



THE Word of Faith

JUNE/JULY 2017

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

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PLEASE SHARE WITH A FRIEND OR RECYCLE.



Forget Not His Benefits

All the benefits God has provided for us to enjoy in Christ are ours now. And it is up to us to receive His benefits, and not forget what He has done.

One of God's wonderful benefits is that He crowns us with lovingkindness and tender mercies (Psalm 103:4).

This is so important to remember because there are so many people, even believers, who have been abused physically, verbally, emotionally, and mentally. Because of their past, they have deep wounds and hurts from lack of love, rejection, and betrayal. But God has said, "I will never leave you, nor forsake you."

If you have hurts inside you, God is saying to you, "I will never forget you! You can always count on me. I will never betray you!"

In the midst of any rejection and betrayal you may have experienced from others, always remember this: God loves you, and He will always be with you. God will never separate Himself from you. To become separated from God, *you* would have to be the one to separate yourself from Him.

Let the love of God flood your heart! Tell yourself over and over, "The Lord crowns me with lovingkindness and tender mercies." Don't ever let yourself forget this precious benefit!

Faith does not pretend there is no hurt. And faith does not deny the circumstances. But faith looks beyond circumstances to the Word.

There is no denying that when someone rejects you or when you lose a loved one, it hurts. But faith applies the living Word of God to the situation. Faith in the Word allows you to rise above your circumstances because true faith won't settle for anything less than enjoying God's benefits. Your Heavenly Father is more than able to bring you restoration and healing.

I encourage you to dive into this month's issue of the *Word of Faith*. Each article will reveal more of God's amazing love towards you and teach you how to remain strong in Him in spite of life's challenges. You are more than a conqueror!

Kenneth W. Hagin

PS. Happy Independence Day to those of you in the U.S., and happy Canada Day to our friends farther north.

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Rhema graduate Priscilla Gagné, an Olympic judo competitor, is legally blind. Read her story of faith and determination to reach the 2016 Paralympics.



SPiritual FREEDOM STARTS
FROM WITHIN.

Living Free

THE BLOOD OF CHRIST makes it possible for us to be free from the dominion of the devil. But when Jesus died on the cross, all of mankind did not automatically become born again. The choice to accept freedom from the devil's tyranny is ours to make.

Many Christians say they're free, but are they? One definition of freedom is "not being confined." The freedom we have in Christ should mean that we aren't confined by the enemy anymore. Unfortunately, it's obvious that many people still are.

Second Corinthians 3:17 (NIV) says, "*Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.*" Where is the Spirit of the Lord? He's inside of us. Spiritual freedom starts from within. Some Christians are in bondage because they don't realize that they've already been set free.

Jesus said, "*I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly*" (John 10:10 NKJV). Because Jesus died, we can live. We can have an abundant life if we realize what's in us. We must understand who we are in Christ, or we will never experience the freedom that can be ours.

Perspective Matters

We see from Romans 8:2 that "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ has made us free from the law of sin and death."

If we don't realize this, we'll constantly look at what's going on around us instead of what the Word says. We'll listen to the doctor and meditate on the diagnosis instead of focusing on the fact that by the stripes of Jesus we are healed (1 Peter 2:24). We'll look at our bills and wonder how they'll get paid instead of



CRAIG W. HAGIN

looking to God Who promises to supply all of our needs (Phil. 4:19).

From what perspective do you view life? Do you see yourself free? Or do you focus on the things that are happening around you?

To have life and peace, we must be spiritually minded. If we want to be free, many of us will have to change our mindset. We have to understand that what happens around us is subject to change. We'll have to decide that we're going to be free, that we're going to live in peace, and

that we're going to be healed. All of these things have been given to us. And like salvation, experiencing the blessings of God is a matter of choice.

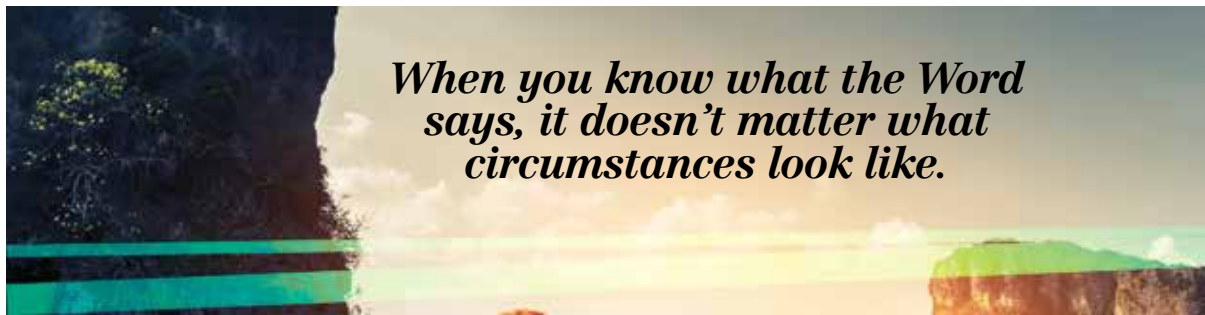
In Romans 8:1 (NKJV), we are told not to "*walk according to the flesh.*" People often think that "flesh" refers to sin. But it also can be paying more attention to what's around us instead of looking to the Word.

You Decide

We're constantly faced with choices. Are we going to allow the inside to come out or to let the outside come in? We can choose to have the mind of Christ or we can choose not to. We can choose to focus on a situation or we can look to the Spirit of God inside of us.

What moves you? Is it the Word of God? When you know what the Word says, it doesn't matter what circumstances look like. What matters is that you know you've been made free.

