



THE Word of Faith

JANUARY 2009

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES



Winter Bible Seminar
and RHEMA worldwide
HOMECOMING 09

Winter Bible Seminar February 15–20



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see page 8–9



You've Never Been This Way Before!

We stand at the threshold of a fresh New Year, and many are wondering, "What does 2009 hold for me? What will happen this year?" Meanwhile, people all around us are making predictions about the future.

Some fear that we're entering a time of great instability in the world. The recent economic downturn created hardships for many people. And some are prophesying that even darker days are ahead. But is that really the whole picture?

The problem with these predictions is that they forget what the Lord has promised. They leave God out of the picture!

The economic situation, international conflicts, and natural conditions can change. Even the earthly atmosphere can change! *But God's Word never changes!* More than ever before, we must choose to believe God's Word.

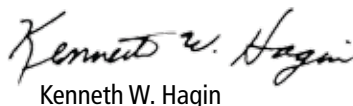
When we believe and act on God's Word, the Word overrides the picture in front of us. In life, it may look like we're going under, but God has promised to put us over. It may look like we're defeated, but God has promised us victory. It may seem that we're doomed to fail, but God always causes us to triumph through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

What shall we do this New Year? Let's look to the Lord! He is faithful and His promises are true. If we want to go where we've never gone before, we must follow the Word of God and the direction of His Spirit as we've never followed before.

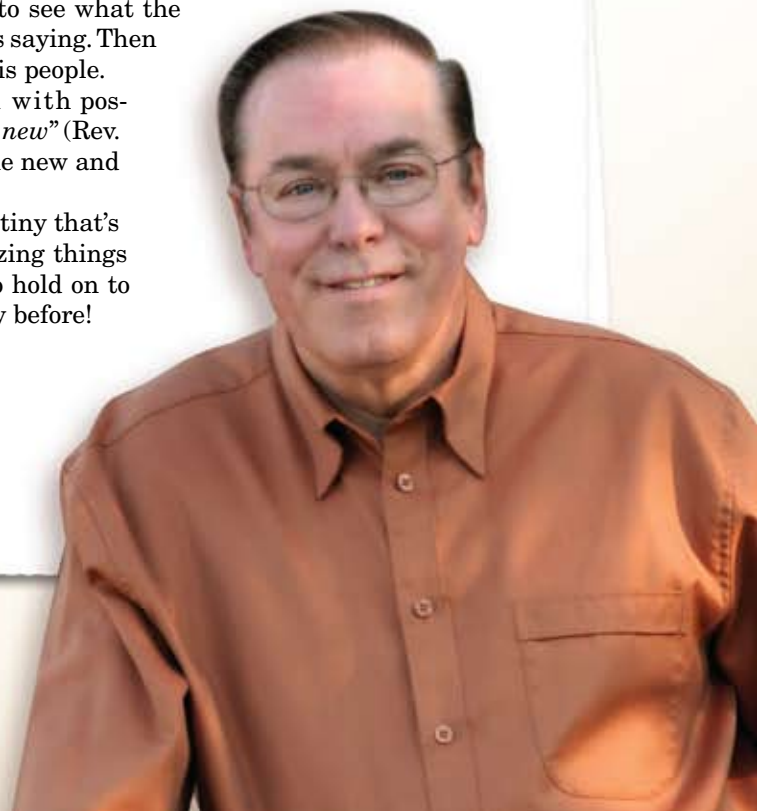
As we look to the future, let us have eyes to see what the Lord is doing and ears to hear what the Spirit is saying. Then we'll be able to walk in the plan God has for His people.

For believers, the year 2009 is loaded with possibilities! Jesus said, "*Behold, I make all things new*" (Rev. 21:5). Are you ready for some new things? Some new and *wonderful* things?

God has a wonderful destiny for you—a destiny that's written in His Word! So get ready to see amazing things as you walk into the future. Just remember to hold on to God's hand because you've never been this way before!



Kenneth W. Hagin



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Stand Your Ground Kenneth E. Hagin

The devil is the source of your opposition. He is a crafty foe, but you can learn to successfully stand against him.



Stick With the Word! Lynette Hagin

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



Each month, thousands of readers worldwide receive *The Word of Faith* free of charge. To share in this outreach of Kenneth Hagin Ministries, please check the box on Order Form I of the envelope and enclose an offering. **Thank you!**

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Staying in the 'Jericho March'



(Editor's Note: This article was adapted from the book I Cannot Be Defeated, and I Will Not Quit.)

Many of us at one time or another have missed out on possessing what God says belongs to us simply because we failed to stay in the "Jericho March." The children of Israel faced a literal Jericho. For us, Jericho represents anything that the enemy puts in our way to prevent us from receiving what God says belongs to us.

Staying in the Jericho March means you will continue doing whatever God has told you to do until the walls of your "Jericho" come tumbling down. Just because you have God's promises to possess certain things is no sign that possessing them is going to be easy. God never said it would be easy. But He did say you would possess.

These days it seems as though everyone is always looking for something easy—the quick fix. We expect to get what we want—and fast! With our modern technology, we can send an e-mail to someone on the other side of the world in an instant with the touch of a button. We can download, upload, transfer, and stay in touch all in the blink of an eye! Even when it comes to food, we're used to getting what we

want in a hurry. With the microwave, we can have dinner ready in just a few minutes. And because of the ready-made cake mixes, it doesn't even take as long as it once did to bake a cake.

I remember my grandma made cakes from scratch. She lived to be ninety and although ready-made mixes were available, she still made her cakes from scratch. Today, however, it seems

also tells us that God will deliver the righteous out of all trouble (Ps. 34:19).

Satan took Jesus on a high mountain and said, "If you follow me, You can have the world and all the pleasures it has to offer" (Matt. 4:8-9). Satan is still playing the same tricks today. He offers fun and excitement, but he doesn't tell you that the fun and excitement turn to disaster.

Jesus can bring life—and that more abundantly (John 10:10).

Do you want the walls that have hindered you to come down? Then begin to shout praises to God—even when it looks like everything is dark and bleak. Faith believes, and faith praises.

