



THE Word of Faith

MARCH 2009

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES



RHEMA
Students on the
MISSION Field
see page 14

HEART TO HEART

With KENNETH W. HAGIN

How Big Is Your God?

There's a wonderful old song we used to sing years ago that talked about how big God is. But the important question for us to ask ourselves today is, "How big is *my God*?"

I'll tell you how big *my God* is—He's big enough to take care of all of my problems and meet all of my needs (Phil. 4:19)! My God is bigger than the devil, and He's bigger than my fears.

If we look at God's Word, we will see that God is so big, it's mind-boggling. Not only did God create the entire universe, but He also created you and me. And Psalm 139:14 says that we are fearfully and wonderfully made!

We can sing all the songs about the bigness of God, but the truth is, in some areas God seems so big to us, and in other areas He seems so small. It shouldn't be that way, but it is. In reality, God is bigger than any sickness and any need. We can triumph over any problem because of the bigness of our God.

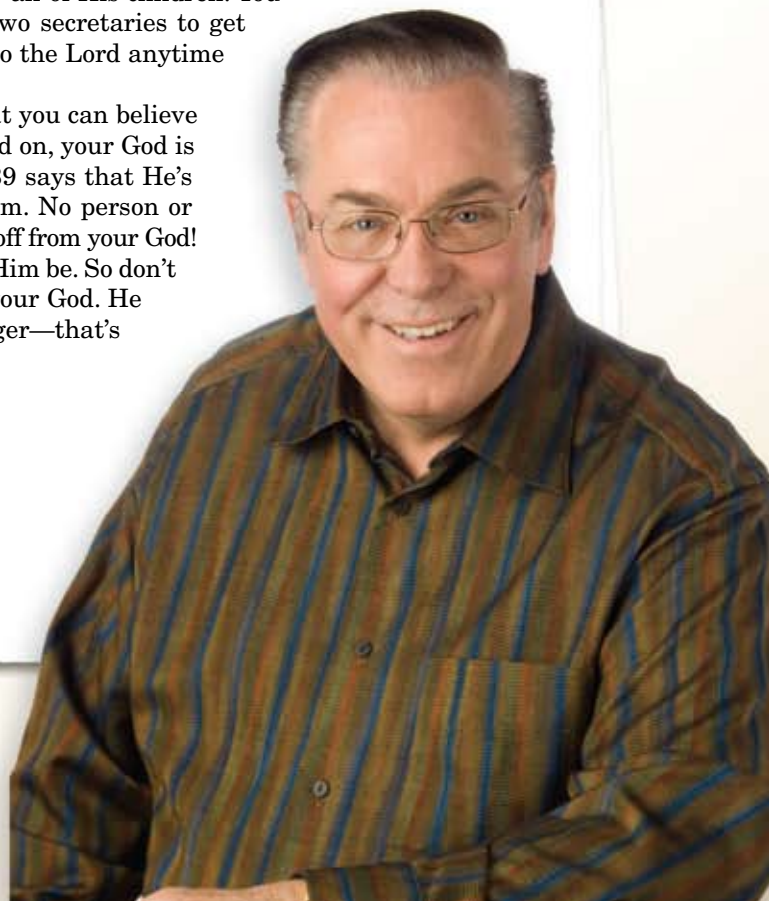
Even though our God is a big, miraculous God, He still knows when a sparrow falls from the sky (Matt. 10:29). He knows when a tear falls from our eyes. He knows the number of hairs on our heads.

God left the palaces of Heaven to have a relationship with you and me. And, even now, He has an open-door policy for all of His children. You don't have to go through a receptionist and two secretaries to get to your Heavenly Father. You can go straight to the Lord anytime you desire!

How big is your God? That depends on what you can believe for! If you can find a verse of Scripture to stand on, your God is big enough to bring it to pass. Romans 8:38–39 says that He's so big that nothing can separate you from Him. No person or problem is big enough or bad enough to cut you off from your God!

In reality, your God is as big as you will let Him be. So don't allow the challenges of life to be bigger than your God. He can squash those problems with His little finger—that's how big and awesome your God is!

Kenneth W. Hagin
Kenneth W. Hagin



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Patty Harrison

Graphic Artists

Kristen Cook
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Photographer

Phil Anglin

Project Managers

Christi Finley
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Kris Taylor

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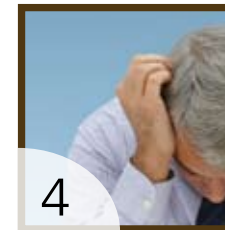
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Worry is the interest you pay on troubles that seldom come. By learning to put on the garment of praise and keep your mind on the Lord, you can live free from worry.

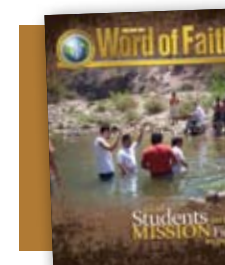
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(Fearless, Anointed, Inward-Led, Trustworthy Heirs of God) If you're a kid, this page is for you. We've included Bible lessons, puzzles, and riddles for you to enjoy. Have fun!



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

Thank you!

What to Do When Trouble Comes Your Way

KENNETH W. HAGIN



It's been said there are only two things in life that are certain: death and taxes. I believe that "trouble" can also be added to this list. Trouble is something that visits everyone—young and old, rich and poor. It does not matter your background or where you reside. If you live very long on this earth, one day trouble will knock on your door.

I believe you must deal with trouble both naturally and spiritually whenever it raises its ugly head. Let's first look at some natural ways of dealing with trouble.

Natural Ways Out

Number One:

Get Rid of All of Your Excuses

It's easy to put the blame on others. You've probably heard

someone say, "It's not my fault; it's So-and-so's fault." But if you made the decision to do or not do something, then the blame should rest squarely on your shoulders. Stop making excuses for why you can't be a success in life. Instead, start putting action to your dreams. If God is for you, who can be against you? You and God make a successful team!

Number Two:

Don't Look Back; Your Answer Is Not Behind You

You cannot change the past; it's history. If the answers to your problems were behind you, you wouldn't be where you are now. You can't change your yesterdays. But you *can* change your future. Your tomorrows can be changed because your answer is in front of you.

Number Three:

Quit Comparing Yourself to Others

Comparing yourself to others will eat you up like a cancer. When God gave you dreams and plans for the future, He knew exactly who you were. He knew your shortcomings, and He knew where you could excel. Quit comparing yourself to others. It only hinders you from turning your dreams into realities.

