed.

Jesus went on to say, "*Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect*" (v. 48). The word "perfect" here means *mature*.

Jesus knew none of us could be perfect as God is perfect. He was saying that we are to grow up and *mature* in the God-kind of love. And to mature in God's love, we are going to have to love our enemies.

Jesus defined our enemies and told us exactly who they are in verse 44. "*Bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.*"

### Show God's Love to Your Enemies

Does God love His enemies? Yes, He does. Romans 5:8 says, "*But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*" God is telling us to do the same thing He did. We are to love our enemies. One way to do this is to bless them when they curse us.

## Doing Good to Your Enemies

If you know someone who hates you or has wronged you, find something good that you can do for them. Buy that person a gift. Pray for them. This is how mature believers walking in the God-kind of love should act, regardless of what we feel they deserve. Returning kindness for evil always works because that's what Jesus taught us to do.

Jesus said something else about the God-kind of love. *“For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?”* (Matt. 5:46). If we're good only to those who love us, we are not doing any more than unsaved people do.

It's easy to love friends. They are lovely, and they treat us right. Enemies don't act lovely or treat us right! But these are the exact people Jesus told us to love! The natural man can't do this in the energy of the flesh. But the love of God in our hearts makes it possible.

### Pray for Your Enemies

If we have a mature prayer life, we will pray for our enemies and not criticize or talk about them. We are to pray for those who spitefully use and persecute us. You might say, “But you just don't understand what people have done to me.” Jesus is our example, and look what people did to Him!

When Jesus was hanging on the cross, bleeding, hurting and dying, He didn't rail against His enemies and accuse them. He prayed for them and asked God to forgive them (Luke 23:34). The same love that was in Jesus' heart has been shed abroad in

***We are to love our enemies.  
One way to do this is to bless  
them when they curse us.***



#RhemaWOF

our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Jesus wouldn't ask us to do something that was impossible for us to do.

As a young Baptist preacher before I even had the baptism in the Holy Spirit, I began to practice this principle. When anyone mistreated me, I prayed for them. I wanted good things to happen to people, not bad things. When people criticized me, I didn't pray that something bad would happen to them. I prayed that they would be blessed.

### The Love of God in Action

When people demonstrate the God-kind of love and self-sacrificing attitude that prays for others, they are going to become people of real prayer. Those are the people whose voices will be heard on High because they are doers of the Word. Praying for those who have wronged us enables us to release hurts, grudges, and unforgiveness we have in our hearts against them.

Jesus gave us four actions we must take if we are going to mature in prayer and in His love. These four actions bring God's blessings and rewards in our lives. We are to *love* them, *bless* them, do *good* to them, and *pray* for them.

This is how we are to treat our enemies so we can mature and be perfected in the God-kind of love. If we will do these things, the love of God will be perfected in our lives. We will reflect the same kind of love that God is, for *God is love*.♥

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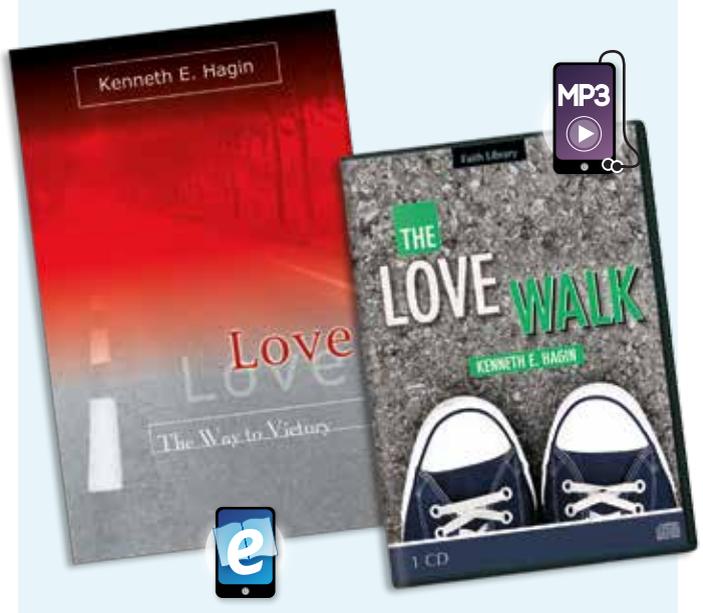
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# Reaching People . . . Together!