In Acts chapter 16, we read that Paul and Silas were in jail, up against their own "Jericho wall." Paul and Silas didn't panic; instead, they praised the Lord! Most people in that situation would have said, "Paul, you invited me to go on this missionary trip, and look where we are now. What's the matter here? We must be out of the will of God."

Sometimes, facing tremendous obstacles and circumstances simply proves that you *are* in the will of God. Who do you think the devil tries to mess with the most? Those who are in the will of God—the people Satan knows are going to tear his kingdom apart. What's the use of messing with someone who's not going to give him any problems?

So stay in the Jericho March. When your adversary attacks and you're facing every kind of obstacle imaginable, throw your hands in the air and
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The sooner you start praising God and marching to His drumbeat, the sooner you're going to come out of your trial and situation.

as though most people want everything fast. We open a box of cake mix, dump the contents in a bowl, add eggs and water, mix it, and stick it in the oven. But it wasn't that way when Grandma did it. It took some time back then.

In this modern day of "quick and easy," many Christians want to be able to sit down, say "Thank you, Lord," and receive all God's blessings. Sometimes you have to get up after you pray and put legs to your faith, so to speak.

Now, over the course of possessing all that belongs to you, as you make progress and overcome one obstacle, the devil will put other obstacles in your way. You may say, "I'm getting tired of this." Friend, I want to tell you something. From now until Jesus comes back, you're going to have opportunity after opportunity to prove that God's Word still works!

You may have to take a Jericho March, and you may have setbacks along the way. The enemy may even seem to win a battle. But remember, losing a battle doesn't mean you've lost the war. We all have setbacks, but we keep on marching. The people who sit down and give up are the ones who never get any closer to receiving the benefits that God has promised them.

So what if you come up against an obstacle or a problem? Think of all the men and women in the Bible who faced obstacles and problems. The Word of God tells us that our enemy goes about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8). The Word

Television shows and movies make alcohol and drugs look exciting. But ask the people—the former lawyers, doctors, CEOs, preachers, and so forth—who have chosen that path. They saw the glamour and the bright lights; that's the side the devil wants to show people. But go behind the scenes, and you'll find out that the path ends in destruction. Only

Wearing God's Fire Suit

The circumstances of life may bind you up and throw you into the fire, so to speak, but friend, you have a fire protection suit. It's the power and anointing of God!

Let me explain. I like car races, especially NASCAR. If you want to drive in a car race, you have to abide by the safety rules or you won't be allowed to enter the race. First, you have to wear a special kind of sock and undergarment. Then, you put a suit on top of that and put a hood on your head. Each of these garments is fire retardant. Race car drivers can be in a fiery crash and escape unburned because of these special suits.

However, the fire retardant suits race car drivers wear only hold up in a fire for a short period of time. They're designed to last long enough to allow the driver to be rescued. But the fire retardant suit that *you and I* have—the anointing and power of God—is a suit that lasts *forever!* No fiery dart of the enemy can penetrate it.

You're not going to go through life without having a problem, test, or trial. At some point, you are going to face the fire. But if you have strong faith in God and His Word, you will walk into the fire and out without being burned.



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begin to praise God saying, "This is just another opportunity to prove that God is still God." You have the choice to succumb to defeat or to stay in the Jericho March.

Acts 16:25 says, "And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them." To me, the word "midnight" represents two things beyond the usual meaning of a specific time of day. Number one, it represents the darkest hour of a trial or circumstance. But midnight also represents the last part of the night, signaling that the day is just around the corner.

Someone going through a midnight trial might say, "Oh, it's so dark!"

I tell them, "That just means you need to look on the horizon because the S-o-n of God is beginning to shed His light on your pathway. And all your trials are going to melt like a snowball in the hot July Oklahoma sunshine."

... March on, and God will show you great and mighty things.

If the Israelites could shout and praise God when they only had the Ark of the Covenant to fix their eyes upon, how much more can we shout and praise God when the Presence of God is dwelling inside of us! But instead of shouting, too many people are sitting around, saying, "Why, God, why?" That's not what we should be saying. We should be shouting and praising God, saying, "I trust You, Lord. I believe Your Word."

Instead of looking for the answer to your question, "Why did this happen?" start looking for the victory. And keep marching. Too many people are asking, "Why?" when they should be marching. The sooner you start praising God and marching to His drumbeat, the sooner you're going to come out of your trial and situation.

March on, because just over the hill, the victory awaits you. Do not slow up when an obstacle is in the way. But march on through the heat and the cold, and God will show you the victory.

March on, and you shall see that what is behind you will have no affect on the future. The past is the past—it's over

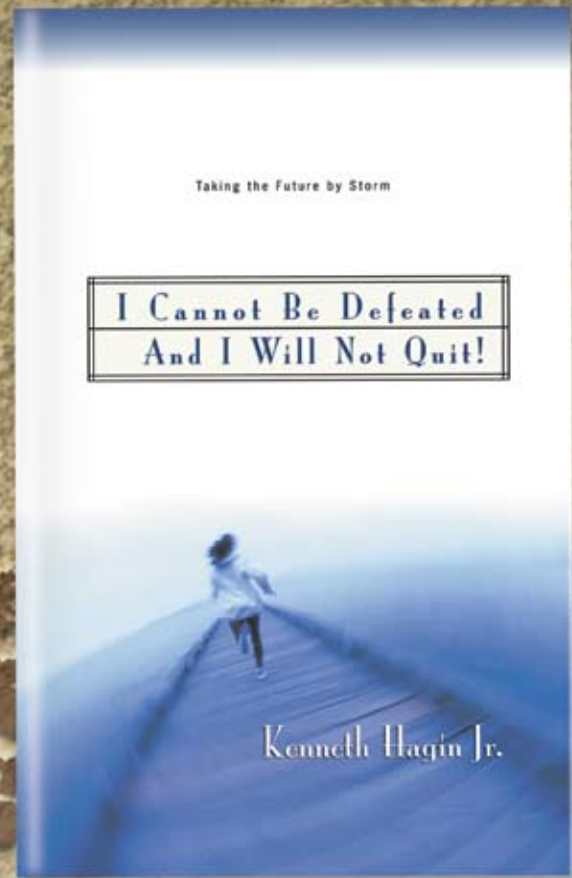
and done with. Put it away forever and march on, and God will show you great and mighty things. ♥

I Cannot Be Defeated Offer

You can learn more about staying in the Jericho March with Kenneth W. Hagin's book *I Cannot Be Defeated, and I Will Not Quit!* Using his lifelong motto as a foundation,

Rev. Hagin relates personal experiences and biblical principles aimed at helping you discover practical **steps** for achieving and maintaining success in everyday life!