Number Four:

Don't Second-Guess Yourself; Make a Decision and Live With It

Many years ago, I received some good advice: "When making a decision, look at all of the issues and then make a decision you can live with." People often make decisions based on emotions. Then, they later realize their decisions are impossible to live with. Take the necessary time to analyze a situation. Once you make a decision, stick with it.

People often make decisions based on emotions. Then, they later realize their decisions are impossible to live with.

Number Five:

Learn to Say 'I Don't Know'

You can't know everything, and you can't be everything to everyone. It's okay to say, "I don't know." Don't allow yourself to become intimidated if you don't know the answer to someone's question. If you don't know something, just say so. Then tell the person you will find out and get back with him or her.

Number Six:

Know Your Own Limits

Have a realistic evaluation of your abilities. Too many people believe they can accomplish tasks beyond their natural capabilities. You can't expect more out of yourself than you have the ability to achieve.

The library and the Internet, however, are places where you can get more knowledge on any subject. After studying in a certain area, then you will have the ability and confidence to accomplish what was once beyond your abilities.

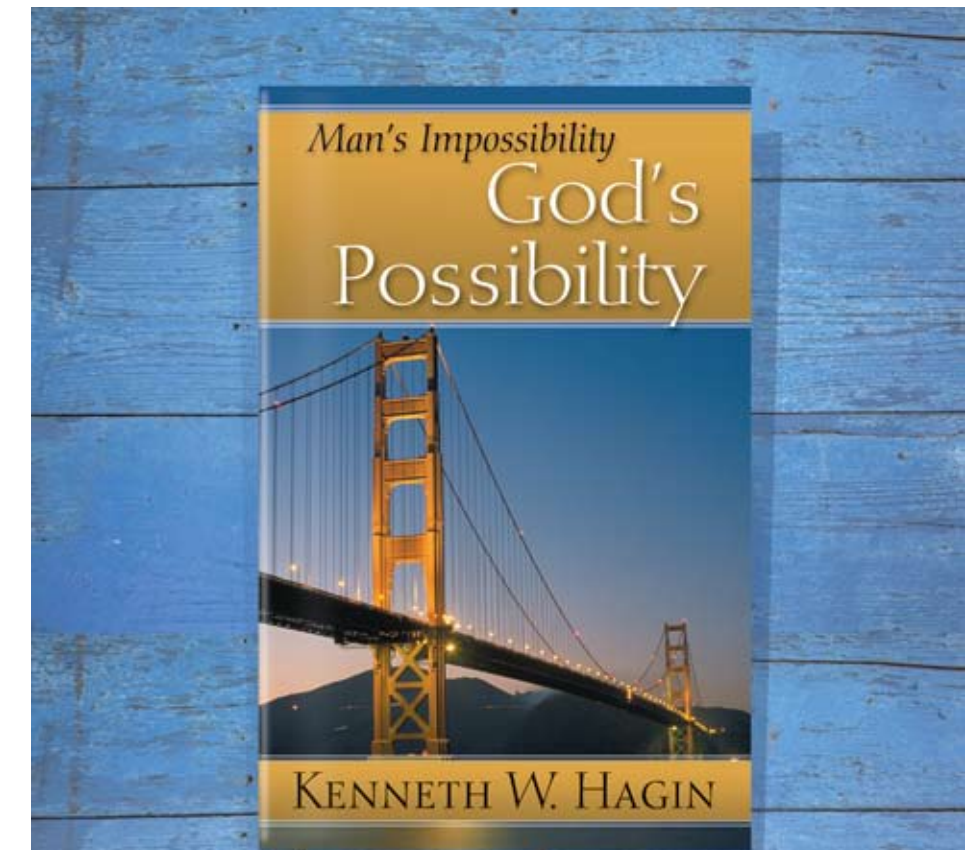
Number Seven:

Give Clear Communication

No matter who you are talking to, clear communication is essential. We get into a lot of trouble—in relationships and on the job—just from a lack

of clear communication. People aren't mind readers, and a lot of misunderstandings can be avoided by making sure the other person understands what you are saying.

We've studied seven ways to deal with trouble in the natural realm. Now, we'll take a look at how we can tackle trouble through the spiritual realm. I have often said, "When the natural and the supernatural come together, they make an explosive force for God." When we come at a situation from both sides, we are sure to see changes.



WITH GOD, IT'S POSSIBLE

Do you have dreams that seem impossible to reach? Have you allowed life's challenges to sideline you from reaching your goals? If so, Kenneth W. Hagin's book *Man's Impossibility—God's Possibility* will inspire you to overcome every obstacle until you have reached your dream.

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Spiritual Ways Out

Number One:

Remember That God Is With You and Wants to Help You

In Psalm 91:15, the Lord says, "He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him." This verse does not say that God will only be with you *in the good times*. No. He will be with you *in trouble*—and He will deliver you out of trouble!

Number Two:

Resist Fear

Fear is never liberating. It is only incapacitating. And fear hinders the supernatural from working for you. No matter how dire or impossible your situation may seem, you never have to fear when God is on your side. Find scriptures that deal with fear and those that promise freedom from fear and peace. Meditate on those scriptures, reading them and confessing them out loud whenever fear tries to come upon you.

Number Three:

Realize That God Always Has a Way Out

First Corinthians 10:13 says, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape. . . ."

The Apostle Paul is letting you know that God will not allow you to go through tests and trials beyond what you can bear. And when you experience tribulation, God will *always* provide a way out. Instead of focusing on the problem, train your eyes to look for the way out!

Number Four:

Always Maintain a Good Attitude

James admonishes Christians to ". . . count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations" (James 1:2). By doing this, you maintain a proper spiritual attitude. Too many people have what I call "stinking attitudes." That is because they only complain and cry about the adversity they are facing instead of doing something about it.

Saying things like, "I don't understand why I'm going through this," won't

change your situation. But when you "count it all joy" in spite of what you are experiencing, you are maintaining the necessary attitude of faith. And faith is what will change your situation.

Number Five:

Walk in Love

The only commandment Jesus gave to believers was the commandment of love (John 13:34). And the way to fulfill this commandment is outlined in First Corinthians chapter 13. If you will be a faithful doer of the verses in First Corinthians 13, you will automatically eliminate a lot of adversity in your life.

Number Six:

Use Your Faith

Use your faith to move mountain-sized trouble from your life (Mark 11:23). To move any kind of mountain, you must believe in your heart that the Word of God is able to change what looks unchangeable. This is done by believing the Word instead of what you see or feel. Scripture has to be the highest and final authority in your life.