Reaching people with the Good News of Jesus Christ. That's what Kenneth Hagin Ministries is all about. But we can't do it alone. **IT TAKES ALL OF US PULLING**

**TOGETHER** to see men, women, and children saved, healed, and set free. It takes partnership.

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# CAMPMEETING

'17



## A WEEK OF

# DESTINY!



### WATCH IT ONLINE!

Watch the *Campmeeting 2017* services at [vimeo.com/rhema](http://vimeo.com/rhema).

To purchase copies of individual services or an entire set, visit [rhema.org/store](http://rhema.org/store).

**FROM THE FIRST MOMENTS** of energized praise to the last breath of inspired words, hearts and minds were saturated with the Word and Spirit of God at *Campmeeting 2017*. Those who attended—whether in person or online—were equipped to overcome and went away empowered to be carriers of God’s glory and power.

It was a game-changing week for youth at *Summer Blitz*. They left emboldened to step up and step out in their walk with God. At Rhema Kids, children had fun learning about God with lessons centered around a “taste and see” theme.

## HERE'S A SAMPLE OF WHAT CAMPMEETING 2017 SPEAKERS SAID.

### Keep Your Appointment With God

“Most of us have full schedules with a lot of appointments. We use calendars, alarm clocks, and scheduling tools to help us show up on time. Appointments are realities in life. This is true in our day-to-day lives, but it also needs to be true in our spiritual lives. We need to keep our appointments with God ahead of everything else. His appointments lead us to paths He wants us on—paths where we’ll discover His purpose and calling for our lives. Sometimes



we may have other plans. But if we’re going to be used by Him, we have to get past our personal desires. **WHEN WE KEEP OUR DIVINE APPOINTMENTS WITH GOD, HIS PRESENCE WILL CHANGE US.** He will make us bold and fearless, and we’ll do mighty exploits for Him.”

// KENNETH W. HAGIN

“What do we do when we’re going through a test, a ‘midnight’ season in our lives? We have to put our faith in the power of God. Paul and Silas prayed and sang praises to God in their midnight hour. When things go bad, count it all joy. Refuse to quit and start praising God. **HOW WE RESPOND DURING TESTS AND TRIALS IS WHAT TAKES US PAST OUR MIDNIGHT!**” // CRAIG W. HAGIN

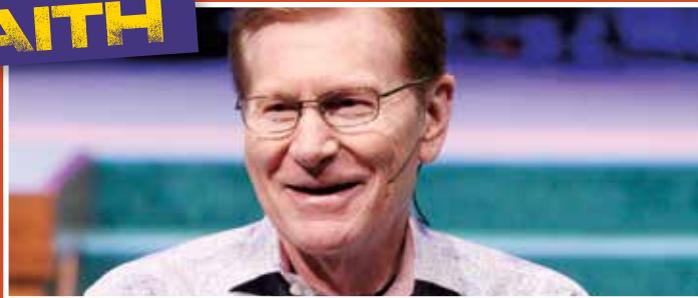


“Many times we don’t take advantage of the Holy Spirit Who lives inside of us. If we’re constantly in crisis mode, we’re not letting Him guide us. We have to quit being distracted and start living Spirit-led lives. **HE IS OUR ADVOCATE, COMFORTER, HELPER, AND STRENGTHENER. ALL OF THIS IS ON THE INSIDE OF US. BE STILL, LISTEN, AND ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT TO BE ALL THESE THINGS TO YOU!**”

// DENISE HAGIN BURNS

# FAITH

“Faith has inherent power. But if faith is not developed, it is inoperative. *Indifference is an enemy to our faith!* It always finds an excuse for not doing the Word. We need the power of faith to work. It changes impossibilities into possibilities.” // CHARLES COWAN



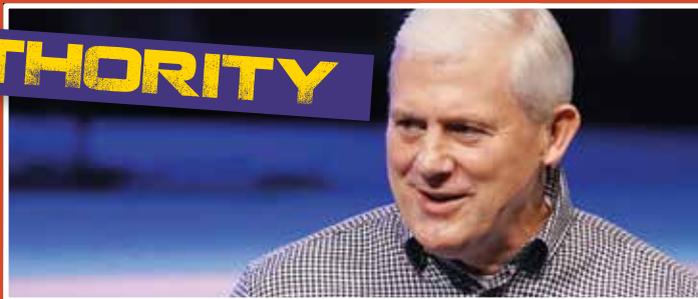
# IDENTITY



“*Your destiny is connected to your identity.* God put in Christ everything He wanted you to be! If you study the life of Jesus, He was constantly declaring His identity and destiny. If you’re going to follow Jesus, you must constantly declare your identity and destiny in Christ.” // MARK HANKINS