Paul and Silas understood this. In Acts chapter 16, they were put in jail for preaching the Gospel. Although they didn't have



freedom on the outside, they knew who they were on the inside. As a result, freedom reigned in their lives.

ACTS 16:25 (NKJV)

25 At midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.

How could they praise God after being beaten and thrown in jail? Because they weren't dependent on what was happening to them to experience freedom. They didn't know *how* God was going to deliver them. Their faith was in His power and ability, not their own. That's how they could lift their voices and sing.

Verse 26 goes on to say, "*Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.*"

What an example of how freedom on the inside resulted in freedom on the outside! Not only were Paul and Silas set free, but so was everyone in the prison. The jailer, along with his entire household, also received spiritual freedom (v. 31). This happened because two men understood the freedom they had in Christ.

What Controls Us?

The mind is never supposed to dominate the spirit. Romans 8:6 (NKJV) says, "*For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*" We need to remember that we have the mind of Christ, and we can think the way God thinks.

When the circumstances of life come against us, it's easy to start out like Paul and Silas. We can pray and believe that everything is going to turn out good. But what are we going to do when something happens and it looks like everything is falling apart? We can't allow worry, doubt, and unbelief to grab a hold of us.

If we do, we're letting outside forces control us. We're allowing something other than the Word of God to influence us. And that's not freedom.

Christ made us free so we're no longer entangled in bondage. Unfortunately, people get caught up in stuff all the time. It could be bondage to sin, ill-health, wrong thinking, anger, or depression. Jesus didn't die on the cross for us to be in bondage to any of these things. He sacrificed His life so we can be free.

So whenever we face adversity, let's turn our thoughts inward, not outward. Looking outward will produce death, disease, sickness, and poverty. But when we look inward, we'll find life, health, freedom, peace, joy, love, compassion, and mercy. Looking inward doesn't ignore what's happening around us. It's being confident that our situation will change because we know who our God is.

Understanding who we are in Christ is understanding the freedom we have through Him. Scripture says that where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom (2 Cor. 3:17). Let's rejoice because we have freedom inside of us! ♥

SPECIAL OFFER

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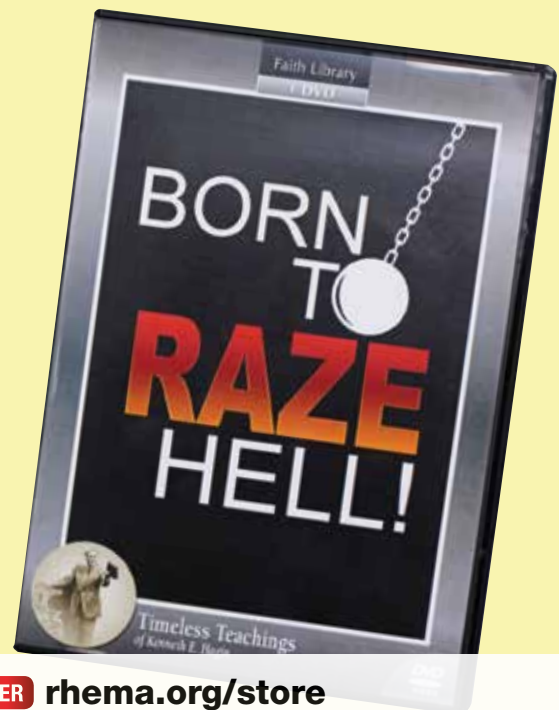
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Living in the Love of God

KENNETH W. HAGIN



GOD'S LOVE IS
THE MOTIVATING
FORCE BEHIND
EVERYTHING HE
DOES.

GOD'S LOVE is the motivating force behind everything He does. His Son, Jesus, came to the earth so you might *"have life, and have it to the full"* (John 10:10 NIV). The only way to experience this fullness of life is to live in the love of God.

God's love for us is almost beyond human comprehension. The magnitude of His love cannot be fully communicated. The Apostle Paul wanted mankind to "grasp how **WIDE** and **LONG** and **HIGH** and **DEEP** the love of Christ is" (Eph. 3:18 NIV). He used these descriptive words so we could see how much God loves us.

If you've ever looked over the edge of the Grand Canyon, you know it's a long way down. God's love is deeper.

Or maybe you've stood on the shores of the Atlantic or Pacific oceans and looked out across the water. You may have thought that it's a long way to the other side. God's love is longer.

At one time the SR-71 Blackbird was the fastest jet in the world. It soared at heights of up to 85,000 feet and at speeds of more than 2,000 miles per hour. God's love is higher and faster.



YOU ARE TO BE
known BY YOUR
lifestyle
of love
TOWARDS OTHERS.



There is no end to God's love. It reaches you wherever you are. Even when you've messed up, the love of God is there to pick you up, brush you off, and say "I forgive you."

The love of your Heavenly Father will keep and protect you when nothing else can. It will strengthen you when you feel like you can't go on. It will comfort you when you've cried your last tear. When everything else has failed, the love of God will lift you out of any situation. God's love never runs out and it never fails!

You can live your life to the full when you let God's love permeate you and flow out from you. Jesus gave a new command and that is to love one another. You are to be known by your lifestyle of love towards others (John 13:34-35). It is impossible to love unconditionally without having the love of God dwelling in you and living in it!

There are a few steps that must continually be applied to consistently live in God's love.

FIRST, feed on the Word of God.

SECOND, before saying anything about someone, ask, "What would love say or do?"

THIRD, pray for those who come against you and mistreat you.

