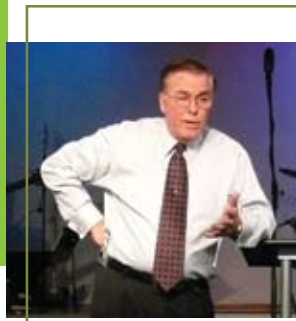


Getting Acquainted With God



Heart to Heart

With Kenneth W. Hagin

As I have traveled across the country preaching the Gospel, I've found that there is a common cry on the hearts of many Christians, and it is a cry for a mighty move of God. But if we are to have a supernatural move of God, we first must get acquainted with God. We must know and understand Who He is.

Job 22:21 in *The Amplified Bible* says, "Acquaint now yourself with Him [agree with God and show yourself to be conformed to His will] and be at peace; by that [you shall prosper and great] good shall come to you."

In getting better acquainted with God, we must realize first that God is a spirit. We hear this; we tritely talk about it; and we mentally agree with it sometimes. But we need to realize that God, Who is a spirit, is omnipresent: He is present everywhere all of the time, existing everywhere simultaneously.

It is beyond our human understanding to comprehend a Being Who is present everywhere and has the same power everywhere. Some will respond, "I never thought of God in that magnitude before. I thought of Him as a King on a throne."

Suddenly you begin to realize that this omnipresent Spirit of God Who is the same all over the world is also communing with you and me on a one-to-one basis. We think about the awesomeness of God. We think about the power of God. We think about how big God is. Yes, God is all of that, but we also must realize that God is as personal with us as He is with every other one of His children. That is a tremendous thought!

My two children must be physically near me, if they are going to be in my presence. On the other hand, all of God's children can be in His Presence all the time everywhere they are. That is how big God is.

We need to get acquainted with God on those terms—in the intimacy of a Father-child relationship—not just in the awesome fact of His greatness.

We also must understand that God is the Creator. He is the I AM. He is, was, and forever will be the same. It is written in Malachi 3:6, "I am the Lord, I change not."

If He is the Lord and He changes not, then why are we, His children, getting upset over difficult circumstances?

In studying the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible, I have learned that God raised up a people long ago—physical sons of Abraham by natural descent. Then I found from studying Galatians chapter 3 that you and I have become the spiritual sons of Abraham through Christ and thus the children of God. We've been adopted into God's family as joint-heirs with Jesus, and as such we have every right and privilege that Abraham's blood descendants had.

I also read how God took care of His children. When they had nothing to eat, He gave them food to eat. He took care of their clothing. He took care of everything they needed. God is still the same today! He is the same God Who told Moses, "Tell Pharaoh that I AM sent you."

There aren't enough demons in hell, there is no sickness, there is no economic condition that can keep the children of God down when they know Who their Heavenly Father is—when they are acquainted with God. There is no way they can be defeated. They are successes and conquerors in Christ Jesus. That is what Paul said, writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

That is what happens when you get acquainted with God; when you know He is not just a Being sitting on a throne somewhere "out there" in the heavens. So take some time from your busy schedule to get alone and get acquainted with God—your Heavenly Father—on a more intimate basis.

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In this issue...

Articles



Because God Cares for Me, I Am Worry-Free!

Kenneth W. Hagin

Learn how to cast your cares on the Lord and live in the victorious arena of a worry-free life.



Approaching Your Father

Kenneth E. Hagin

Discover how your prayer life can become a continual conversation with your Heavenly Father.



Upcoming Crusades

Ken and Lynette Hagin travel extensively throughout the year sharing the message of faith and healing. Check this itinerary, mark your calendar, and come expecting a move of the Holy Spirit with healings and miracles.



Determined to Conquer, Destined to Win!

A Call to Arms® 2007

Men have a right to live in victory because of what Jesus Christ did for them at Calvary. During *A Call to Arms 2007*, Kenneth W. Hagin and guest speakers exhorted men to believe God, persevere, and walk out the victory Jesus bought for them.

Features

20 Family Builders

If you desire to strengthen your family and help each member grow in their walk with God, this article is for you! Discover ways to minister to your spouse, teenagers, and young children. This month's topic: God's motive for sanctification is love.

22 Seed Thoughts

With times as perilous as they are, it is good to know that all Christians can trust God to protect them. This month, Lynette Hagin shares thoughts about His great promises found in Psalm 91.

23 F.A.I.T.H. Academy Kids' Page

(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!

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Because God Cares for Me, I Am Worry-Free!

KENNETH W. HAGIN



Have you ever heard someone say, ‘No one cares about me’? Or maybe you have felt at times that no one really cared about you or what you were going through. You might be feeling that way right now, but I tell you, there is Someone Who cares infinitely more than you can realize or understand. God cares about you!

We are instructed in First Peter 5:7 to cast all our care upon the Lord, for He cares for us. The *New International Version* translation of this verse tells us to cast our “anxiety” on the Lord.

Care and anxiety carry with them the connotation of *fear*, *worry*, or *concern*. But you can cast your cares, anxieties, fears, worries, and concerns over on God—because He cares for you! Then you can get up and move on with God, free of those cares, and make something out of your life, both spiritually and naturally speaking.

What does it mean to cast your cares over on the Lord? To “cast” means to *throw off*, *throw aside*, or *throw away*. We are not to go through life burdened down with cares. We can throw off and cast aside all of our cares, for God cares for us!

Moffatt’s translation of First Peter 5:7 says, “*Let all your anxieties fall upon him . . .*”

The Williams translation says, “*Cast every worry you have upon Him . . .*”

The Amplified version says, “*Casting the whole of your care [all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all] on Him . . .*”

Many people take a stab at casting their cares on the Lord. They will give it a try, but the Bible doesn’t say to give it a try. The Bible says we’re *to do it*—we’re to cast our cares *once and for all* on the Lord.

In my own life and ministry, I have to put First Peter 5:7 into practice on a regular basis. Being the president of Kenneth Hagin Ministries is an awesome responsibility in itself. But in addition to that, I also pastor a local church of 8,000 members.

I also have the responsibility of helping run RHEMA Bible Training Center, where I teach several classes. Besides that, we have 13 affiliate training centers internationally. We also print about five



million books and distribute thousands of teaching CDs and DVDs each year.

That's only a *part* of what this ministry does. In addition, it takes something called *money* to keep everything going!

There are times I begin to feel the care, the load, and the pressure of the everyday operation of the ministry. I feel the weight of the responsibility that I have to make sure everything runs smoothly and in order.

But when I'm tempted to buckle under the load, I say, "No! This is *God's* ministry. If He can't make it go, I sure can't! I'm going to do everything I know to do and everything I can with the knowledge and ability I have. But I am not going to worry!"