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**Timeless
Teachings**
of Kenneth E. Hagin

Stand Your Ground



(Editor's Note: This article was adapted from the book What to Do When Faith Seems Weak and Victory Lost.)

Many Christians often do not know whether it is God or the devil doing things in their life. Some say, “Maybe the Lord is trying to teach me something.” However, it is very easy to know the source of good and evil. James 1:17 says, “*EVERY GOOD GIFT AND EVERY PERFECT GIFT IS FROM ABOVE, and cometh down from the Father of lights. . .*” And the Lord Jesus Himself contrasted His works with the works of the devil in John 10:10.

JOHN 10:10

10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

It is important to recognize that the source of whatever steals, kills, or destroys—the source of

our opposition—is Satan, and to stand our ground against him.

Too many Christians are ready to give up on what they’re believing for instead of recognizing that it’s Satan who is trying to keep their prayers from coming to pass. Many of the things we pray about—finances, healing, and so forth—must come to pass in this earthly realm. And Satan is at work here in this natural realm. He will put up every roadblock he can to keep the blessing from happening. But whenever there is the least delay, some people say, “Maybe God doesn’t want me to have such and such after all.” Those people lose out and are defeated when they should have recognized that the source of their opposition is Satan and not allowed him to defeat them.

Ephesians chapter six makes it clear that it is Satan with whom we have to deal. Paul, writing this letter to the Church, plainly said, “*Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord. . .*” (v. 10).

Someone may say, “Oh, I’m *trying* to be strong.”

This verse does not say anything about trying to be strong or about being strong in ourselves. That's where people miss it. They drop back into the natural and try to do it themselves. This verse tells us to *"be strong IN*

yourself, 'No, I am not going to have an attack.'"

We could always tell when one of those attacks was coming. Momma would start suffering from depression. She would begin thinking about

hard, I'll lie on it." She made her bed hard and she tried to lie on it, but she just could not do it.

If you're not careful, you can start thinking about your past—mistakes you've made, where you've missed it—and get depressed. Then you can get into a spirit of depression. And that opens the door to the devil. You can get so perplexed, depressed, and oppressed that you do not know what you are doing, which direction you are going, or what your name is.

Back when my mom was being treated, we knew nothing about divine healing and praying, but Momma heeded this doctor's advice. She simply stood her ground. She refused to have any more attacks. A few times she would start to go into one of those periods of depression, but she would do what the doctor said. And never

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It is important to recognize that the source of whatever steals, kills, or destroys—the source of our opposition—is Satan, and to **stand our ground** against him.

THE LORD, and in the power OF HIS MIGHT."

Yes, there is a crafty foe pitted against us—but, thank God, we can stand victorious against him.

Someone might say, "I've done all I know to do. What am I to do now?"

Ephesians 6:13–14 says, ". . . *having done all, to stand. Stand therefore. . .*" When you've done all you know to do, just keep on standing!

My father left home when I was six. As a result of all the problems my father caused, my mother had a complete nervous and physical breakdown. So we went to live with our grandparents on my mother's side of the family.

When Granny had to do something, such as hanging the clothes outside to dry, she would have me watch Momma. Momma had "spells" where she would want to kill herself. I had to watch to see that she didn't get hold of a knife or something dangerous while my grandmother was busy.

Finally, Momma was sent to a Baptist hospital in Dallas to see the leading nerve specialist in the southwestern part of the country. After an examination, the doctor said that the chances of an operation correcting her blindness were not good. (Because of her mental and physical breakdown, Momma had become blind.)

"When it comes to nerves," that wise doctor advised her, "you can do more for yourself than anyone else can and more than any medication could do for you. The main thing to do is this: Talk to yourself. The Bible says in Ephesians 6:13 and 14, '. . . having done all, to stand. Stand therefore. . . .' When you feel these attacks coming on, say to

everything that had happened to her in life—all the mistakes she had made and all the ways she had missed it.

Her parents had not wanted her to marry my father. When Momma married him against her parents' wishes, she said, "If I make my bed

FAITH IN ACTION

Receiving What Is Yours

Since August 1934, I never prayed about one single thing for myself without receiving it. Not one time did God ever say, "No." Nor did He ever say, "Wait a while." It's been said that God always answers our prayers—sometimes with a "yes," sometimes with a "no," and sometimes with a "wait a while." All such reasoning is human reasoning and doesn't line up with what the Bible says.

John 15:7 says, "*If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.*"

What are the conditions of this verse?

First: *Abide in Jesus.*

This means you must be born again. Those who are born again are *in Christ*.

Second: *His Words abide in you.*

Find scriptures that cover what you are praying about. Read, think about,

and say those verses over and over until they are a part of you. That is how you get God's Word to abide—or live—in you.

Many times—even though I know the Scriptures, even though I can quote them—I do not pray about some things until I've gone back to the Word and reminded myself from the Word what God says on the subject. If it's not an emergency, instead of praying immediately, I go back to the Word. I go over those scriptures sometimes for a day or two before I pray.

Not only must we abide in Him, but His Word must abide in us.

Third: *Ask what you will, and it shall be done unto you.*

When God's Word abides in you, you don't have to worry about whether or not what you're praying is the will of God. *God's Word is His will*, and when you pray the Word, you're sure to pray out God's will for your life. That is how you know that what you ask in prayer shall be done (1 John 5:14–15).

