



THE Word of Faith

JUNE/JULY 2016

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

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Daughters

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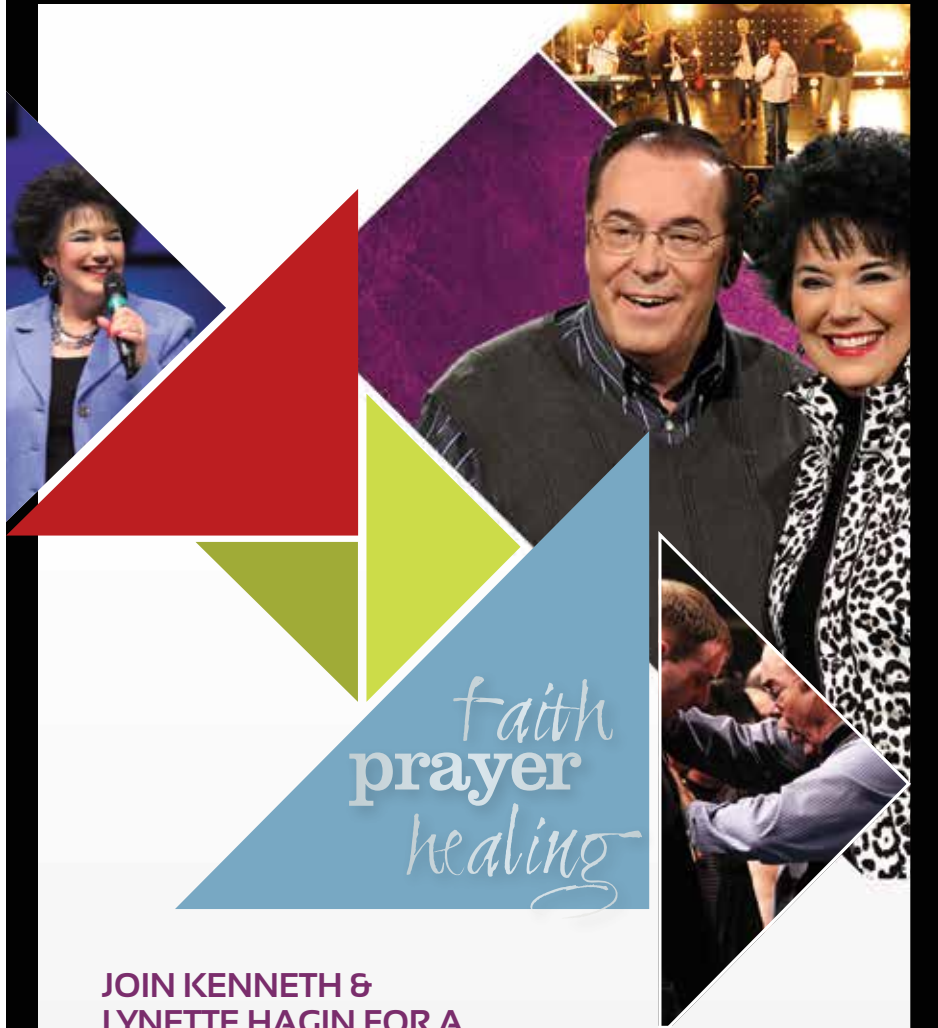
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DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS Patty Harrison
SENIOR EDITOR Bob Murphy
EDITORIAL STAFF Kimberly Hennenfest
Yvette Lanier
Cheryl Piper
Steve Trexler
Janet Wagner
GRAPHIC ARTISTS Kristen Cook
Jeanne Hoover
Lisa Moore
Amber Warner
Rose Wenning
PHOTOGRAPHER Phil Anglin
PROJECT MANAGERS Karianne Alfieri
Christi Finley
Jeremiah Harris
Kris Taylor

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WRITE:

US: THE WORD OF FAITH, P.O. Box 50126, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74150-0126

CANADA: THE WORD OF FAITH, P.O. Box 335, Station D, Etobicoke (Toronto), Ontario, Canada M9A 4X3

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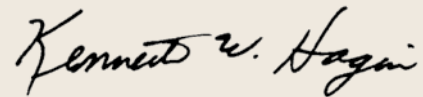
God has spoken to every one of us at some time in our life. He's given us dreams, visions, and things to accomplish for Him. I want to inspire you to get a new hold on those dreams. Pull them down from the shelf, dust them off, and get moving!

"But I just don't see how it's possible," you may say. "I know God has spoken to me, but I can't do anything."

Remember Joseph? He dreamed that his brothers were bowing to him. Upset about his dream and jealous of his relationship with their father, Joseph's brothers threw him into an empty pit. Then they sold him to a passing caravan bound for Egypt. (See Genesis chapter 37.) I'm sure Joseph thought, "God, what is happening? This is not the way I dreamed it!" Later, when he found himself working as a servant in Egypt and then thrown into prison, he could have said, "Wait a minute, Lord. You're making a mistake!" However, even though it seemed his dream was shattered, Joseph kept believing God. And years later, his dream came to pass just as God had given it. His brothers bowed before him. (See Gen. 42:1-6.)

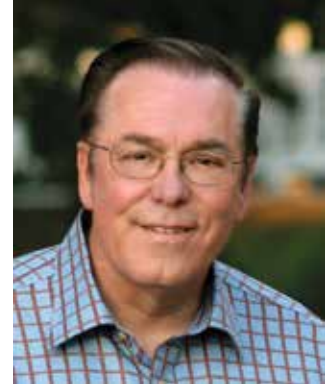
Your dreams can come to pass too. When it seems as if the devil has shattered the dream that came to you from God Himself, reach down, pick up those pieces, and continue to drive for success. Dare to believe! Believe in yourself. Believe in what God said for you to do. Take the impossible and turn it into the possible with Him this day. Dream the dream, because the time for victory in your life is now!

Don't miss a single page of this month's magazine. It's packed full of Bible truths that will build your faith and help you enjoy God's abundant life!



PS. Happy Independence Day to all my fellow Americans. And happy Canada Day to all of my friends up north. Thank God for freedom!

