



# THE Word of Faith

SEPTEMBER 2017

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## The Holy Spirit's Constant Presence

Page 22

Healing:  
A Legal Right

PAGE 4

Offensively  
Bold Prayer!

PAGE 7

STAY PUT

PAGE 14



The Man Who  
Couldn't Be Saved

PAGE 19



# SAVE THE DATE!



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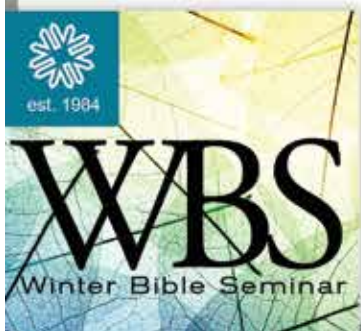
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In a similar way, Christians should not be individuals of inferior quality. Jesus paid a great price for us. We're to be people of excellence. Excellence will hold up when the goings gets tough. With excellence in our lives, no matter the circumstances or challenges that come against us, we'll stand strong in faith—we'll hold up!

When we have this quality operating in our lives, we will see our faith strengthened like never before. We won't be weak and timid, but bold and courageous.

How do we add excellence to our lives? By motivating ourselves with the Word of God. This is what fortifies our inner man. Speaking the Word against the enemy and resisting him. We withstand him by the truth of God's Word. This helps us walk in victory.

As we grow in excellence, we will be people of integrity. We will accomplish great things for God's glory and honor on this earth. We will shine brighter for Christ. We'll be strong and be immovable and bold in midst of any adversity the devil brings.

I encourage you to dive into this month's issue of *The Word of Faith*. Feed your spirit on the spiritual truths found in each article. We want to help you reach your fullest potential in Christ!

*Kenneth W. Hagin*

## THIS ISSUE



### 4 Is It God's Will to Heal You?

**KENNETH E. HAGIN**

Many believers question whether it is God's will to heal. Rev. Hagin gives the answer from God's Word.

### 14 Don't Move

**KENNETH W. HAGIN**

Being at the right place at the right time is critical for success. Learn how to stand strong and stay put when adversity tries to move you out of God's will for your life.

### 17 All Things Really Are Possible

**CRAIG W. HAGIN**

Facing a seemingly impossible situation? When we completely place our faith in God, He is able to get us through anything.

■ **SEED THOUGHTS** Page 22

■ **FAITH ACADEMY** Page 23



10

### ► Special Report:

Jay DePalmo always knew that God calls people to business just as much as He calls people into ministry. As a young Rhema student, he didn't realize that God was calling him into both.



# IS IT GOD'S WILL TO HEAL YOU?



**Timeless  
Teachings**  
of Kenneth E. Hagin

**SCRIPTURE REVEALS** the *nature* of God to us. It also reveals the *attitude* of God toward sin, sickness, and disease. God's nature has not changed through the ages. Neither has His attitude changed toward sin, sickness, and disease.

You need to know this to understand divine healing. In fact, the first principal fact you should know about divine healing is: *It is God's will to heal you, because healing is in His redemptive plan.*

The Bible says that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established (Matt. 18:16). Notice that the following texts from Isaiah, Matthew, and First Peter all agree that Jesus took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses.

## **ISAIAH 53:4-5**

**4** Surely he [Jesus] hath borne our griefs [sicknesses], and carried our sorrows [diseases]: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

**5** But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

This passage of scripture is taken from the *King James Version*. A good reference Bible will have a marginal note by the words "griefs" and "sorrows" (v. 4) to tell you that the Hebrew words are literally "sicknesses" and "diseases." Dr. Isaac Leeser's translation of *The Hebrew Bible*, a translation authorized for use by Orthodox Jews, reads: "Our *diseases* did he bear himself, and our *pains* he carried: while we indeed esteemed him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted."

## **MATTHEW 8:17**

**17** That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.

This text is clearer yet. Matthew is quoting Isaiah. If you check the reference, you'll find that he is quoting Isaiah 53:4. I like to say it this way: "Jesus took my infirmities and bare *my* sicknesses."

I read this verse for years before I understood what it was saying: Jesus actually—literally—took the cause of our sickness and disease. He took our infirmities and bare our sicknesses.

We know that Jesus was made to be sin for us (2 Cor. 5:21). The object of His sin-bearing was that we might be free from sin, and the object of His sickness-bearing was that we might be free from sickness. This truth is also reflected in First Peter 2:24:

## **1 PETER 2:24**

**24** Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

Thus, three witnesses—Isaiah, Matthew, and Peter—tell us not only that Jesus shed His blood for the remission of our sins but that with His stripes, we were healed.

## **Our Legal Right**

Jesus not only redeemed us from sin, He also redeemed us from sickness. So it *is* God's will to heal you. Never doubt it, because healing is in His redemptive plan.



Not only is healing in God's *redemptive plan*, but because Jesus sealed the New Covenant with His own blood, we also have a legal right to divine healing (Heb. 8:6; 12:24; 13:20)!

The New Covenant guarantees us the rights and privileges that Jesus secured for us, which include divine healing. In Mark 11:24 He said, "*What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.*" Therefore, we have a *prayerful* right to divine healing!

Then in Psalm 23:5, the Psalmist talks about Jesus as our Redeemer, saying, "*Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.*" Therefore healing is our provisional right—our Heavenly Father has prepared a table of provision for us, and it includes healing!

### Incline Your Ear

The Master is calling you to take your place at the banquet table and dine! He invites you to partake of divine healing and every other privilege that belongs to you in Christ! How? By inclining your ear to God's Word, because God's Word is His will.

Since God's Word is His will, you could say, "The Bible is God personally speaking to me."

Someone said, "Yes, I know what the Bible says about healing. But I don't believe it just that way."

Well, if you have that attitude, you are not inclining your ear to God's saying—to His Word. Instead, you are inclining your ear to your own beliefs and opinions.

Some Christians don't incline their ears unto God's saying because they always want to hear something new from the Word. When someone preaches or teaches on the subjects of faith and healing, they say, "Oh, I've heard all that before." But those folks aren't inclining their ears to God's sayings!

The Word doesn't work for you because you *have inclined* your ear once or twice to God's sayings. No, "incline your ear" is present tense. That means it's an ongoing, continual action.

