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— Pastor George Pearsons

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Let's Go *Inside the Vision!* insidethevision.org

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Editor's Letter

Go After God!



It's a new year. So guite naturally, we can expect to hear a list of declarations from family and friends proclaiming their newest "New Year's resolutions." Last year's didn't work. Neither did the ones the year before, for that matter. So, here we are again—declaring our intentions to do steadfastly such things as lose weight, improve our overall health, make more time for family, save money-even pray and spend more time with God.

In a survey of 1,005 adults regarding Americans' attitudes toward resolution-setting for 2023, 77% of its respondents told Forbes Health/OnePoll that they keep themselves accountable when it comes to sticking to their goals. Overall, 81% said they were confident in their ability to reach their goals and 85% felt that resolutions would have a positive impact beyond 2023.

That's pretty encouraging for those who have found it difficult to stick with the program, me included-no matter what. So, here's a thought as we begin this new year: Why not let your New Years' resolution be to just go after God? In Matthew 6:33, Jesus told His disciples to "seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need" (New Living Translation). What do you suppose Jesus meant by "everything"? My guess would be He was talking about all the good things—the blessings and promises from God that are included in His Word, and part of His plan for your life. Everything includes those things that will help to better us-spiritually as well as in the natural!

If we go after God and not trust in our own ability to better ourselves, if we strive to live the way He desires-putting our faith, trust and confidence in Him-then we don't need to make resolutions that stand a chance of never coming to fruition. God will see that our goals are reached! He says in Jeremiah 29:11, "I know what I'm doing. I have it all planned out-plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for" (The Message).

Resolve today, and all year long, to go after God!

Ronald C. Jordan Managing Editor



@Copelandnetwork











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"God's plan for my life was simple. I was to tell high school students three things: that God loves them; that God has a plan for their lives; and that because they're breathing, they matter."

-Dean Sikes

Pass this magazine on to a family member or friend.



When The LORD first spoke to us about starting the Believer's Voice of Victory magazine, He said. This is your seed. Give it to everyone who ever responds to your ministry, and don't ever allow anyone to pay for a subscription to it.

For 51 years it has been our joy to bring you good news through the teachings of ministers who write out of living contact with God, and the testimonies of believers who took God at His WORD and experienced His victory in everyday life.

> -Kenneth & Gloria Copeland

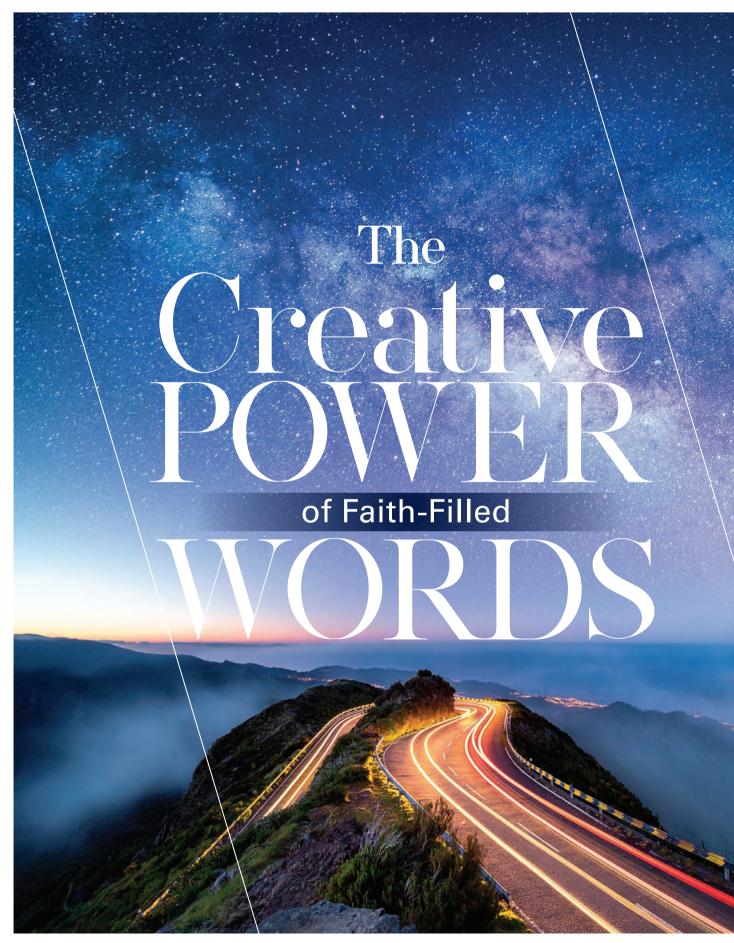
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"SOME PEOPLE HAVE THE IDEA THAT GOD CREATED THE WORLD OUT OF NOTHING. BUT FAITH IS NOT NOTHING.... IT'S THE PARENT FORCE TO EVERYTHING IN THIS PLANET."

All born-again believers are on their way to heaven. But not all of them are enjoying the trip. Many Christians are trudging through life putting up with whatever the world throws at them, saying things like, "Oh, poor me." Eventually they make their destination, but that's not God's best for His children.

He intends for us to create a little heaven here on earth, to go to heaven in! His plan is for us to learn how He creates, and then follow His example. If you learn this one thing from The WORD of God and act on



it, you can change any circumstance in your life that needs changing. You can operate like God operates and wind up living like He lives-not just in the sweet by-and-by but in the rugged here and now.

Exactly how does God create things? How does He operate?

By speaking faith-filled words.