That's what you need to do with your own life. You need to make up your mind that you're not going to worry, because God cares for you!

Now look particularly at the last part of First Peter 5:7: ". . . *he careth for you.*"

The *Twentieth Century New Testament* translation says, ". . . *he makes you his care.*" That means when you cast your cares over on God, He makes you His number-one priority!

We need to understand that God is omnipresent. In other words, He is present in all places at all times. And God is personally concerned about and will be personally involved in the life of everyone who goes to Him and gives Him his or her cares and burdens.

Now God will not come into your life and override your will. He will not come into your life and make you do something you don't want to do. He won't force you to give Him your worry. He won't forcibly remove your cares. You have to take the first step by going to Him with your cares.

Why do we have to take the first step? Because, really, God already took the first step when He gave us His Son Jesus! Then He told us in His Word what belongs to us in Christ. Now it's up to us to do something about it. He cares!

Do you believe that God really cares about you? He cared enough about all of us to send us the Savior, Jesus Christ.

JOHN 3:16

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

God cared enough for mankind to redeem each and every one of us. Think about it for a moment. Do you realize that when man messed up and sinned in the Garden of Eden, God could have said, "All right, you've separated yourself from Me. You've done your own thing, and you've messed up. Now you stay where you are, eternally separated from Me. I'm going to create some new people to glorify Me."

God is personally concerned about and will be personally involved in the life of everyone who goes to Him and gives Him his or her cares and burdens.

God could have done that! But He didn't. Why? Because He cares for us!

Someone might say, "I'm not sure if God could have abandoned man or not."

To respond to that statement, all you have to do is read the account in the Old Testament where God delivered the children of Israel out of Egypt to take them to the Promised Land. The children of Israel kept messing up until, finally, God told Moses, in effect, "I'm going to do away with this bunch. I'm tired of putting up with them" (Num. 14:11–12). But Moses talked God out of destroying the people (vv. 13–20).

You see, God didn't abandon Adam and Eve in the Garden, because He cared about them! Then He cared enough about all of us to send Jesus to redeem mankind. And then after God sent His Son, He still cared enough about us to send us the Holy Spirit.

ACTS 2:4

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak

with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

God sent us the Holy Spirit to help us overcome all of our tests, trials, and tribulations. The Holy Spirit is here to deliver us and teach us. We have the power of the Spirit available to us because God cares!

God cares about us and will sustain us by His power in the midst of any situation or circumstance we may face in life.

PSALM 55:22

22 Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

Not only did God care enough about us to provide us with salvation, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and healing for our bodies, He cares enough about us to meet our personal needs.

PHILIPPIANS 4:19

19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Patience and perseverance are keys to receiving the blessings of God. Have you ever started out obeying God, but then your situation didn't look like it was improving? You obeyed, but it didn't look like you were making any gain or headway.

In the natural, when some people try to lose weight, at first it can look as if nothing is happening even though they are eating properly and exercising. But if these people will keep doing what they've been doing, after a few months, they will notice a difference. They may not see the desired results all at once, but if they keep up their good eating habits and their exercise program over a period

of time, they will see more and more results.

That's the way it is with believing God. You may not see an instant change in your circumstances, but if you will keep doing God's Word, it will pay off! You will see results!

Faith has a part to play in casting our cares on the Lord. It takes faith

Your spiritual and natural success in life depend on how much you trust the Lord and whether you cast your cares on Him. Your success depends on your obedience to God and His Word.

I challenge you to cast your cares on the Lord right now. I challenge you to move into new arenas of victorious living with God by living a

Your spiritual and natural success in life depend on how much you trust the Lord and whether you cast your cares on Him.

to let go of our problems and give them to God, believing He will take care of them. Then after we give our problems to God, we are to go on our way, carefree and worry-free.

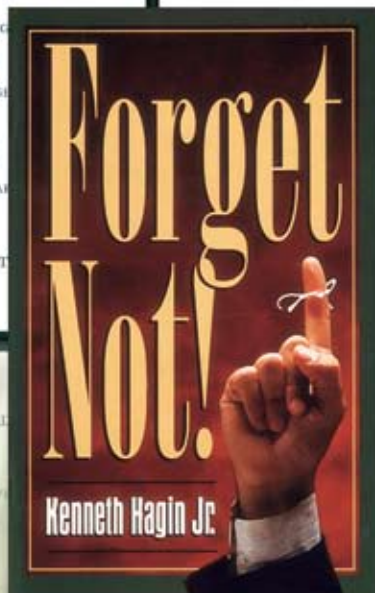
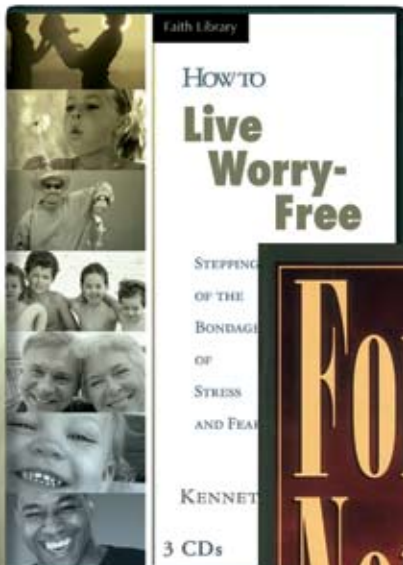
worry-free life that is pleasing to Him. If you'll commit yourself to resting and trusting in God, you will move up a notch spiritually. If you need to ask God to forgive you for worrying, then do it and receive your forgiveness. Then go on down the road of life worry-free, because God cares for you! ♡

FAITH IN ACTION

Living Worry-Free

Allowing yourself to worry is unproductive. In other words, worrying about the circumstances you face never changes them. When you think about it, worry can't make you one inch shorter or one inch taller. Worry accomplishes nothing productive or of any value. Here are some tips on how to live worry-free:

- View your circumstances with the eye of faith. See your situation the way God does, according to His Word.
- Train your thoughts to work *for* you, not *against* you. Think God's thoughts, by filling your mind with His Word.
- Don't use your own natural reasoning to analyze situations that confront you. God's Word is greater than your natural thinking.
- Cast down imaginations that try to tell you God's Word isn't true.
- Believe that what God's Word says is true, because it is!
- *Speak* the Word and *act on* the Word.
- Declare from your heart: "I am what the Word says I am. I can do what the Word says I can do. And I can have what the Word says I can have."



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Approaching Your Father



(Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Brother Hagin's 4-CD series Knowing God as Your Father.)

In that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you (John 16:23).