Proverbs 4:20 and 22 says, "*Incline thine ear unto my sayings. . . . For they are life unto those that find them, and health*

## Stay in Faith

Healing is not always instant. Sometimes it is gradual.

By not realizing this, sometimes we make a mistake and lose out with God.

Someone once said to me, "Brother Hagin, in Bible days, people always got healed instantly."

I replied, "What about the 10 lepers? The Bible says that they were healed as they went" (Luke 17:14).

A woman wrote me, I came in your prayer line 10 months ago. When you laid hands on me, I fell under the power, but I didn't feel any different. I had had a stroke that left me with no feeling in my left arm and leg, and I had to get around with the help of a crutch.

I guess people didn't think I got healed, because I still was on that crutch when I left the meeting. When I got about two blocks from the church, suddenly a warm glow came through my leg and feeling was restored to my arm and leg. Now both are all right.

The Bible says, "They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover" (Mark 16:18). Sometimes it works that way. We need to know that healing is not always instant. When it is instant, thank God for it, but sometimes it is gradual.

[medicine] to all their flesh." Why should you incline your ear unto the Word of God? Because God's Word is medicine. It's a never-failing remedy for all your flesh, which includes everything that pertains to your life.♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin's study guide *Healing—Volume 1: God's Word on Divine Healing*.]

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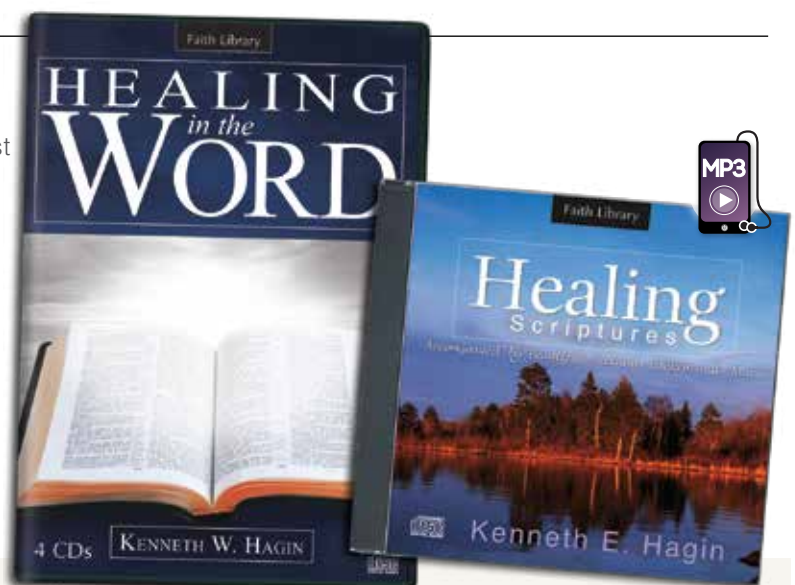
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# Prayer: The Courtroom of Heaven

KIRK DUBOIS

**PRAYER IS** working together with God to fulfill His plan on the earth. And we, the Church, are to be participants, not spectators. We are called to partner with the Holy Spirit and the Lord Jesus Christ. Mark 16:20 says that the disciples went everywhere preaching the Word, the Lord working *with them*. Likewise, we are to work with Jesus.

Effective prayer is a subject that needs to be taught. In Luke 11:1 it says, *“And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.”* The disciples watched Jesus pray. Notice that they didn’t ask Him to teach them how to do miracles, heal the sick, cast out demons, or preach.

The disciples understood that whatever took place in prayer with Jesus was the secret to preaching, teaching, healing, and casting out demons. What they observed impacted them so much that they asked Him to teach them to pray.

## Offensively Bold Prayer

Jesus proceeded to teach the disciples how to pray in what is commonly referred to as the “Lord’s Prayer.” Most Christians are familiar with this prayer. However, there is more to it than merely being something nice to pray. The verbs in this prayer are what’s called in the Greek, the imperative command present tense. This means that something is urgent, immediate, and necessary right now. The literal translation of the Lord’s Prayer reads like this:

### MATTHEW 6:9–13 (ONE NEW MAN BIBLE)

**9** Our Father, Who is in the heavens: Your name must at once be made holy:

**10** Your kingdom must now come: Your will must be done right now, as in heaven also on Earth:

**11** You must now give us today the things necessary for our existence:

**12** You must right now forgive our sins for us, in the same manner as we have completed forgiving everyone of everything, big and little, against us:

**13** And do not lead us into temptation, but You must now rescue us from the evil one.

**JESUS WASN’T TELLING THEM WHAT TO PRAY; HE WAS SHOWING THEM HOW TO PRAY.** They watched Him pray to the Father in this manner and realized that He had authority and power they didn’t have. He was showing them that the way to pray is with an urgent demand on the will of God.

The Lord’s Prayer is also recorded in Luke chapter 11. In Luke, after Jesus taught the disciples how to pray, He continued with a story.

### LUKE 11: 5, 7–8

**5** Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves;

**7** And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee.

**8** I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his *importunity* he will rise and give him as many as he needeth.

One definition of *importunity* is “the quality of being offensively bold.” It’s time for us to be offensively bold in our praying. The blood of Jesus gives us boldness to



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***We have a Just Judge who is looking for those who will come before Him and plead their rights against the adversary.***

go before God's throne of mercy and grace. Our responsibility is take the will of God in Heaven and implement it on the earth.

## Go Boldly Into the Courtroom of Heaven

Jesus gave the disciples another illustration of prayer in Luke chapter 18.

### LUKE 18:2-8

2 There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man:

3 And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.

4 And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man;

5 Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.

6 And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.

7 And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?

8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily.

*There are things designed in Heaven that will never take place on the earth unless the Church prays.*



#RhemaWOF

The point of the parable is that we should not stop praying. Interestingly, Jesus uses a legal situation to define prayer. There's a judge, an adversary (the prosecutor), and a widow who is petitioning the judge to appeal her case.

Our adversary—the devil—opposes our rights and our righteousness to steal them from us. But we have a Just Judge who is looking for those who will come before Him and plead their rights against the adversary.

### THE BLOOD OF JESUS IS WHAT ENFORCES OUR RIGHTS AND GIVES US ACCESS INTO THE COURTROOM.

Therefore we can stand confidently before the Judge of Heaven and believe for our prayers to be heard and answered. We also have an advocate—the Holy Spirit.