Faith can change anything in this natural realm because faith is the substance God used to create it. This entire material world exists because God spoke words of faith. As Hebrews 11 says:



As a believer vou are to follow God's example. (Eph. 5:1, AMPC)

God gave us an example of how He creates and brings circumstances into line with His will in the very first chapter of the Bible.

(Gen.1:1-3)

 $\mathbf{3}$

This entire material world exists because God spoke words of faith. (Heb. 11:1, 3)

4

Nowhere in the Bible did God tell us to say what we have; He told us we have what we say. (Luke 6:45)

5

You can change any circumstance in your life by believing and speaking The WORD of God.

(Mark 11:23)



"As soon as we realized God's **creative power** is in His WORD, we committed to put it first place and make it final authority in our lives."



Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.... Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear (verses 1, 3).

Some people have the idea that God created the world out of nothing. But faith is not nothing. It can't be seen; it's not visible, but it's a very real and powerful spiritual force. It's the parent force to everything in this planet. Every material thing you see around you right now is composed of elements that can be traced all the way back to the words of faith recorded in Genesis 1.

By speaking those words, as Hebrews 11:3 said, God "framed" the worlds. So, to follow His example, we too must learn to frame what we want to create in our lives. Think about the word *frame* for a moment. What do you do with a frame? You put it around a picture. Words create pictures.

If I say the word *dog*, for example, you don't think of the letters d-o-g. You envision a dog. If I say it's a "big, black, ugly, three-legged dog," the picture in your mind changes with every word that's added. The additional words framed for you the picture of a particular dog I had in mind. But my inner picture of the dog came first...then the words followed.

The same was true when God framed the world with His WORD. Proverbs 3:19 says, "The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens." In other words, in His wisdom The LORD envisioned what He desired to create. Then, through His understanding of how to use faith and words to their fullest extent and power, He brought what He envisioned into manifestation.

Now it's our turn to follow in His footsteps. Now, we're to take the revelation of His faith-framing process and use it to bring into manifestation everything He has promised us in the Bible. That's one of the reasons He laid out the process for us so clearly in His WORD. It's why the very first thing the Spirit of God tells us in the very first chapter of the Bible is:

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light (Genesis 1:1–3).

The Bible Is Always Right

In one translation, Genesis 1:3 reads like this: "God said, Light be! And light was."

In recent years, scientists have concluded that the one perfect word that describes all matter is *light*. They spent centuries, and no telling how much money, finding that out. But they could have known it all along! They could have gone to the bookstore, spent a few dollars on a Bible, started out with that truth, and gone on from there. This is an unchanging principle: If you start out on The WORD, you start out where everyone else hopes to arrive someday. You start out on the truth.

"But Brother Copeland, what's in the Bible doesn't always look like the truth." That doesn't mean it's wrong. It just means you don't understand it.

When Christopher Columbus told Spain's Queen Isabella that the world was round, people thought that was wrong too. Back in the 1400s everybody thought the world was flat. But Columbus saw in the Bible that when God was preparing to create the earth, He "set a compass" upon the face of the deep (Proverbs 8:27).

A compass is round! So, when Columbus read that, it led him to believe he could sail around the world. And because Queen Isabella knew his belief was based on the Bible, she financed the trip.

Don't ever be ashamed of your Bible when it appears to disagree with science. The Bible is always right. Science just hasn't totally caught up with it yet. The Bible talks in Deuteronomy 32:13, for instance, about God's people getting "oil out of the flinty rock." Nobody knew thousands of years ago when that was written in the Bible that there was oil in flint rock. But God did. He was just waiting for somebody to believe it and come to Him in faith so He could show them what to do about it!

The same is true of the revelation He laid out for us in Genesis 1. He's waiting for His people to believe and act on what He showed us there. For years much of the Church has been complaining to Him about the circumstances in

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their lives. All the while, God has been waiting for us to realize why He told us over and over, at the risk of being monotonous, that in the beginning God said:

"Let there be light: and there was light" (verse 3).

"Let there be a firmament.... and it was so" (verses 6-7).

"Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together...and it was so" (verse 9).

"Let the earth bring forth grass...and it was so" (verse 11).

"Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven...and it was so" (verses 14-15).

"Let the waters bring forth...and fowl that may fly" (verse 20).

"Let the earth bring forth the living creature... and it was so" (verse 24).

"Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion...over all the earth" (verse 26).

Those verses repeatedly reveal God's way of creating and bringing things into line with His will. He takes words that paint the exact picture of what He desires to come into existence, fills them with His faith, and says them. Then the Holy Spirit uses the substance of the faith, in God's words, to cause the picture they painted to come into physical manifestation.

The WORD of God is full of His creative power. It is a living thing, and it will never pass away. He created this physical universe with words of faith...He brought Jesus into the earth through faith-filled words He spoke through the mouths of the prophets... and He is still "upholding all things [ALL things!] by the word of his power" (Hebrews

If you want to get upheld, get on The WORD!

The WORD says in 1 Peter 2:24 that by Jesus' stripes "ye were healed." That's not just information. Those words contain God's healing power. So, when symptoms of sickness



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"Take the

exceedingly

great and

precious

promises in

His WORD

and use them

those words and keep saying them until they create the picture inside you that was inside God when He said them. His image of you isn't that of a broken-down

try to come on you, what do you do? You take

person suffering from sickness, pain and disease. He sees you healed, well and whole. How do you know? Because that's the picture He framed of you in His WORD.