Number Seven:

Maintain the Proper Confession

Some people constantly talk about their troubles. But doing this does not help your faith. In fact, a negative tongue will get you in trouble. We're told to ". . . hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised)" (Heb. 10:23). When we remember that the One Who promised is faithful to bring those promises to pass, we are better able to watch our tongue and speak more about the promises than we do about the problems.

As you follow the steps I have outlined, realize that people in your life might try to put pressure on you. They might try to pull you away from the Word of God. But you must be strong and stand your ground.

Psalms 34:17 says, "The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles." This is God's promise to you. He is faithful to perform His Word, and He is faithful to perform His Word in your life. ♥

Stop Saying 'Can't Do'

When I was in grade school, my first grade teacher, Miss Finley, always used to tell our class, "Don't ever say you can't do something. The words *can't do* do not exist in this class. If you really *want* to do something, you will always find a way to do it."

How true her words are. I'm sure you can look at your life and remember a time when you really wanted to do something. And even though your dream seemed impossible at the time, because you wanted it so badly, you found a way to accomplish it.

You are able to achieve success when you *believe* you are able to achieve it. Henry Ford once said, "Whether you think that you can, or that you can't, you are usually right."

A scripture that needs to be indelibly stamped in your spirit is

Philippians 4:13, which says, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength" (NIV). Each time you find yourself in a challenging situation and people around you are saying you can't do something, respond back to them with this verse.

If you hold firm to your faith and stand your ground against the devil, God will make the crooked way straight. He will make the valley come up, and He will bring the mountains down low so that you can walk on level ground (Isa. 40:4; Luke 3:5). The Lord will break down the gates of bronze and cut through the bars of iron that stand between you and what He's called you to do (Isa. 45:2). But you must first believe that you can do *anything* you set your heart to do through Him Who gives you strength.

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**Timeless
Teachings**
of Kenneth E. Hagin

Understanding Righteousness

(Editor's Note: This article was adapted from the book *Understanding How to Fight the Good Fight of Faith*.)

"Fight the good fight of faith. . ."
—1 Timothy 6:12

The fight of faith is the only battle Christians are called upon to fight. There wouldn't be such a fight to faith if there weren't enemies or hindrances to faith. But when we understand the enemies to faith and avoid them, our faith will grow.

One main hindrance to our faith is the lack of understanding of our righteousness, or our right standing with God.

JAMES 5:16

16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual

fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

This passage states that the prayer of "a righteous man" avails much. A *lack of understanding of what righteousness is holds more Christians in bondage than any other thing*. In my opinion, righteousness is one of the most misunderstood subjects in the Bible.

ROMANS 10:10

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness. . .

ROMANS 5:17

17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of

grace and the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.

Notice that Paul makes two significant statements about righteousness:

1. With the *heart* man believes unto righteousness.
2. When we receive Jesus and we are born again, we receive "the *gift* of righteousness."

Righteousness is a gift. Too often we have associated righteousness with good works. The Bible teaches good works and right conduct, but all of our good works and right conduct will never make us righteous. If good works made us righteous, we wouldn't need Jesus.

You will never be any more righteous than you are right now!

Another fallacy about righteousness is that we've thought we had to grow into some kind of "high spiritual state" to be righteous. Well, thank God, we can grow in the Lord and we can develop spiritually. But we cannot *grow* in righteousness. You will never be any more righteous than you are right now!

In the Old Testament, God set up a system whereby the blood of animals was shed to *cover* the sins of His people. God did not hold sin against them; instead, He "counted" them as being righteous.

PSALM 32:1-2

**1 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
2 Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity. . .**

In the New Testament, the Bible says we have a *better* Covenant established on *better* promises (Heb. 8:6). In Christian circles, we've heard it said, "Our sins are covered." But our sins aren't *covered*. Our sins are *washed away* by the blood of Jesus!

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, 21

**17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
21 For he hath made him [God has made Jesus] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.**

Did you notice the phrases "in Christ" and "in Him" in these verses? *In Christ* we become *new creatures* (v. 17). *In Him* we become the righteousness of God when we are born again (v. 21).

When you receive Jesus as your Savior, you become a new man—a new creature in Christ. God does not make any "unrighteous" new creatures.

Romans 10:10 says, "*For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness. . .*" How does a man become righteous? He *believes* unto righteousness—because he believes on Him who is our righteousness, Jesus Christ!

When you know this truth, you'll know that God hears your prayers just as quickly as He hears anyone else's. Your standing with God is just as good as any other Christian's.

A minister doesn't have any better standing with God than you do. A minister has a *duty* or a *responsibility* that you don't have. But that responsibility doesn't make him any more *righteous* or give him any better standing with God. God won't answer his prayers any more quickly than He'll hear and answer your prayers.

God doesn't love one member of the Body of Christ more than another. We've got all kinds of wrong ideas about this, such as, "If I could just get a *real* man of God to pray for me, God would answer." Some Christians may have learned how to take advantage of what belongs to them better than you have, but they are not any more *righteous* than you are. God won't hear them pray any more quickly than He'll hear you pray.

I'm thoroughly convinced that in these last days bands of believers will learn how to take their place in Christ, knowing who and what they are in Him. Talk about prayer warriors! Talk about consecrated, dedicated lives of prayer! Talk about getting results! And they won't have to be dependent on someone else to pray to get answers for them.

God will hear *you*! In our churches, we've been trained to leave it up to the pastor to do all the praying. But when you gain understanding of what righteousness is and what it means to you, you will be able to step out from that narrow place of theology where you have lived and step into the boundless fullness of God!

Some people say, "I can see from the Word of God that we've received remission of past sins, and we've received the