In a courtroom setting, the adversary would be the prosecutor who brings charges. The advocate is

the opposite of the prosecutor. He is the attorney who defends us. Great news! **THE SYSTEM IS RIGGED BECAUSE THE JUDGE IS OUR HEAVENLY FATHER.** Jesus and the Holy Spirit are our attorneys. What a legal team we have on our side!

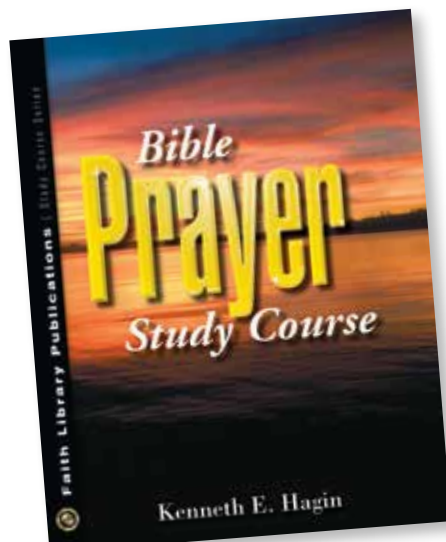
So in the court of Heaven—whether we're praying for our individual needs, our family, our nation, or whatever the situation—we are pleading the rights of those involved. And those rights are based on the will of God in Heaven.

God is calling each of us to a place of prayer. He wants us to take an active role in executing the will of Heaven on the earth. The realm of prayer is the primary place that God has given the Church to exercise authority. We must take our place and quit yielding territory to the enemy. God is waiting on us to go before Him and say, "In the Name of Jesus, Your will must come into this situation!"

Don't let the enemy and his false accusations of sin, weaknesses, and failure keep you from going boldly to the throne of grace. Put your faith in the blood of Jesus and pray earnestly. There are things designed in Heaven that will never take place on the earth unless the Church prays. Each one of us has an assignment, and we need to get busy. Let's get back to the seat of authority and take our place in prayer. 🖐️

[Editor's Note: Kirk DuBois is an instructor at RBTC USA.]

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## ‘I was on the verge of giving up on life’

*“I discovered Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin’s books months ago. They used to belong to my late mother and I had no idea the books were in the house. In fact, I probably would’ve never paid any attention to the books had it not been that I was clinically depressed, suicidal, and on the verge of giving up on life. I found the book *What to Do When Faith Seems Weak & Victory Lost*. I began to read it. Although I had been a “Christian” all my life, I found God. I don’t think it is humanly possible for you to know how much you help people like me, and those in even worse situations. Thank you.”*

—Besa

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# A Twofold Calling— CEO & Youth Pastor



“GOD CALLS PEOPLE *into business*  
JUST AS MUCH AS HE CALLS PEOPLE  
*into ministry.*”

“WHAT AM I going to do?” The writing was on the wall—his job wouldn’t last much longer. Young and newly married, Jay DePalmo, a ’96 graduate of Rhema Bible Training College, was about to take another step in God’s plan.

A building caught his eye as his car pulled up to an intersection. God’s voice surprised him, “*Go in and apply.*” It was the strongest Jay had ever heard the Lord speak in his heart—not audibly, just in his heart—so clear that he felt like turning around as if someone was in the backseat! Instead of continuing home, he turned the wheel, parked his car and went inside “Hobby Lobby” for the first time in his life.

## Climbing the Corporate Ladder

Within a week Jay was offered a co-manager position. He and his wife, Amanda (an ’05 RBTC graduate), packed their bags. The 18-year adventure would take them through Indiana, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Georgia before returning to the corporate office in Oklahoma City.

Every time Jay moved for his job, there would be a church in the new area that needed help. The DePalmos would roll up their sleeves with the attitude of, “If God has us here, let’s put our hearts into it—let’s do it for God!”

In the meantime, Jay and Amanda would attend *Winter Bible Seminar* and get refreshed. “I know Pastor Hagin gears WBS toward ministers, but he would say things that hit me right where I was at in the business world,” said Jay. “Every year, it was a charge-up week for me—plug in to the Word, get under the anointing, and let God minister.”

And every year Jay would see Rhema friends who graduated with him, now in ministry positions. He’d think to himself, “What am I doing?” But he kept checking in with the Lord and sensed that he was in the right place.

He remembers his expectation as a student, “If God calls you to Rhema, He calls you to ministry, not a secular job.” But when Jay graduated, the Lord started using and revealing talents for business that Jay didn’t know he had!

“I don’t think I saw the whole picture until a few years ago,” he said. “It wasn’t that I wasn’t going to do ministry, I just wouldn’t do it in a paid position.” God helped him get the career part of life right—successfully supporting his family—so he could do the ministry part as a volunteer.

## The Spirit and Business

“Learning how to be led by the Spirit in business and regular life is just as important as if you’re a pastor or a ministry leader,” Jay shared. “Rhema helped me rely on the Spirit of God—to know what the Lord is saying and how to pray and make decisions. That’s invaluable!”

The simple training of quieting himself and knowing what to do proved to be crucial. When one of Hobby Lobby’s struggling



JAY WITH STEVE  
& DAVID GREEN



## FAITH NUGGET

## Advice From Jay DePalmo

## Don't Despise Small Beginnings

Twenty years ago, it was easy for me to despise where I was at saying, "I'm just throwing groceries and unloading trucks. What I'm doing is not important." But it was important at the time!

I didn't realize it then, but it was through being faithful and doing those small things that God was able to get me where I needed to go.

Don't despise small beginnings! You've got to start somewhere. Do what you know to do—right now—and give it all to God. He will direct you right where you're supposed to go.

## Five Simple Keys to Success

- ▶ Honor God
- ▶ Encourage Others
- ▶ Pray
- ▶ Be Led by the Spirit
- ▶ Lean on God for Wisdom

markets needed a district manager, Jay stepped up to the challenge. "It was a mess! But I knew the anointing of God was with me," he recalled. "And it took a lot of anointing to turn it around."

Jay was young for the position, and leading managers was a new ballgame! But God showed him what to do. He believed for favor, leaned on God for wisdom, and prayed. "If you don't know how to pray the Word, you're just throwing stuff at the wind."

He prayed for the stores, the management, the recruiters, and himself. Many times a thought would come, "We need to focus on this." So Jay would move his people in that direction. Soon corporate direction would come about the very same thing he had in his heart. His district would then be ahead of the game.