James 1:23 (Amplified Bible, Classic Edition) calls God's written WORD a "mirror." When we see, in that mirror, that we were healed by Jesus' stripes, we're to believe it. We're to start seeing ourselves that way and saying what God said-that we are healed!

You must know what The WORD says. however, before you can believe it. I remember the first time that became clear to me. It was many years ago when I was very young in The LORD. I was trying to believe for my healing when He spoke to my spirit.

What are you believing? He asked.

"I'm believing You're going to heal me," I replied.

How would you know I'm going to do that? "I don't. I just figured maybe You would."

He then asked me what I would think if somebody said they were believing I would pay their rent. I told Him that I'd wonder where they got the idea I would do that. I'd think, I never said I'd pay that person's rent!

Then I saw the point The LORD was making: If I didn't say it, that person doesn't have the authority to believe it. If, on the other hand, I did



Words Matter



For updated event information visit:

Words of Life Fellowship Church

March 1-3 | North Miami Beach, Fla.

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say it, that person does have the authority to believe it. He has the right to say I will pay his rent because he has my word on it.

Words matter! Romans 10:17 says, "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Belief is created by words. Authority is transferred by words. The LORD said to me that day, Son, why don't you just go to My WORD and believe what I've already said? That makes faith simple.

I like it when things are simple!

So, I opened my Bible and looked up all the scriptures I could find on healing and realized there were dozens of them. For example.

"I am the LORD who heals you" (Exodus 15:26, New King James Version).

"...I will take sickness away from the midst of you" (Exodus 23:25, NKJV).

"He sent His word and healed them" (Psalm 107:20, NKJV).

"And He...healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saving: 'He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses" (Matthew 8:16-17, NKJV).

Every time I saw one of those verses. and others like them, in The WORD, I said, "I believe that!" I released the creative power of God's WORD by saying about myself what He says. What happened? I was well before I finished finding all the scriptures!

God intends for us to do this in every area of our lives. For us to take the exceedingly great and precious promises in His WORD and use them not just to go to heaven someday but to create a little heaven on earth to go to heaven in.

I can testify that it's possible!

Gloria and I are enjoying some heaven on earth right now. Our family isn't fighting with one another. We all love each other. Our children are not off in the world going wild somewhere. Our family isn't plagued by sickness and disease. We're all prospering. This ministry has no debts. Gloria and I owe no man on this earth anything but to love him.

We didn't get in this shape in 30 minutes. or even in 30 days. But we started in 30 seconds. As soon as we realized God's creative power is in His WORD, we committed to put it first place and make it final authority in our lives. We made up our minds and hearts to start saying what God said and not anything else.

Did we slip up sometimes? Yes, especially in the beginning. But when we did, we just repented and got right back on The WORD again. Over time, speaking The WORD became the norm for me. You could follow me from now until Jesus returns and you will never hear me say. "I am sick." It doesn't matter how my body may feel or how raggedy I might look. What you will hear me say is, "Thank God, I am healed!"

Today, those words are a manifest physical reality in my life. But I had to learn to say them when I still had symptoms of sickness in my body. I had to learn to say, "My God [meets all my needs] according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19, NKJV), when I was still struggling financially. From the world's perspective it sounds strange, but that's God's operating system.

He said in Joel 3:10, "Let the weak say, I am strong" (NKJV). He didn't say, "Let the weak say, 'Oh, I'm so weak. I'm so tired. What are we going to do? We're going down the drain. The Democrats are at it again. The Republicans are at it again. There's another wave of COVID coming and we're all going to get sick. Blah, blah, blah."

Nowhere in the Bible did God tell us to say what we have. He told us we have what we believe in our heart, and say with our mouth. As Jesus put it: "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh" (Luke 6:45). Faith-filled words dominate the laws of sin and death.

This is a word-created planet. It is also a planet subject to authority, and authority is imposed by words. So, make your words work for you. While you're on your way to heaven, believe and speak The WORD of God and enjoy some days of heaven upon the earth!

Meetings 20 Report 23

Nothing Like Being in the Koom.

Make sure that My Word is final authority in your life!

That was the word of the Lord given to Kenneth Copeland for 2023.

Clearly, God had a plan and that plan included KCM meetings.

From Sacramento, Calif., to Chattanooga, Tenn., from the United Kingdom to South Africa and Colombia, Brother Copeland and our Partner ministers declared the faithfulness of the Word of God and the importance of faith to thousands of our Partners and Friends around the world.

And boy, did they come!



Terri Copeland Pearsons leads pre-service prayer (center).

From all corners of the world—from the top to the bottom and all around the middle—they came to hear the Word of Faith and learn about the integrity of God's Word. They wanted to know how to apply the Word to their daily lives, not only for themselves but also for those around them. As a result of their obedience to the leading of the Holy Spirit, they reaped spiritual growth, physical healings, supernatural deliverance and lifelong friendships with other attendees. They learned firsthand that there's nothing like being "in the room" to stir their faith.

Victory Campaigns

The Sacramento Victory Campaign kicked off our year in the best of ways—with prayer. In opening the first meeting, Pastor Terri Copeland Pearsons recalled how years ago the Lord had instructed her "to spend more time praying because of the days that we live in."



"While we were praying, I leaned backward and felt a snap, crackle and pop. This is the first time I've actually stood up straight in over a year. Praise God!"

KarenBranson VictoryCampaign



"There's something about it when people who already know how to use their faith come together to pray," she said. "We're going to move in prayer this week on the basis and the knowledge that the Lord believes there are enough of us in here who know how to use our faith in prayer."