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again did she suffer one of the violent attacks where her mind was completely gone.

My mom stood her ground, and

against it. You do not have to yield to things that are from the devil. You can stand against them.

I am glad I got hold of these truths when I was just a young man. I have been following this practice in my

If doubt persists in coming against my mind, I say, "Doubt, I resist you." I speak to it. I recognize that doubt comes from Satan, my enemy. By resisting the doubt, I am resisting Satan—the source of my opposition.

If fear comes—and I am tempted to be afraid just as much as anyone else—I speak to it. "Fear, I resist you."

I recognize fear and doubt as being evil. I do the same thing with sickness, lack, and any other attack of Satan.

If you want to walk in victory, recognize that the source of all opposition is Satan, and stand against him. Realize that we have authority over the devil because Jesus already defeated him for us. We can stand against the devil and be victorious through our Lord Jesus Christ! ♥

Yes, there is a crafty foe pitted against us—but, thank God, **we can stand** victorious against him.

every symptom left. And for more than fifty years thereafter, she never had any mental problems whatsoever.

That doctor helped Momma see where the opposition was. He helped her understand that she could stand

own life since even before I was filled with the Holy Spirit or knew anything about it. I stop wherever I am—in the middle of a room, the middle of a street, or wherever. If I am alone, I stand my ground out loud. If I am around people, I do so quietly.

Turning Defeat Into **Victory** Offer

(Editor's Note: The article "Stand Your Ground" was developed from Kenneth E. Hagin's book *What to Do When Faith Seems Weak and Victory Lost*.)

You don't have to live defeated in any area of life. God has given you all that you need to be victorious in every situation. Learn to:

- Recognize the source of your opposition
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- Act as though you have already received

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Kenneth E. Hagin

ΚΕΝΝΕΘ Ε΄ ΗΓΑΓΙΝ



cfaith

Building Your Faith

While Reaching the World



Throughout the past decade, technology has played an increasingly important role in believers' ongoing efforts not only to grow spiritually but also to find new and effective ways to reach the lost.

The Internet, e-mail, streaming audio and video, instant messaging, downloadable MP3s, blogs, podcasts, social networking Web sites, and other online content options have exploded in use and popularity during the last 10 years. The enemy of our souls is busy trying to use these technical resources for evil. But God is busy raising up a generation determined to use the Internet for its created purpose—to spread the Good News easily and effectively, and to lead people into a personal relationship with Jesus!

All of this explains why Kenneth Hagin Ministries joined six other major faith ministries to help develop and launch CFAITH several years ago.

A Cooperative Effort

Through this cooperative effort, including the support of Kenneth Hagin Ministries, CFAITH's online ministry became a reality on October 1, 2000. Its purpose was simple: create a Web site to distribute God's Word globally and introduce the life-changing message of faith "to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

"People love CFAITH because they can find so much faith-related teaching in just one location. We love CFAITH because it exposes and promotes our ministry to new and different audiences all around the world. At RHEMA, we are proud to be part of this global missionary outreach for the faith community."

—Kenneth W. Hagin
CFAITH founding ministry partner

Today CFAITH represents more than 700 ministries, churches, and missionaries. Kenneth Hagin Ministries and these other "affiliate ministry partners" provide CFAITH with all of the content featured on its Web site (www.cfaith.com). This content includes a convenient and comprehensive online library of teaching articles, on-

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CFAITH's online content includes more than 16,000 independent teaching articles, 4,300 online sermons and MP3 downloads, 200 free electronic greeting cards (e-cards), 175 downloadable Bible study outlines, and 25 different daily devotionals! All of CFAITH's content is fully searchable by author/speaker or keyword—or both.

As a founding affiliate partner, Kenneth Hagin Ministries is well represented on the CFAITH Web site. More than a thousand CFAITH articles are by Kenneth E. Hagin, Kenneth W. Hagin, or Lynette Hagin. In addition, CFAITH's ever-expanding multimedia library includes several hundred Kenneth Hagin Ministries audio and video sermons. Members can watch or listen to these online messages any time. Through this online content, Kenneth Hagin Ministries is able to reach more Internet users than it could through its own ministry Web site alone.

Headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, CFAITH also provides a host of other services. These include regular missions news and updates, an affiliate ministry events calendar, Bible study tools, unlimited e-mail accounts, streaming audio and video, in-house technical and account support, the CFAITH Communities blog, cutting-edge filtering technology, links to live weekend church services, 24-hour commercial-free CFAITH radio, a nationwide church directory, online shopping, and more. Membership plans are available for as little as \$5 a month, and all membership contributions are fully tax-deductible.

"CFAITH is a God-ordained cause that was designed to take the Gospel into all the world. It is a vital part of God's plan to cover the earth with His Word and reap an abundant harvest of souls in these last days."

—Mac Hammond
CFAITH Executive Director

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To join us in reaching the world, simply call **1-800-54-FAITH (543-2484)**, visit **www.rhema.org**, or send your first monthly contribution to us in the envelope at the center of this magazine.



(continued from page 12)

More than 27,000 subscribers wake up each morning to read CFAITH's free daily devotional e-mail, which has arrived during the night in their Inbox. Another 12,000 receive CFAITH's free weekly Bible Study Outline newsletter. (Sign up for these and other free newsletters at **www.cfaith.com**.) These are just a few of the ways CFAITH is utilizing its comprehensive collection of spiritual-growth resources to minister to thousands of believers.



**RHEMA and CFAITH:
Pursuing the Vision and
Fulfilling the Call**

Kenneth Hagin Ministries' heart is to reach the world with the Gospel, teach God's people faith, and encourage them to put their faith into practice. Through this ministry's association with CFAITH, people around the world are being touched with the life-changing message of faith. Last year in one month alone, individuals from more than 170 countries visited the CFAITH Web site! As a Web-based missionary outreach, CFAITH is unrestricted by traditional geographic boundaries, government controls, or religious barriers. As a result, together we are reaching people in countries otherwise closed to the Gospel. Without resources like CFAITH, most of these people likely could not receive personal ministry any other way.