PPS. Be sure to share your favorite quotes from the magazine with us! Just #RhemaWOF.



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Special Report:

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BUILD STRONG FAITH



KENNETH W. HAGIN

IF WE WANT to accomplish God’s plan for our lives, we must take possession of all that He has provided for us. And we take hold of His provision with the “hand of faith.”

Only strong faith will triumph over every circumstance. It is strong faith that takes back what the devil has stolen. And it is strong faith that turns your *destiny into reality*.

Many earnest Christians ask, “How can I build strong faith?” They realize that the things they need from God—healing, prosperity, and other blessings—do not come simply because they have been born again. These blessings come through faith. They realize that faith is not just an act of the will of man; **faith is acting on God’s Word**.

But many do not know how to secure faith for the things they need from God. In this article, I will give you **a formula to build strong faith** for whatever you need from Him.

1 Surround Yourself With Faith Producers

The Bible says, “*It is impossible to please God without faith*” (Heb. 11:6 NLT). We must realize that if we are going to nurture our faith—if we’re going to build it into something that will produce results—we must surround ourselves with successful people of God, not negative people. And we must feed our minds and spirits on material that will build faith, not destroy it.

We don’t feed our faith with a steady diet of secular magazines and television. Turn off your television. Read your Bible and listen to good teaching and good Christian music. Surround

yourself with things of God—things that will nurture your faith. Listen to people who are strong in faith—any of the great teachers today. (Just be sure they are teaching you in line with God’s Word.)

2 Build on God’s Word—Not on Experience

As I was praying for someone in a service once, a woman came running up, exclaiming, “Oh, I had that same thing! Let me tell you about my experience. It will probably help him!”

I said, “No, I don’t want you to tell him your experience.”

Why? Because God doesn’t move the same way every time. Don’t try to make people receive salvation, the baptism in the Holy Spirit, or healing the way you feel they should be received. Don’t try to make people experience them the way you did.

Do you want to be spiritual? Do you want to get in on the move of God? Do you want to develop in and walk in faith? Then build on God’s Word. Notice that Jesus didn’t build on experience. He taught the Word. When he withstood Satan’s temptations, He kept saying, “It is written, it is written, it is written.”

3 Look to God’s Word—Not Someone’s Personality

To have strong faith to receive from God, build your faith on the Word, not on someone’s personality. When my dad, Kenneth E. Hagin, preached, he didn’t put too much of his personality into it. He suppressed his personality so people would look at what the Word says.

The Bible says, “*He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions*” (Ps. 107:20). God didn’t send a personality—He sent His Word. Forget about personalities.

4

Obedience Is Necessary

Just knowing what the Word of God says is not enough to defeat the enemy. We must walk in the light of that Word. We must obey—knowing what God says to do, and then *doing* it! First John 3:22 (NLT) says, “We will receive from him whatever we ask because we obey him.” And John 15:7 (NKJV) says, “If you abide in Me [Jesus], and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.”

We have confidence toward God that He will do exactly what He said.



#RhemaWOF

Notice the connection between these scriptures. In First John, the apostle wrote, “We will receive from him whatever we ask **because we obey him.**” We cannot obey God, however, unless we know what His Word says—unless that Word abides in us.

John also said, “Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God” (1 John 3:21 NKJV). How are we confident? We are confident if our hearts don’t condemn us. We have confidence toward God that He will do exactly what He said.

For God to do that, though, we must continually do what is right in His sight and live the way we should. If we don’t, there is no way we can have confidence that He will give us what He said we could have. It’s not that He won’t; He can’t, because we’re not walking in line with His Word.

5

You Must Have Humility

A lot of people are proud of their humility! I’ve met many people who brag that they are “faith people.” Their attitude is, “If you’re not where *we’re* at, you haven’t got it, Brother.” As far as I’m concerned, this is a sectarian point of view. It is not biblical.

The disciples had this same attitude in Mark chapter 9. They got prideful and puffed up. But when a child was brought to them, they couldn’t cast the tough, stubborn, unclean spirit out of him (v. 18). Jesus explained to the disciples that this kind comes out only by prayer and fasting. They lacked humility and discipline. This hindered their faith.

6

You Must Have Holy Boldness

This is something many people really need. Most people are afraid of the devil. They would rather hide from him than stand against him.

You’re going to have to be willing to stand, look the devil square in the eye, and say, “You fooled me for the last time! Either get out of the way, or get run over!”

I’m not afraid to face the devil. In fact, if I see him about 50 yards down the street, I call, “Hey! Devil! I’m talking to *you!*” He ducks around a corner. He doesn’t want any part of me.

He doesn’t want any part of an individual who knows who he is in Jesus Christ, because Jesus defeated Satan. He knows that an informed Christian is going to start speaking God’s Word. And every time those words come out of that Christian’s mouth, it’s like someone hitting the devil with a whip.

If you will follow these six steps, your faith will grow stronger. And you will be able to start receiving from God whatever you need.♥

[Editor’s Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth W. Hagin’s book *How to Fulfill Your Divine Destiny.*]

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"I cannot be defeated and I will not quit"
KENNETH W HAGIN



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Jackie learned about Rhema Bible Training College through *The Word of Faith* magazine. An ad for *Spring Rhema College Weekend* prompted her to visit the campus. But to be honest, she was more interested in finding the bookstore than attending classes.

When she stepped on the Rhema campus, Jackie got more than she bargained for. As she sat in one of the classes, the thought of enrolling in Rhema crossed her mind. She immediately dismissed it. She couldn't see how it could happen.

After Jackie returned home, the Lord kept dealing with her to come. She began taking small steps, and everything fell into place: housing, job, and finances.

**WHAT ABOUT YOU?
ISN'T IT TIME YOU TOOK A STEP TOWARD YOUR FUTURE?**

Read more about Jackie's journey.



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“Roar for me one more time.”



DADS & DAUGHTERS

AT ONE PARTICULAR GAME during the 2015–2016 Lady Eagles basketball season, a disgruntled fan shouted loudly from the bleachers the whole time. Afterward, some of the Rhema ladies talked about how distracting he was.