FAITH IN ACTION

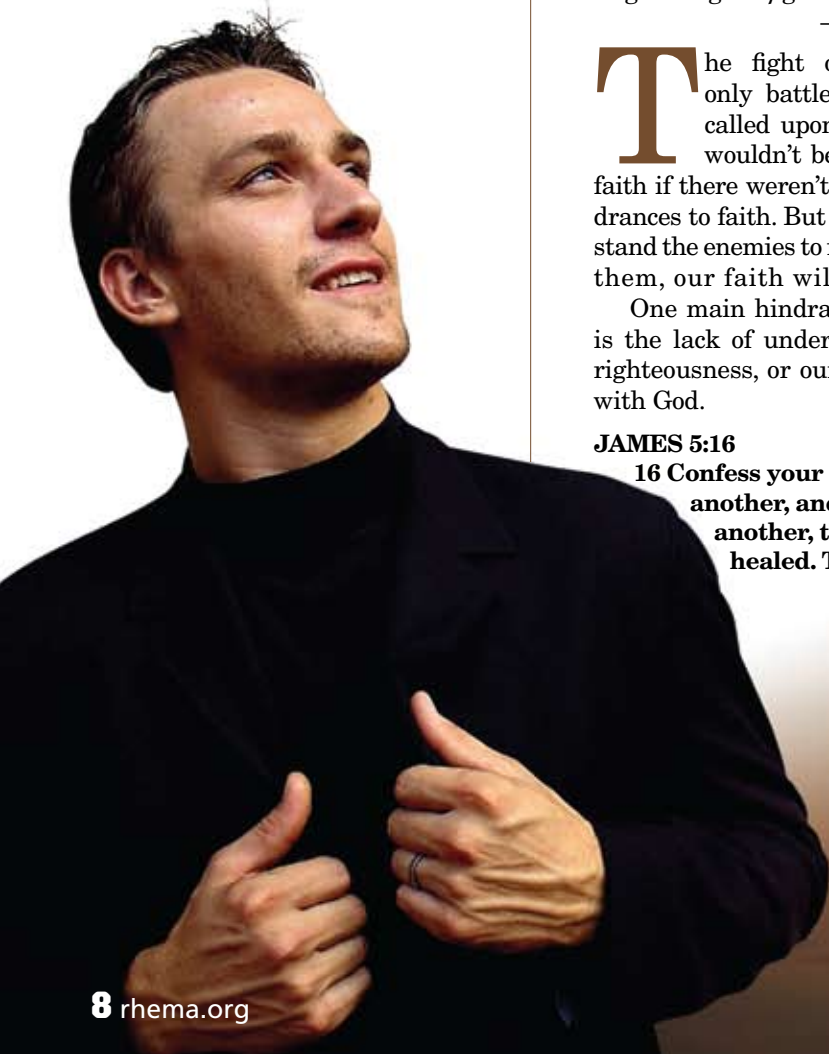
Reigning in Life With Christ

Romans 5:17 says, "*For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness SHALL REIGN IN LIFE by one, Jesus Christ.*"

This verse lets us know that we are to reign in life *now*—not just when we get to Heaven. *The Amplified Bible* says that we shall "*. . . reign as kings in life through the one Man Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).*" We don't have many kings today, and the kings who do remain don't have much authority or ruling power. However, in the day in which Paul wrote this verse, a king's word was the final authority in his domain.

We need to grasp this truth: The Word of God says we are to reign as kings in this life through the authority of Jesus Christ. And it's in this life that we run up against Satan on every side. But because of our righteousness, we can stand in the presence of Satan without fear. And because of our righteousness, Satan can no longer condemn us.

When you know the truth of righteousness, you can stand in the presence of Satan with the authority of Jesus Christ. That authority gives you dominion over Satan and over every evil work he may try to bring against you.



gift of righteousness. I can see that we've been made righteous new creatures, but what about those sins and wrongdoings I've committed since I've become a Christian?"

Satan used this very thing to defeat me after I learned these facts about righteousness. He said, "Since you've been saved, you've sinned. Remember when you got angry and lost your temper?" (He knew he could no longer dispute my righteousness, because the Word is true and I'd discovered the truth.)

A minister doesn't have any better standing with God than you do.

I felt so guilty that I'd missed it. But I began to look at the Word again, and I found this verse in First John:

1 JOHN 1:9
9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

John wasn't writing to *sinners* here. He was writing to Christians, because He called them "my little children."

1 JOHN 2:1-2
1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. . . .

When a man sins, he is under condemnation and he loses his *sense* of righteousness. But when he confesses, "I've sinned and I failed. Please forgive me, in Jesus' Name," God does two things. According to First John 1:9, God *forgives AND cleanses* us from our sins. If God just forgave us our sin, it wouldn't help us much. We would still be under the condemnation of sin. But God actually *CLEANSSES us from all sin*.

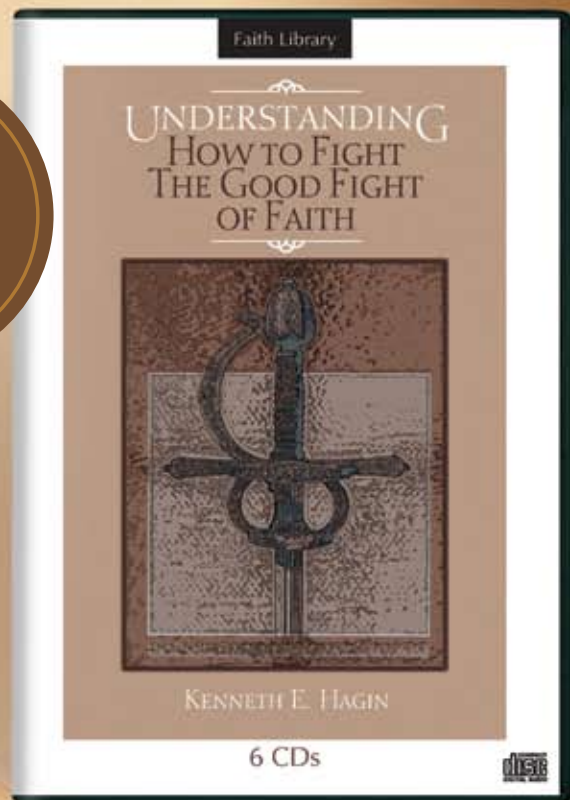
What does God cleanse us from? *All unrighteousness!* Not *part* of our unrighteousness, but *all* of it.

After I saw this in the Word, I came back to the devil with that news and put him on the run. Up until then the devil had *me* on the run. Now *he's* the one who turns and runs. He found out that I know what the Word of God says about my righteousness in God through Christ!♥

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In this powerful 6-CD series, Kenneth E. Hagin presents clear, biblical truths on your rights and privileges in Christ. Learn how to receive what already belongs to you. This CD series will establish you in your faith, clear away misconceptions about your right standing with God, and teach you about the privileges you possess as a joint-heir with Christ! If you struggle with feeling defeated by life and all its problems, you need to understand how to fight the good fight of faith!