After the Lord showed Himself faithful with the drastic turn around in Jay's district of stores, he sensed the Lord drop something new in his heart about a corporate-level position. He wasn't interested before, but suddenly he had a desire to do it! He thought, "I don't know if this is anything I want, Lord. Do *You* want me to run manufacturing?" God did, so Jay did. Once again, he found himself with a challenging opportunity to help bring leadership to a different area of the company.

Jay oversaw Hobby Lobby Manufacturing for several years. In time he saw the Lord repeat what He did when Jay was a district manager. This time it included several promotions along the way.

One day Jay was surprised by David Green, the founder and CEO of Hobby Lobby. David dropped in his office and said, "I've got something else I want you to do." He encouraged Jay to pray about the CEO position for Mardel, a Christian bookstore and education supplier.

"It wasn't anything I was looking for at all," Jay reflected. "I had no clue they were going to make a change!" But he sensed the Lord leading him. Today Jay DePalmo is at the helm, and he's bringing his well-tested reliance on the Holy Spirit with him.

blown roles as volunteer youth pastors. Jay laughingly shares that most people like the little kids but think teenagers are too difficult. "It's the exact opposite for me!"

"Sharing the Word of God, seeing the wheels turn as teenagers learn and grow—it's fuel to me," says Jay. He passionately believes that teens learn at a higher level than adults often give them credit for. They're digging into the Bible, asking questions, and seeking answers in the Word.

"We've seen a lot of teens get baptized in the Holy Ghost," says Jay. "That's a big thing!" They are endeavoring to be led by the Spirit, know God, and walk out the Word on their own—even when they have tough home situations. "When you've instilled in a young person to always go back to the Word of God, that's a great feeling!"

Jay counts it an honor to be part of what God is doing in the youth and a privilege to be working with the Green family. He says, "God calls people into business just as much as He calls people into ministry. I didn't realize for a long time that He was calling me into both! I often describe what I'm doing this way: 'I'm a CEO by day and a youth pastor on nights and weekends.'"

But when it comes down to it, it's not titles that are important to Jay DePalmo. Being known as a man who loves God—doing the best he can to follow God and take care of people—that's what comes out on top.♥

.....  
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## A Heart for Teenagers

Jay always had a heart for teenagers and focused on youth ministry at RBTC. Even though his corporate calling was quite different, Jay and his wife were able to freely help churches in a wide array of capacities with their ministry training from Rhema.

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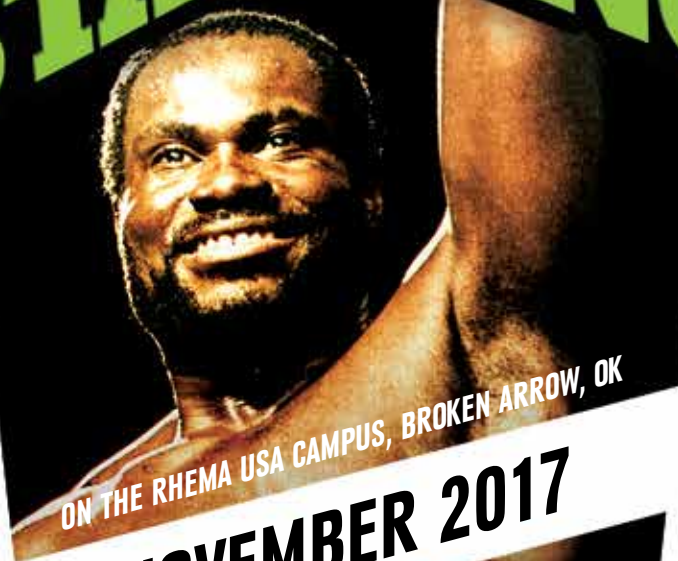
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# Covenant-Minded Champions

CHIP BRIM

**JUST FOR FUN**, I was thinking about who I would have drafted if I coached in the biblical days. I'd take David in the first-round draft pick. He had no fear. He attacked a giant as if it was no big deal. Then I'd take Abraham. He was fully persuaded and coachable.

I said, "God, I want to coach and train and help more Davids and Abrahams. Help me to do that." And I began to see how they were focused. They were dialed in to their covenant—like a scope!

God used a case study about accuracy in war to teach me. Soldiers used a phrase when it came to gunfire: "spray and pray." But later with study and training, they dramatically improved their accuracy and now focus on "one shot." God asked me, "Which are you?"

Are you a sprayer and prayer? Or are you dialed in and focused?

I thought about all the confessions and prayers. Now there's nothing wrong with a lot of prayers, but *dial it in*. Jesus taught it. Paul prayed it. In other words, "Lord let them see. Let them focus in on this. Adjust their vision so they can see clearly."

## Dial It In!

While this was happening, I was studying and praying about authority when the Lord said, "Dial it in." I knew what He meant. I'd go between praying in the Spirit and going to the Word. And then I saw it—the blood! There would be no authority without the blood of Jesus!

Just as I started to focus on the blood, I heard in my spirit, "Dial it in." So when I dialed in more, I saw it—covenant! Blood had to be shed because of covenant. And God said to me, "You want to teach and train more Davids and Abrahams? You've got to know covenant."

They were covenant minded! It was in their thoughts and mouths *all the time*. It's why they were champions.

I'm sure you've heard of God's Covenant. But is it on your mind right now? Does it come out of your mouth every time you pray, every time you confess, every time you speak to God? When you are covenant minded, there is no more "spraying and praying!" You're focused!

The Lord said to me, "I want you to continue to dial it in. There are people who will say, 'I'm in covenant. I'm born again. And God's not doing these things for me.' But you've got to know the legality of the thing."

So as I'm dialing it in more, God said, "I am a just God. I am the Judge. And everything has to be legal. I will

for *adversary* refers to someone who brings a lawsuit against you—and that's what the enemy is doing. He's constantly bringing accusations against you.

But when you repent, it's a legal action. Even the Greek word for *repent* is a legal term, not an emotional one. Repenting puts a gag order on the accuser. It's the legal thing to do so that God can back His Covenant with us.

Matthew 12:37 (KJV) says, "*For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.*" These are legal words. Everything's legal.

God isn't the condemning judge. He's the *just* Judge. He's the judge you want! Go to His courtroom. Use the power of repentance! Put a gag order on the enemy and stop him



not move unjustly. I will not change the spiritual laws just because of your situation." The covenant makes it legal for God to act.