Pastor Terri, along with other leaders from Eagle Mountain International Church, continue that theme throughout the year, opening each session of every Victory Campaign and the Southwest Believers' Convention with pre-service prayer, called *Prayer Everywhere*.

By the time Brother Copeland and other speakers took to the platform to deliver the Word of Faith, attendees were ready to receive the revelation that God's covenant promises—all of them—are available to His people today. As 2 Peter 1:3-4 says, "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature" (emphasis added).

In each meeting throughout the year, which included our Sacramento, Branson, Chattanooga, St. Louis and Omaha Victory Campaigns, as well as our annual flagship meeting—the Southwest Believers' Convention, Brother Copeland continued to teach the fundamentals of faith. What

"When you come here, it's not the same when you watch online. It's not the same when you're on YouTube" or wherever you are. When you're here in person, the impartation you get by being in the presence of all the fellow believers like you [is life-changing].

-Southwest Believers' Convention attendee

a blessing it was to witness as members of the Body of Christ received God's Word and came to understand their covenant rights. and learned how to stand on the promises of God, to pray according to the Word, to use their faith, and to be led by love.

"There are fundamentals in faith." Brother Copeland said, "because God is the God of fundamentals. He has a book of destiny, and if you'll listen to Him, He will have you at the right place at the right time."

He likened the fundamentals of faith to sports. While no player ever completely masters a game, through study, practice and determination great players master the basic elements—the fundamentals of their sport. It's the same with faith. As we master elements like prayer, worship, walking in love, standing on the Word, and









Kenneth Copeland (left), Jesse Duplantis, Keith Moore, Bill Winston, and Jeremy Pearsons ministered life-changing messages at the Southwest Believers' Convention.



Kenneth Copeland (center) joins Bill Gaither and the Gaither Band for an inspiring time of worship on Friday night of the SWBC.

understanding our covenant rights, believers can master the fundamentals.

At most of our 2023 meetings, Jerry Savelle joined Brother Copeland and often shared the prophetic word that he had received from the Lord for the Body of Christ—It's time for the maximum and highest level attainable! particularly in the area of the hundredfold return. He reminded believers that the hundredfold return is real and trustworthy. God established it in the beginning, and it continues to this day.

Southwest Believers' Convention

At the Southwest Believers' Convention, attendees experienced a total immersion in the Word through lifechanging messages from speakers who, along with Brother Copeland, taught on topics like vision (Jesse Duplantis). knowing God's Word to receive answers to prayer (Keith Moore), developing a miracle mindset (Bill Winston) and how faith-not the strategies of the world-always work (Jeremy Pearsons). Their messages

On Friday night of the Southwest Believers' Convention, gospel artists Bill Gaither and exciting atmosphere of praise and worship.

wove together in a Spirit-led tapestry that

brought truth and maturity, and produced signs and wonders. the Gaither Vocal Band made their first-ever SWBC appearance when they joined Brother Copeland on stage and helped to create an

Train Up a Child

At Kenneth Copeland Ministries, we always place high value on our children's and youth ministries. As Brother Copeland has stated: "There is no price too big, no effort too great, no job too hard for our God to reach our children. Whatever we must do, we are going to reach our kids."

This past year at the Southwest Believers' Convention was no different.

Each day, while the adults received the Word in the main auditorium, children and



Pastor George Pearsons, KCM's CFO, delivers the annual Partner Report during Partner Day at Southwest.



Eighty-seven teens came to Christ during 14forty youth services at Southwest Believers' Convention, while 34 children attending Superkid Academy (inset) accepted Jesus.

teens were being ministered to in separate services. Superkid Academy taught more than 500 students, focusing on 1 Timothy 4:12. They learned that, even though they are young, they can be examples for Jesus. Thirty-four students accepted Jesus and many more received healing.

Acts 19:20 was the foundational scripture fortheyouthattending14fortyservices: "So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed" (New King James Version). Throughout the week, more than 400 teens were taught how to make the Word final authority. Eightyseven students came to Christ and 14 were filled with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. Many others came forward for spiritual, emotional, physical and relational healing, and God met them there.

One 14forty attendee said, "I had been worrying about starting college and not being able to afford it, and not knowing if I was going into what God wants me to do. But after [Pastor George Pearsons' message] I felt a weight being lifted off my chest, and I know I shouldn't worry and get anxious about it because God has a perfect plan!"

Going to the Nations

Not only was it a year of answered prayers for many of our Partners and Friends who attended our meetings in North America in 2023, it was also a blessed time for many of our international Partners and Friends.

For instance, many of our African Partners and Friends had been praying for a KCM

"My heart is incredibly grateful to you for bringing the very presence of God into my life. What God has done in me through you is spectacular..."

–JennyBogotá ColombiaBelievers' Convention

meeting to be held on their soil for more than eight years.
And in May, God answered those prayers. Brother Copeland shared the Word in faith, in truth and

in person, to our Partners and Friends at the South Africa Victory Campaign. There, he continued his message on the fundamentals of faith and the importance of sowing the Word into one's life (Mark 4).

In June, our KCM Europe office hosted the Europe Victory Campaign, where Brother Copeland and Jerry Savelle delivered the Word live to more than 1,550 attendees. People from 21 countries were present to hear the Word of God preached, and nearly 4500 people from 58 countries tuned in online to hear the message of freedom in Jesus Christ.