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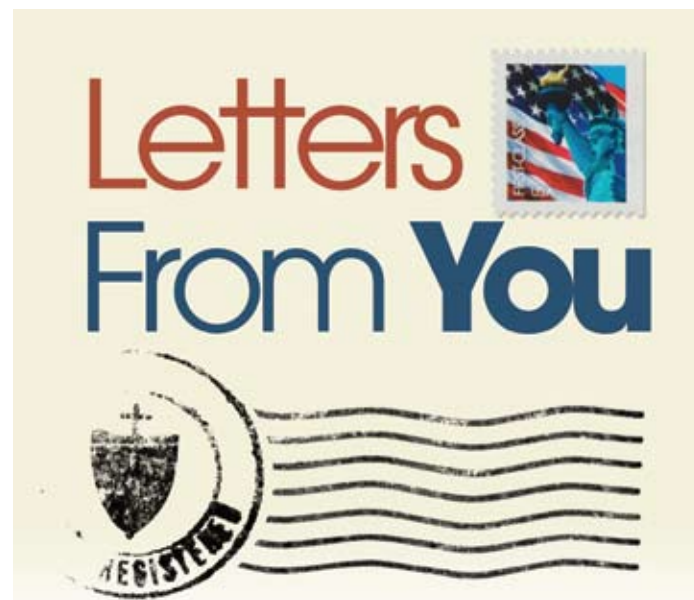
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[Editor's note: The following are letters we received from readers like you. We want to share them to encourage you. They have been edited for content and clarity. Please contact us and share your story if you have been blessed by this ministry in any way.]

✚ Spiritually Set Free

I am currently incarcerated, but God has been so good to me. I want to thank RHEMA because since I have been here, I have encountered many RHEMA graduates who work here as officers. They have been great to me and my fellow inmates. They are Spirit-filled encouragers. I love the books by Kenneth W. Hagin and Kenneth E. Hagin. I also listen to the radio broadcast each night. You have helped me get beyond these walls and into the Spirit of God. I am now ready to serve God in every area of my life. I would like to thank you for all of your support and spiritual guidance. I might be in jail physically, but spiritually I am set free!

—M.H.
Tulsa, Oklahoma

✚ Instant Healings

I want to let you know what a blessing this ministry has been to my life. Because of your books on healing and deliverance I was healed *instantly* of Ménière's Disease (a disorder of the inner ear that can affect hearing and balance). My husband was *instantly* healed of Buerger's Disease (a rare blood disease). When our son was 10 years old and facing open heart surgery, he, too, was healed *instantly*. He is now 38 years old and doing very well. He never had the surgery. At the age of 16, our other son was

scheduled for surgery for a deviated septum. He received healing *instantly*. He is now 44 years old and has never had the surgery. We want you to know how blessed we are because of your ministry. May God richly bless you and your work.

—S.L.
Harrisburg, Virginia

✚ Son's Eyesight Restored

Thank you for making *The Name of Jesus* book available again. My son received his eyesight after I bought this book more than 17 years ago. Besides the Bible, it is the best book I have ever read. I've learned so much from Kenneth Hagin Ministries and this book. Thank you!

—S.M.
Pinebluff, North Carolina

✚ Five-Year-Old Grandson Saved

My five-year-old grandson, Jake, asked Jesus to come live in his heart. My daughter called and told me she was listening to Kenneth E. Hagin's *Knowing God as Your Father* CDs on the way to work, and Brother Hagin said something about Jesus dying. Jake asked why Jesus had to die. She explained it to him and asked if he wanted to ask Jesus to live in his heart. He said yes, so she led him in a prayer. At the end of the prayer Jake said, "I will love Him and I'm going to tell Him I can read." I had asked the Lord just a few days before to bring Jake's salvation about.

After that experience, Jake asked to listen to Brother Hagin when he got in the car to go to day care. One night he asked his mom to play it for him when he was getting ready to go to sleep. Now he is very hungry to learn the things of God and has me read to him about Jesus, telling the story over and over again. God bless you!

—E.E.
Dallas, Texas

✚ Life Changed by RHEMA Correspondence Bible School

I am currently enrolled in RHEMA Correspondence Bible School. My pastor graduated from RHEMA Bible Training Center and suggested the correspondence school. Thank you ever so much for your teaching. Next to my family, your school has been the best part of my life. I finally have my life together, and I no longer worry about anything. My prayers are with you all.

—R.K.
Hot Springs, California

✚ Free From Cancer!

Thanks to all of you for praying for my husband. The manifestation of healing surely took place in his body. All of his tests came back cancer-free thanks to our wonderful Healer, the Lord Jesus! When my husband was in the hospital, I read to him *Biblical Ways to Receive Healing*. You can't imagine how it prepared us for his healing. God bless all of you for your work for the Lord. Words don't seem to be enough thanks. I wish I knew how to say more. We will continue to testify of our wonderful Lord Jesus and pray it will give hope to those who were given no hope, as we were.

—M.M.
Fairbanks, Alaska

✚ People Being Born Again

My life has been very blessed because of Kenneth Hagin Ministries. People are hearing the Gospel and being born again. I thank God for the prayer CDs that have so blessed my ministry.

—M.B.
Summerville, South Carolina

✚ No Back Surgery Needed

My wife was healed from back problems. Doctors had told her that she would be paralyzed if she didn't have surgery. Instead, God healed her through a Kenneth Hagin Ministries' prayer cloth and prayer!

—G.C.
Rochester, Texas

✚ Blessed by *The Word of Faith*

I found a copy of *The Word of Faith* magazine on the break room table at work. I picked it up and started reading the articles and was so blessed by the stories. I sent a copy to each of the board members at my church so we can make decisions based on faith and trust in God instead of numbers in our checking account. After reading the whole magazine, I gave it to a friend of mine who has been going through tough times, and she said it is awesome. Thank you for a great magazine!

—C.F.
Canton, Ohio

✚ Soldier Receives Healing Touch

Several weeks ago I requested prayer for a soldier who was in Brook Army Hospital in San Antonio. He had sustained third-degree burns on his entire body as the result of an accident in Afghanistan. A few days after my

prayer request, he was miraculously touched while in the Intensive Care Unit. He is able to walk, talk, and eat anything he wants. He is praising God for God's healing touch!

Also, my sister is doing much better and now knows that Jesus died for her sins and that she is forgiven. Amen! I appreciate *The Word of Faith* and books that help us exercise faith and believe in a True and Living Lord.

—M.M.
Shawnee, Oklahoma

✚ Watching *RHEMA Praise* Through an Air Vent

You might not believe this, but I watch your TV program (*RHEMA Praise*) through an air vent to my neighbor's prison cell so I won't miss the program. I don't have a television in my cell, so my neighbor helps me. You make it so enjoyable to know the Truth. You are in my heart, and I love that Christ is in you. You are incredible.

—M.S.
Florence, Arizona

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RHEMA Students on the MISSION FIELD

Jesus said in Mark 16:15, “Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation” (NIV). The students, alumni, and staff of RHEMA Bible Training Center are taking Jesus’ mandate in this verse seriously.