## Take Legal Action!

Now watch this. Satan is called the accuser of the brethren and the adversary. In the Greek, the word

completely. *Then* declare and decree what is yours in the Covenant. *Then* use your authority against whatever has come against you. *Then* God can back His Covenant!♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Chip Brim's message at A Call to Arms 2016 Men's Conference. ]



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WHATEVER POSITION IN LIFE GOD HAS FOR US IS IMPORTANT.  
HE NEEDS US WORKING IN IT.



**KENNETH W. HAGIN**

**HAVE YOU EVER** heard the anonymous saying, “If you don’t stand for something, you’ll fall for anything?” William Lipscomb Jr. is credited with saying, “If your position is everywhere, your momentum is zero.” In other words, if you’re here, there, and everywhere, you will never accomplish anything.

Sometimes people get knocked out of their position because of circumstances. Unfortunately, some never fully recover to where they could have been if they had stayed where they were supposed to be.

Others refuse to let anything knock them out of their positions. They make continual progress even when they encounter tremendous opposition.

One of the secrets to success is learning how to stay put when circumstances come against us. We can learn a lesson on how to stand by looking at the life of Moses. He was a great leader but he had to learn to stay in position.

#### **EXODUS 14:13-14 (NKJV)**

**13** And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.

**14** The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.”

After the Israelites fled Egypt, they found themselves in a hard place. The Egyptian army was behind them. The Red Sea was in front of them and mountains surrounded them. They faced obstacles on every side.

It looked as though they had no way of escape. Moses told them to “*stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord.*” We can only imagine the outcome if they had tried to run or if they had tried to climb the mountains or swim across the sea.

It may not have made sense, but “standing still” put the Israelites in position to move when God told them to go.

#### **In the Center of God’s Will**

In our lives, we want to be in God’s perfect will. Getting out of position can cost us. We see in the Bible where God called people to certain places. If they hadn’t stayed where they were supposed to, they wouldn’t have been blessed.

God called Abraham to a certain land and that’s where he was blessed. Moses was called to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. If Moses had stayed in Midian, we wouldn’t have heard of him today.

Jesus told His disciples to stay in the upper room until the Holy Spirit came. The command to stay in Jerusalem, however, went out to more people than the just the disciples. On the Day of Pentecost only those who were in the upper room received the Holy Spirit. They were in the right place to receive.



God wants all of us to be successful and live victoriously in Him. Being in the right place and maintaining that position is vital for our success in the Kingdom of God.

First Corinthians 15:58 (NIV) says, *“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”*

Whatever position in life God has for us is important. He needs us working in it. We need to learn to stand in it, take some initiative, and be engaged in that position. In the same way a minister prays for the anointing to get up and speak, pray for the anointing to do your job.

## Out Front vs. Behind the Scenes

Some people have visible positions that appear to be more important than others. On a football team, there are quarterbacks, running backs, and wide receivers. The people in these positions seem to get all the glory.

But it's the people who are in positions that aren't visible that make the visible positions successful. The quarterback can't complete a pass if the offensive line doesn't block for him. Likewise, the running back won't gain any yardage if someone doesn't keep him from being tackled.

It's the same way in the Kingdom of God. Every position on God's team is important.

In church, the pastor has the most visible position. But he can't do it all. It's the people behind the scenes that make the church function as it should.

All churches are more than the pastor. The pastor leads the church, but the church's success is a team effort. When everyone on the team stands in their position and does what they're called to do, everything works well.

## Never, Never Quit

When we're in our position and adversity comes, we have to be determined to stay in our place. Ephesians 6:10 (NKJV) encourages us to *“be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.”* Verse 11 goes on to say that we can stand against the attacks of the devil when we put on the whole armor of God.

***One of the secrets to success is learning how to **stay put** when circumstances come against us.***

This is how we stand strong in the Lord, resting in His power, and doing what we're supposed to do.

So when undesirable circumstances come, resist the idea to cut and run. No one likes pressure, but success never comes when we run away. Instead, we must decide to depend on God to help us stand. When it seems like everything is coming against us, standing in the power of His might comes when we know who we are in Christ.

Successful military campaigns require a supply line of ammunition. Any military unit that has ammunition and the necessary resources, can push back the enemy.

The same is true with us. When we're standing on the promises of God in His perfect will, we have a supply line. All of the resources we need are found in the Word of God. Speaking the Word is our ammunition to defeat the enemy. It will give us strength on the inside to stand our ground.

Let's be determined not to allow anything to move us from our God-ordained positions. We must stay where we are until we accomplish everything God wants us to do. Being in the right position is when we will experience our best blessings. Let's do all we can for the Kingdom of God as we stand in our position for success!♥

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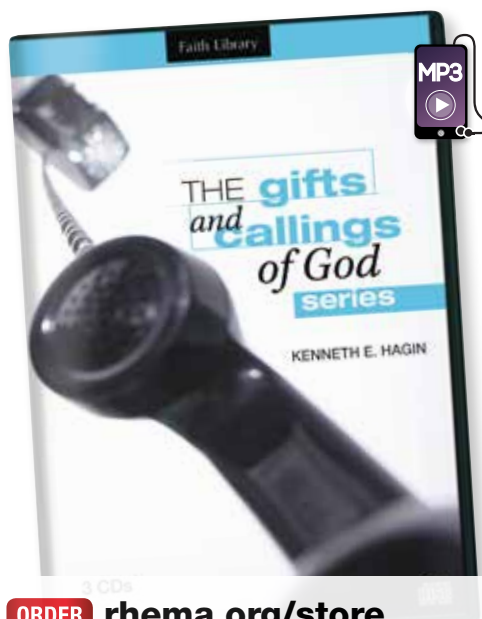
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# ALL THINGS REALLY ARE POSSIBLE

**IN LIFE**, there are very few situations we go through that are truly impossible. We might experience something that seems highly unlikely to happen. We may even face circumstances that appear to be against “most” odds.

We need to understand that what we’re going through is probably not impossible. But even if it were, it doesn’t matter. The Word says, “*The things which are impossible with men are possible with God*” (Luke 18:27 NKJV).

Although facts may stare us in the face and make situations look like they won’t change, facts can change. Regardless of what we are facing, the Bible assures us that *all* things are possible. “All” is an all-inclusive word. It means *everything*.