In September 2023, we held our first four-day Bogotá Believers' Convention in Colombia. Jerry Savelle, Jesse Duplantis and Keith Moore joined Brother Copeland for the historic event, which drew people from 17 nations and included 250 pastors and ministers, more than 3500 in-person attendees, and over 12,000 viewers online.

For one attendee, Jenny, the meetings were life-changing. "My heart is incredibly grateful to you for bringing the very presence of God into my life," she shared in a letter following the meeting. "What God has done in me through you is spectacular, including Jerry, Jesse and Keith. It is like living a magical dream of light, color and life in the midst of reality. Thank you so very, very much!"



Kenneth Copeland ministers to a young girl at Bogotá Colombia Believers' Convention.

Kenneth Copeland prays for an attendee during Healing School.

Meetings 2 Report 2





Worship is always of great importance in every KCM meeting.

Healing School

Many attendees at KCM's Healing School experience instant physical healing during the services, and some have come forth to share how God has touched them during those meetings. Healing School has been a unique and important part of KCM meetings for more than 40 years, ever since it began in 1979 after the Lord instructed Gloria Copeland to start teaching on healing in every meeting. The results speak for themselves, as many have received healing and deliverance from pain, sickness and disease in these meetings.

While attending Healing School at last year's Branson Victory Campaign, and taking her healing by faith, Karen from Hot Springs, Ark., said: "While we were praying, I leaned backward and felt a snap, crackle and pop. This is the first time I've actually stood up straight in over a year." Praise God!

FlashPoint LIVE

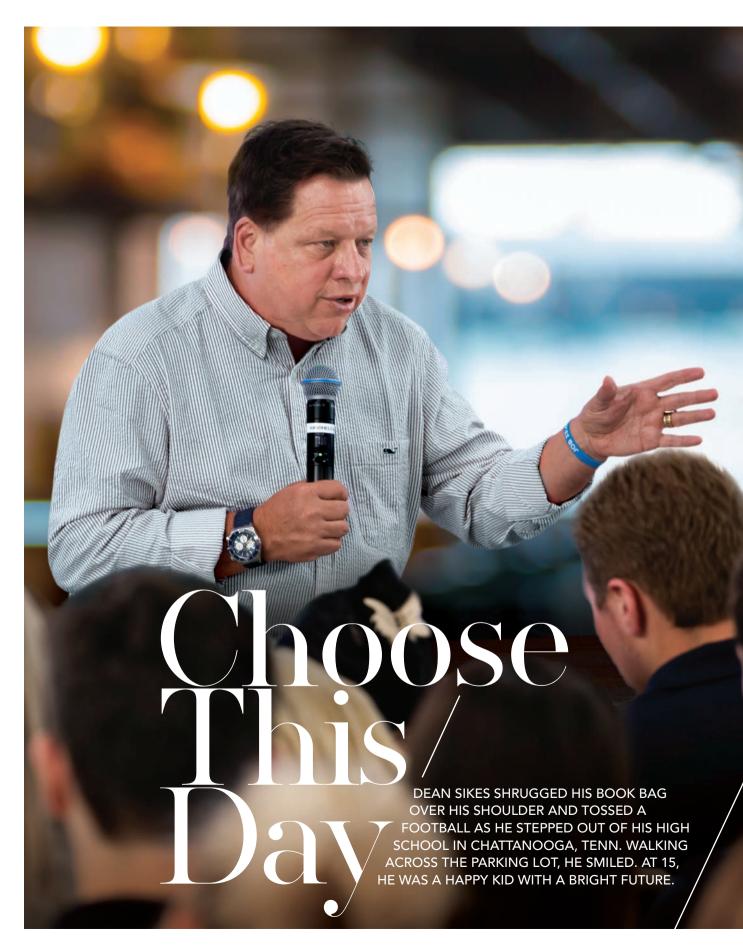
In addition to our KCM meetings, FlashPoint LIVE took to the road for meetings in Minneapolis; Phoenix; Fort Worth; Pensacola; Omaha; Pasadena; Nashville; and New Albany, Ohio. Host Gene Bailey and his panel of spiritual and political experts helped believers from around America learn how to pray for our nation, interact with local governments, and take a stand for Jesus.

All throughout 2023, the message of faith in God's Word went forth at our meetings in power. Together, we worshipped the Lord, studied the Word, lifted up one another in prayer by faith, and welcomed the work of the Holy Spirit. It was a spectacular year, and we're looking forward to more of the same in 2024. And while we will continue to stream our meetings live, we encourage everyone to come join us in person—because, as so many can attest: There's nothing quite like being in the room!



FlashPoint LIVE took to the road for meetings in:

Minneapolis
Phoenix
Fort Worth
Pensacola
Omaha
Pasadena
Nashville
New Albany



He'd been raised in a Christian home. Given his life to Jesus in grade school. Attended a great church and Christian schools.

Climbing into the car with an older friend from church, Dean cracked jokes. There was nothing unusual about the day, or the situation. No warning bells alarmed when he went into his friend's house. There was no hint of what was to come.

At 4:30 that afternoon, Dean was sexually abused. The experience was...unimaginable.

Back home, Dean smothered his pain and rage. Looking in the mirror, he didn't see the confident person who'd looked back at him that morning.

The boy looking back was bruised, broken and ashamed.

Staring in the mirror, he hardened himself. *He would never tell a living soul.*

Prove It

"My life looked great from the outside," Dean remembers. "I had previously played quarterback on my football team. I played golf and taught tennis.