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

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit . . . (Ephesians 6:18).

We can see from these verses that prayer has several elements. *Number one*, prayer brings us into personal fellowship with our Father God—the Father of spirits—with the Lord Jesus Christ, and with the Holy Spirit. All three members of the Godhead

are involved in our prayer life. According to John 16:23 and Ephesians 6:18, we are instructed to pray to the Father in Jesus' Name through the Holy Spirit, either with our understanding or in other tongues (1 Cor. 14:14–15).

Number two, our prayer is to be based on the Word of God (John 15:7). If our prayer life is controlled by the Word of God, we will always pray in line with the will of God. The Word of God *is* the will of God. And we won't pray for anything outside of the Word of God if His words abide in us.

This is where so many people fail. They are praying outside of the Word. But if you find scriptures that promise you the things you are praying for, then you will always pray in line with the will of God.

You can be sure of this one thing: God will hear and answer your prayer when you come to Him according to the Word of God, because His Word never fails (1 John 5:14–15).

Number three, you cannot spend any length of time in prayer without being affected by it. Isaiah 40:31 says, “*They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength . . .*”

We’re living in a time when most folks need their strength renewed. I believe this verse is talking about spiritual strength first, but whatever affects you spiritually is also going to affect you mentally and physically.

Isaiah also prophesied by the Spirit of God, “*For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing . . .*” (Isa. 28:11–12).

The quietness—the unshaken, deep peace—that pervades the Godhead will overflow into your prayer life. This won’t happen just by your rattling off a few prayers. And this doesn’t happen when you pray selfish prayers like the ol’ farmer did: “God bless me, my wife, and our two sons. Us four and no more!”

No, the rest and refreshing the prophet Isaiah spoke about come from waiting in the Presence of God. That peace comes from fellowshiping with the Lord around the Word.

Prayer is fellowshiping with the Father. Friends, prayer should simply become a conversation between you and your Heavenly Father. From the time I was a teenager, I learned to talk things over with the Lord.

You can talk to the Lord about anything and everything. In fact, with a lot of things in life, if you would have talked to the Lord first, you would have never done some of those things. You can save yourself a lot of misery if you’ll learn to talk to the Lord ahead of time.

You see, the Lord is concerned about *everything* that concerns you. And you can talk to Him freely, just by holding a conversation with Him. When you talk to Him, He’ll talk back to you.

I’ll be honest with you. Some of the things I’ve talked to the Lord about, I’ve had Him say to me, “Now you just go ahead and do what you want to do about that.” In some things, it doesn’t make that much difference what we do. But in other things, our decision makes all the difference in the world. We can find out which is which by

talking regularly with the Lord Who knows all things.

Before I got married, I spent a lot of time talking to the Lord about my future wife. I spent an hour every single day talking to Him about her. And He would talk to me.

When you get over into praying in the spirit realm, you’ll begin to know things. I knew who I was going to marry, and I knew that we would have two children. First a boy, and then a girl.

Long before I asked Oretha to marry me, I prayed about those two children. Some people wait too late to begin praying about their children. But I started praying about mine even before I proposed to my wife.

Then, within two and a half hours after each one of them was born, I took

them in my hands and dedicated them to the Lord. Throughout their lives, I didn’t do much praying for them. I did most of my praying before they were even conceived.

Parents often talk about their children being rebellious and the many other problems they have with them while they are growing up. But Oretha and I never had a problem with Ken or Pat.

I’m not saying that they were saints. You can’t put a grown head on a kid! But on the other hand, people have asked me through the years, “How did you get your children to go to church?” Or, “How did you keep your children from being rebellious?” And, “How did you get your children to love school?”

I don’t know; we never had those problems. I just knew before they were born that they would love church, they would love going to school, and they would not be rebellious children.

When you build a prayer life, a life of communion and fellowship with your Heavenly Father, the Holy Spirit will

show you things you can pray about that will happen in your future.

JOHN 16:13

13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

You see, because I prayed for my children long before they were born, I didn’t have to pray for them that much *after* they were born. I didn’t pray for either one of them more than a half a dozen times after they were born.

Praying ahead, so to speak, is just one aspect of building a prayer life, a life of communion with your Heavenly Father.

Prayer is **fellowshipping** with the Father.



Another aspect of prayer involves just spending time with God—for no “reason” at all. Many people have the idea that you’re not really praying unless you’re asking for something. No, no. You don’t have to ask for anything when you pray. And the sad thing is that so many people never pray without asking for something.

I believe that God often wants us to just spend time with Him—to come into His Presence just to be with Him. I can remember very clearly the first time I experienced the Presence of God. I had been a Christian for a good many years. And one night after a service, I was kneeling by the bed, fellowshiping with my Heavenly Father.

I had my eyes shut when suddenly I saw myself standing in the very Throne Room of Heaven. I saw God there, and I saw Jesus sitting at the right hand of the Father.

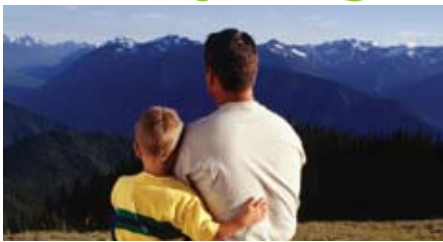
As I worshipped the Lord, I heard the Father say, "Son, what can I do for you? What do you want?"

I heard myself say, "Father, I don't want anything. I didn't come to ask You for anything. I just wanted to tell you how much I love You."

To me, it was just as real as somebody standing in the room. I saw tears come to His eyes, and He reached His hands out to take me into His arms. He hugged me in the same way a natural father would hug his son.

Then He said, "Son, you don't know how much that does for Me, how much I appreciate that. No earthly father ever loved his children more than I love Mine. No earthly father ever

You can talk to the Lord about anything and everything



wanted to do for his children more than I want to do for My children."

Let me encourage you to spend time in God's Presence just to be with Him. We go to Him praying about our needs (which is scriptural for us to do), but He knows what we have need of even before we ask Him (Matt. 6:8). So take time to enter His Presence just to let Him know how much you love Him. Begin to tell Him how much you love Him in your natural language, then take enough time to also pray in the Spirit.

Remember, we are to pray to the Father in Jesus' Name through the Holy Spirit, either in our natural language or in other tongues. Our prayers are to be based on God's Word. And if we spend any length of time in prayer, we will be affected by it. If we spend just a little bit of time, we will be affected a little bit. If we spend a medium amount of time, we'll be affected a medium amount. But if we will spend a whole lot of time, we will be affected a whole lot! ♥

Abiding in the Word

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

Prayer must be based on the Word of God. This is where so many people fail. They pray outside of the Word.