# AUTHORITY

“*Jesus is the final authority in Heaven and on earth.* At the Name of Jesus, everything has to bow. Demons have to flee and sickness has to surrender. Problems have to stop and say, ‘Yes, Jesus is Lord. He is Lord over me.’” // DARRELL HUFFMAN



# CONFESSION



“*When the pressures of life show up, what comes out of your mouth is a determining factor in the outcome of the situation.* Though hell comes against you, Heaven is on your side. But if you’re a believer and a speaker of the Word, God will perform it.” // DAVID SHEARIN

# TRUST

“As we develop in our walk with God, there has to be trust. There has to be a relationship built with the One we trust. *The more we rely on the Word of God, the more we depend on it, the more comfortable we become in stepping out.*” // PHILLIP SLAUGHTER



SAVE THE DATE FOR  
**CAMPMEETING 2018!**  
**JULY 22-27**



# SUMMER BLITZ: GAME CHANGERS

Summer Blitz 2017 was an anointed and powerful week for hundreds of young people in the 6th through 12th grades. They were inspired and challenged to become game changers in their world for Christ.

During each service, the youth experienced intimate times of worship as the Holy Spirit moved mightily among them. Speakers hit on real teen issues that included peer pressure and depression. The youth learned how to stand on God's Word to overcome these issues and walk in victory. Many young people responded to an altar call to be set free from depression. When hands were laid on them, they cried and rejoiced as chains were broken off, and they were set free!

By the end of the week, the young people were transformed into game changers—ready to shine for Christ. 🙌



"Do you need help? **THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A HELPER.** He wants to help you because God cares about you. **WE DON'T HAVE TO DO LIFE BY OURSELVES.** All we have to do is call on Him, rely on Him, and trust Him."  
// DENISE HAGIN BURNS

"How do you renew your mind? You take every thought captive. **WITH EACH THOUGHT ASK YOURSELF, 'DOES THIS REGISTER AS LIFE OR DEATH?'** IF IT DOESN'T REGISTER AS LIFE, REPLACE IT WITH TRUTH."  
// BRAYDEN BLAUW



"Lead with love! That's what Jesus did! He defines us not by our actions, but by His love. **SOMETIMES PEOPLE CAN'T SEE GOD, BUT THEY CAN SEE YOU. JUST LOVE THEM—ACCEPT THEM WHERE THEY'RE AT.**" // BRODY CHRISTIAN

"How do we get through the lows of guilt and shame? By accepting God's grace. Stop beating yourself up and look to His grace. **GOD DOESN'T SEE YOU AS A FAILURE. HE SEES YOU AS A WORK IN PROGRESS.**"  
// CHRIS CAMPBELL



"We're called to make God known. On social media it's about trying to be seen and making ourselves known. But how many of us are making God known? **CAN YOU SAY THAT PEOPLE KNOW GOD BECAUSE OF YOU?**"  
// BETHANY MCCUNE



"**START MAKING A PATTERN OF SAYING NO TO THE DEVIL AND YES TO GOD.** When you do, you'll come out on top. That's what brave people do! When peer pressure comes, they say no to the pressure and yes to the things of God!"  
// FABIAN MCCUNE

"**THROUGH CHRIST'S DEATH WE'RE REDEEMED, WE'RE FORGIVEN, AND OUR FAITH WORKS.** And because our faith works, we can live as God intended. We can be the example the world is desperately needing and craving for." // OBADIAH HAGANS



"**GODLY RELATIONSHIPS ARE BUILT ON LOVE. PEER PRESSURE ISN'T.** To conquer peer pressure, you must believe much stronger in what God says about you than what someone says or thinks. That's how you conquer it! It's beatable."  
// ROB POST



"So many times young people miss the plan of God because they are striving to do things that God never called them to do. **IF YOU DO WHAT HE HAS CALLED YOU TO DO, YOU CAN CHANGE THE GAME.**" // ANGIE SHEARIN



"Every time Jesus was in town, the game changed. **JESUS IS HERE TONIGHT! LET HIM DO WHAT ONLY HE CAN DO.** Set your attention on Jesus. God will speak to you in moments like this and change your life forever." // MATT SHEARIN