"Inside, I simmered with anger.

"My junior year, I failed PE. I refused to change clothes in the locker room. I was spiraling out of control, always looking for validation. In response, I dove into work. I went to work for the Republican Party. My plan was that at age 21 I would run for the state Legislature and win. At 25, I would run for Congress and win. At age 30, I would win a seat in the U.S. Senate. By 36, I would be the governor of Tennessee.

"I still went to church. Still had Christian friends. Still dated Christian girls. By 21, I was working for a company developing shopping centers on the Eastern Seaboard. One day, in the most disrespectful way possible, I spoke to God: 'God, You allowed a Christian to abuse me. If You're real, and at this point I don't think You are, prove it.""

Two weeks later, as usual, Dean had eaten lunch alone. He lived a very public life in a very lonely way. Although he was friendly, he never let anyone get close to him.

"God's plan for my life was simple. I was to tell high school students three things: that God loves them; that God has a plan for their lives; and that because they're breathing, they matter."

Trust No One

He'd learned that lesson early. *Trust no one.*Back at his office, Dean sat at his desk.
Behind him someone spoke. An audible voice said, "Call Mom."

Dean swung around to see who was in his office.

Noone

He dialed his parents' home. His mother answered on the seventh ring. Her voice was slurred. She was disoriented. Pulling up in front of the house, everything looked fine. It appeared as it always had, safe and secure. Inside, he found his mother barely alive. She'd attempted suicide.

"Mom, hang on," Dean urged. "You're not going to die, but you've got to choose to live."

At the ER, the staff almost knocked Dean over in their haste to get to his mother. Upon arriving, his dad met Dean in the waiting room.

What had happened to his family?

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

		Old Testament T	New estament
Mon	1	Gen. 1:1-3:7	Matt. 1
Tue	2	Gen. 3:8-5:20	Matt. 2
Wed	3	Gen. 5:21-8:5	Matt. 3
Thu	4	Gen. 8:6-10:19	Matt. 4
Fri	5	Gen. 10:20-12:20	Matt. 5
Sat	6	Gen. 13-15	
Sun	7	Ps. 1-5; Prov. 1:1-19	
Mon	8	Gen. 16:1-18:21	Matt. 6
Tue	9	Gen. 18:22-20:13	Matt. 7
Wed	10	Gen. 20:14-22:24	Matt. 8
Thu	11	Gen. 23:1-24:49	Matt. 9
Fri	12	Gen. 24:50-26:11	Matt. 10
Sat	13	Gen. 26:12-27:40	
Sun	14	Ps. 6-9; Prov. 1:20-33	
Mon	15	Gen. 27:41-29:35	Matt. 11
Tue	16	Gen. 30:1-31:21	Matt. 12
Wed	17	Gen. 31:22-32:32	Matt. 13
Thu	18	Gen. 33:1-35:8	Matt. 14
Fri	19	Gen. 35:9-36:43	Matt. 15
Sat	20	Gen. 37-38	
Sun	21	Ps. 10-13; Prov. 2	
Mon	22	Gen. 39:1-41:13	Matt. 16
Tue	23	Gen. 41:14-42:24	Matt. 17
Wed	24	Gen. 42:25-44:17	Matt. 18
Thu	25	Gen. 44:18-48:16	Matt. 19
Fri	26	Gen. 48:17-50:26	Matt. 20
Sat	27	Ex. 1:1-3:12	
Sun	28	Ps. 14-17; Prov. 3:1-18	
Mon	29	Ex. 3:13-5:21	Matt. 21
Tue	30	Ex. 5:22-7:25	Matt. 22
Wed	31	Ex. 8-9	Matt. 23
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Dean's dad was in real estate development and construction. His mother was an entrepreneur. He and his sister, four years younger, had always been close.

They were all Christians.

From the outside, their world looked perfect.

Dean paced, waiting for the dreaded news that his mother had died.

After 45 minutes, the doctor walked up to Dean's dad. "Mr. Sikes, there's no medical reason for me to tell you this. It's a miracle of God. Your wife is fine. You can go see her."

An Encounter

The moment Dean heard the words *miracle* of *God*, he looked up to heaven. "You've got to be kidding me. You're *real?*"

Walking outside, Dean leaned against the hospital wall. There he had an encounter with Jesus. Enveloped in His presence, Dean heard these words.

I've called you.

"What does that even mean?"

You're going to come work with Me.

"No, I'm going into politics."

That was your plan, not Mine.

"What do You want me to do?"

You're going to speak to high school students.

"Absolutely, positively no. Were You not there when I took public speaking? I dreaded every day. Besides, I don't like schools."

That's where you're going.

"Is there anything else I could do?"

No, that's the plan.

That's when Dean learned what would be a valuable lesson: Before you fulfill your own call, help someone else fulfill theirs. His next step was to go to work as the road manager for Christian musician Phil Driscoll.

"Phil and I traveled together for three-anda-half years," Dean explains. "I did over 600 events with him in nations all over the world. Through Phil, I learned what servanthood meant. He also connected me with KCM. Listening to Kenneth Copeland taught me how to live by faith in God's Word. It put me on a trajectory of understanding that love was what caused faith to work. That led me to a genuine relationship with the Lord. Phil is still one of my closest friends. However, in January 1992, the Lord directed me to start my own ministry.