Because Christianity is all about reaching the world, RHEMA students are given many opportunities to take the lessons they’re learning to people beyond the classroom. Every year, a variety of missions trips are offered to the RBTC student body. People are saved. Lives are changed. The sick are healed. And RHEMA students are a part of it all.

This month, student missions trips are planned to Peru, Zambia, and a Navajo reservation in Arizona. Missions trips are scheduled during the week of spring break to allow students to travel without missing classes. Each trip is different. Some are focused on preaching the Gospel in crusades. Others are devoted to ministering to youth and children. Still others revolve around helping build facilities at RHEMA Bible Training Centers around the world.

As the early Church disciples went out and preached, “. . . the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it” (Mark 16:20 NIV). The same can be said of those who participate in RBTC missions trips. As they go, the Lord works with them and confirms His Word with signs following.

In March 2008, a RHEMA team traveled to Mexico City to work with Tim and Rhonda Rogers, the directors of RBTC

Mexico and pastors of RHEMA Bible Church Mexico. During the week, the 28-member team traveled to small villages and towns near Mexico City, ministered to more than 1,600 people, and saw more than 100 people accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior. The students held open-air crusades, ministered on the streets, taught in local churches, led worship, ministered to a youth group, and conducted water baptisms.

The team saw many healings as they ministered. One elderly man attended an evening service in the town of Tulcingo. He had problems with his eyes, but after members of the RHEMA team prayed for him, he was able to see clearly.

The missions team also shared the love of God through practical ministry—washing and cutting hair, and helping with a dental station. “The trip was unique in that the ministry met both the practical and spiritual needs of the people in Mexico,” said team leader Joe Duinck, head of the RHEMA School of World Missions. “Sharing the love of God by washing and cutting hair was something new

for a RHEMA trip. Also, the dental clinic demonstrated love and provided care to a real area of need in the people’s lives.

“The team members really took advantage of the opportunity to be a blessing,” Duinck said. “They were eager to help and ready to do whatever it took to make the trip fruitful. From learning Spanish worship music to sharing testimonies, they were a great representation of what RHEMA is all about. Faith and love weren’t just some things learned to pass a test. They were put into practice ministering as the Body of Christ.”



Missions outreaches can change nations, but they also change the ministers-in-training who participate in them. RBTC missions trips allow students the priceless experience of ministering in another country and the awesome privilege of seeing lives changed by the power of God.

Eric Giesow, a second-year RBTC student, was a member of the team that ministered in Mexico last year. It was his third missions trip.



“It was an amazing experience,” Eric said. “It really opened my eyes.

It was cool to see that faith and the message we preach is universal. It works everywhere. It was awesome to use the stuff that we’ve been learning in the classroom out on the mission field in the practical sense. The people were so receptive and open to the Word of God and to the healing power of God. Going on a missions trip is a test and can be a stretch, but it builds character, and God

can really move through you as you’re obedient to go on the trips He calls you to go on.”

For Katy Westberg, a third-year RBTC student, the missions trip to Mexico intensified her passion for ministry.

**People are saved.
Lives are changed.
The sick are healed.
And RHEMA
students are a part
of it all.**

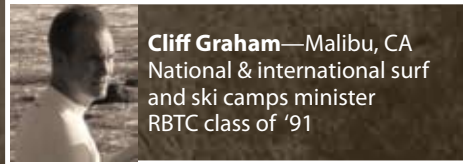
“For me, it was a good chance to get out there and actually do what we’ve been taught at school and in church,” Katy explained. “It forced me to go out into the world and minister to people. It opened my eyes to see that there are a lot of things that I’ve learned from RHEMA that so many people don’t know yet. It stirred me to become more involved in ministry.”



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“When I attended *RHEMA College Weekend*, I did not plan to attend RBTC. I came with a friend who was planning to apply. I was actually planning to attend graduate school. The classes we attended that weekend were so good, though, that they made me want to apply. I was led to attend RBTC and my first year has been great!”

—P.G.

“I was so thankful for *RHEMA College Weekend*, and I recommend it to everyone who is thinking about attending RHEMA. While attending classes during the weekend the Lord confirmed that I was to be here. And then I received information to help me transition from the state I was living in to Oklahoma. It was so helpful! Every question I had was answered. In addition, I met my roommate and made new friends. It was awesome!”

—E.M.

HOTEL Information

Call the listed hotels directly to reserve your room. To receive the discounted prices, ask for the “RHEMA rate.” These rates do not reflect state and city taxes. Transportation for *RHEMA College Weekend* will be provided to and from the listed hotels *only*.

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Continental Breakfast

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Continental Breakfast

Candlewood Suites

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Best Western Kenosha Inn

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Renaissance Hotel

(918) 307-2600 \$119

Staybridge Suites

(918) 461-2100 \$99.99–\$119.99
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Don't Worry— Put on the Garment of Praise!



LYNETTE HAGIN

You don't have to look very far to know that we are living in difficult times. Nowadays, the nightly news makes it easy to be tempted to worry and forget about the promises of God. But in times like these, it is important for you keep your mind stayed on the Lord.

I want to tell you about a man named Ralph. Poor Ralph was head over heels in trouble. But he was not doing much to help himself. So a friend took Ralph aside to talk to him.

"Ralph, you have two hands," the friend said. "Why don't you do something with them?"

"Well, I am," Ralph promptly replied. "I'm wringing both of them!"

Maybe you feel like Ralph. You might be in a situation where you are making faith confessions such as, "My God shall supply all my needs in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:19). Or, "I can do all things through Christ Who strengthens me" (Phil. 4:13). But although you are standing on the Word, you are also wringing your hands!

Many Christians would never admit to worrying. Instead, they would probably say they are "concerned." But whether you call it worry or concern, it's really the same thing.

We are all confronted with situations that try to get the best of us. Unfortunately, stress and worry have become a way of life for many—even for Christians.

The enemy would like us to get so caught up in the cares of life that we stop concentrating on the Father's business.

If you allow worry to consume your thoughts instead of keeping your mind stayed on the Lord, you can open yourself up to many health-related problems. High blood pressure, ulcers, and depression are only a few illnesses that can be caused by stress.

Someone once said that worry is the interest you pay on troubles that seldom come. It's also been said, "Worry is like a rocking chair—it gives you something to do but it doesn't get you anywhere."

I don't want to clutter my mind with things that I can't do anything about.



I don't know about you, but I don't want to waste my time doing something that avails nothing. I want to go somewhere, not sit still worrying! And I don't want to clutter my mind with things that I can't do anything about. I once heard someone say, "Worry is wasting today's time to clutter up tomorrow's opportunities with yesterday's troubles."