"God sees you in His Son. **BE WHO YOU'RE CREATED TO BE; WALK AS YOU'RE CREATED TO WALK.** Put on the new man. Love, humility, obedience, and selflessness is the way of the new man." // TANNER JENKINS



"To be a game changer, you need to make right decisions. The word *decision* means 'the process of examining your possibilities; and the options of comparing and choosing a course of action.' **THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES YOU THE ABILITY TO MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE.**" // DAN TAYLOR



"These are game-changer statements: **I AM LOVED BY GOD. I AM ACCEPTED BY GOD. I AM NOT ALONE. I AM WORTH DYING FOR.** When you get the reality of these truths inside of you, they'll change the game of your life!" // TY WARD

"**I EXPECTED HUGE THINGS, BECAUSE LAST YEAR WAS AWESOME!**" // JOSEPH

"**SUMMER BLITZ MAKES ME WANT TO READ THE BIBLE EVEN MORE.**" // ELIJAH



# Life Is So Short!

**L**OIS MEYER was alone. Her husband had passed away. Her daughter was grown and married. Her long career in education had been rewarding, but she yearned for more. With only her miniature dachshund as an audience, Lois sat by the kitchen window talking to God.

Planes passed overhead. Lois watched, her heart full of longing. “Lord, everybody is going somewhere but me. I want to go somewhere! Take *me* somewhere.” And God did—all around the world!

Lois’ prayer took flight, and the Holy Spirit prompted her to attend Rhema Bible Training College. She never hesitated to leave her long-time home in Michigan for an unknown future.

While her peers enjoyed retirement, Lois boarded a bus headed to Tulsa, without even a place to stay. She trusted God every step of the way and watched His faithful provision unfold. Before long she was living in Oklahoma, studying at RBTC, and cleaning homes for ministers. Eventually she began living with the families of ministers, caring for their loved ones while they traveled.

## 21 Years, 19 Countries

After Lois graduated from Rhema in 1977, the 67 year old embarked on her global journey starting in the Philippines for six years. “That was my first mission station,” she recalls. “The first time I spoke and then prayed for people, it scared me a little. They went down like firecrackers!” Someone in the audience ran up and tried to hold the people upright.

But Lois knew it was God. His anointing and presence that she described as “a soft, soft something” going through her was

*Lois always asked, “Lord, where do you want me to go next?”  
And He always told her.*

there as she prayed. “Something” was happening on the island, and God was using a retired teacher to do it!

Lois spent the next 21 years on the mission field in 19 countries. She taught, preached, prayed, and cared for people from Hong Kong to Peru, China to Bolivia, and many Spanish-speaking countries. Healings happened everywhere she went.



**FROM EDUCATOR TO MISSIONARY AND NOW CENTENARIAN! HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY TO LOIS MEYER!**

When an assignment in a country was coming to an end, Lois always asked, “Lord, where do you want me to go next?” And He always told her. One time He answered, “Bolivia.” “For how long?” Lois asked. “Ten weeks.”

When she arrived in Bolivia, Lois learned that the Bible school run by the missionaries she was helping was only on Saturdays instead of every day. She wondered what she would do during the week for 10 weeks. But God knew.

The missionary couple Lois was helping had two school-age girls. When she noticed how busy the parents were, she offered to help with the youngsters’ schooling. “I have a teacher’s degree,” she piped up. “Do you want me to do it?” The family eagerly



**MINISTERING IN THE PALM GROVES IN KALIBO, AKLAN, PHILIPPINES.**

**AT AGE 67, SHE STARTED TRAVELING AROUND THE WORLD.**





**LYNETTE HAGIN INTRODUCES LOIS MEYER AT WINTER BIBLE SEMINAR 2017.**

accepted. Through the years on the foreign field, God used Lois as a personal teacher to eight children.

### Adventures in the Orient

Not one to be afraid, Lois smuggled Bibles into China nine times. She hid Bibles under her clothing, traveled alone, and covertly made transfers without speaking a word. Although she worked with a group of about 20 people, they never traveled together.

“If they [the authorities] discovered one person had Bibles, they’d know we all had them. We were loaded with Bibles!” When she met her contact person, they appeared as strangers. She would surreptitiously take the “stranger’s” empty suitcase into the restroom and fill it with Bibles.

“In Hong Kong I had to climb about 85 steps to get to my house. I took a few steps at a time and waited a minute,” Lois

*Lois says that if she had known how exciting life would be, she never would have worried about the future when she was young.*

reminisces. “Over in the distance was a beautiful Buddhist temple. But something rose up in me when I saw it. I knew what they were teaching, and I wanted to lash out at the devil!” She commanded Satan to get out of that temple in Jesus’ Name.