Everyone encounters those who treat them unkindly and rudely. How will you respond? The only way to stay on top is to walk in love. Remember, love never fails! Choose to live your life in light of God's Word and live in love!♥

Salvation Prayer

God's ultimate expression of love is revealed to us by His Son dying on the cross for our sins. Jesus willingly laid down His life to save mankind. If you have never made Jesus your Lord and Savior, and want to know and experience God's love, pray this simple prayer.

Dear God,

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

If you prayed this prayer for the first time, welcome to the family. Email us at partnerservice@rhema.org and let us know. We want to send you free material to get you started in your new life as God's child.

Reaching People . . . Together!

Reaching people with the Good News of Jesus Christ. That's what Kenneth Hagin Ministries is all about. But we can't do it alone. **IT TAKES ALL OF US PULLING**

TOGETHER to see men, women, and children saved, healed, and set free. It takes partnership.

You see, **SUPPORTING THE GOSPEL IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS DELIVERING THE GOSPEL.** We need partners to help us reach more people with the message of faith and accomplish all that God has called us to do. We need *you*!

If you're not a Rhema Word Partner, there's no better time than right now to get involved! Will you join with us and help carry the Gospel to lost and hurting people around the world? Will you make a difference?

Don't wait! *Be a vital part of changing lives—today!*



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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)

The Appointed Day

RHONDA ROGERS

THE CHURCH is the bride of the One True King. And an appointed day has been arranged by God for us to meet our Groom, the Lord Jesus Christ. Although the Bible says that day will come unexpectedly, it's important that we are packed and ready.

This is not a time to be spiritually asleep. Jesus is coming back for a spotless bride, one who is washed with the water of the Word and busy doing the work of the ministry. We don't have to be caught off guard; we can be ready for the day of the Lord's return.

JESUS GAVE US GIFTS SO WE ARE PREPARED FOR HIS RETURN. Our loving, faithful groom gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit. We've been sealed with the Holy Spirit for when Christ comes for His bride. That seal is like a ring that shows we belong to God.

Another gift is God's Word. When we're born again, our spirits are renewed and restored. Our souls, however, are not. We must renew our minds with the Word, and the Word must become an anchor for our soul.

Our enemy, the devil, is like a roaring lion that looks for anyone he can devour (1 Peter 5:8). If we haven't renewed our minds and if

the Word hasn't become the anchor that holds us steady, we *will* be devoured. The good news is that the devil may roar, but the Lion of the Tribe of Judah has the final roar!

Scripture tells us to set our minds on the things above, or on things in Heaven (Col. 3:2). What is it like in Heaven? In Heaven, it is well with our souls.

Our soul also needs to be well on the earth. We are in a spiritual battle.

need to share our faith and bring more people into the kingdom.

The Church can no longer be asleep. We cannot hit the snooze button anymore on our life, our call, and on sharing our faith with others. This is our wake-up call. **THE GROOM IS COMING!**

As we submit to the Holy Spirit, renew our minds with the Word, and live on purpose for Christ, we will be ready for that appointed day. So



SPEAKER HIGHLIGHT



We can clearly see the spirit of anti-christ is rampant around the world. If our soul is not well, it can take us out of contention in a spiritual fight.

let's go forth as ministers of reconciliation and spread the word about the upcoming wedding!♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Rhonda Rogers' Friday morning session at Kindle the Flame 2014.]

Getting Ready

For any bride, there are a lot of things to do before the wedding. Everything must be done in advance. No one waits until the final day to pull it all together.

As the Bride of Christ, we've been given plenty of time to get ready. On the day of the Lord's return, there is no more preparation time. We have to make sure our spirit is right, and it is if we are born again. **AS OUR MIND IS RENEWED, THEN OUR BODY WILL LINE UP.**

God has amazing plans for our lives. We are all anointed to fulfill our divine destinies. But we also



We've been sealed with the Holy Spirit for when Christ comes for His bride.

FAITH IS A SPIRITUAL FORCE



The God-kind of faith believes and speaks.



KENNETH W. HAGIN

REAL FAITH IN GOD—Bible faith—does not insulate Christians from encountering life’s problems. But it does ensure that we come out of every situation as the victor, not the victim! What does real faith look like?

We know that God wants us to have His kind of faith. The God-kind of faith *believes* and *speaks*.

That’s how God created the universe. (See Genesis chapter 1; Mark 11:22–24; and Hebrews 11:1.)

Faith is a spiritual force. In other words, faith is a spiritual issue, not a natural issue. Faith is of man’s *spirit*, not of his *mind* or *body*.

When we are dealing with faith *in* God, faith *from* God, and the faith *of* God, we must realize that God is a Spirit (John 4:24). Therefore, faith in Him is a spiritual issue to be discerned and operated spiritually.

The Spirit of Faith

The Bible says we are spirit beings and talks about the “hidden man of the heart” (1 Peter 3:4). Man is a spirit, he has a soul, and lives in a body (1 Thess. 5:23). Bible faith is of a man’s recreated spirit, not of his mind or flesh. It is a spiritual force! The Bible calls it “the spirit of faith.”

2 CORINTHIANS 4:13

13 We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak.

What is the spirit of faith? It’s *believing* with the heart or spirit and *speaking* with the mouth (Rom. 10:9–10). Biblical faith is not mental assent or intellectual agreement. Faith is a spiritual force that grows and develops in the heart or spirit of man.

The Rhema Spiritual Force

Jesus said that His Word is spirit and life (John 6:63). Therefore, Bible faith comes from God’s Word: “*Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God*” (Rom. 10:17). God’s Word has the ability to produce a spiritual force within our hearts called “faith.”