To guarantee that your prayer will be answered, find scriptures that promise what you are praying for. Then you have a solid foundation for your faith. First John 5:14-15 tells us that praying according to God's Word—His will—is what gives us confidence that our prayers will be answered.

1 JOHN 5:14-15

14 And this is the confidence that we have in [God], that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

According to these passages, we see that receiving answers to our prayers really depends on us more than it does on God.

It's up to you to *abide in the Word* and then pray *in line with the Word*. When you do this, you can have complete assurance that you will receive an answer to your prayer.

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God Is Doing Great Things for

(Editor's Note: The following testimonies were edited for length and clarity.)

Every September people *just like you* take a major step of faith. People from all ages and walks of life, from across the United States and around the world, pack up their belongings and leave friends, family, and jobs to move to Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, to attend RHEMA Bible Training Center. For some, simply getting to RBTC is challenging. For others, the challenges come once they arrive. But whether their fight of faith is in the coming or in the staying, God is always there for them in their time of need. Here

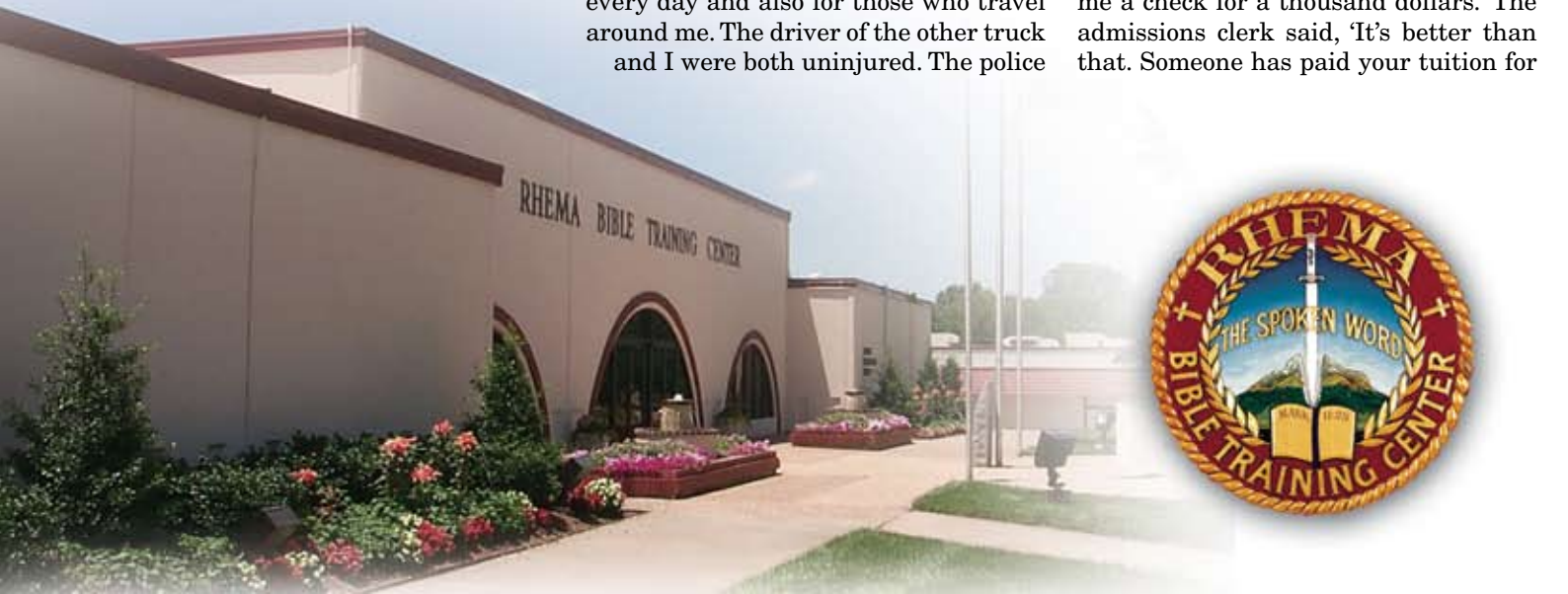
are a few testimonies from this year's student body.

"On October 7, 2007, at approximately 12:15 a.m. I was returning from Kansas with a load of ethanol (around 7,500 gallons). As I went around a corner I saw the headlights of a truck coming at me at a high rate of speed. The truck went up and over the median, driving straight toward my truck. I tried to get out of the way, but carrying the heavy load and going around a corner, I was unable to maneuver quickly enough. The truck ran a stop sign and hit my trailer traveling 50–60 miles per hour, rupturing the loading tubes under my trailer and spilling the ethanol onto the ground. This could have been a very volatile situation, but I pray over my truck every day and also for those who travel around me. The driver of the other truck and I were both uninjured. The police

and fire departments were amazed at the outcome, because usually a vehicle traveling that fast will wedge itself under the trailer. If it had, the ethanol would have leaked onto his motor, which would have ignited both of our trucks. But instead, when he hit me his truck repelled about 50–75 feet away from my leaking truck. I praise the Lord for the protection of my vehicle and all those around me. The Lord is truly an awesome God!"

—J.D., First-Year Student

"My name was on the list of students who were to report to the Admissions Office, and my first thought was, *What did I do?* When I went to Admissions, I jokingly said, 'Someone probably wrote me a check for a thousand dollars.' The admissions clerk said, 'It's better than that. Someone has paid your tuition for





RBTC Students!

the entire year!’ I later went back to Admissions to ask how to get a thank-you card to the person who had blessed me with such a gift. They informed me that I should go to Student Housing where I was told that someone had also paid my rent for the next five and a half months. PRAISE GOD!”

—E.C., Second-Year Student

“The first few days of Orientation, we prayed for a man from my home church who was in a terrible car accident. He died from major internal injuries, was declared dead and taken to the morgue, but woke up in the morgue 27 minutes later. His brain is completely healthy and whole!”

—B.H., First-Year Student

“I was in the hospital for two days and had no medical insurance. I asked the Lord how I was supposed to pay for my treatment, and He said to me, “I’ve got it. Don’t even think about it anymore.” A few weeks later a representative from the hospital called to tell me they were going to either write off the entire amount of my hospital bill or give me a huge discount! I praise God for His faithfulness in my life!”

—S.H., Second-Year Student

“I was in a serious car accident trying to get to RHEMA for first-year classes. The Lord healed me, but all the symptoms later returned. I have been seeing a doctor three times a week since the beginning of summer. I attended *Kindle the Flame® Women’s Conference* in September, and Mrs. Hagin asked all the women who needed healing to come forward. I thought *Wait a minute. I was already healed of these symptoms last year!* So instead of going forward, I started praising God for my healing. I felt no change at the time. But a few days later I noticed that I had no pain! I am so thankful to God for His continued faithfulness and to RHEMA for training me.”