A lot of times, our focus is on the impossible or improbable situation. We’re constantly looking at and thinking about what we’re going through instead of focusing on God and what He can do. Sure, the circumstances can be tough and seem highly unlikely to change. But we need to quit worrying about what’s going on and start thinking about God.

But before God can solve our seemingly “impossible” problem, we first have to give it to Him.

## An Inhuman Trait

It’s human nature for people to worry. Every born-again Christian, however, needs to develop an inhuman trait, which is



**CRAIG W. HAGIN**

to put their trust in something that is not human. That something is God.

In First Peter 5:7 (NLT) we are told to, “*Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.*” When we’re worried about a situation, we need to say, “God, here! You take it. I’m tired of dealing with this.”

Now understand, if we start worrying about that situation again, we really didn’t give it to God. If we did, we wouldn’t be worrying. After casting our cares on the Lord, we just need to trust

Him and quit caring.

After casting a care on God, it may look like nothing has changed. If this happens, we can’t allow ourselves to be moved by what we see or how we feel. We can only allow the Word to move us.

## God Has the Answer

Really, our part is simple. We only have to believe. In Mark 9:23 (NKJV) Jesus said, “*If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.*”

Notice that this verse says “you.” It’s giving you some homework to do. It’s letting you know that *you* have to believe.

This scripture does not say, “If your pastor believes for you, all things are possible.” It doesn’t say if your momma believes or if you get enough prayer groups to believe. Jesus said if you believe—that means you have to do something. You have to believe.

# God Has the Answer!

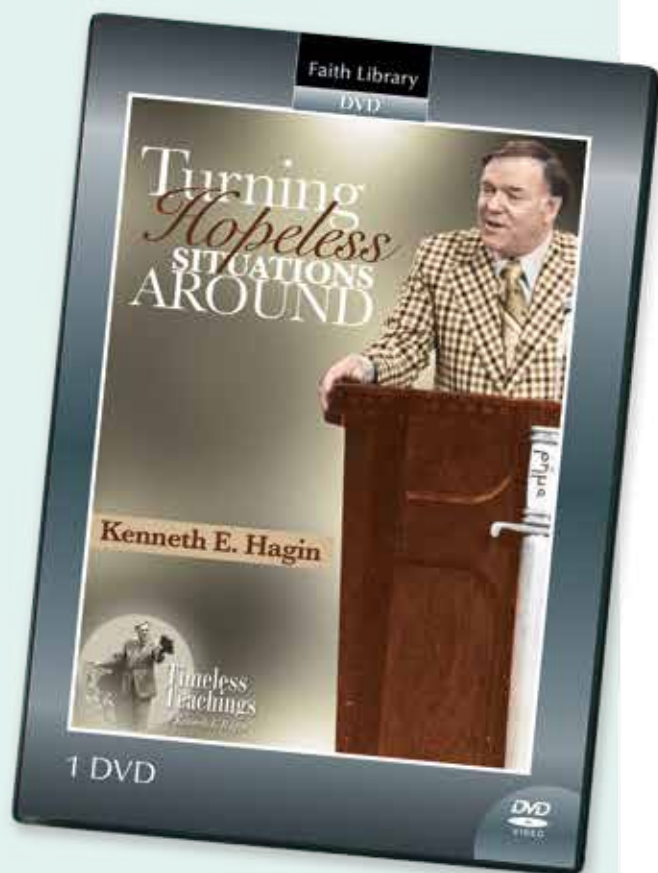
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And once we place our faith in God, we have to stop trying to figure out what we can do to turn the situation around. Doing this is putting our faith in ourselves. But when our faith is in God, we're letting Him provide the answers!

Again, it's really not hard to believe when we're not trusting in ourselves. When we're not thinking that we can do something to turn our situation around and make it possible. Our faith is in God and what He can do. And He can do the impossible.

THE BIBLE ASSURES US ALL THINGS  
ARE POSSIBLE.

"ALL" IS AN ALL-INCLUSIVE WORD.  
IT MEANS *everything*.

Sometimes we get in trouble because of the bad decisions we've made. We can feel that we deserve what we're going through, because we put ourselves there. But God still wants to help us.

Our Heavenly Father loves us. To God, it's not about what we deserve. It's about providing mercy and forgiveness. It doesn't matter how many wrong decisions we've made. Nothing can separate us from the love of God. Just think about how much earthly parents love their children. How much more does our Heavenly Father love us?

## Nothing—'No Thing' Is Impossible

It doesn't matter what a situation looks like, God can turn it around. The word *nothing* means "no thing." No thing is impossible to God, if you believe.

Our faith must be in God alone and not in other people. God's Word tell us, "*that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God*" (1 Cor. 2:5 NKJV).

It doesn't matter what the doctor says, the lawyer says, or what our bills say. Our faith is not in people or things. Our faith is in God.

Sometimes we have to get man's wisdom, or earthly wisdom, out of our minds. This can be hard because we live in a society where we have been educated from a young age. But it doesn't matter how much schooling or how many degrees we have. We may be able to figure some things out, but we can't figure everything out.

So remember that whatever the "impossibility" may be, it can be turned around when we place our faith in God and in His power and authority. God will help us to overcome in any situation.

Philippians 4:13 (NKJV) says, "*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*" This verse isn't saying that we can do all things in ourselves. It's saying that if we know who we are in Christ and put our trust in Him, we can do all things.

## THINK IT OVER

Concerning any situation that seems impossible, how can you place your faith in the wisdom and power of God and not man?

We might be weak in ourselves, but in Him, we're strong. We can paraphrase Philippians 4:13 this way, "I will do all things because I put my trust in Jesus Christ, my Strengthener!"

To get through any situation that looks impossible, let's completely put our faith in God. When we do, the impossible becomes possible. 🙏



# The Man **Who Couldn't** Be Saved

KENNETH E. HAGIN

**GIPSY SMITH**, the British evangelist, used to tell a story about a man who came to the altar in one of his London meetings. Gipsy saw others hadn't been able to help him, and he was struggling, so he went over to talk to him.

The man said, "I can't be saved." "Oh yes, you can," Gipsy said. He told him no matter how deep in sin he was, God would save him.

The man said, "You don't understand. I work in the bookkeeping department of a certain company. I've stolen 10,000 pounds over the years and covered it up. If I get saved, I'll have to straighten this up. My boss is a hard man. He'll have me put in the penitentiary!"