Following God

"God's plan for my life was simple. I was to tell high school students three things: that God loves them; that God has a plan for their lives; and that because they're breathing, they matter. He gave me the mandate in Proverbs 24:11 (New King James Version), 'Deliver those who are drawn toward death, and hold back those stumbling to the slaughter.' Every day in America, 5,600 teenagers attempt suicide. That means that in an arena seating 12,000 people, every two-and-a-half days it would fill up with teens who in the previous 60 hours bought the lie that death was a better choice than life.

"Deuteronomy 30:19-20 says, 'I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.' Life and death are a choice. My call is to help teenagers make the right one."

In booking his speaking engagements, Dean said the Lord instructed him not to charge for appearances.

"In the mornings, I would call high school principals and say, 'Hi, I'm Dean Sikes. I'm going to talk to 100,000 teenagers this year in high schools across the country. I'd like to come to your school. Here's what I'm going to share with them. I'm not going to charge you anything.'

"In the afternoon, I called businesspeople. I told them what I was doing and asked if they wanted to partner with me. God was amazing. From the beginning, I spoke to 100,000 kids a year."

Finding a Wife

Throughout the years Dean had desired to be married.

When speaking at a school, he'd asked God if she taught there. When ministering in churches, he wondered if she attended.

Tired and lonely, he called a friend.

"Where is my wife?"

"Dean, would you shut up?"

"What?"

"Stop asking God for your wife. Start thanking Him for her. Be specific. Write a list."

Taking his friend's advice, Dean began making a list.

"Lord, who do You want me to marry?" he

started. "Tell me about her."

The list was very specific.

So specific, in fact, that in 1995 he recognized her when she walked through the door. Having found one another in the spirit, they felt as though they'd known each other their whole lives.

Dean was 30; Lori was 26.

They met in August of 1995. He proposed in September. They married in May of 1996. The next year their son was born. They had their first daughter in 1998 and their second in 1999.

One day, Lori asked Dean to pick up something at Home Depot. Walking down an aisle along with two of his children, Dean came face to face with the man who, 22 years earlier, had sexually abused him. In a single moment, his life unraveled. Knowing there was a problem, the kids asked, "Daddy, what's wrong?"

That evening, Dean told Lori, "I'm going to tell you something I've never told anyone. Twenty-two years ago, I was sexually abused. Today, I ran into that man."

"Dean, everything makes sense right now. We've got to get you help."

Dean resisted. He had the Lord and knew how to pray. However, Lori persisted.

Telling the Story

"I'd been ministering for years," Dean explains. "I was often on television. But when I came face to face with something I'd never dealt with, I came apart.

"I didn't talk to the first counselor I saw. When I got to the second he said, 'Dean, I have a lot of respect for what you do. But I'm not here to care about your ministry, how you do it or how effective it is. I care about you. I'd like to help you, but I can't make you do anything.'

"I opened up, and that conversation lasted 11 years," Dean said.

"I believe everybody needs someone safe to talk to, to identify challenges, approach them through God's Word, and be healed."

During this process, the Lord posed a question to Dean: Will you forgive the man who abused you?

"No. It wasn't fair. I didn't do anything wrong. I didn't sow that seed."

Was the Cross fair?

"T'll have to get back to You," Dean responded. "Right now, my answer is no. I won't forgive. But let me do what I need to do."

Three days later, Dean came back to God.

"Yes, Sir, I will forgive...by faith."
That's when everything changed.

"From that day forward, our ministry went through the stratosphere," Dean says. "Doors opened that I never dreamed possible.

"I've learned that when we forgive, we get free. When we get free and our hearts are healed, we can really be used by God. Today, I talk about all these things with teenagers. I tell them, 'If you don't deal with your emotions, they will deal with you.' I

ask them who they need to forgive and if they feel rejected. I explain that on the other side of rejection is a word called *accepted*, and that we are each accepted in the Beloved. In all this, I tell them that suicide can never be their answer."



Death Averted

Dean has used private aviation for travel since 2004. In 2005, he ministered at a large Teen Challenge service in Pennsylvania. He had planned to fly home that evening, but was asked to speak the following day at a school in Kentucky, where a shooting had occurred. Accepting the invitation, Dean decided to fly to Kentucky that night, speak the next day, and then fly home.

As was his normal custom, Dean walked around the plane and prayed. Inside, he and



the pilot prayed. About 25 minutes into the flight, they reached an altitude of 15,000 feet. Without warning, the plane stuttered.

"What was that?" Dean asked.

"I'm checking now," the pilot replied.

Looking out the window, Dean saw that the right propeller had stopped.

"We've just experienced catastrophic engine failure on the right side," the pilot announced to air traffic controllers.

"The closest airport is 15 miles behind you," the controller responded.

"What he didn't say was that the airport was surrounded by mountains," Dean recalled.

Dean prayed in tongues until they made an emergency landing. The next morning the Lord said, *Don't stop doing what brought you success*.

Take Two

Ten days later, Dean ministered in Chicago. Afterward, the fog was so thick he couldn't see the runway. Dean sensed an internal witness not to take the flight.

Really?

What were the chances they would have an aviation problem twice in 10 days?

At 6,000 feet, it sounded like someone poured a jar of marbles into the left engine, Dean recalls. Looking at Dean, the pilot said, "It's happened again."

Suddenly, Dean heard the Holy Spirit speak two words: *Gary, Indiana*.

"Where's Gary, Indiana?" Dean shouted to the pilot over the noise.

"We're six miles from it."

"Go there."

As soon as they flew into Gary, the fog dissipated. They made another emergency landing. On several occasions when Dean shared these stories, well-meaning people said things like, "Brother, God's trying to get you out of aviation."