—S.M., Second-Year Student

“Lately, my bills have gone up by \$150 a month. At the same time, I asked God for five extra dollars this month (in addition to my regular paycheck) in order to exercise my faith a little bit at a time. Soon after my prayer, someone I’d never met before gave me \$100. A few days later, someone else gave me another \$100! Also, my roommate just got a check in the mail for \$200. With such a great God, we’re not going to be concerned!”

—R.C., Second-Year Student



Formerly Known as
All Faiths' Crusades



JOIN KEN & LYNETTE FOR THESE POWERFUL

crusades

POMONA, CA

March 2-4, 2008

Family Life Christian Center
Meeting Place: Shilo Inn Hilltop Suites
3101 Temple Ave., Pomona CA 91768
(626) 914-1229

www.familylifechristiancenter.com
Pastors Ray & Esther Almaguer

Service Times:

Monday-Tuesday
10:30 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

25th Church Anniversary Service
Sunday, March 2—6:30 p.m.
at Shilo Inn Hilltop Suites

LA MESA, CA

March 5-7, 2008

Father's House Church
8691 Echo Dr.
La Mesa CA 91941
(619) 741-0630

www.fathershousesd.org
Pastors Greg and Michelle Stephens

Service Times:

Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Thursday-Friday
10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

SAINT JOSEPH, IL

March 30-April 2, 2008

Living Word Fellowship
1000 Park Ave.
Saint Joseph, IL 61873
(217) 469-7410

www.lwfstjoe.org
Pastors Larry & Pam Millis

Service Times:

Sunday 7:00 p.m.
Monday-Wednesday
10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

crusades:
miraculous healing teaching life-changing
presence of God ministry powerful prayer preaching
praise & worship

WEST HAVEN, CT

April 6–9, 2008

Living Word Ministries
225 Meloy Rd.
West Haven, CT 06516
(203) 934-9673
www.lwministries.org
Pastors: Ken & Kathy Vance

Service Times:
Sunday 7:00 p.m.
Monday–Wednesday
10:30 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

STERLING HEIGHTS, MI

April 27–30, 2008

Grace Christian Church
33801 Van Dyke Ave.
Sterling Heights, MI 48312
(586) 258-4390
www.gracesterling.com
Pastors Jerry & Joy Weinzierl

Service Times:
Monday–Wednesday
10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Building Dedication Service:
Sunday, April 27—7:00 p.m.

For more information or
to see a complete listing of
2008 Crusades log on to:

www.rhema.org/itinerary

Don't Miss These Special Meetings!



APRIL 13, 2008
HARRISON, AR

**Church Anniversary—
Celebrating 30 years!**
Grace Christian Center
700 Cottonwood Road
Harrison, AR 72602
(870) 741-9099
Rev. Tim Phillips

Service Time:
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

MAY 27-30, 2008
PARIS, FRANCE

**Shekinah Glory Ministries
Gospel Conference**
Forum De Grenelle
5, Rue De La Croix Nivert,
Paris, France

Service Times:
Tuesday 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday–Friday 10:00 a.m.; 7:30 p.m.
Friday Evening: Evangelistic Outreach

Hosted By: Shekinah Glory Ministries
Register online at:
www.shekinahglory.com
For more information contact:
(918) 250-1227



A Call to Arms® 2007: **Determined to Conquer, Destined to Win!**

Men from the United States and other countries converged on the RHEMA USA campus in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, on November 1 through 3 for anointed exhortation and life-changing insights at Kenneth W. Hagin's *A Call to Arms® Men's Conference*.

The conference theme was "Determined to Conquer, Destined to Win!" In addition to good food and fellowship with other believers, men were taught about their right to live in victory because of what Jesus Christ did for them at Calvary. They were also reminded of their obligation to actually walk out that victory as men of God.

The event began with a literal roar on Thursday evening as Rev. Hagin—in black leather motorcycle-riding clothes—drove a blue three-wheeler motorbike into the church auditorium. After making several passes in front of the crowd of excited, cheering men, he rode up a ramp and onto the stage, which included an array of motorcycles and four-wheelers. Bales of hay, steel rails, and checkered

flags gave the setting the appearance of a motorcycle or sprint-car rally. The scene summed up the essence of the entire conference—run God's race to win. The Heavenly Father has provided everything necessary for victory, but His sons have to walk in what the Father has provided through Christ in order to conquer and win as God intends.

"You've got to be determined to conquer, if you're going to be destined to win," Rev. Hagin said.

Rev. Hagin explained that despite the difficulties that everyone faces, Romans 8:37 says believers are more than conquerors in Christ. When Christ died on the cross, believers were destined to win through faith in Him. We walk out that victory day-to-day by faith in God's Word.

Appearing to be victorious is not the key to conquering and winning—conquering and winning are a matter of entering the race with a determination to

win and of staying in the race with a commitment to never quit on God. The Lord has a divine purpose for godly men to live out for the sakes of their families, churches, and callings—a purpose and plan that men *can* live out amply supplied with God’s power and provision for the task.

“God never created a loser. . . . But you have to be determined to conquer or you will experience failure,” Rev. Hagin said. “Don’t let anyone tell you that you can’t make it in life. With God, all things are possible to him who believes!”

Men of God must be determined to persevere amid obstacles and trials. When believers are under the most severe attacks, it’s a sign that they are about to win.

“Just because the enemy knocks you down, it is not a sign of defeat,” Rev. Hagin explained. “When the devil is about to knock you out of the race, hang on. You’re almost to the finish line!”

Rev. Hagin identified eight pitfalls to avoid in order to be a winner in Christ:

- **Personal ambition**—Personal ambition can be a pitfall when you’re not following God’s plan. While not everyone is called to preach, all men should discover their calling and pursue it with God’s leading.
- **Fear**—Don’t let fear paralyze you and prevent you from living for God and

fulfilling His calling. Conquer fear through faith in the Word.