One player never heard him. It's not that she never hears what people yell from the sidelines. But as she put it, “When I'm playing a game, the only voice I hear from the bleachers is my dad's.”

Another player echoed her comment. “I hear my dad way more than I hear my coach. It's like you have an instinctive ear for your father.”

A father's impact on his daughter's life should never be underestimated. His involvement in her life affects how she sees herself, how well she does in school and beyond, and how she forms relationships with other people—especially men.

There's no doubt that the Lady Eagles' dads have had a huge impact on their daughters' success on the court. One dad instilled in his daughter how to be tough. Today, anytime she gets knocked down, tough grit kicks in. No matter how badly she's hurting, she never shows the pain. She's quickly back on her feet as if nothing happened.

Another dad taught his daughter to never quit. She *always* finishes what she starts. Both on and off the court, she never does anything halfway and never considers giving less than a hundred percent.

Another Lady Eagle learned teamwork from her dad. It's automatic for her to pick up the slack when someone else isn't carrying her share of the load.

Coach Dad

Long hours of training started early for many of the Lady Eagles, with Dad taking on the role of coach and personal trainer. As a teen, one girl was up at 6 a.m. every Saturday to work out. Then she headed out to run the paths her dad had mowed up and down the huge hills covering their 60 acres.

“When I'm playing a game, the only voice I hear from the bleachers is my dad's.”

Did she hate the training? You bet. But as an adult, she's had a change of heart. “I thank my dad for making us do the hard things,” she said. “I feel like I was more prepared for those workouts going into college than a lot of the other incoming freshmen.”

One Lady Eagle is the daughter of a girls' basketball coach. She had no choice but to play the game. She recalls affectionately how she and her dad played one-on-one. “Of course, he beat me

every time. He never took it easy on me. He'd say, 'This is how you get better.' Finally, I beat him one day! I loved every moment of it!"

On the way home after games, he would point out different plays. "That one move you had," he'd say, "it was nice." But he would also mention areas needing improvement. As this Lady Eagle said of her dad, "He was my biggest critic, but he was also my biggest supporter."

He Was Always There

Even though their dads could be tough, some of the Lady Eagles couldn't imagine life without them. "I've always been Daddy's girl my whole life," said one Lady Eagle. "The majority of my friends—their parents are either divorced or they didn't really know their dad.

"But I couldn't imagine life without my dad, because he's always been there. I've never had to go without someone supporting me. Seeing a lot of my friends and the decisions they've made, I knew it was because they didn't have a dad. They would look for love in all the wrong places. It made me realize how vital my dad has been in my life."



Another Lady Eagle said that her father has impacted her beyond measure. "My dad is so wise," she said. "I soak up everything he has to say, how he carries himself, and what he does. I want to grasp as much from my father as I can. I've seen what our family has gone through and how he's handled it. It's made me realize how strong he is. My dad—yeah, I'd do anything for him."

Single Parenting

Not all of the Lady Eagles had their fathers around. Some were raised

by their moms. Their relationship with their dad wasn't developed until they were young adults.

While growing up, one girl was mad that her dad wasn't there. "I was really hurt," she said. "But now, forgiveness has come. It's just good. None of those old feelings are there. It's almost like I don't remember it."

Another Lady Eagle admitted to being the one to initiate conversations with her dad. "I'm building that relationship," she said. "Still keeping him a part, and not separating."

Her efforts have paid off and the relationship is being restored. Many of their phone conversations end with them recalling a brief period when her dad was around. As a youngster, she had a toy lion. She would sit on it and roar. Now, before hanging up the phone, her dad often says, "Roar for me one more time."



**2015-2016 RHEMA LADY EAGLES
ACCA NATIONAL TOURNAMENT, 3RD PLACE
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*"My dad—yeah,
I'd do anything for him."*

"I know how it was not to have a father in your life while growing up," says a Lady Eagle. "Now that my dad's here, he's been such a great father. He's my biggest supporter and biggest encourager in everything I do. Not just in sports, but in everything in life. To go from knowing what it's like not having that, and now having it, I would never want to go back to not having my dad around."

Love Changes Lives

No family unit is perfect. There are always situations when relationships can become strained. The Lady Eagles are good examples of how showing love and forgiveness can triumph over such difficulties. As one Lady Eagle said, "I'm not giving up on the relationships God has given me. Never."

Demonstrating love and forgiveness has made a huge impact. Not only have some of the girls' relationships with their fathers been restored, but relationships with their mothers and siblings have improved too. And what better reward while preparing for ministry and chasing basketball championships than to see the lives of family members get turned around and become right with God!♥



CALL SOMEONE

Dads, call your daughters. Daughters, call your dads—regardless of the last time you talked. Let them know how much you love them. It will mean more to them than you may realize. Then let us know what your dad or daughter means to you. Share it on Facebook or email us.

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Look What the Lord Has Done!

THERE'S NO DOUBT that God hears us when we pray. Here are some testimonies of answered prayer!

"Here is an update on the **PRAYER REQUESTS** we've sent on behalf of my wife, Darcy, who was diagnosed with lymphoma. After being in the hospital twice, rehab for four weeks, and five rounds of chemo, **she is now cancer free**. To God be the glory! We wanted to thank each of you who prayed for her the many times I called! We are so very grateful to you all."

// DON

"**Our son and his whole team came home safe from Afghanistan**. This is the first time in a long while that everyone was safe. Thank you all for your prayers. We are so appreciative and grateful for your letters of **SCRIPTURES** and **ENCOURAGEMENT**." // JIM & COLLEEN

"A trip to the doctor revealed that I had a popcorn-sized nodule on my vocal cords. The doctor was amazed that I could speak, much less preach every week. He wanted to do surgery in two days, but I decided to believe God for my healing. I came to **CAMPMEETING** during a two-week vocal rest. I heard about speaking words of faith to see God's promise of healing come to pass in your life. I thought, 'How can I do that when I'm not able to talk?' I asked the woman who was leading in sign language how to sign, 'My voice is healed in Jesus' Name.' **I signed my way into healing!**" // STEVE

"I watched the **DVD** *Gathering Up the Spoil* and sang the song at the end. I'm guessing that's how my blessings came about. When my old computer had a meltdown, I prayed for God to repair it. I was totally surprised when **someone bought me a brand-new computer** and printer, plus a new updated professional writing program. And that's not all! They also bought me a brand-new refrigerator and filled it full of food. And that's not all! I was given socks, sunglasses, and an array of beauty products too. I didn't even ask for these things. I am very grateful!"