As we hear the “logos” or the written Word of God, it develops faith inside of us. We believe the logos—the written Word of God. Then as we speak the *logos* Word of God, in a sense it becomes a *rhema* Word of God to us.

The word “rhema” is a Greek word. In its literal sense, it simply means “speaking” or “the spoken word.” The Word of God that is spoken in faith becomes the “rhema” Word.

Therefore, the *rhema* Word of God—the Word of God spoken—is a spiritual force. It must be dealt with spiritually. Unless you understand it spiritually, there is no way to explain the *rhema* Word of God. The Bible says that spiritual things are spiritually discerned.

Faith Is Not an Isolated Spiritual Force

Faith is a spiritual force, but it is not an *isolated* spiritual force. That means faith was never meant to work by itself. It must work in conjunction with other spiritual forces.

For example, scriptural prayer is a spiritual force that releases the power of God. But it takes faith to activate prayer. The love of God is also a spiritual force, but it takes love to make faith operate. Galatians 5:6 says that “faith works by love.”

Faith Tune-Up

To understand what faith *is*, it's helpful to look at what faith is *not*. How do you know if you're not in faith? Use this checklist and see if you could use a "faith tune-up."

Faith is not . . .

- Denial
- Imitation
- Limited to Specific Results
- A Ticket to Utopia
- A Magic Wand
- Overriding someone's free will
- Neglect
- A Formula
- Ordering God Around
- A Panic Button
- Absence of Feeling

Patience

When our faith is tested and tried as we continue to stand on the Word, it works patience in our lives (James 1:2-4). And we cannot inherit the promises of God without faith and patience (Heb. 6:12).

Patience is something most people don't like because it requires endurance!

When you do everything you know to stand in faith, and then you keep on standing (Eph. 6:13-14)—patience is perfecting your faith and making it strong. You may have to endure some tests to keep on standing, but if you patiently stand steadfast on God's Word, you will see your answer.

Faith is rooted in God's Word. Real faith does not deny circumstances, nor does it deny facts. But it overcomes them with the spiritual force of faith. Armed with the truths of God's Word, the believer who is in faith can have victory in any circumstance because God's Word never fails!♥

The natural and the spiritual must also function together. Man's threefold nature—spirit, soul, and body—must work together.

In the human body, all of the bodily systems must function properly and work together. Even though the systems—respiratory, digestive, and so on—are different and operate separately, they must also operate together in harmony to allow the body to function properly.

That's the way faith is. It's not an isolated force that operates alone. Faith functions in harmony with the other spiritual forces that God has set into motion, such as love, hope, patience, and prayer.

Add to Your Faith

The Bible says we are to add other spiritual qualities to our faith. By doing so, our faith is strengthened.

According to Second Peter 1:5-9, we need diligence, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. This scripture also says that if we add these qualities to our faith, our faith won't be barren or unfruitful. It will produce for us!

Many believers have studied the Word and increased their faith, but they don't seem to be receiving all they should from believing God. Many times, they have not added these qualities to their faith and try to operate their faith in an isolated spiritual cocoon.

Love

My dad would always say the first place he told people to look when they don't seem to be receiving from God is their love walk.

Sometimes it seems that people who talk the most about how much faith they have and what strong "faith people" they are don't seem to have much love. But since faith works together with love to be effective, strong faith is impossible without love.

First Corinthians 13:13 shows us that love is more important than faith. It says that of faith, hope, and love, the greatest of these is *love*. If we don't have love, our faith is not going to work!

SPECIAL OFFER

What It Means to Believe God

Many believers have been discouraged because they feel like their faith isn't working. Yet without faith, it's impossible to please God, receive from Him, or even be saved! Take another look at faith and see what it is not, what it is, and how to operate in it.

➤ ANOTHER LOOK AT FAITH

(5 CDs, Kenneth W. Hagin)

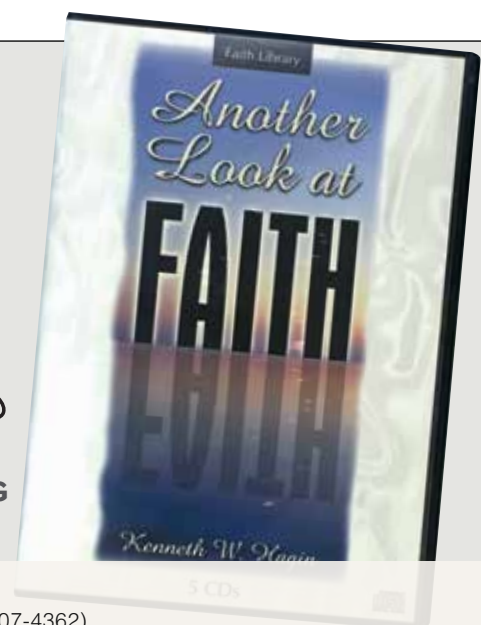
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OVERCOMING THE ODDS

GROWING UP in Ontario, Canada, Priscilla Gagné had to fight for what she wanted. She loved to run and play like the other kids, but being vision impaired hindered her. In gym class, her activities were restricted. While playing tag, a game of running until you're tagged by another player, well-meaning adults cautioned Priscilla to be careful or slow down. "Ah! Forget about it," she'd say bravely. "Let me just run!"

Instead of walking to school, Priscilla always ran. She even made a competition out of it. "How fast can I get there this time?" she'd ask, challenging herself.

Priscilla learned early on that she had two choices: live in a bubble or take risks. She chose the latter.