- **Unforgiveness**—Unforgiveness is an evil force that clamps onto you and keeps you defeated. Let go of offenses.
- **Procrastination**—Don’t wait until the “perfect moment” to obey God and follow the Spirit. You can be the husband, father, and spiritual leader God is calling you to be *right now*.
- **Unwillingness**—Those who follow God and live the victorious life have to choose to live for Him, no matter



Highlights From CTA Guest Speakers



“The work Jesus did on the cross and when He rose from the dead restored us as closely as possible back to the position of authority that man enjoyed in the Garden of Eden, as close as is possible in this fallen world. **We have to be the people of authority that God made us to be.** We don’t wrestle with flesh and blood, but with principalities and powers and the rulers of the darkness of this world, with the wicked spirits in the heavenly places. . . . But the Lord Jesus Christ made a show of the devil and triumphed over him with His blood. We need to live in authority and dominion and live like the gates of hell are not going to prevail against us. The Bible is clear that weapons formed against us will not prosper. It does not say that weapons will not form. It says they will not prosper. We have dominion.”

—Jerry Weinzierl
From “Don’t Just Sit There!”



“What enables men to become determined to conquer and destined to win? It’s the God-given power of potential. You have it. Use it to the best of your ability. You are a unique expression of God in the earth, and God has placed something on the inside of you that He didn’t think the world should do without. The Bible says you are fearfully and wonderfully made. If you have an esteem problem and you don’t feel adequate, think about this—before you came to this world, you were a thought in the mind of God. He doesn’t make junk; you’re not junk. . . . When we men retreat and are no longer determined to conquer and don’t believe we are destined to win, we deprive the Kingdom of God of its honor. We deprive the family of God of our gifts, talents, and abilities. We deprive ourselves of the very potential God gave us. . . . **Don’t allow your God-given potential to wane away. Your life has potential to fulfill your purpose.**”

—Joseph Ripley
From “Fulfilling Your God-Given Potential”

how challenging it may appear. Be willing to answer God's call.

- **Lack of Knowledge**—Know the Word. Knowing the enemy enables you to fight him more effectively. Be willing to learn on your job and in other areas of your life.
- **Socializing With the Wrong Crowd**—The people you socialize with will add to your life or take away from it. “You can’t hang with losers and expect to be in the winner’s circle.”
- **Quitting**—Persevere—because, regardless of what comes against you, there’s a way to win. In the words of Winston Churchill, “A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.”

“I am determined to conquer, and I am destined to win, and no devil in hell will stop me,” Rev. Hagin said.

During the invitation, men came to the altar to connect with God for victory over rejection, unforgiveness, and other issues. As the conference ended Saturday with a Communion service, men came to the front for healing before partaking of the cup and the bread. At the conclusion of the event, men joined hand-in-hand and sang “One in the Family” before departing—changed by the Word of God and the power of the Holy Spirit. ♥



Workshop Highlights

“It doesn’t make a difference what anyone does to you, it doesn’t give you the right to act the way they act. It doesn’t matter what your wife does to you, it doesn’t give you a right to act ungodly toward her. **Learn to be secure in yourself, be secure in God, and bring healing to a situation.**”

—Sterling Hudgins

From the workshop “Communication in Marriage: Stop Competing and Start Completing!”

“As a man you should have a grace and dignity that you did not get from this world. It is a part of someone who acts holy. **Holiness is to be duplicated and modeled in the earth.** Why? Because that’s the way it is in Heaven.”

—Dean Berg

From the workshop “Holiness: What You Do Speaks So Loudly I Can’t Hear What You Say!”

“We can have relationships with women, but we can live pure in the midst of having those relationships. **Living pure is a matter of choice.** Your body is not so strong that you don’t have a choice. Your desires are not so strong that you can’t control your body.”

—Phillip Slaughter

From the workshop “Relationships and the Single Guy: Avoiding the Pitfalls!”

“I believe there is going to be a great movement of the Holy Spirit, not just within the four walls of the church, but it’s going to break out in businesses. . . . I believe there are going to be supernatural occurrences and **businesspeople will be supernaturally used of God** in these last days.”

—Nathanael Wolf

From the workshop “The Gatekeeper: If God Can Trust It Through You, He Will Entrust It to You!”

“Each and every one of us is in economic partnership with God. In that partnership, God expects us to grow and invest the talents He has given us. He expects us to do something with what He has entrusted to us. **He has sown into us, and He wants us to sow into others.**”

—Tim Rogers

From the workshop “The Apprentice: If You Don’t Use It, You’re Going to Lose It!”

“Faith, according to Webster’s New World Dictionary, is ‘an unquestioning belief.’ **If you ever question, you’re not in faith.** If I’m not in faith, I’m either in doubt, fear, or both. If I’m in doubt and fear, I’m not in faith, and I will not get my needs met. It takes faith to get your needs met.”

—Craig W. Hagin

From the workshop “How to Turn Your Faith Loose”

“When it comes to the household, a lot of men say, ‘I have a hard time getting my wife to submit to me.’ Submission is not something you get your wife to do. It’s not up to you to bring your wife into submission. **It’s up to you to be the husband that God has called you to be.**”

—Greg Varney

From the workshop “Submission and Authority: Bringing Order to Your World”

“You have to find out who you are in the Word of God. **You are righteous because of what Christ has done for you.** There’s a real world out there with real challenges that we face every day. If we don’t know who we are in Christ, we’re not going to be successful parents, successful husbands, or successful businessmen.”

—Anthony Storino

From the workshop “Righteousness: Discovering Who You Are in Christ!”

“The world needs to know you’re a godly man. They need to see that you’re a man of standards. A standard is something you refuse to live below. **The Word of God is our standard.** We have to keep living the Word and be leaders in our homes and heads of our households, because that’s what people are looking for.”

—Terry Graves

From the workshop “A Real Man: It Ain’t Over ‘til It’s Over”



**Sunday
May 4**

Help Take the Gospel to the Ends of the Earth



“The goal of International RHEMA Day is to create a global network of people to pray for and support RHEMA Bible Training Center, which trains and equips ministers for tomorrow. For over 30 years, RHEMA Bible Training Center has offered sound biblical teaching and practical instruction in the field of ministry.”

—Kenneth W. Hagin

On May 4, 2008, an international family of believers will band together in a special show of support for RHEMA Bible Training Center USA. Join us on International RHEMA Day and help take the Gospel to the ends of earth. With your prayer and financial support, RHEMA students are being trained as able ministers—ministers who will spread the Gospel and the message of faith throughout the world!

You can make a difference in the advancement of God's Kingdom by joining churches worldwide as they offer their prayers and financial support for RHEMA USA. Be a part as hundreds of local congregations lift up the school in corporate prayer, receive special offerings, and explain RHEMA's biblical foundation and spiritual focus.

For over 30 years, RHEMA has trained more than 25,000 men and women to take the Gospel around the globe. The sun never sets on a RHEMA graduate preaching the Gospel somewhere in the world. And the sun never sets on RHEMA's commitment to teach God's people to pursue Him in faith.