In life's journey, worry is one of the most difficult pieces of baggage to shed. It can be a tough habit to break. Usually, when you allow yourself to worry, the devil will bring all kinds of imaginations to you. At times, it can even be hard to quiet your mind.

You may have to force your mind to focus on the things of the Lord. But you are promised peace when you keep your mind on Jesus. Isaiah 26:3 says, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."

The Apostle Paul made this scripture a part of his life. It's evident that he had many opportunities to worry. But instead, he chose to keep his mind stayed on the Lord—to put on the garment of praise and magnify God no matter what he experienced.

Take a look at what Paul wrote when he was chained and in prison.

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7 (NIV)

4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

When he wrote this, Paul was facing execution and had every reason to be anxious. Yet, he refused to worry. His strategy for dealing with stress and anxiety was to rejoice in the Lord.

One time my husband was given a replica of a fish that was mounted on a placard. The fish was activated by motion. And every time you walked by it, the fish would sing the famous song, "Don't Worry, Be Happy."

"Don't Worry, Be Happy" is a motto we believers need to live by. Instead of allowing a spirit of heaviness to grip our hearts, we must learn to rejoice in the Lord. And the Lord will provide for us a garment of praise instead of the spirit of heaviness (Isa. 61:3). When we rejoice in the Lord, we will have strength, peace, and happiness—no matter what the situation looks like. We don't have to worry about anything. We only need to keep our eyes fixed on the Lord.



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Whenever you're in a tough spot, it's important to follow Paul's example and rejoice in the Lord. I understand that it may not be as easy as it sounds. When the bills are piling up or your body is wracked with pain, it's natural to lean towards worry. Putting on the garment of praise and rejoicing in the Lord may not feel like the *easiest* thing to do, but it is definitely the *best* thing you can do in hard times.

King David is another example of someone who could have given in to worry but chose to praise the Lord instead.

PSALM 13:4-6 (NIV)

4 My enemy will say, "I have overcome him," and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

5 But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation.

6 I will sing to the Lord, for he has been good to me.

PSALM 5:11-12 (NIV)

11 But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy.

Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you.

12 For surely, O Lord, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield.

Instead of worrying, follow King David's advice and begin to sing. Why? Because God has been good to you. He is the One Who can take care of *any* situation in your life, and praising Him gives Him access to work in your life.

You see, thanksgiving and praise are kingdom keys that open the doors to the courts of Almighty God (Ps. 100:4). It's easy to get caught up in your daily routine and neglect spending time with the Lord. But when that happens, the cares of life *will* begin to overtake you.

Whenever you encounter a tough spot in life, steal away and spend time with the Lord. Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28). It's in the Presence of the Lord that you can cast off a spirit of heaviness and replace it with the garment of praise. God's Presence is where you find fullness of joy (Ps. 16:11).

Your life doesn't have to be consumed with worry. You can confidently face the future and overcome any hardship. When worry tries to wrap itself around you, throw it off like a tattered garment. Put on the garment of praise and watch the Lord miraculously turn your situation around. ♥

Entering God's Presence Through Thanksgiving & Praise

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

—Psalm 100:4

In my home, I purposely create an atmosphere that enables me to enter into God's Presence. I do this by constantly playing praise and worship CDs. I even have music playing when I'm not home.

I always surround myself with music. If I'm in a car, praise music is playing. If I'm traveling, I bring a CD player with me and play worship music in the hotel room. You see, when you are in church, the first order of the service is praise and worship. This is done to help people shut their minds off and open their spirits to God's Presence.

According to Scripture, praise is a doorway into God's Presence. We are to enter God's courts—His Presence—with thanksgiving and praise. And when we are in the Presence of God, we can fellowship with Him, learn of Him, and seek His will in whatever situations we might be facing.



'I Was Nearly Gone'

"I was confessing that I had been healed by the stripes of Jesus, but there was a great deal of stress and borderline fear," said Carl McReynolds after being diagnosed with congestive heart failure (a condition in which the heart can't pump enough blood to the body's other organs). "When you're 75 years old and you've been born again, fear of death isn't much of an issue. More than anything else, I was concerned with being incapacitated and having to have someone care for me."

At age 74, Carl was the picture of health. He was bench pressing 300 pounds and had recently volunteered to help fight wildfires that were ravaging Oklahoma. Shortly after those fires, he mowed some farm land for a friend and inhaled a lot of soot and dust remaining from the fires.

Everything seemed fine until one evening when Carl decided to go fishing in his little bass boat. When he backed his boat into the lake, he got stuck. While he was trying to free himself, he started hyperventilating; and within a week, Carl could barely walk any distance without losing his breath.

"I went to the hospital to get checked out and the doctors ended up admit-

ting me," Carl said. "They diagnosed me with congestive heart failure which is 'incurable.' They took a picture of my lungs, and the shadow of my heart covered the bottom of both of my lungs. I was a mess and nearly gone."



Carl McReynolds

Having followed Kenneth Hagin Ministries for more than 30 years, Carl decided he needed to go to Healing School on the RHEMA campus in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.

"I began going to Healing School," Carl said. "I didn't hear anything taught that I hadn't heard before because I had been listening to Brother Hagin's teachings for more than 30 years.

But suddenly the teachings I was hearing at Healing School meant more to me because my life was in danger. Throughout my life, I've prayed for a lot of people and seen a lot of people healed, but in the last year and a half, I have gained a totally new relationship with God."

After his diagnosis, Carl attended Healing School faithfully five days a week and has now been attending as much as possible for the past year and a half. At some point, a change took place in his body, but he wasn't aware of it until he went to the doctor for an unrelated issue.

"The people at Healing School were concentrating on praying over my congestive heart failure," Carl explained. "The next time I had an X-ray, the doctors couldn't find a thing wrong with my heart, and I have been rejoicing ever since! My blood pressure is less than 120/80 on a continual basis. I walk three miles a day without discomfort and without breathing hard. Before I was healed I couldn't walk from the living room to the bedroom without sitting down."

As a minister who has taught the Word of God for many years, Carl knows the truth about God's Word on healing. But attending Healing School and being around the "healing technicians" was just what the Doctor ordered.

"The people who are in Healing School are the most dedicated, loving bunch of people I've ever met in my entire life," Carl said. "They are all outstanding human beings, every single one of them. The love that they demonstrate is absolutely scriptural. It's the most wonderful thing I've ever come across in my life. If you're sick, you need to go lock yourself away at Healing School and stay there until you see the results you need!"

Are you in need of healing or do you know someone who is?