From that day, whenever she went out on her veranda and saw the temple, that same burden rose up in her. She spoke it out every time. Eventually, Lois moved on to another assignment. But later she heard from missionary friends that the temple had closed!

### Kicking the Devil Out

Relying on the power of God and using her authority in the Name of Jesus against darkness is nothing new to Lois. “Oh, I kick the devil out all the time,” she laughs. She reminds him of Matthew 28:18 (where all power is given to Jesus) and Luke

## Centenarian Perspectives

**Q:** What is it like to grow older?

**A:** As long as you’re a Christian, it’s *fun* to grow old! You live each day as it comes and get wiser all the time. You have experiences that make you wiser, you learn more about people, and you have more confidence.

**Q:** Do you have an age you want to live to?

**A:** That’s up to the Lord. I’m ready to go any time, but I tell Him, “I don’t have the work done You gave me to do.” I’m in the middle of writing a book. The name of it will be *Step by Step With Jesus*.

**Q:** What is your next big adventure?

**A:** Going to Heaven! I don’t know why people have to be sad about going to Heaven. It’s the most unique, awesome, exhilarating thing you can do at the end of your life!

**Q:** What is your advice to others?

**A:** 1) Fill your spirit with God’s Word as much as you can.  
2) Don’t be afraid of death—look forward to it!  
3) Don’t get into strife because James 3:16 says, “Where . . . strife is, there is confusion and **every evil work**.” It’s the opposite of John 3:16 (love gives and brings life).  
4) Learn to use the power you’ve been given (Matt. 28:18; Luke 10:19).

**Q:** What do you like to spend your time on?

**A:** On what matters!

10:19 (where Jesus gives power to His followers). “I’ve got [that same power] devil,” she tells him. “I kick you out in the Name of Jesus and command you to leave me alone.”

It’s one of her “secrets” to staying in good health and enjoying old age. “He [the devil] knows he cannot thrive in my house,” Lois declares. Anytime she feels the least little thing in her body, she commands it to leave.

Decades ago she laughed off those who used their authority in Christ. She thought it was kooky. But not anymore. “Thank God I learned how! That’s why I’ve lived so long,” exclaims Lois.

### Turning 100 Years Old

Looking back over her life, Lois says that if she had known how exciting life would be, she never would have worried about the future when she was young. Although she retired from the mission field a little more than 10 years ago, her mission is far from over.

She holds prayer meetings and “hymn sings” at her retirement home, finds herself sought after for prayer, and is currently writing a book about her life and the miracles she has witnessed. And she has more book ideas in the works.

As she turns 100 years old in November, Lois Meyer’s eyes sparkle with youthful adventure as she exclaims, “Life is so short!”



**FROM TEACHING TO PREACHING AND PRAYING, LOIS SIMPLY SAID, “SEND ME,” AND GOD DID!**



# 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)

## BE THANKFUL

**FALL IS A BEAUTIFUL TIME** in Oklahoma. The leaves are turning and my thoughts drift to Thanksgiving. So often we seem to only think about what we are thankful for during this holiday. As I was reflecting on this, I was reminded of the psalmist David. He was always giving thanks to God and urging others to do the same. Psalm 106:1 says, "*O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.*"

I am also reminded of the Apostle Paul. He was constantly thanking God as well as being thankful for others. In spite of the circumstances David and Paul faced, they always praised and thanked God for His blessings. They lived a life of thanksgiving. I believe that we need to take a reality check of our lives. Are we living a life of thankfulness or a life of complaining?

Sometimes our circumstances may not always be the best. In fact, they may be horrendous. But we still need to look for something to be thankful for. First Thessalonians 5:18 (NLT) says, "*Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.*" Many people misinterpret this verse. It does not mean that we are thankful for difficult situations that come our way. No, it means that in spite of difficult situations, we are still going to be thankful to God as it is His will for us to thank and praise Him continually.

The Apostle Paul praised his way out of many difficult situations. I love to read the account of Paul and Silas in prison.

*"And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here"* (Acts 16:25–28).

Paul and Silas had every opportunity to complain about their situation. They were spreading the Good News and people were being set free. Yet in the midst of doing good things for the Lord, they were beaten and put into prison. They could have said as many of us would have said, "Lord, why did you let this happen to me?"