// CINDY

"I asked for **PRAYER** for my liver after they saw a cyst. After prayer, it was clear. **No cyst!** Thank you!" // ELISABETH

"I asked for **PRAYER** regarding my sales numbers. We had a great month of sales and are **among the best stores in the district and region**." // JOEL

"We deeply thank you for your dedicated **PRAYERS** for our son, Kirk. Serious reconstructive bowel surgery was successful beyond measure. The doctors were stunned at his unprecedented, rapid recovery. **He was back at work in a week to a healthier work environment and a boss who showed amazing compassion.**

Thank you, Rhema." // MARY

"Thank you for your **PRAYERS**. After three years of being homeless, **I have a three-bedroom apartment for me and my kids.**" // ROSA

"I asked you guys to **PRAY** for me to have favor with the IRS. You prayed and favor was granted! **The problem got solved within a week**, which allowed me to get a refund!" // GARY

"Last month I asked for **PRAYER** for my niece who was laid off and needed a job and an affordable apartment. Within a week of mailing the request, **she got a better job and found an apartment** at a better price than she was looking for. Thank you for lifting her up in prayer during that trying time. She now has her own experience of the love and provision of our amazing God!" // EVELYN

TELL US!

Hey! Let us know if you've been healed through this ministry! We'd love to hear your testimony. **Just share it** on Facebook or email.

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

—KENNETH E. HAGIN



KEEP YOUR GUARD



IN THE HOUR in which we live, it's more important than ever for us to set a watch against the devil's plots and strategies. Never before have I seen such harassment from the enemy. If we want to accomplish what God has called us to do, we must keep our guard up against Satan at all times.

There's a dramatic story in the Book of Nehemiah that illustrates how the children of Israel set a watch against their enemies while they rebuilt the broken-down walls of Jerusalem.

Nehemiah had rallied the people to begin rebuilding the walls. But some of their enemies heard what they were doing and became furious! They desperately tried to stop the work from going forward—first of all through their words.

Nehemiah 4:1–2 (NIV) says that when Sanballat heard the walls were being rebuilt he became angry and ridiculed the Jews. He said, “*What are those feeble Jews doing? Will they restore their wall? Will they offer sacrifices? Will they finish in a day? Can they bring the stones back to life from those heaps of rubble—burned as they are?*”

Although criticism causes many people to draw back, Sanballat's words didn't stop Nehemiah and the people in Jerusalem. They continued to rebuild the city walls.

When their work was half finished, their enemies became even more incensed. They plotted together to fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble (Neh. 4:7–8).

What did Nehemiah do? He gathered the people around him and said, “*Nevertheless we*



LYNETTE HAGIN

made our prayer to our God, and because of them we set a watch against them day and night” (v. 9 NKJV). They prayed first, and then they set a watch against their enemies day and night. And Nehemiah 6:15 says they finished rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem in only 52 days!

Pray, Pray, Pray

What Nehemiah experienced reminds me of what we sometimes go through in our own spiritual walk. We're trying with all of our might to build the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. But our enemies are tugging at us on every side.

The devil would like nothing better than to destroy us—to keep us from fulfilling the plan of God for our lives. What must we do? First, we must pray.

Nehemiah was a man of prayer. If we want to learn from his example, we must pray, pray, pray! And we must also let the devil know we mean business when we pray. James 5:16 says, “*The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working]*” (AMPC). We don't need to pray eloquent prayers. All God cares about is that we pray fervently from our hearts.

Notice that Nehemiah and the Jews were praying for something specific—their protection. They knew what they wanted and they asked for it in a definite way. We must do the same. We need to be specific about what we ask for when we pray.

Set a Watch

As Nehemiah and those who were helping him prayed, they also carefully set a watch against their enemies. The Bible says they held their weapons in one hand while they worked with the other hand.

THINK IT OVER!

Are there areas of your life you need to set a watch over? Don't wait! Take a moment right now to declare God's Word over those areas.

So many times we forget to set those watches against the enemy. We forget to keep our weapons ready. We let our guard down when we pray.

Of course, we can't just put up our fists and fight a physical battle against the devil. God has given us spiritual weapons to help us fight against the principalities and powers of darkness. (See Eph. 6:10-18.) But we need to set a watch *continually* against the forces of the enemy that would try to hinder our prayers.

For example, if we don't receive an instant answer when we pray, we must set a watch against discouragement. Instead of giving up, we need to keep on praying. We must keep on asking, seeking, and knocking, as Jesus said in Matthew 7:7 (NLT).

***Our God will fight for us.
He will see us through every obstacle
Satan throws at us.***



#RhemaWOF

If you have a tendency to get your feelings hurt easily, you can set a watch against offense. You need to keep your guard up and make up your mind that you're not going to allow Satan to cause you to get your feelings hurt.

If you're prone to depression, you can set a watch against that. Don't let the enemy depress you. If you've lost a loved one or suffered any other kind of loss, set a watch against grief. Refuse to let grief overtake you.

And then there's the temptation to talk negatively about people in leadership positions in the church. Set a watch against criticism and refuse to participate in that.

Above all, we need to be sensitive to what the Spirit may be telling us, individually, to guard against.

Averting a Terrible Loss

Several years ago, the heads of two major ministries in our area suffered a terrible loss when their houses burned to the ground. When the second fire occurred, I immediately said, "This is no coincidence. It's the work of the enemy." And my husband and I set a watch against a potential attack on our home by praying for God's protection.

Some time later we were awakened by a call from our alarm company, telling us our smoke detector was going off. We could smell smoke, and it smelled like an electrical fire.

Finally we discovered that the fan motor in our furnace had burned out. But instead of igniting a fire, the flames had just sputtered out. I firmly believe our house was spared because we set a watch against the devil's assignment.