Kenneth Hagin Ministries is proud to support and participate in the vision and ministry of CFAITH. If you haven't already done so, Kenneth and Lynette Hagin encourage you to visit **www.cfaith.com** and join CFAITH's online faith family today! ♥

Testimonials

"Praise God for CFAITH! I have been encouraged every single day. Thank God for all of you that put this site together!"

—T.M., Florida

"I would like to express my appreciation for the daily devotions I have received from CFAITH. They have been so pertinent to life, my situations, and me. God's Word is so rich! Someone introduced me to CFAITH, and I am so grateful for it."

—J.S., Texas

"CFAITH not only blesses me but it enables me to minister to others as well. I e-mail many articles to family and friends, and I also enjoy sending out your e-cards to others."

—M.R., Vancouver

"I just want to let you know how much I appreciate your articles every day. I am a pastor, and they are so often exactly what I need to hear and share. Thank you."

—J.N., Kentucky

"I love what you are doing with your multimedia. It is such a great asset! I have been watching and listening to your ministry messages for a long time. Thank you!! Keep up the good work!"

—S.B., Chicago

FOCUS ON HEALING

'Someone Made a Really Big Mistake'

When a doctor says, "You could have a heart attack at any minute," the situation immediately turns serious. And those were the exact words Bill Steinmetz heard his doctor say after running a Thallium Stress Test, a type of nuclear scanning test that is usually done along with an exercise test to show how well blood is flowing to the heart.

"I was about halfway through the treadmill test when the doctor stopped me and said he had enough information," Bill said. "A week later he called and said he wanted to schedule me for a heart

catheterization. When I asked 'Why?' he said, 'It's not a matter of your having a problem; it's a matter of how severe the problem is. You have blockage in your arteries and must have something done. You could have a heart attack at any minute.'"

Bill was told that he would have one of two procedures done depending

on the results of the heart catheterization. He would either need open heart surgery or have stents inserted to increase blood flow to his heart. Little did he know that his wife was working on a third procedure.



Bill Steinmetz

Because of his work schedule, Bill didn't have much free time, so his wife, Shirley, went to Prayer and Healing School on the RHEMA campus in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. She took a washcloth with her to Healing School, asking for hands to be laid on it for Bill to receive his healing. She put

the prayer cloth in Bill's pillowcase.

"I didn't even know it was in there," Bill said. But the power of God was working through that cloth.

When Bill had his heart catheterization, the results surprised the medical staff. Bill recalled, "The doctor came out and told my wife, 'Someone made a really big mistake. I couldn't find

anything wrong with your husband. He has the heart of a twenty year old.'"

Shirley knew God had intervened. She said, "It was no mistake. Bill got a miracle."

Before the doctor told Bill the results, Shirley went to his room and talked to him. That was when she revealed to Bill that she had hidden a prayer cloth in his pillow case.

"When the doctor came in to tell me the results, it was worth it just to see the look on his face," Bill said. "He told me, 'Someone made a really big mistake.' I asked him if he had talked to my wife, and he said he had. I told him, 'No one made a mistake. The doctors saw what they saw, and I got a miracle.' The doctor just shook his head and walked out of the room."

When Bill returned to see the doctor who had originally diagnosed the problem and suggested the heart catheterization, the doctor confirmed that Bill had received a miracle. He wrote, "Mr. Steinmetz had an abnormal stress test showing potential blockage to his heart. The following heart catheterization was totally normal!"

Prayer Cloths

Countless people just like Bill have been healed by God's healing power through prayer cloths from Kenneth Hagin Ministries. The staff and volunteers of the Prayer and Healing Center pray earnestly over the cloths, believing God for complete and total healing. If you or someone you know would like a prayer cloth, it is just a phone call away. Simply call (918) 258-1588, ext. 2280 (Monday-Friday, 8:15 a.m.-4:30 p.m. CST) and we will send you a prayer cloth free of charge.

Contact Us

• Tell us how you have been healed through KHM or request a prayer cloth for yourself or a loved one. Call 1-800-54-FAITH, e-mail partnerservice@rhema.org, or mail to KHM, Attn: Focus on Healing, P.O. Box 50126, Tulsa, OK 74150-0126. (Mention offer #5401.)

Stick With the Word!



LYNETTE HAGIN

I don't know where I would be without the Word of God. When trials, tests, and tribulations come, I am always able to go to the Word and find answers. God's Word has kept me throughout my life.

As we begin a new year, the most important advice I could give anyone is this: Stick with the Word of God during the upcoming year. For it is only through the Word that you will have the abundant life that Jesus desires you to have.

The way to stand firm and not waver during tests or trials is to have the Word of God as a solid foundation in our lives. This is done by reading and meditating on Scripture every day.

When Joshua was preparing to lead the children of Israel into the Promised Land, God admonished him to constantly read and study the Word. If Joshua would do this, he was guaranteed success.

JOSHUA 1:8

8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Meditating on the Word every day involves more than reading the shortest Psalm in the Bible and believing we have

done our spiritual duty for the day. We must take time to really read the Word of God and allow it to soak into our spirit man.

Maybe you feel as though you don't have time to read and study God's Word. I know how you feel. We're all so busy in today's world. But let me ask you a few questions.

Do you have time to read the newspaper? Do you make time to watch your favorite TV show? What about your other recreational pastimes? Do you find time for them? Although these activities aren't necessarily bad, none of them compare to the importance of reading and meditating on God's Word.

The Word is what gives you the strength to do the things the Lord has called you to do. And it's through the Word of God that you are able to overcome the attacks of the evil one.

The Apostle Peter tells us to "*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour*" (1 Peter 5:8). Of one thing in life we can be sure: the attacks of the enemy will come. But if we determine in our heart to stand firmly on the Word and never budge from it, we won't be devoured.

It takes toughness to stand in faith against the schemes of the devil. And sometimes we have to stand a while before we will see our situations turn around. That's when we have to choose whose report we will believe—will we believe our situation and what the devil has thrown at us, or what the Lord says?

I made up my mind a long time ago. I will always believe the report of the Lord.