While in high school, Priscilla joined an organized wrestling team for the vision impaired. She also competed on the cross-country team. Priscilla excelled in the sports so much that she dreamed of competing in the Olympics. Little did she know, that was a dream God also had for her.

In high school, Priscilla accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior and wanted to grow in the Word. She attended a church pastored by Rhema graduates, and one of the girls in her youth group was attending Rhema Bible Training College. At that time, Rhema had a collegiate track team. For Priscilla, a Bible college with a sports program was perfect. She began RBTC in September 2005.

At Rhema, Priscilla joined Rhema's track team. Although she didn't compete in any races, she did a lot of long-distance running with a friend.

Priscilla always gives 110 percent to whatever she put her hands to. She made Rev. Kenneth W.



PRISCILLA GAGNÉ ▶

Hagin's motto her own: "I cannot be defeated and I will not quit." It fit her attitude perfectly. Along with a solid foundation in God's Word, that will-not-quit attitude is what she needed for the task ahead.

Judo

After graduating Rhema, Priscilla returned to Canada and spent three years working with the youth in her church. During that time, another desire blossomed in her heart. She wanted to work with inner city kids, so she enrolled in a local college and studied to become an addictions counselor. She also began practicing judo.

Priscilla never does anything just to do it. She always has bigger plans. When she began judo, she dreamed of competing in the Paralympics, a multi-sporting event for athletes with disabilities. The vision seemed far-fetched. She was 23 years old and a newbie in the sport. But that didn't stop Priscilla.

After college, Priscilla couldn't find work in counseling. Her peripheral vision was a liability issue—a risk many organizations didn't want to take. She eventually moved to Ottawa, a blind friendly city. It is also the home of Takahashi Dojo, a well-known Olympian judo gym.

One day, while her dad was visiting, he asked if she checked out the gym. She told him no. She had promised herself that she would not sign up for the sport until she had a job to pay for it. Her dad suggested they check out the gym together. While there, her father signed her up for training and paid her membership fees. He wanted his daughter to go after her dream of competing in the Paralympics.



**PRISCILLA ENCOURAGES
YOUNG GIRLS AT AN
ACQUIRE THE FIRE EVENT**

**PRISCILLA COMPETES IN THE 2016
PARALYMPICS GAMES IN RIO, BRAZIL**

I Will Not Quit

At Takahashi Dojo, Priscilla trained with the Olympic coaches. She worked hard both mentally and physically. Yet, the road ahead looked blurry. She was an orange belt and not very good. But Priscilla stayed committed to her goal. And her motto “I cannot be defeated because I will not quit!” was fuel to her fire.

Priscilla’s tenacious determination paid off. She went from an orange to brown belt in one year. Then a brown to black belt in two years.

“It was a very quick progression,” she admits. “It was knit and grit. It was not technical. It was all God.” The foundation Priscilla laid at Rhema kept her grounded in her dream.

Getting Serious

Priscilla’s challenges were far from over. She moved to Montreal and began training at the Judo Canada National Training Centre. However, opponents didn’t want to fight against her because she was visually impaired, and they didn’t know who she was. They were the very best in their sport, and they weren’t interested in fighting newcomers.

Priscilla refused to let their rejection destroy her confidence. She worked hard at the training centre to sharpen her techniques. And she meditated on scripture to overcome the rejection. Priscilla proved that she was someone worthy to compete against. The fighters took notice and opened up to the idea to fight her.

With God behind Priscilla, her success in judo rose. She won the bronze medal in the 52kg division at the Hungary World Cup for the visually impaired. Several weeks later, she won a silver medal at the Toronto 2015 Parapan American games. That win earned her the right to compete in the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games.

Rio

In Rio, Brazil, Priscilla had her heart set on the gold. With her faith in God, she knew nothing was impossible. On the day of her match, she was ready. Among the crowd of fans and spectators, were Priscilla’s two biggest supporters, her mom and dad.

They proudly watched from the stands.

In her first fight against Cherine Abdellaoui of Algeria, Priscilla lost. However, she bounced back with a strong performance against her second opponent. This win set Priscilla up to compete for the bronze, which proved to be an intense match.

In the final match, Priscilla competed against Sevinch Salaeva from Uzbekistan. Priscilla was ahead the first three minutes of a four-minute match. She was leading by a shido, which is a penalty. To seal the win, Priscilla came in for a shoulder throw, but her shoulder touched the mat. She was called for a yuko, which awarded the smallest amount of points to Salaeva. Unfortunately, Priscilla was never able to regain the lead. Her opponent won by a hair.

After the match, Priscilla gave Salaeva a hug, something she was prompted by the Holy Spirit to do. “On the inside, I was crying. I was so deeply disappointed,” says Priscilla. “I was happy for Salaeva. Who wouldn’t be happy to win a medal.” The news media that covered the event called her act a true mark of sportsmanship.

Kids in the crowd surrounded Priscilla, wanting to take pictures with her. She was puzzled and wondered why they would want pictures with her—she didn’t win. Priscilla heard the Holy Spirit quietly say, “You gave it your all and they admire that. They admire your walk.”

Losing is never easy, but one thing Priscilla has learned is to never quit. Today she is training for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics. Her attitude is still the same, “I cannot be defeated and I will not quit.” With God nothing is impossible.♥

PRAYER POINTS

- » To **HAVE COURAGE** in every situation
- » To **NEVER FORGET** the **REASON** behind doing judo
- » To be aware of every **OPPORTUNITY TO MINISTER** and share the Gospel with others

TO LEARN MORE about Priscilla Gagné, go to [facebook.com/Gagne86](https://www.facebook.com/Gagne86).