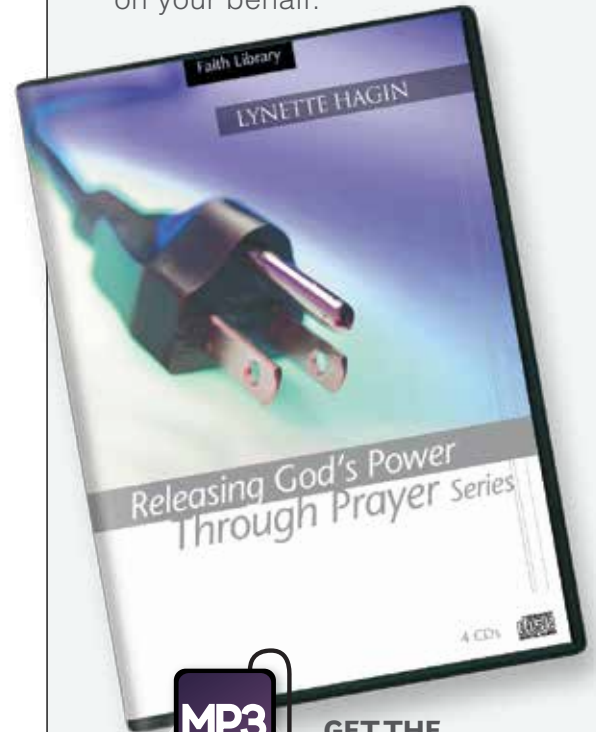
You might ask, "Do we need to set a watch continually?" Yes, we do! The enemy is not going to tell us when he's ready to launch an attack. We must constantly be aware of his tactics. We must set a watch against him day and night.

As we set our faces like flint, we can declare, as Nehemiah did, "Our God will fight for us." Our God is going to see us through every obstacle Satan throws across our path. And as we all work together for the cause of Jesus Christ, we will scatter the forces of the devil and be a mighty force for the Kingdom of God!♥

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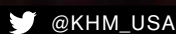
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MARKS OF SPIRITUAL MATURITY



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*“Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, **UNTO A PERFECT MAN**, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, . . . but speaking the truth in love, **MAY GROW UP** into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.”*

— EPHESIANS 4:13–15

EVIDENTLY PAUL didn’t consider the church at Ephesus to be grown up yet. Did you notice he said, *“But speaking the truth in love, **MAY GROW UP** . . .”*? And *“Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, **UNTO A PERFECT MAN**.”*

This is the King James translation. I think when it says “perfect,” our minds tend to run off on a tangent and we miss what he’s saying. Moffatt’s translation reads, “reaching maturity.” The *Amplified Classic* says, *“that [we might arrive] at really mature manhood.”*

Paul is talking about growing up spiritually, about reaching spiritual maturity, about becoming a full-grown person spiritually. God wants us to grow.

There are many scriptural characteristics of the manhood stage of spirituality. In this article we’re going to discuss just three: esteeming earthly things lightly, deadness to the censure or praise of men, and the ability to recognize God at work.

Esteeming Earthly Things Lightly

Hebrews 11:24–26 says, *“By faith Moses . . . refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter; choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; **esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt.**”*

When Moses grew up and became a man, he refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. Think about what he

refused. In the world he was in line for the throne. He had honor, wealth, and prestige. He had what the world had to offer. Yet he esteemed the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt.

One characteristic of growing up is to esteem earthly things lightly. **You cannot put earthly things above spiritual things and grow spiritually.**

Deadness to the Censure or Praise of Men

First Corinthians 4:3–4 says, *“But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you. . . . For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord.”*

Paul had grown in grace to such an extent that **he sought only to commend himself to God**. He was not influenced by what others thought of him. He did not get in bondage to anybody. It was not a carnal independence but a saintly dignity.

The law of love governed him. He was not easily puffed up, nor was he touchy or resentful. His spirit—where the love of God was shed abroad—dominated him.

Immature Christians will feel slighted or puffed up. If they are criticized—or even imagine that they are—they are restless, uneasy, and full of self-pity. On the other hand, if they are noticed and appreciated, they feel lifted up and full of self-importance.

Baby Christians are *self-conscious*, and ever-conscious of what others think about them. Therefore they are “tossed to and fro,” childishly trying to be popular.

The mature believer is *God-conscious*, and ever conscious of what God's Word says about him and to him. Because he is able to testify with Paul, "It is a *very small thing* that I should be judged of you or man's judgment," he is free to voice his convictions.

He fits the description given in First Corinthians 13:5 (AMPC): He is not conceited—arrogant and inflated with pride. He is not touchy or fretful or resentful. He takes no account of the evil done to him—pays no attention to a suffered wrong.

The Ability to Recognize God at Work

One of the best spiritual examples of this characteristic is Joseph. (See Genesis chapters 37–45.) In a dream he saw certain things happen. His brothers grew jealous and wanted to kill him, but they finally just sold him into slavery. He was taken to Egypt. Eventually he refused to bow to the wishes of his master's wife and was thrown into prison, where he stayed seven years.

Most people would have become bitter and said, "God has forsaken me." He interpreted a dream for a fellow prisoner—Pharaoh's butler—that he would be restored to his position. Joseph asked the butler to mention him to Pharaoh. The butler was released as Joseph said, but he forgot Joseph. It was two years more before Joseph got out.

Most folks would have grown bitter, saying, "That's the way it is. You try to help folks and they won't help you." But the time came when Joseph was brought out of prison and made prime minister of Egypt.

A famine caused Joseph's father to send his brothers to Egypt for food. They had to appear before Joseph because he was prime minister. They didn't know him. But he recognized them—the very ones who had sold him into slavery. He didn't tell them who he was.

Benjamin hadn't come with them. So Joseph told them they had to leave one brother in Egypt and go and get Benjamin. When they told their father, Jacob, he didn't know that it was God. Joseph was gone, and now they were taking Benjamin. He thought all things were against him. But they weren't. They were all for him. He just didn't know it.

You cannot put earthly things above spiritual things and grow spiritually.