Gipsy told him, "It would be better for you to be saved and spend the rest of your life in the penitentiary and go to Heaven when you die than it would be to remain unsaved and go to hell."

"That's too big a price to pay," the man said, and he left.

The next morning as Gipsy descended the staircase into the hotel lobby, he looked out the lobby windows and saw a man running down the street. This man crossed the street, flew through the hotel's doors, ran up the stairs, and threw his arms around Gipsy.

"It's just like you said!" he shouted. **"EARTH HAS NO SORROWS THAT HEAVEN CANNOT HEAL!"**

The man told Gipsy his story. "Last night," he said, "I went home and couldn't sleep a wink. I laid awake all night wrestling with that thing. Finally I decided I'd go straighten it out this morning."

He continued, "This morning I stood outside the company president's office for 10 minutes, trying to get enough courage to go in. Finally

I told myself, you've got to do it! I opened the door, stepped inside, and was speechless. The president said, 'Speak up. My time is valuable. What do you want?'

"I said, 'I went to Gipsy Smith's meeting last night.' And he said, 'Well, did you get saved? Everybody else who goes there does.'"

"'No,' I told him. 'I didn't get saved. That's why I'm here.'"

"The president said, 'There's no use coming to see me. I'm just an old sinner. I don't know anything about it.'"

"'But you don't understand,' I said. 'I've stolen 10,000 pounds from this company. I have to make it right.' I began to weep. I said, 'I want to make Heaven, and that thing stands between me and God.'"

"My employer chomped down on his cigar and said, 'I'm sending you to the penitentiary. You're the most trusted employee I had. I met with the Board of Directors just last week. They voted to promote you to that desk right over there next to my secretary. But now I'm going to send you to the pen.'"

"I told him, 'Well, that's alright, bless God. **THE BURDEN'S GONE NOW, AND I'M HAPPY.** I'll just spend the rest of my days shouting in the pen.'"

"The president said, 'On second thought, I believe what I'll do is promote you. You can get enough extra salary per year to pay back that 10,000 pounds with interest in several years.' Then he said, 'Man, just take the day off. You've found God.'"

As the bookkeeper told his story, both he and Gipsy started shouting and praising God!

Just like the bookkeeper, God wants to show you His salvation. If you are ready to make Jesus your Lord and Savior, pray the following prayer from your heart:

**God,**

I come to you in the Name of Jesus. I admit that I am not right with you. And I want to be right with You. I believe in my heart that You did raise Jesus from the dead, and I confess that He is my Lord and Savior.

Pray This!

If you prayed this for the first time, email us at [PartnerService@rhema.org](mailto:PartnerService@rhema.org) or call us at **1-800-54-FAITH (543-2484)** and let us know about it. We'd love to send you some free materials to get you started in your new life as God's child!

HE TOLD HIM NO  
MATTER HOW DEEP  
IN SIN HE WAS, GOD  
WOULD SAVE HIM.





# ROCKETS OVER RHEMA 2017

AS STORMS THREATENED in the distance, *Rockets Over Rhema* began with a bang. The talented members of Rhema Bible Church shared their hearts and passions with the patriotic musical *Let Freedom Ring!* Between the videos, music, and skits, the auditorium was filled with laughter and standing ovations honoring those in the United States armed forces.

The joyful showcase was not dampened by the rain that swept across the campus. Awaiting dry skies outside were inflatable games, face painting, an array of vehicles in the car show, and the delicious carnival-style food fare. Synergy Band moved indoors to the Rhema Bible Church auditorium stage and kicked off the concert.

After the rain ceased, crowds streamed onto the Rhema campus. Delicacies such as fried cheese and funnel cakes appeared in people's hands. Families roamed the kid-friendly fun, registered for giveaways, and picked the perfect spot to watch the fireworks. Light-up swords seemed to multiply as dusk deepened.

On the outdoor stage, Kenneth and Lynette Hagin greeted everyone and praised God for the turn in the weather. It was a testimony of faith in action with Kenneth Hagin's confession, "I cannot be defeated, and I will not quit. *We're having Rockets!*" Since it began in 2004, *Rockets Over Rhema* has never been cancelled because of bad weather.

The Christian rock band Abandon echoed the sentiment with the song "Warrior" from their *Love Prevails* album. Nearly 2,000 people viewed the live video clip on Facebook.

The Afters took the stage and proceeded to pour out heart, soul, and music to bring people closer to the Lord and lead up to the much-anticipated fireworks display.

When the lights dimmed throughout the campus, a wave of expectation rippled through the masses and erupted with the first explosion. Amidst the oohs and aahs, the fiery testament was launched high into the night sky in celebration of freedom—both as a nation and as Christians.

If you're looking for a destination getaway to celebrate Independence Day (USA), mark your calendars for July 1, 2018, and join us!♥





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"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)

## THE HOLY SPIRIT'S CONSTANT PRESENCE

RECENTLY WHEN I arrived at my office, I discovered that I had left my cell phone at home. "No big deal," I thought. "I should be able to survive eight hours without my cell phone." I had access to my office phone if I needed to contact someone. I was going over my paperwork when suddenly I needed information that was on my cell phone. My thoughts were, "I'll take care of that tomorrow."

Time and time again as I was processing paperwork, I found that I had committed so much information to my phone that it was hindering my ability to function properly. Finally in exasperation, I decided to go home and get my cell phone in order to complete the tasks ahead.

As I was driving home I thought, "Lord there must be a lesson in this interruption." I detest wasting time, and I was upset that forgetting my phone had cut into my planned tasks for the day.

The Lord said the following to me, "You didn't realize how important that cell phone was to you. You didn't realize that it was almost impossible to navigate your tasks without it. You have it with you constantly and are continually putting important information into it."

"Just as you didn't realize the importance of that phone, many people do not realize the importance of the Holy Spirit in their lives. He is there constantly for them. The reason they are so stressed is because they are not calling upon the Helper that I have provided for them."

Then the Lord brought me to the scene of when Jesus was about to leave this earth and was giving His final instructions to the disciples. I am sure Jesus sensed that the disciples were distraught because He was leaving. After all, whenever they had a question, they simply asked and He answered them. I can imagine them thinking, "What are we going to do? We won't have anyone to answer our questions nor give us the wisdom we will need to handle situations."

Jesus answered them in the following passage scripture.