Ministry opportunities

like this instructor-led trip to Kenya give students like Michael the opportunity to explore their dreams, as well as ignite the dreams of others.



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Teachings
of Kenneth E. Hagin

THE BIBLE TELLS BELIEVERS to be separate from unbelievers. However some believers isolate themselves, thinking it is separation. But there is a vast difference between the two.

2 CORINTHIANS 6:14–17

14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in [them]; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.

This passage of scripture is talking about separation, not withdrawing ourselves from the world. People often think they can't have anything to do with the world or with anyone in it. They sometimes even think they are supposed to separate themselves from other Christians, if those Christians don't believe just like they do.

But Jesus didn't say that. He said, "*Ye are the salt of the earth . . . Ye are the light*

of the world" (Matt. 5:13–14). Believers are *in* the world, but they are not *of* the world (John 17:16).

Believers are not to cut themselves off from unbelievers. If they did, how could they be the salt of the earth and the light of the world? On the other hand, they *are* to be separate from the world and *not* adopt the world's standards (2 Cor. 6:17). They are to be like Jesus.

A man once asked me to pray for him. "I work in a certain company," he said. "And I am the only Christian in my department. Please pray that God will move me out of there."

"Oh, no," I replied. "Why the whole department would putrefy if you were gone. You stay right there. You're the salt of the earth, so stay right there and salt it."

Go Ahead and Shine!

Notice in Second Corinthians 6:14 that the believer is called *righteousness*, and the unbeliever is called *unrighteousness*: "*For what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?*"

Did you ever think of yourself as being *righteous*? If you are a believer, the Bible says you are! The believer is also called *light*, and the unbeliever is called *darkness*.

Believers are not righteous in themselves, of course. But we are righteous *in* Christ: "*For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him*" (2 Cor. 5:21).

Make This Confession!

“God Himself has become my righteousness when He imparted to me His nature in the new birth. Jesus became my righteousness the moment I took Him as my Savior and confessed Him as my Lord. As a Christian I am a *believer*; because I am *in Christ*, the Bible says I am *righteousness*; and I am *light*.”

If you are a Christian, you are a *believer*. You are *righteousness*; and you are *light*! Think on that and let it soak into your spirit!

There are people who think that righteousness is some kind of state they have to attain to by right living. This isn't true at all. Of course believers are to live right. “Righteousness” means *rightness* or *right standing*. And righteousness is a *gift* (Rom. 5:17).

Other scriptures in the Bible do talk about “the fruits of our righteousness.” But these verses are referring to the fruit that is a product of our right standing with God (Phil. 1:11; 2 Cor. 9:10). Righteousness as a fruit of the born-again human spirit is a result of our being connected to the Vine (John 15:1–8).

Every one of God's dear children has the same righteousness and the same standing with God. This is so because we are *in Christ*, and He is our righteousness.

God doesn't love one of His children more than He loves another. And He won't listen to one praying more than He will listen to another. Once you know this, your faith will abound, and your prayers will work.

Self-Condensation and Righteousness

Many people struggle in the realm of self-condemnation, and in the process, let the enemy rob them. They believe their prayers won't work and that God won't hear them. They think if they could just find a righteous man to pray, his prayers would work because James 5:16 says, “*The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*”

They don't know that they *are* righteous! But God the Father became our righteousness when He imparted to us His nature—eternal life—when we were born again in the new birth. Jesus became our righteousness the moment we took Him as our Savior and confessed Him as our Lord. (See 2 Cor. 5:17–21.)

God did not make any unrighteous or unworthy children. That would be an insult to Him. No, Jesus Who knew no sin was made to be sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him (2 Cor. 5:21). Therefore, *in Christ*, believers are the righteousness of God.

Thank God for this great revelation. Thank God we are who God says we are. We have what God says we have. And we can do what God says we can do.

We can stand in God's presence without any sense of guilt, condemnation, or inferiority. That means the prayer problem is settled. Our righteousness in Christ settles it.

In the new birth God made us who we are. We didn't make ourselves God's righteousness in Christ. Jesus did that for us through His death, burial, and resurrection.

Since we know we are in Christ, the problem is not if we feel righteous. It is not even a problem of faith. It is a problem of knowing our rights and privileges in Christ.

It is with this gift of righteousness that we are *in* the world as salt and light. Because of this righteousness, we are *not of* the world nor adopting its standards. Instead, we are heeding Jesus' words to “*Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature*” (Mark 16:15).♥

Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin's book *Bible Faith Study Course*.

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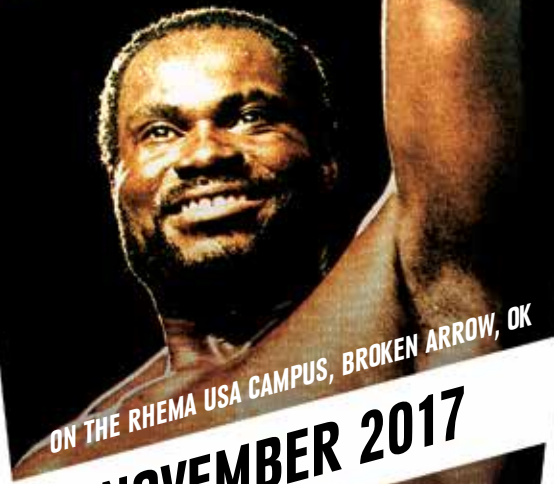


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My Father's Heart

DENISE HAGIN BURNS

I BELIEVE that my dad is one of the very best “girl dads” around. You see, I am a true Daddy’s girl, and when it comes to Father’s Day I have a lot of great memories. One of my favorite Father’s Day memories happened when I was quite young. My dad was the crusade director for my grandfather, Kenneth E. Hagin, so my family traveled with him a lot. This particular Father’s Day we were all in South Africa.