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When you're hungry, you'll do about anything, so Benjamin went with them. When they got there, Joseph made a feast for them and announced, "I am Joseph." Do you know what happened? All those fellows hit the floor. That's what Joseph had seen in his dream—his brothers bowing before him.

Here would have been a fine opportunity for most people, who were still spiritual babies, to show off. This would have been the perfect time for Joseph to tell his brothers, "Remember those dreams I had? They came to pass."

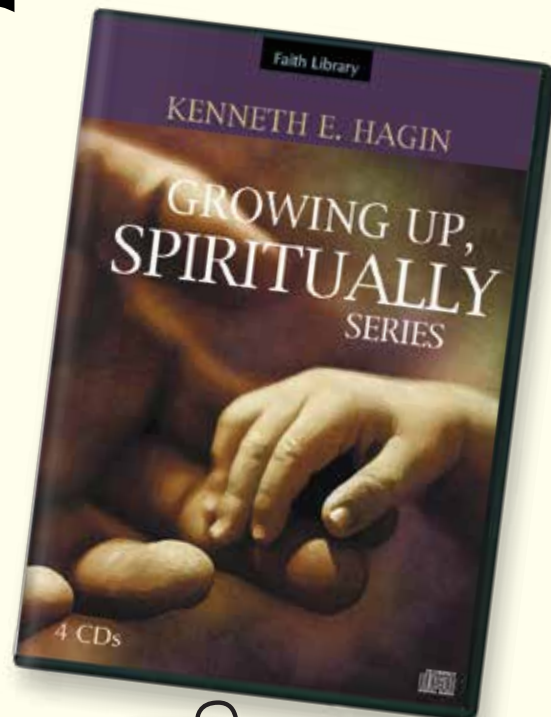
But Joseph had magnanimity of soul. He said in effect, "Don't worry about it—God did it." He said, "*Be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you . . . to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance*" (Gen. 45:5, 7).

When you can see God at work in things, you can rejoice whatever is going on!♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin's book *Growing Up, Spiritually*.]

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Get Organized!

LYNETTE HAGIN & DENISE HAGIN BURNS

LYNETTE HAGIN'S *Kindle the Flame Women's Conference* is designed to give both spiritual and natural help. During one workshop in 2014, Lynette and her daughter, Denise Hagin Burns, shared practical tips on de-cluttering the mess and simplifying life by organizing. Their goal was to help women be able to complete their to-do lists quicker and enjoy greater peace and order in their lives and homes.

Denise Hagin Burns

"By nature I'm not an organized person. It's just not in my personality. But I've learned to be organized. You may feel like your life would be so much easier if you were organized. And you may look at all the organized people and think, 'Why can't I be like them?'"

"I want to tell you that you can. I learned from one of the best—my mother—how to be organized. If you're not naturally organized, be encouraged. We're not born knowing how to talk or walk—we have to learn those things.

"You can surround yourself with people who are organized. I also read books and articles and study ways to do things faster and better. You can too.

"I like to balance the natural with the spiritual. I often pray, 'Lord, help me today to be organized. Show me faster and better ways to do things. Help me to be more efficient and productive.'"

Lynette Hagin

"I pray that way every day, too, because it's the Holy Ghost Who has helped me to be organized. Many times I don't know how to do something or accomplish something. And every day, I ask the Holy Ghost, 'Help me, lead me, guide me, and direct me. Take me to right places that will shorten the time it takes to do things. Help me organize my day.' And I tell you, He'll do it for you every time!"

"**Take baby steps toward being organized.** Choose the easiest place to start getting organized—maybe a little project. My husband preaches on 'speak to your mountain.' He tells people, 'Think of a mountain in your life. We're going to speak to that mountain.' But then he'll say, 'Now, don't take the whole mountain range.' I thought that was good. It's the same thing with organizing. Don't take the whole mountain range with organizing—just take one little thing at a time."



SPEAKER HIGHLIGHT

TELL US

Share one of your organizing tips with us on social media. Use hashtag #RhemaWOF.

10 Tips for Organization

- 1 Make lunches, set out clothes, and put **EVERYTHING YOU NEED FOR THE NEXT DAY** in a designated area the night before.
- 2 Place your purse, briefcase, cellphone, and keys in a **DESIGNATED AREA EVERY DAY** so you always know where they are.
- 3 Decide on a **BREAKFAST MENU** the night before. If the family is to have cereal, set out the cereal boxes, bowls, and spoons.
- 4 Make a **TO-DO LIST** for the next day, and prioritize the tasks.
- 5 **FILL THE GAS TANK** the day before so you won't have to think about getting gas if you are running late the next morning.
- 6 To organize your **BATHTUB AND SHOWER**, place your soaps, body wash, shampoos, and conditioners in shower caddies.
- 7 If you have no space in your bathroom cabinets for towels, roll them up and display them in a **DECORATIVE BASKET** next to the shower or bathtub.
- 8 **INSTALL HOOKS** on a wall or the back of your bathroom door for towels and robes.

- 9 Use **DRAWER ORGANIZERS** for makeup, jewelry, ponytail holders, and other loose items. (Plastic silverware trays found in the kitchen aisle fit the bill.)
- 10 Place **BASKETS** in your closet for laundry and dry cleaning. ♡

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Lynette and Denise's "Heart to Heart" Friday workshop during *Kindle the Flame* 2014.]



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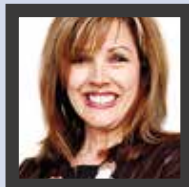
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How to Win Your Unsaved Loved Ones

KENNETH E. HAGIN



ONE OF THE QUESTIONS most frequently asked of me is how to get unsaved loved ones saved. This is my advice to you.

First, realize that the Father draws people through the Holy Spirit. **WHEN THE WORD OF GOD IS PREACHED, THE HOLY SPIRIT BRINGS CONVICTION UPON PEOPLE THROUGH THE WORD.**

Jesus said, “No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day” (John 6:44).

Second, pray that God will send someone across your unsaved loved one’s path. Jesus said in Matthew chapter 9, “Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest” (v. 38).