The old Pentecostals used to sing the classic gospel hymn *I'm Going Through*. I particularly like part of the refrain, which says:

*I'm going through, I'm going through,
I'll pay the price, Whatever others do.*¹

We need to have the attitude that no matter what adversity comes our way, we are going through. When our mind is made up like that, we will receive everything the Lord has for us.

Many times, we fall short of the blessings of God because we won't press in and stand for what rightfully belongs to us. What would have happened to the woman who had an issue of blood if she hadn't heard the Word of God (Mark 5)? What if she hadn't heard the news that Jesus went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed of the devil (Acts 10:38)?

In the natural, there was no hope for this woman. She had spent all of her money going to doctors who desperately tried to help her. But her condition was beyond their medical knowledge. The doctors' report did not give this woman any hope of being cured. But instead of believing the doctors' verdict, she chose to believe what she had heard about Jesus.

I'm sure this woman must have been fearful and trembling when she came

upon the crowd surrounding Jesus. According to Jewish law, she was not supposed to be in public. Her infirmity made her unclean.

The crowd that day was huge, and she must have been weak from the loss of blood. It was probably difficult for her to push her way through the people to get to Jesus. What if she had turned away? What if she had said to herself, *This is too hard; I'll never make it?* What if she had given up and turned back?

We know from the Word that this woman *didn't* turn back; she pressed through the crowd. And when she touched the hem of Jesus' garment, she felt God's healing power make her body whole.

Can you see how important it is for us to keep on pressing in until we receive the answers

God has promised us in His Word? Can you see how vital it is for us to stand firm on that foundation? In today's world, with all the distractions that surround us, it's more important than ever for us to stick with God's Word. When we stick with God's Word, God's Word will see us through—no matter what!♥

Footnote:

¹Buffum, Herbert, *I'm Going Through*. Public Domain. http://library.timelesstruths.org/music/Im_Going_Through/

It is only
through the
Word that you
will have the
abundant
life that Jesus
desires you
to have.

Stick With the Word!

Here's an acrostic using the word *stick* to help remind you to *stick with the Word!*

S: Search the Scriptures Daily. Read God's Word each day. Then you will have a strong foundation when the inevitable storms of life come your way.

T: Turn to the Word in Times of Trouble. When trouble comes, be sure to turn to God's Word *first*. Find out what the Bible says about your situation.

I: Incline Your Ear to What God Says. Even if every other voice in your life is telling you that you're going under, incline your ear to what *God* says about you!

C: Call Those Things That Be Not as Though They Were. Say what God says about your situation. Put God's Word into your own words and speak it out.

K: Keep the Word of God. We're told over and over in God's Word not just to be hearers of the Word, but *doers*. *To do* also means *to keep* (Luke 11:28 KJV). Those who *keep* the Word of God—who put it into practice—are the ones who are blessed (James 1:22–25).

Stirred Up to Pray Offer

Do you pray only at mealtimes, on Sunday mornings, or when you're in trouble? If so, you need to stir yourself up to pray! With Lynette Hagin's 4-CD series, you can learn to experience the blessings that come from having a powerful prayer life.

Stirred Up to Pray Offer

Stirred Up to Pray | (4-CD series, Lynette Hagin)

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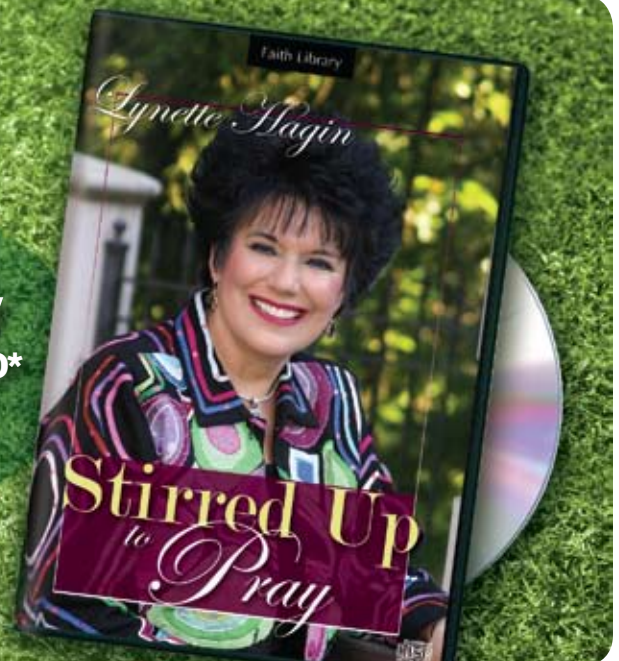
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Healing Received and Retained

R H E M A H E A L I N G S C H O O L



“I will never forget the man who came to Healing School who had a tumor on his foot,” said Emmett Anderson, a RHEMA Healing School technician. “His foot was so swollen he couldn’t wear a shoe, and the pressure from the swelling had broken five bones in his foot. When we prayed for him, the tumor dried up. Afterwards he went in for x-rays, and doctors couldn’t find a fracture in his foot—anywhere.”

This is just one of many miraculous testimonies that occur on a weekly basis at RHEMA’s Healing School. And



it’s exactly what the healing technicians expect. Of course, when you’ve seen hundreds of people healed of cancer, it’s hard *not* to expect people to be healed.

“The first thing I would tell people if they were planning on coming to Healing School is that they can expect to get healed,” said Emmett, who has been a healing technician since 2000. “It wouldn’t be Healing School if people didn’t get healed. We believe that everyone who walks through the doors will be healed.”

Even though the healing technicians are expecting people to be healed, it’s even easier for the people to be healed when *the people themselves* come expecting. Candas

Jackson, a healing technician for eight years, and granddaughter of Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin, said, “The people that read about Healing School in *The Word of Faith* are the easiest to get healed because they are expecting to be healed.”

Candas has seen tumors shrink before her very eyes. One woman came to Healing School because she had tumors that prevented her from becoming pregnant. After the lady listened to teaching throughout the week, Candas prayed for her and watched as the tumors disappeared immediately.