Complaining does not change anything or make situations better. It amplifies frustration and spreads discontent. Instead of complaining, Paul and Silas began singing praises to God. And praising God opened the prison doors for them.

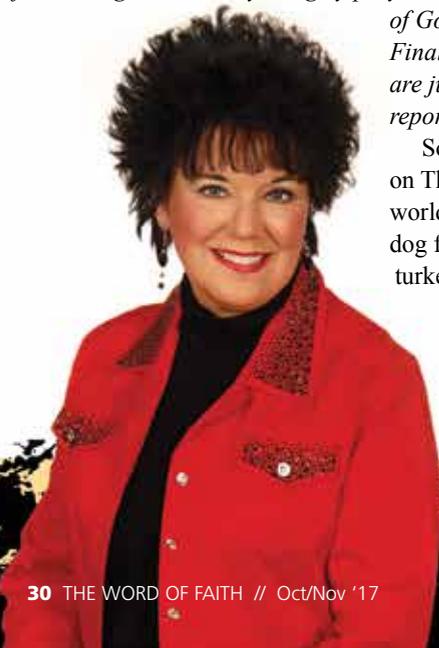
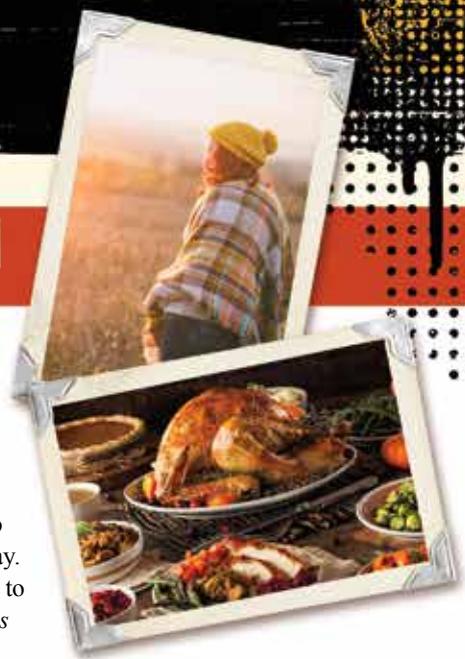
Another example I love is found in Philippians chapter 4. Once again Paul was in prison. In writing to the Philippian church, he said:

*"Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things"* (Phil. 4:4–8).

Some years ago, a cartoon pictured Charlie Brown bringing Snoopy's usual dog food to him on Thanksgiving Day. Snoopy took one look at it and said, "This isn't fair. Today, the rest of the world is eating turkey with all the trimmings. All I get is dog food. Because I'm a dog, I'm served dog food." He stared at his food for a moment and said, "I guess it could be worse. I could be a turkey."

I encourage you to quit complaining about circumstances in your life and start living a daily life of praise and thanksgiving. As you begin to thank and praise God instead of complaining, I believe you will experience peace in your life, and God will turn difficult situations into great victories.♥

Lynette



# OH, TASTE & SEE!

How do you teach kids about God? One way is by using their favorite treats along with great Bible lessons. During *Campmeeting 2017*, youngsters had the opportunity to “Taste & See” the goodness of God. In every service, a different snack food was used to illustrate God’s character and how He is faithful to perform His promises.

Using Zebra Cakes, children learned that God is a healer and that by Jesus’ stripes they are healed. They discovered how Jesus can transform their lives as they watched ordinary Rice Krispies turn into delicious Rice Krispies Treats! What about Trail Mix? In the same way that Trail Mix gives us a natural boost to do something physical, God’s Word gives us a spiritual boost when facing temptations or hard times. And they learned how to be fishers of men and share Jesus with others with Goldfish crackers.

The children enjoyed amazing worship and powerful times of ministry. Several kids received Jesus as Savior for the first time and many were instantly healed! Everyone joined in exciting games and activities, competing daily for the Top Banana trophy. For the children, *Rhema Kids Campmeeting 2017* proved to be a sweet experience with God!♥



## Magnify the LORD... Not the Problem

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



## FILL IN THE BLANKS

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

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

**ANSWERS:** **FILL IN THE BLANKS** GREATER IS HE THAT IS WITHIN ME THAN HE THAT IS IN THE WORLD

## jokes & riddles

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

What state is found inside another state?  
**Kansas is in Arkansas**

What state has 2,000 pounds of dirty laundry?  
**Washing-ton**

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



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