I don’t believe, however, that there are any rules you can establish in soul-winning that will work for everyone. God might lead one person one way and another person another way. **WE MUST ALWAYS BEAR IN MIND THE VITAL WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN DRAWING PEOPLE TO CHRIST.**

Sometimes the members of your family are the most difficult people to deal with. They won’t listen to you. Generally speaking, it is better for you *not* to try to deal with them. Now don’t misunderstand me—sometimes the Spirit of God may lead you differently. I’m just laying down some general principles here.

How My Family Was Won

I was a teenager when I was born again. Some of my family members were what we call nominal Christians. They knew Jesus was their Savior, but they didn’t know much beyond that. I was led by the Spirit of God never to mention anything to them about salvation—and that leading extended to other relatives like aunts, uncles, and cousins.

One way the Holy Spirit leads us is by an inward witness or inward conviction. I just had the conviction in my spirit that if my relatives saw reality in my life, they would all want it. (That’s true in the natural realm too.

If you know somebody has a good recipe, for example, you want it.)

According to the Word of God, “*Bodily exercise profiteth little: but GODLINESS IS PROFITABLE unto all things*” (1 Tim. 4:8). “Profitable” means that it pays off. Paul continued in verse 15, “*Meditate upon these things . . . that thy profit- ing may appear to all.*”

So I never said one word about the Lord to any of my close relatives, and I never asked any of them to be saved. Why? I was led not to. I knew in my spirit that I shouldn’t.

Don’t Nag

Too often people nag their unsaved loved ones until they don’t even like you to be around them. Through the years when we went to family Thanksgiving or Christmas get-togethers, I tried to enter into their normal activities and games.

Before I was converted and began to preach, my family never prayed at the table. But afterward, they always asked me to say grace. I never said anything else to them.

But one thing about it: *through the years, every one of them got born again!*

I have noticed that the two most common mistakes people make in dealing with their families are these: (1) They try to be super-spiritual, and (2) They overdo witnessing.

There’s an old proverb that says, “What you are speaks so loud I can’t hear what you say.”



#RhemaWOF

Yes, the Bible teaches witness- ing, but you have to realize that there’s an old proverb that says, “What you *are* speaks so loud I can’t hear what you say.” People who do a lot of talking may not have enough life to back up their witness.

I just let my life witness—and my relatives eventually all wanted the Lord. They saw something in my life that they wanted. I think that’s the greatest witness, actually. If you live the Christian life in front of people, it will influence your spouse, your children, and your other relatives.♥

[Editor’s Note: This article was adapted from the book *Ministering to Your Family* by Kenneth E. Hagin and Kenneth W. Hagin.]

By **Wisdom** Kings Rule

PATSY CAMENETI



PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Write to one of your government officials and say that you are praying for him or her!

WE ARE INSTRUCTED in First Timothy 2:1–4 to pray, make supplications, and give thanks for kings and all who are in authority. Since we have been told to do so, it would be reasonable to say we have also been authorized and commissioned by God to pray these prayers. So what do we pray for? What do we ask for on behalf of these kings and all in authority?

Proverbs 8:15 gives us a clue as to what is necessary for kings and all in authority to rule and govern rightly:

PROVERBS 8:15–16

15 BY ME [wisdom] KINGS REIGN, and princes decree justice.

16 By me princes rule, and nobles, even all the judges of the earth.

Solomon was a king known for his wisdom. He was his father David's choice from among all his sons to succeed him on the throne. Most importantly, he was God's choice.

Solomon had a dream in which God appeared to him and told him to ask for anything he wanted. Of all the things Solomon could have asked of Almighty God, he chose wisdom to rule and judge correctly. He recognized that even though he was God's choice as king, he still needed God's wisdom to rule worthily. God was pleased with Solomon's request and granted him unparalleled wisdom. So pleased was God with this amazing request that He even gave Solomon the things he *didn't* ask for.

Solomon's wisdom was evident in his ability to administer the affairs of state (1 Kings 4:1–28), in surpassing the wisdom of other world leaders (1 Kings 4:30, 34), in his composition of songs and poetry (1 Kings 4:32), and in his great understanding of the natural world (1 Kings 4:33).

THE FIRST DEMONSTRATION OF GOD'S GIFT OF SUPREME WISDOM WAS IN DIRECT ANSWER TO SOLOMON'S PRAYER TO BE JUDICIALLY

WISE. This wisdom caused Israel to be in awe of him. They recognized God's wisdom in him to do justice (1 Kings 3:16–28).

Two Sources of Wisdom

Solomon knew clearly that in order to rule his kingdom justly, he needed divine wisdom. **THIS IS TRUE FOR THE KING OF ANY NATION, AND FOR ALL OTHERS IN POSITIONS OF AUTHORITY.** The Bible speaks of two sources of wisdom. We know there is wisdom from God—or from above. But there is also wisdom from the earth, or from below (Isa. 29:14; 1 Cor. 2:5; James 3:14–16).

Where did earthly wisdom come from? In Ezekiel chapter 28, Ezekiel is talking to the King of Tyre, who is referred to as a created being, not as a man. Many theologians say this passage refers to Lucifer, and I agree with their interpretation.

When God created Lucifer, He made him perfect in wisdom. Lucifer didn't lose his wisdom when he grew lifted up with pride and fell. The perfect wisdom he was created with became corrupted. The wisdom which comes from below is this corrupted wisdom from Lucifer, or Satan, himself. It is with corrupt wisdom that he has built his house and rules the kingdom of darkness—a perversion of Proverbs 24:3.

Clearly, there are two kinds of wisdom from opposite sources. One comes from below and is corrupt; the other comes from above, from God, and is perfect.