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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)



I love springtime. It reminds me of my father. Although we never lived on a farm, he always enjoyed planting a garden in our backyard. He would plant the vegetables and fruits that our family enjoyed the most. Tomatoes were one of his favorites. However, he also planted other fruits and vegetables. I remember the year that we had the sweetest onions I had ever

tasted. Although he planted onions in future years, none quite compared with those of that year. Often, he would also plant cantaloupe and watermelon. He would save the seed from the best of those and plant them the next year.

As I was reminiscing about planting a natural garden, I began to ponder a greater question—*What kind of seeds are we planting in the garden of our lives?* One of the scripture passages that my parents consistently brought to my attention was Galatians 6:7-8 (NKJV): *"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life."*

I like *The Message* translation of this scripture, which says, *"Don't be misled: No one makes a fool of God. What a person plants, he will harvest. The person who plants selfishness, ignoring the needs of others—ignoring God—harvests a crop of weeds. All he'll have to show for his life is weeds! But the one who plants in response to God, letting God's Spirit do the growth work in him, harvests a crop of real life, eternal life."*

My parents quoted these verses to me many times. When I wanted to act carnally, this passage reminded me to act God's way. This scripture planted a godly fear in my heart—a desire to plant good seeds in my life. I have always been a long-term planner, even as a child. Therefore, I realized early that if I wanted good things coming my way as an adult, I had better start planting good seeds right then.

What attributes should we plant in our garden? Allow me to name a few that I have tried to plant in the garden of

my life. One of the greatest seeds that we need to plant is not judging others. Jesus clearly revealed this principle in Matthew 7:1-3 (NKJV): *"Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye?"*

One principle I have always lived by is, "Unless you have walked in exactly the same shoes as another person, don't judge the decisions that person has made." Occasionally someone says to me concerning someone else's children, "If those were my children, I would do such-and-such." I always reply, "You don't know what you would do unless you encountered that same situation." So I encourage you not to judge others.

Another seed that I have planted is to restore others. The first verse of Galatians chapter 6 (NKJV) says, *"Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted."*

Once again, I like how *The Message* translates this verse: *"Live creatively, friends. If someone falls into sin, forgivingly restore him, saving your critical comments for yourself. You might be needing forgiveness before the day's out . . ."* We need to plant seeds of mercy and restoration toward others to reap the same ourselves.

Another seed we need to plant is forgiveness. For me, this was a hard one. When someone treated me unkindly, I would say the words "I forgive," but I would not forget the wrong that had been done. When I received the revelation that true forgiveness also forgets the wrong, I had to make a heart adjustment. It meant digging up those seeds of hurt and bitterness and replacing them with love and forgiveness.

These are just a few of the seeds that we must plant in the garden of our lives. As we approach springtime, many of us are doing spring cleaning. We are getting rid of the clutter in our homes. I challenge you to do the same in your life. Take an inventory of the seeds that you have been planting. Replace destructive seeds with constructive seeds, and you'll see a difference in your life and in the lives of those around you.

Lynette



Check Your Spiritual

Vision

Look closely at the eye chart above and you will discover hidden words from Ephesians 1:18 contained in it. All words go horizontally but may be broken up between lines. Use the *King James Version* of the Bible if you need help.

Spiritual Health goes TO THE BONE!

Your spiritual health is so important that it can even affect your bones! Draw a line between the spiritual conditions in the left column and the way it affects your bones in the right column. If you need help, the answers can be found in Proverbs 3:7-8; 14:30; 16:24; and 17:22 (New King James Version).

envy	strong bones
pleasant words	healthy bones
broken spirit	dry bones
fear of the Lord	rotten bones

IT'S TIME FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL checkup

In the same way that you get regular physical checkups by your doctor, you also need to be getting regular SPIRITUAL checkups. See how healthy your SPIRIT is by checking the box that best fits your spiritual condition.

- SPIRITUAL HEIGHT:**
 - GROWING in grace—2 Peter 3:18 (10 points)
 - SHRINKING back—Heb. 10:38-39 (0 points)
- SPIRITUAL WEIGHT:**
 - LIGHT burdens—Matt. 11:30 (10 points)
 - HEAVY laden—Matt. 11:28 (0 points)
- SPIRITUAL TEMPERATURE:**
 - HOT—Rev. 3:15 (10 points)
 - COLD—Rev. 3:15 (5 points)
 - LUKEWARM—Rev. 3:16 (0 points)
- SPIRITUAL REFLEXES:**
 - QUICK to hear—James 1:19 (10 points)
 - SLOW of heart to believe—Luke 24:25 (0 points)
- SPIRITUAL HEARING:**
 - Can HEAR the Lord's voice speaking—John 10:27 (10 points)
 - DULL of hearing—Heb. 5:11 (0 points)
- SPIRITUAL EYESIGHT:**
 - EYES that are open—Eph. 1:18 (10 points)
 - EYES that cannot see—Acts 28:27 (0 points)

SPIRITUAL DIAGNOSIS:

If you scored between 0-20 points on this Spiritual Checkup, then you need to take the following prescription: **Proverbs 4:20-22 (NASB)—"My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your sight; Keep them in the midst of your heart: For they are life to those who find them And HEALTH [medicine] to all their body."**

ANSWERS:

Check Your Spiritual Vision—ANSWERS: All of the bold words in the following verses are contained in the chart. The EYES of your UNDERSTANDING are opened; that you may know what is the HOPE of this CALLING, and what the RICHES of the GLORY of this INHERITANCE in the SAINTS.

Spiritual Health Goes to the Bone—ANSWERS: envy—rotten bones; Pleasant words—healthy bones; Fear of the Lord—strong bones; Broken spirit—dry bones; Fear the Lord—strong bones; Fear the Lord and depart from evil, it will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones.

Jokes & Riddles

If you don't feel well, what do you probably have?
A pair of gloves on your hands.

What do you have if your head is hot, your foot is cold, and you see spots in front of your eyes?
You probably have a polka-dotted sock over your head.

Why did the man tiptoe past the medicine cabinet?
He didn't want to wake up the sleeping pills.

DOCTOR, DOCTOR!

Doctor, Doctor! My son has swallowed my pen. What should I do?
Use a pencil until I get there.

Doctor, Doctor! I think I'm a bell.
Take two of these pills and if they don't help, give me a ring!

Doctor, Doctor! You have to help me out!
Certainly! Which way did you come in?

Doctor, Doctor! My little boy has just swallowed a roll of film.
Well, let's just wait and see if anything develops!



Kenneth Hagin Ministries

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EVANGELISTIC ASSOC.

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you have to eat right!



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