My dad had to preach the next morning and was trying to get some sleep. Because of the time change, my brother and I were awake; so I



HE ALWAYS TAUGHT ME, EVEN AS A LITTLE GIRL, HOW TO GET BACK UP, BE STRONG, AND DIG IN.

said, “Bubby, let’s go get Mom and see if she’s awake, too.” As it turns out, all three of us were awake. When I told my mom we couldn’t sleep, she said, “Tomorrow is Father’s Day, and we don’t have any cards. Why don’t we write Father’s Day notes for your dad?” There was no electricity where we were staying, so she lit a bunch of candles, and we stayed up writing notes until 2 a.m. We gave him those notes that Father’s Day and when I think about him still having them today it reminds me how it is important to celebrate in whatever way that you can. Those notes were special to him!



My notes are still special to him. As an adult, I like to stop in my dad’s office just to say hi. If he’s not in his office or if he’s out of town, I always leave a note for him. One day I noticed he had a stack of all the notes I’ve left him! He saved every one of them. So, even though that may seem like something simple to some, it has become our “thing”—and it means a lot to both of us.

I love being with my dad. I can remember being a very little girl and always wanting to be where my dad was. Because we did travel a lot, I was in many unfamiliar places. I would always hold my dad’s hand because that’s where I felt really safe and secure.

While my mom definitely takes on the role of best friend, I would say that my dad is my hero. He’s my constant. He’s my protector. When the chips are down, he’s always there and has my best interests at heart.

Even in difficult times, he’d always say, “Hey, Denise, I love you. No matter what you do, I love you and I’m here for you.” To me, that is such an example of our Father God’s unconditional love for us. My dad is such a caring person. As a result, I was never afraid to tell him anything!

I’ve seen these character traits in him as a pastor and leader as well. He creates an environment that is so loving, caring, and supportive that I (or anyone) can go to him without fear. And just like God might say to any one of us, he will say, “You know

what? I love you. We’re going to get through this. I’m going to help you.”

Today I am a strong person. I credit that to my dad. He knew how to be soft when he needed to be soft, but also how to develop strength in

me. The reason I have said my dad is the best “girl dad” is because he helped make me strong and tough, while allowing me to feel special and be a “girly girl.” I am so thankful he had the foresight to know that life is tough and when you get knocked down, you have to be strong. He always taught me, even as a little girl, how to get back up, be strong, and dig in.

The voice that will be eternally in my head, long after my dad goes to be with Jesus, is him saying, “Baby, you cannot be defeated, and you will not quit. With God and you, you can do anything you want to do and be anything you want to be.” I love you, Dad!

It’s essential that fathers realize how important they are! Christian dads have a responsibility to be a reflection of the Heavenly Father. Dads will shape how their children view their Father God. It’s important that God is represented well!♥

FAITH IN ACTION

Healing Hearts

For those who might be struggling with the thought of having a good father figure, be encouraged. God knows how you grew up and longs to show you what a loving father can and should be in your life. Pray this prayer, “God, I didn’t have the greatest example for a dad. Please be close to me, and show me how a father’s love is supposed to be.” It’s as simple as that. God will honor your prayer and the Holy Spirit can heal the hurt and fill that void.



I WOULD ALWAYS HOLD MY DAD’S HAND BECAUSE THAT’S WHERE I FELT REALLY SAFE AND SECURE.



SEED

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)

FINDING PEACE IN PRAYER

HAVE THE WORDS "I feel like I'm living in a pressure cooker" ever crossed your mind? Some of you may not even know what a pressure cooker is! My mom often cooked with one. It was the alternative for microware and crock-pot cooking at the same time.

A pressure cooker cooks food quickly and tenderizes it at the same time. As food cooks, steam builds up inside the pot. The steam is released gradually through a valve. If you take the lid off when there is still a lot of pressure in the pot, it will explode and food will go everywhere.

Sometimes life is like a pressure cooker. The stress of the economy, family, and job difficulties can build up to a level where we feel like we are going to explode. The *Merriam-Webster* online dictionary defines *pressure* in the sense that I am referring to as "the burden of physical or mental distress."

What causes you stress may be different than what stresses me. You might be stressed because it seems like you are not getting anywhere in life. You may have thought you would be at a higher level than you are at now. You may have come to the place where you don't have any sense of direction. Or you may feel that life is a continuous circle and there isn't anywhere to get off.

I can certainly identify with all these things. At one time or another, many of those thoughts have entered my mind.

I cherish and value living in a peaceful environment. Growing up, my family did not bicker or fuss. We never experienced strife with one another. It was a rude awakening to me as an adult when I realized that life is not always lived in a peaceful environment. As a manager in the workplace, I endeavor to promote peace among those I am in charge of.

Many years ago I went to each department in our ministry to streamline the department, as well as make it a peaceful environment. I prided myself in my success. Just when I felt like each department had reached my goal and that I would never have to face conflict again, the first department began to experience strife.

I was frustrated. I felt like my efforts and time were spent in vain. At times like this, it's important not to allow the enemy to holler in your ear. Satan waits for these moments to pounce on you. He wants to discourage you and cause you to be depressed.