How You Can Help

Please join your faith with thousands of Christians in churches worldwide on May 4 in a show of support for RHEMA Bible Training Center USA.

- **Pray** for RHEMA Bible Training Center USA, its staff, and the current student body.
- **Support** RHEMA Bible Training Center USA financially.
- **Share** with others about RHEMA Bible Training Center.

Thank you for supporting RHEMA Bible Training Center USA. *Together*, we are preparing laborers for a great harvest of souls and fulfilling the Lord's command to “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15).

To participate in **International RHEMA Day 2008**, visit **www.rhema.org/ird** call **(918) 258-1588, ext. 2238**, or use the enclosed envelope.

Mention offer # KIT08WF2IRD



This Month's Topic: God's Motive for Sanctification Is Love

God calls all of His children to live sanctified lives and be committed to walking in His ways, set apart from the sin, carnality, and pride of this world. Our Father's primary motive for our holiness is His deep and abiding love for us. Sanctification and the holiness that characterizes it are products of God's love and His desire for His children to live fulfilled, prosperous, purposeful lives.

Recent *Family Builders* articles challenged adults, children, and teens to pursue sanctification. This month *Family Builders* looks at the primary motive for sanctification—God's marvelous love for us all.

Family Builders for Adults

Being Mindful of God's Love

Sin and unrighteousness ultimately kill, steal, and destroy—all fruits of the devil's influence and selfish nature. Holiness brings abundant life and a desire to exude the life of God to others.

But before we can experience holiness, we must first realize and experience God's love! If we think on God's love, we will walk in that love, want to draw closer to Him, and be ever mindful of pleasing Him. That's the essence of the sanctified life. Jesus said those who love Him will keep His commandments (John 15:10). The Bible also says we love God because of our awareness of His love for us, and the capacity to love Him and others has been placed inside believers by God Himself (1 John 4:19; Rom. 5:5).

Take time this month to memorize and meditate on scriptures that refer to God's love and provisions for you. Let the scriptures on God's love for you change your outlook on sanctification and the need to be committed to living God's way. Sanctification isn't a one-time event brought about by your human effort. It's a lifelong process begun in you through God's great love and worked in you through God's great love.

Start by pondering the Lord's desire for you to be forgiven. Meditate on forgiveness scriptures until you personally know and experience His forgiveness and acceptance.

God loves you so much that Jesus went to the cross for you (John 3:16). That love brings acceptance and continual forgiveness for those who seek it (1 John 1:9). Regardless of the severity of your sins, God wipes them away in Christ (Isa. 43:25–26). Jesus told the woman caught in adultery to

"go and sin no more" after her accusers walked ashamedly away (John 8:3–11). It's interesting to note that just after Jesus told the woman that He did not condemn her, He declared that He was the "light of the world" (v. 12). Holiness and love are inextricably linked in the person of Christ, Who is an exact reflection of the Father (Heb. 1:3).

Think on God's abundant provision for your material and physical needs and His desire to bless you "even as your soul prospers" (3 John 2). God didn't hold back anything from you (Rom. 8:31–32). God is also paying attention to you, and He hears you (1 John 5:14). He cares for you "affectionately and cares about you watchfully" (1 Pet. 5:7 *Amplified*).

You are loved. You are a treasure. Meditate on these realities of God's glorious love for you this month and watch your thinking and actions change. This awesome love of God is motivation to seek Him and be like Him, because He is so wonderful!



Start by pondering the Lord's desire for you to be forgiven.

Family Builders for Children

Teaching Children About God's Affection for Them

God loves children. Children are just as important to Him as adults are. He assigns angels to them, and their angels are constantly reporting to God about them (Matt. 18:10). You can build an awareness of God's love in your children



The greatest demonstration of God's love for your children is your love for them.

and motivate them to obey His truths by reviewing the scriptures on God's love with them. Have your children read them aloud. Challenge them to memorize the scriptures. Help them make confessions of them and encourage them to repeat the confessions.

The greatest demonstration of God's love for your children is *your* love for them. Children are influenced chiefly by their parents, so consistently showing

affection and providing loving correction are essential for your children to see God's love demonstrated to them.

Along with showing your children tenderness and care, show your children from the Word that Jesus wants them to feel comfortable with Him. He wants to spend time with them (Matt. 19:13–14, Mark 10:14, Luke 18:16). Teach them how Jesus loved them so much that He used the faith of children as an example to teach grown-ups (Matt. 18:3)! God loves children so much that He wants every one of them to be saved (Matt. 18:14). The Father knows every intimate detail about them, even how many hairs are on their heads (Matt. 10:30).

Make sure your children know that they are God's children if they accept Jesus as Lord and Savior (John 1:12, 1 John 3:1). Your children can know and live in the biblical truth that they can love others, because Christ loves them and lives in them through the Holy Spirit (1 John 4:7). God chose them (John 15:16, Eph. 1:4), and He will never leave them nor forsake them (Heb. 13:5). By teaching your children these truths, they can in turn share them with other children.

Family Builders for Teenagers

God's Love Means Friendship for Teens

Love and respect go hand-in-hand, and one of the greatest yearnings of teenagers is to be respected as people whose opinions and desires are legitimate and esteemed by adults. You can show your teens how much God loves them by helping them focus on the biblical truth that God respects them and wants to be their friend. Indeed, one of the greatest displays of God's love is His desire to befriend frail, imperfect human beings. His desire to elevate people to the status of



Your teens will see an incredible view of God when they realize that He wants to be their friend.

teens will see an incredible view of God when they realize that He wants to be their friend. He respects them. Their thoughts and feelings matter immensely to Him. In response, they will desire to seek God and obey Him. Teens who seek God, walk in His Word, and do what He says, can be used mightily of God. That's how much the Father loves them.

Parents can model God's love to their teens by befriending them. Spend time with your teenagers and hear them out. Be willing to open up to your teens about your own shortcomings and longings. Love is evidenced through a level of trust you show your teens by revealing more of yourself to them.

Then sit down with them and discuss the scriptures that deal with God's love and respect for them. Challenge them to read over the scriptures daily and make confessions of them. During times of fellowship, praise God with your teens and thank Him together for making you His friends and respecting you. As you demonstrate the love and respect God has for teens, they will in turn seek Him and desire to live for Him as adults. ♡

trusted friends and confidants demonstrates a level of love and respect beyond compare.

Jesus called His disciples friends, and He reminded them that He proved His friendship by laying down His life for them and by showing them the truths and insights the Father had shown Him (John 15:13–15). His followers in turn show their love and friendship by keeping His commandments (v. 14). Your

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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)



All of us refer to certain scriptures more frequently than others. One scripture passage that I have referred to all my life is Psalm 91. With times as perilous as they are, it is important that we all claim the promises of God for protection over our lives. Every day I claim Psalm 91 over my entire family. Of course, when we claim this passage of scripture, it is important that we abide by the guidelines.