The people who attend Healing School don’t just *get* healed; they *stay* healed because of what they are taught. People can receive healing in a prayer line at a regular church service, but many times they aren’t taught how to retain the healing. One session at Healing School is devoted to teaching on how to keep your healing.

“We teach people how to receive healing on their own,” Emmett explained. “They can get it on their own faith, and they can keep it on their own faith. We have great success with people keeping their healing because we teach them how to do it. You can’t do that in a healing line at church; there’s not enough time to teach on it. People from out of town usually come to Healing School for at least a week, so it gives us a whole week to minister to them and teach them.”

Some of the healings are not instantaneous. On the outside it sometimes appears as if nothing has changed, but that doesn’t mean the healing power of God isn’t at work in that person’s body.

“We had a little boy whose parents brought him from the Carolinas,” Emmett said. “He had a disease where he couldn’t control his muscles. We prayed for him for five days. We never saw any change, but we knew God’s healing anointing went into him. About six months after they left, his mother called and said the boy was crawling, and after nine months, he was completely healed.”

When people receive results like that, it thrills the staff and healing technicians at Healing School. They know there is no sickness, disease, or infirmity too big for God.

"It's fulfilling," Candas said. "I love seeing people healed. Healing School is the best kept secret in Broken Arrow. People come here, get healed, and say, 'Why don't people know about this?'"

Emmett agreed.

"There is no place on earth like Healing School at RHEMA," he said. "We have a minister from Tulsa who comes to Healing School. He was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. When he first started coming, he couldn't walk into the building from his car, and now he runs six miles a day. He told us, 'I've been all around the world preaching, but I've never been around the Word of God the way I am when I'm here.'" ♥



Plan a Trip to Healing School!

Are you in need of healing or know someone who is? Contact us today for more information about Healing School or to request a FREE booklet to help you plan a trip to Healing School.

Call (918) 258-1588, ext. 2280
(Monday–Friday, 8:15 a.m.–4:30 p.m. CST),
e-mail partnerservice@rhema.org, or visit us
online at www.rhema.org/healing.

A young woman with dark hair and bangs is looking off-camera with a serious expression. She is wearing a black t-shirt with the words "i believe" printed in white. The background is a blurred classroom with other students and desks.

When was the last time someone asked you about your relationship with Christ?

It happens to me all the time!

i believe[®]

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What Are You Thankful For?

People are sometimes thankful for the strangest things:

- not being caught at a stoplight on their way to work
- finding a parking place close to the front of the store
- a remote control
- caffeine on a Monday morning
- a 50% off sale at their favorite store
- umbrellas on a rainy day

It's good to be thankful for those things. But as born-again children of God, Christians have so much more to be thankful for. The Bible says that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (Rom. 5:8)! That means we don't have to do anything to "earn" our salvation. Jesus did it all. Our only responsibility is to accept Jesus as our Savior.

Is that something *you* can be thankful for? Have you accepted Jesus as the Lord and Savior of your life? If you answered no to either of these questions, pray the following prayer to receive Jesus as your Savior:

Dear God,

I come to You in the Name of Jesus. I admit that I am not right with You, and I want to be right with You. I ask You to forgive me of all my sins. The Bible says, "... if you confess with your mouth 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Rom. 10:9 *NIV*). I believe with my heart and I confess with my mouth that Jesus is the Lord and Savior of my life. Thank You for giving me something to be thankful for!

In Jesus' Name I pray, Amen.

If you prayed that prayer for the first time, we would like to hear from you. **Contact us at (918) 258-1588, ext. 2238.** We would like to give you three FREE minibooks—*The New Birth, In Him,* and *Why Tongues?*—to help you get started in your walk with God. And we'd like to help you find a home church in your area.



Seed Thoughts

by Lynette



"The Lord will guide you always: he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail." — Isaiah 58:11 (NIV)

New Year's Eve is one of those few times when almost everyone is thinking about the same thing—the beginning of a new year. My husband and I have made it a tradition to bring in the new year by thanking God for His provision over the past year and thanking Him in advance for directing our lives in the year to come.

As you look back over 2008, perhaps you have regrets. I think that all of us would have done some things differently. Perhaps you are living with the consequences of unwise decisions. As the saying goes, "hindsight is better than foresight." If you had known the consequences beforehand, you would have made wiser choices.

During such times, I find solace in studying the life of David. It seemed that David was continually calling upon the Lord for help. Psalm 31:1-3 (NIV) says, "*In you, O Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me. Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me.*"

Often when we mess up our lives, we feel so ashamed that we run from God instead of to Him. God loves us even when we make mistakes. My youngest grandson, Wesley, who recently turned four, described that love so beautifully.

Wesley loves candy, and my daughter and son-in-law often have to limit his portions. Recently they found an empty candy wrapper on the floor in their house. They asked Wesley if he had eaten some candy. He said no. After they questioned him, he finally confessed that he had lied. In teaching him a biblical lesson, they said, "God does not want you to lie." His response was, "But God loves me anyway!"

Out of the mouths of babes come such profound truths. Your life may be in shambles. You may have tripped up in your walk with the Lord this past year. But I am here to tell you that God loves you anyway. He will pick you up, brush you off, and say to you as Jesus said to the woman

who was caught in the very act of adultery, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more." God is the God of a second chance.

Humanity wants to judge and punish. But God forgives and forgets when we ask Him for forgiveness and desire to turn our life around. I like what the Apostle Paul declared in Philippians 3:13-14: "*Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*"

My father-in-law used to say, "It is not in good taste to remind God of something that He has forgotten." When you ask Him to forgive you for doing wrong, He forgives and forgets. It is the enemy who keeps reminding you of your failures. But he is simply bringing up photos of the past. Don't allow him to condemn you. Determine to forget those things of the past and reach toward your future.