These are also the times when you need to cry out to your Heavenly Father. He is the One Who has all the right answers for you. I was raised in a pastor's home where oftentimes the only one you dared tell your frustrations to was God. So I automatically cried out to Him in my moment of frustration. I asked, "God when is there ever going to be complete peace in this place?"

Let me tell you, when you ask God a question, you'd better be prepared for His answer. It may not be the answer you thought. I shall never forget His answer. He said, "NEVER!"

I was so startled that I just sat quietly trying to digest His answer. Honestly, I wondered how I was going to deal with it. When suddenly, the Lord gave me the answer I needed. He said, "Go to John 16:33." Isn't it wonderful that God will give you an answer in the Bible? I believe He does this so you can refer back to it in your time of need.

I read that verse in many translations. I particularly identified with the *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*:

"I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence. In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration; but be of good cheer [take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world. [I have deprived it of power to harm you and have conquered it for you]" (John 16:33 AMPC).

Know that it doesn't matter what you are going through or experiencing. When you place your trust in God, you will experience perfect peace and confidence. He has already conquered the situation for you.♥

Lynette





Kids' Page

Fearless, A-nointed, I-nward-led, T-rustworthy, R-airs of God

Find the Differences

See if you can find all seven differences between the two pictures below.

A.

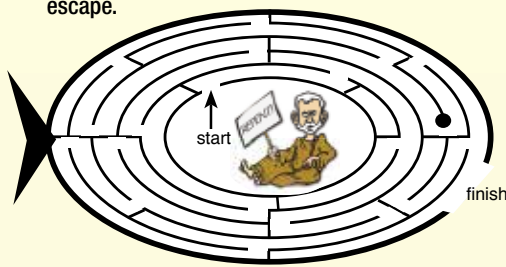


B.



Out of the Belly of the Whale

Help Jonah find his way out of the belly of the whale through the maze to the whale's mouth so he can escape.



ANSWERS:
The Bible Wall of Shame • Answers: A. CAIN B. ANANIAS C. JEZEBEL D. ACHAH E. BALAM F. JONAH G. SAPPHORA H. ADAM
Find the Differences • Answers: 1. In A Jonah has a green hat and red in B. 2. In B the whale's eye is red and blue in A. 3. In A the whale's eye is red and blue in B. 4. In A there are 4 birds and only 3 in B. 5. In A the whale has no teeth but does in B. 6. In B there are water drops on the whale's nose but not in A. 7. In B the wave splashes off of the right side of the picture but doesn't in A.

Jonah the Dude With the Bad Attitude



Most people remember Jonah as the prophet who disobeyed God and got swallowed by a big fish. But even after he changed his mind and obeyed God, Jonah still had a problem . . . he had a bad attitude. He finally **OBEYED** God but he wasn't **WILLING**. Isaiah 1:19 says, "If you are **willing** and **obedient** you will eat the good of the land." Jonah found out that it isn't enough to just obey . . . his attitude had to be right, too! Maybe you have discovered the same thing. If your parents ask you to go clean your room and you obey them but you **STOMP** your feet in anger all the way to your room, chances are that your parents won't be very happy with you! God isn't much different from your parents in that respect. If He asks you to do something, He expects you to **OBEY** and **HAVE A GOOD ATTITUDE** too.

The Bible

WALL OF SHAME

A. NICA	E. MABAAL
B. NIANASA	F. HONAJ
C. BLEZEJE	G. SHAPPIRA
D. CHAAN	H. MAAD

Written above are the scrambled names of Bible characters who are best remembered because of their disobedience or bad attitudes. Unscramble the names above to discover these men and women on the Bible Wall of Shame.

jokes & riddles



"A merry heart does good, like medicine."

—Proverbs 17:22 (NKJV)

Why was the broom late?

It over swept!

Did you hear about the mad scientist who put dynamite in his refrigerator?

They say he blew his cool!

What is a polygon?

A missing parrot!

What kind of car does Mickey Mouse's wife drive?

A Minnie van!

Why did the man take a pencil to bed?

To draw the curtains!

Son: Dad, there is a man at the door collecting for the new swimming pool.

Father: Give him a glass of water!

Mother: Eat up your spinach. It'll put color in your cheeks.

Daughter: But I don't want green cheeks!

Margie: Were you long in the hospital?

Sam: No, I was the same size that I am now!

Customer: Waiter, this soup tastes funny!

Waiter: Then why aren't you laughing?



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

RHEMA HEALING SCHOOL: *Come and Be Healed*

FOR 37 YEARS, Rhema's Healing School has been teaching people how to receive and keep their healing. We've seen lumps and tumors dissolve, cancers disappear, and hearts return to normal. We've seen those given just a few weeks to live walk out healed and whole. But don't take our word for it. Come and see—and *get*—results for yourself!

Do you need healing or know someone who does?

Request your **FREE Healing School information** booklet today!

(918) 258-1588, EXT. 2980

PARTNERSERVICE@RHEMA.ORG

RHEMA.ORG/HEALING

Morning

Monday–Friday
9:30–10:30 a.m.

Afternoon

Tuesday–Thursday
2:15–3:15 p.m.



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

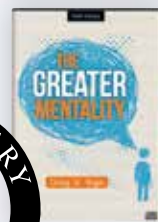
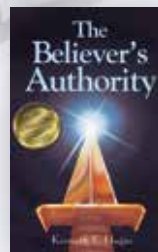
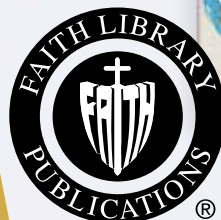
—KENNETH E. HAGIN

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*Excludes special offers.
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