Psalm 91:1-2 (KJV) says, *"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."* The *New International Version* says in verse 1, *"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty."* What does it mean to dwell in the shelter of the Most High? It means to live in constant communion with God and to place Him first in our lives. If we want the benefits of Psalm 91, then we must do these things.

So many times Christians neglect their relationship with God until a tragedy happens. Then they run back to the shelter of God. We should not live that way. He didn't say to visit Him once in a while. No—He said, *"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High . . ."* We've got to continually inhabit that secret place in God. It cannot be a temporary dwelling; it must be our permanent dwelling place.

When we have that kind of relationship with our Heavenly Father, we can boldly claim that He is our refuge and fortress. In times of trouble we can run to God confidently, knowing that He will take care of us.

Psalm 91:3-4 says, *"Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler."* I had read those verses often and heard ministers describe the way a mother hen protects her chicks. However, because I was not raised on a farm, I had never seen this.

Ducks inhabit our park on the RHEMA campus. Several years ago, some geese were eating our baby ducks. So our maintenance staff placed a mother duck and her babies in a pen until the ducklings were old enough to protect themselves. One afternoon my husband said to me, "Let's go check on the baby ducks." I had not seen them yet so I was excited.



As we pulled up in the car, I could see the little ducklings playing in the rather large pen, and I got out to get a closer look. As I came close to the pen, the mother duck sensed what she thought was danger and began frantically gathering the ducklings under her wings. I watched with utter amazement as she covered those ducklings so quickly that suddenly I could not see any of them. It was as though the mother duck was alone in the pen.

Seeing that verse from Psalm 91 visibly illustrated made an indelible impression upon me. Now I can imagine that whatever comes my way, my Heavenly Father so covers me with His protecting arms that the enemy cannot even find me. I am assured that my God will deliver me from any situation or circumstance that may come my way.

Psalm 91:10-11 says, *"There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways."* I quote these verses often. I like the way the *New Living Translation* puts them: *"No evil will conquer you; no plague will come near your dwelling. For he orders his angels to protect you wherever you go."* And verse 12 says, *"They will hold you with their hands to keep you from striking your foot on a stone"* (NLT). When symptoms try to fasten themselves on any member of my family, I quickly tell the devil, *"You cannot put that symptom on us, because I have already claimed that no plague can come to our family."*

The crowning promises in this psalm are in verses 15 and 16: *"When they call on me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue them and honor them. I will satisfy them with a long life and give them my salvation"* (NLT). I encourage you to take the promises of these scriptures, confess them each day, believe what God has promised, and watch them become a reality in your life.

Lynette



Kids' Page

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

Faith "Gets By" with a Little Help From Its Friends



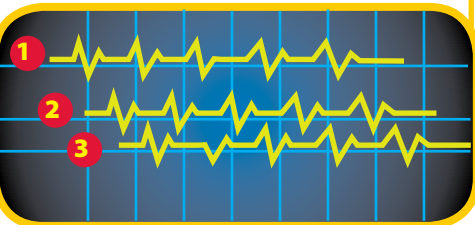
We all know that faith is very important to the Christian. Remember that the Bible says, "without faith it is impossible to please God" (Heb. 11:6 NIV). But just like you need the help of friends sometimes to get a job done, the same holds true for faith. The New Testament tells us about three very important "friends" of faith. One of them is found in James 2:17. His name is **ACTION**. Let's read about it. "...faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by *action*, is dead" (NIV). How important is it for action to be with your faith? Well, without it, your faith dies! Here are a couple of important actions that will help your faith: 1.) Confess God's Word in each situation you face & 2.) Obey God's Word and do what it says to do. Well, the other two friends of faith still remain a mystery. Do you think you can figure out their names? **Unscramble the two words below to discover the names of the two other friends of faith.** (Answers found in Galatians 5:6 & Hebrews 6:12)

velo & tanpiece

THE VITAL SIGNS OF FAITH

Faith gets healthy much the same way your heart gets healthy...with good nutrition and exercise. So partake of the Word of God daily and exercise by doing what it tells you to do. Then your "faith monitor" should look like this one.

Only one of the faith monitor blips below matches the one above exactly. Can you pick out the exact match?



Find the Bible Names

Find the names of 13 Bible characters cleverly hidden in the paragraph below. Names may have spaces in between the letters or may be totally contained within another word.

I went to the Supermarket and played a video game called "Zulukenny." Funmart has a game just like it. It is a most intriguing game. A bell rings when you save a damsel in distress. Zulukenny is the bravest hero of all. Some video games are real evil and violent, but not Zulukenny. To tell the truth, I have a habit of playing video games too long. But I'm getting a lot better now.

Did you find the 13 names? Maybe this will help you. Here are the names you are looking for: Abel, Adam, Ahab, Amos, Asa, David, Esther, Levi, Lot, Luke, Mark, Martha, Ruth.

Jokes & Riddles

What does the winner of a race lose?

His breath

What lies on its back 100 feet up in the air?

A dead centipede

What starts with T, ends with T and is full of T?

A teapot

Why do bees have sticky hair?

Because they have honeycombs

Why were the teacher's eyes crossed?

She couldn't control her pupils

Where was King Solomon's temple?

On his forehead

Finish the Rhyme

Read the Bible lesson at the top of the page. Then try to complete the rhymes below.

You might read your Bible daily,
And believe every word that it said.
If you read it but do not obey it,
Your faith, without action, is _____.

Faith is a gift sent from Heaven,
But a greater gift comes from above.
Because Galatians 5:6 has told us,
Our faith will not work without _____.

Faith is important to Christians,
Go ask the disciple named Thomas.
But if you have faith without patience,
You will not inherit the _____.

ANSWERS:

Find the Bible Names Answers:
I went to the Supermarket and played a video game called "Zulukenny." Funmart has a game just like it. It is a most intriguing game. A bell rings when you save a damsel in distress. Zulukenny is the bravest hero of all. Some video games are real evil and violent, but not Zulukenny. To tell the truth, I have a habit of playing video games too long. But I'm getting a lot better now. Martha and Asa ran together in the phrase. Funmart has a game.

Faith "Gets By" with a Little Help From Its Friends Answers:
Love & Patience.
Galatians 5:6 says that "faith works by love," Hebrews 6:12 says that "through faith and patience" we inherit God's promises.
Find the Bible Names Answers: 2
Finish the Rhyme - Answers: dead, love, promise.