*"And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever—the Spirit of Truth, Whom the world cannot receive (welcome, take to its heart), because it does not see Him or know and recognize Him. But you know and recognize Him, for He lives with you [constantly] and will be in you" (John 14:16–17 AMPC).*

Jesus continued His explanation in John 14:26 (AMPC): *"But the Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, Standby), the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], He will teach you all things. And He will cause you to recall (will remind you of, bring to your remembrance) everything I have told you."*

As I was recalling these verses, it brought to me the following: With my natural tasks, I rely on information stored in my cell phone. I keep my phone with me constantly so I may put information in it that I will need for the future.

More important than having my cell phone with me is recognizing that the Holy Spirit is with me constantly. However, He does not help us unless we give Him an invitation. The Holy Spirit has been given to us to assist us in navigating our daily lives. We must recognize that He is always with us and call upon Him.

When you need comforting, all you have to do is call upon Him. When you need advice the Holy Spirit is there to give you the perfect answer to your situation. When you need strength for the task in front of you, draw upon His strength. Stay sensitive to His voice and He will show you things to come. He will help you in every decision. He will give you the right words in critical situations.

I could not navigate life without the Holy Spirit. I am so thankful that He is constantly with me to lead, guide, and direct. I encourage you to recognize the importance of the Holy Spirit in your life. Call upon Him daily to assist in whatever you need. ♥

*Lynette*







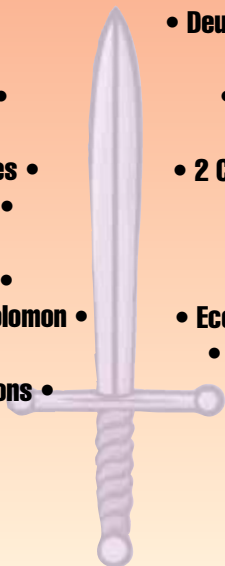
# Kids' Page

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

## GET YOUR SWORD IN ORDER

If you are skilled at using your sword (the Bible), then you should know the order of the books of the Bible. Draw a line to connect the books of the Old Testament in their correct order. The first three have been done for you. Use the index in your Bible to see if you're right.

- Genesis •
- Numbers •
- Joshua •
- Judges •
- 2 Samuel •
- 1 Kings •
- 1 Chronicles •
- Nehemiah •
- Esther •
- Proverbs •
- Song of Solomon •
- Isaiah •
- Lamentations •
- Hosea •
- Joel •
- Jonah •
- Nahum •
- Zephaniah •
- Haggai •
- Exodus •
- Leviticus •
- Deuteronomy •
- Ruth •
- 1 Samuel •
- 2 Kings •
- 2 Chronicles •
- Ezra •
- Job •
- Psalms •
- Ecclesiastes •
- Jeremiah •
- Ezekiel •
- Daniel •
- Amos •
- Obadiah •
- Micah •
- Habakkuk •
- Zechariah •
- Malachi •



## You Figure It Out

Based on what you know about the armor of God in Ephesians chapter 6, how can you tell that this soldier retreated from the enemy? Think it through carefully.



## How Sharp Is YOUR SWORD?



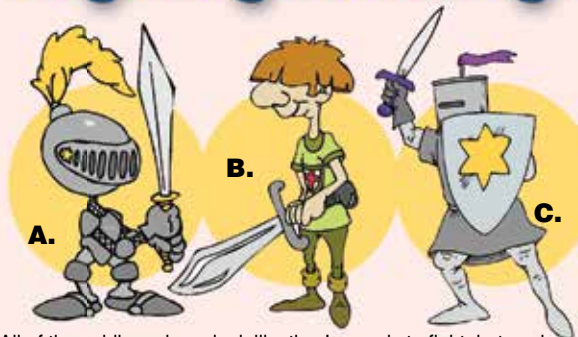
Hebrews 4:12 tells us that the Word of God is living and powerful and SHARPER THAN ANY TWO-EDGED SWORD. God's Word (the Bible) is a weapon that God intends for you to use against your spiritual enemy, the devil. But if you rarely read it or study it, how effective can this weapon be for you?

Let's imagine for a moment that the only way you can "sharpen" your sword is by reading and studying your Bible. That being the case, underline the phrase below that best describes the "sharpness" of YOUR sword.

- A. Couldn't cut through warm butter.
- B. A paper cut would hurt more.
- C. Sharper than any two-edged Popsicle stick.
- D. So sharp that it inflicts pain on the devil every time I use it.

If you underlined A, B, or C then it's time for you to "sharpen" your sword. Second Timothy 2:15 tells us to *"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."* Read and study God's Word and keep your sword SHARP!

## Forgetting Something?



All of the soldiers above look like they're ready to fight, but each one of them is forgetting at least one item from the full armor of God that we find in Ephesians chapter 6. See if you can find the items that each one is missing.

**You Figure It Out**  
The soldier pictured has been shot in his backside so we know that he must have been retreating from the enemy because there is no protection for your backside in the armor of God. Think about it... God never intended us to retreat from the enemy or there would be protection for our back.  
A. Missing the shield of faith  
B. Missing the helmet of salvation, breastplate of righteousness, and the shield of faith  
C. Missing feet shod with the preparation of peace and breastplate of righteousness

ANSWERS:

## jokes & riddles



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

How does the biologist like to communicate?

With his "cell" phone

What is black when you buy it, red when you use it, and grey when you throw it away?

Coal

**John:** Why does your sister jump up and down before taking her medicine?

**Sam:** Because the medicine label says to "shake well before using."

A mushroom walked into a restaurant and the waiter said "You look like a fungi!" (fun guy)

**Teacher:** You missed school yesterday, didn't you?

**Pupil:** Not very much!

What did the traffic light say to the car?

Don't look; I'm changing.

There are three houses. One is red, one is blue, and one is white. If the red house is to the left of the house in the middle, and the blue house is to the right of the house in the middle, where is the white house?

In Washington D.C.

Imagine you are in a room, with no doors, windows, or anything. How do you get out?

Stop imagining



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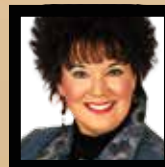
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## SPEAKERS



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"You, Lord, keep my lamp  
burning; my God turns my  
darkness into light. With  
your help I can advance  
against a troop; with my  
God I can scale a wall."

—PSALM 18:28-29 (NIV)

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