It's important for us to pray and ask God for wisdom for kings and all those in authority. If we do not, then by default, the wisdom of this world will reign. However, our prayers can change that. ♥

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Thoughts

// LYNETTE HAGIN

"THE LORD WILL GUIDE YOU ALWAYS; HE WILL SATISFY YOUR NEEDS IN A SUN-SCORCHED LAND AND WILL STRENGTHEN YOUR FRAME. YOU WILL BE LIKE A WELL-WATERED GARDEN, LIKE A SPRING WHOSE WATERS NEVER FAIL."
— ISAIAH 58:11 (NIV)

OCCASIONALLY someone asks me, "What has the Lord been talking to you about lately?" My first thought is, "I don't think you have time for me to relay the many conversations I've had with Him." Next I think, "Most of what God has been saying is only for me to hear." Each of us should be talking to God and listening for His answers every day. I could not navigate my life without communicating with the Father continually.

However, in recent months the Lord has been talking to me about some things that I feel will benefit the Body of Christ. I want to share them with you in this column and in ones to come. I am sure most of you recognize that we are living in the last days. Paul said in Second Timothy 3:1 (NLT), "In the last days there will be very difficult times." I believe those difficult times are upon us.

As a child I heard many ministers preach about Bible prophecy. Even when I was young, this did not interest me. Why? No one, regardless of his Bible knowledge, knows the exact interpretation of the scriptures concerning the end times. I've always thought, "Why concentrate on something we do not understand nor can do anything about?" I am more interested in the Word of God that concerns my life and things I can do something about.

The Lord directed me recently to scriptures concerning the last days. And suddenly I saw a part that we can do something about. Matthew 24:42-44 (NKJV) says, "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his

house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

As I read this entire chapter (and I encourage you to do the same), my eyes focused on the most important words in it:

"YOU ALSO BE READY." When

I read that, I looked at the condition of the Church today and started weeping profusely. I realized how far the Body of Christ was from being ready for the Lord's return.

I began to scan the Scriptures for the expectations of the Church and found several that I feel are very important in preparing us for the Lord's second coming. Ephesians 5:27 (NKJV) says, "That He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish."

Jesus is returning for a holy Church. Of course, not one of us is perfect. However, we should strive to live a holy life, always honoring the Lord and following the rules He has set down in His Word. Romans 12:1 (NLT) says, "Dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him."

I also like Romans 12:2 in The Message Bible: "Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you."

I grew up in an era when my entire life revolved around church. Not only did we go to three services a week (and more when we had special meetings), but our friends, social life, and everything else we did was connected to church. Times have changed, and it's sad to see that very few activities and relationships today revolve around church. God often gets placed on the back burner. We put Him last on our schedule and sometimes even delete Him from our schedule for weeks at a time.

So to be ready for the Lord's return, we need to concentrate first on presenting ourselves entirely to Him. We need to live a godly life and make Him the very center of it. We will continue on this subject in the next issue.♥



Lynette



Kids' Page

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

Bible Mysteries

Use the clues and the secret code below to figure out who this Bible character is.

**I had a great victory
Upon a mountain top,
But a very wicked woman
Really wanted me to stop.**

**I ran away in fear and
Finally found a place to sit,
Then I cried out to the Lord
"God, I want to quit!"**

Who Am I?

Fill in the blanks with the letters in the box that match the symbols below the blanks.



A=* - C=⬤ - E=♠ - F=☀
H=★ - I=☆ - J=☼ - L=●
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**Paul Just
Would Not
QUIT!**

If anybody ever had good reason to quit, it would have been the Apostle Paul. Here is a list of bad things that could happen to a person that might make him want to quit doing what God told him to do. Only one of these **DIDN'T** happen to Paul. Which one was it? (Hints: Acts 28:3; 2 Cor. 11:23-27; 2 Tim. 4:10)

- A.** Getting stoned by an angry mob
- B.** Getting arrested and imprisoned
- C.** Being snake-bitten
- D.** Being beaten with rods
- E.** Being shipwrecked
- F.** Having friends leave you
- G.** Being robbed
- H.** Getting burned in a very hot fire

TWO WORDS YOU SHOULD NEVER SAY

Everyone goes through tough times, but there are two words that you should never say no matter how bad things get—"I QUIT!" Just imagine what would have happened if the great heroes of the Bible said, "I QUIT!" If Noah had said "I QUIT," all of his family would have died in the Great Flood. If Moses had said "I QUIT," the Israelites would have remained slaves in Egypt. And let's not even think about what would have happened to *US* if Jesus had said, "I QUIT!" Well, you've learned the two words you should *never* say. But now you need to know the seven words you *should always* say—"I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST!" (Philippians 4:13). No matter how difficult or hard something might seem, just remember that the Bible says *you* can do it . . . **through Christ!**

What's the DIFFERENCE?

You might think, "What difference does it make if I quit something that I'm having a tough time with?" What difference would it have made for Noah and his family and all the animals if he had quit building the ark when people made fun of him?



When you decide to quit something, your decision doesn't just affect you; it also affects others. Just as Noah's family and all of the animals counted on Noah to finish what God told him to do, there are people who are counting on you to finish what you started. Don't be a quitter! **NOW, find the DIFFERENCES between the two pictures above and DON'T QUIT until you find all TEN of them!**

jokes & riddles



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

What do you call a pig who is a karate expert?

A *pork chop*

What happens when two snails get in a fight?

They "slug" it out!

What can you use to cut the sea?

A "sea-saw"

Why can't two elephants go swimming together?

Because they only have one pair of trunks

Tongue Twister

Betty Botter bought a bit of butter. "But," said she, "this butter's bitter. If I put it in my batter, it will make my batter bitter. But a bit of better butter would make my batter better." So Betty Botter bought a bit of better butter (better than her bitter butter). And she put it in her bitter batter. And made her bitter batter a bit better.

Bible Mysteries
ELLIAH
ANSWERS:
H. Getting burned in a very hot fire.
Paul Just Would Not Quit!
What's The Difference?
1. There is a chimney on the roof of A. 2. There is a window above the lion's head in A. 3. There are roof lines on B. 4. Giraffe has spots missing in B. 5. Cat's eyes are different in B. 6. Lion's smile is different in B. 7. Hippo's teeth are missing in B. 8. Bird has two tail feathers in A. 9. Boat has nails in it on B. 10. Fish is purple in A.



Kenneth Hagin Ministries

P.O. Box 50126 • Tulsa, OK 74150-0126

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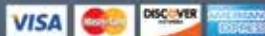
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