In Psalm 31 David talked to God about the difficult situation he was in. Verses 13-16 (NIV) say, "*For I hear the slander of many; there is terror on every side; they conspire against me and plot to take my life. But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, 'You are my God.' My times are in your hands; deliver me from my enemies and from those who pursue me. Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love.*"

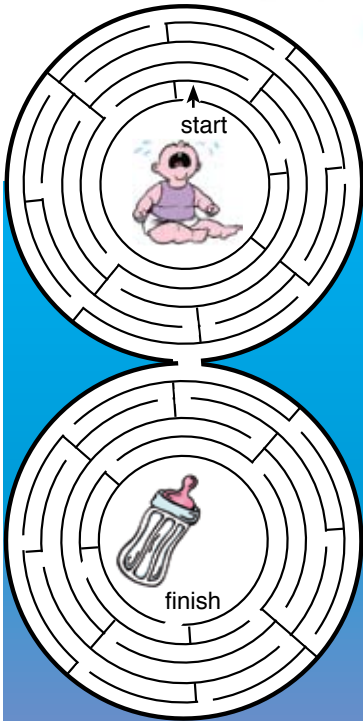
You may have felt this past year that there were enemies on every side. You may have had all kinds of trouble thrown at you. But I am here to tell you that God is on your side, and if God is for you, who can be against you? Look at this new year with an attitude of expectancy. I believe that God will do exciting things in all of our lives this year as we look to Him. It is time to allow the Lord to direct our lives. We must say, "God, not our plans, but Your plans; not our will, but Your will." As we lean on the everlasting arms of Jesus, we do not have to fear. We can rest with confidence, knowing that we will come out victorious in life.

Lynette



Kids' Page

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



I WANT MY BOTTLE!!!!!!

The baby above is hungry, but he can't find his bottle. Help him find his way through the maze to the bottle so he will stop crying!

BIBLE BABY RIDDLES

I was a Bouncing Baby Boy,
Before I was born I leaped for joy.
I was born before my favorite cousin;
He had some friends, I think a dozen.
And on the day that I finally came,
They almost called me by the wrong name.

WHO AM I ?

My Mom laughed the day she heard
"You'll have a son." It seemed absurd.
But she found out like all those after,
God can always hear your laughter.

WHO AM I ?



are you a BIG BABY?

When you were a baby, you were so cute and lovable. But you were also pretty helpless. Your parents had to do EVERYTHING for you. They had to feed you, clothe you, and bathe you. But as you've gotten older, they have expected you to do more for yourself.

It's all a part of GROWING UP. By now, you should be able to feed yourself, put on your own clothes, and bathe yourself.

Well, just like your parents, Father God expects some things out of His children too! When you were born again, you became a "babe in Christ" (1 Cor. 3:1) and God's Kingdom was brand new to you.

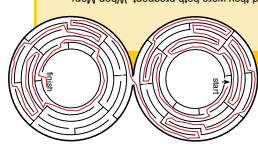
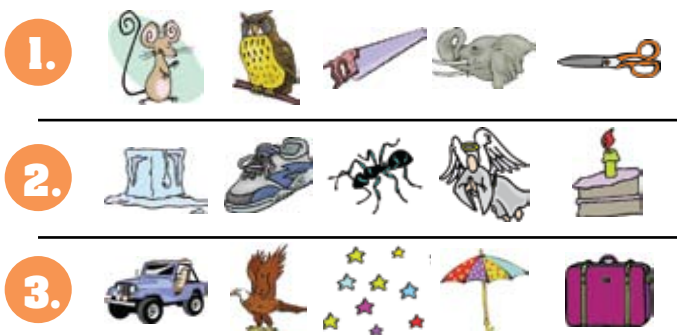
But as you get older in the Lord, God expects you to GROW UP! He expects you to **FEED YOURSELF** on the milk and meat of His Word (Heb. 5:13-14).

He expects you to **CLOTHE YOURSELF** with the full armor of God (Eph. 6:13-17). And, He expects you to **BATHE YOURSELF** in His forgiveness when you do wrong (1 John 1:9). So, it's time to GROW UP. BUT WILL YOU? Or are you just going to be a BIG BABY?



Famous Bible Babies!

Some great men of the Bible had special events take place either before or shortly after their birth. Use the first letter of each picture clue below to discover the names of 3 famous Bible Babies.



ANSWERS:

FAMOUS BIBLE BABIES—ANSWER:
1. MOSES 2. ISAAC 3. JESUS

1. John the Baptist—One day Mary the mother of Jesus came to visit Elizabeth, the mother of John, and they were both pregnant. When Mary greeted Elizabeth, John leaped for joy inside Elizabeth's womb. Jesus was John's cousin and was born a few months after John. When John was born, his father Zachariah wanted to call him by his father's name or a family name, but Elizabeth said his name would be John. When they went to ask the father Zachariah what his name would be, he wrote on a piece of paper "his name is John."
2. Isaac—When angels came to visit Abraham, they told him that the Sarah would give birth to a son. Abraham and Sarah were very old when they reached that news. Sarah heard the angel's news from another room and laughed to herself because she thought it was funny that she would have a child in her old age. She didn't think anybody heard her laugh, but God told her that He had heard her even though she denied it.
3. Jesus—When angels came to visit Abraham, they told him that the Sarah would give birth to a son. Abraham and Sarah were very old when they reached that news. Sarah heard the angel's news from another room and laughed to herself because she thought it was funny that she would have a child in her old age. She didn't think anybody heard her laugh, but God told her that He had heard her even though she denied it.

Jokes & Riddles



A nurse goes to a doctor and says, "How is the girl who swallowed a quarter?" The doctor replies, "No change yet!"

What has no beginning, no end, and nothing in the middle?
A doughnut!

Which is the fastest—cold or heat?
Heat—you can catch a cold!

Have you heard the joke about the butter?
I can't tell you because you will spread it.

What did the snail say when he got a ride on a turtle?
WEEEEEEEEEE.

Teacher: Simon, can you say your name backwards?
Simon: No Miss!

What's green and smells?
A frog's nose!

Teacher: If your father gave your mother \$200 and then took away \$150, what would your mother get?
Johnny: She would get angry!

Nancy: I lost my cat!
Susie: That's too bad! Did you put an ad in the paper?
Nancy: That wouldn't help. My cat can't read.

RHEMA *Praise*



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