"Do you have children?" Dean would ask.

"Yes."

"Do you love them?"

"Yes."

"Would you take your children and put them in an airplane, then go high in the sky and kill the engine? Then would you clap your hands and say, 'Let's see what kind of faith you have'?"

"I'd never do that."

"Neither would God."

You've got to know the source of your trouble, Dean shared. It's easy to discern: God, good; devil, bad. God comes to bring life. The devil comes to steal it.

The Result

One of Dean's good friends, Jeremy Pearsons, shared Dean's story with Kenneth Copeland. Soon after, Jeremy called Dean and said, "My grandfather wants to meet vou."

During that meeting, Brother Copeland said, "Dean, in all the years I've been in aviation, I've never lost one engine, much less two in 10 days."

Those aviation problems sparked a deep friendship between Kenneth and Dean. Speaking to Dean and Jeremy in 2005, Kenneth said, "You boys know more right now than I did for 10 or 15 years. Do you know why?"

"Yes, sir," Dean said, "because you've invested your life into teaching the uncompromised Word of God, you've expedited the process for us."

Today, Dean continues to carry that message as he speaks to teenagers across the country, including annually in the 14forty youth meetings at the Southwest Believers' Convention in Fort Worth, Texas. His television program, *You Matter Television*, airs four times a week on KCM's VICTORY Channel. Dean has authored 31 books, including the popular devotional for teens, *Hope 365: A Daily Reminder From the Word of God That You Matter.*

In the 32 years Dean has been in ministry, more than 125,000 suicides have been avoided. Over 106,000 teens have signed the *I Matter* pledge cards, choosing life over death, and he has seen more than 300,000 teenagers give their lives to the Lord.

"Partnership with KCM has been lifechanging because I've learned so much," Dean says. "Brother and Sister Copeland, and the entire ministry of KCM, have made a massive impact on our ministry."





Enter Into God's Protection

If there was ever a generation that needed to know how to enter into God's protection and stay there, it's this generation. Wars and rumors of wars are commonplace news, but we can find peace in the midst of war. Even though our military is deployed to far-off lands, even though terrorists are hitting our cities, we can find peace.

Most people react to the danger in one of two ways: Either they get calloused to it and ignore it, or they simply wring their hands and moan, "Dear God, help us." But neither of those ways will get us through. Ignoring the problems won't make them go away and, frankly, neither will our helpless cries of despair.

We have to deal with the dangers around us. Whether it feels good or not. Whether it looks pretty or not. We have a part to play.

Jesus Himself knew we were going to have to face times like these. In Matthew 24:6 He said, "And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled." When we hear of wars and rumors of wars, we're not to let it cripple our faith and throw us into anxiety. We're to refuse to let that trouble enter into our hearts.

We're also to guard against deception. Jesus said, "Take heed that no man deceive you" (verse 4).

These days everyone has something to say about what's happening. The news media. Politicians. Your next-door neighbor. Everyone! Even though those people may not intend to deceive you, they're looking at things through the world's eyes instead of through the eyes of God's WORD. If you'll let him, satan will use them to fill your mind with worry. He'll use the media to bring to you all the terrors of war—to show you every kind of horrible thing you can think of. Why? To stir up hate and fear inside you.

You can guard against satan's strategies by paying attention to what God is saying instead of what the world is saying. By concentrating on Him, looking at things through His eyes. That means you have to lock into God's WORD and stay there. It doesn't matter what's on television or in the newspapers. Your future isn't based on that. Your future will be determined by your faith in God's WORD.

Listen, my friend. No matter how much we try to ignore it...or how despairingly we cry about it, trouble is coming. It's constantly out there and it's heading right toward you every day, just like Jesus said it would.

But don't let that trouble trouble you. Instead, chase doubt out and settle the victory in your heart. Speak out the delivering power of The LORD and follow the rules of faith. You will surely see the salvation of God!

Don't let satan's ploys distract you or lead you into fear. Instead, stand strong on The WORD. Make the decision to remain in peace, avoid the media, and purpose to focus on what God is doing and saying instead of satan. You are in a war, a war for your peace. Fight the good fight of faith (1 Timothy 6:12) and stand!



He Supplies Our Needs

I received a call from the KCM prayer line, asking if, as a Partner, I needed prayer. I had just recently been forced from my home and needed a place to stav. We agreed in praver that God would meet my needs. The next morning, I received a call from my niece, and when she heard my situation, she and her husband invited me to come share their home. Praise the Lord! I have a roof over my head. and an atmosphere in which to grow more in the Lord. I am grateful for KCM reaching out to the Partners. Thank you all for feeding us the Word of God.

J.R. | Colorado

'Praise the Lord!'

I called for prayer regarding employment. The same afternoon, a position I had interviewed for called and offered me the job. Praise the Lord! Thank you, Kenneth Copeland Ministries.

H.S. | Michigan

A Thankful Heart

I am very thankful for the BVOV magazine. The teachings and testimonies are a tremendous blessing. I don't have to read much at a time to get a wealth of encouragement.

T.F. | North Carolina

TESTIMONIES OF REAL-LIFE VICTORY



Trust In God

I listened to Seven Steps to Prayer That Bring Results. One word really stood out—do not east away your confidence; that was me. I had east it away falling into fear, depression, etc. I heard that word and it snapped me back to reality.

J.J. | Florida

'Power In Agreement'

I called KCM for agreement in prayer as pain kept going and returning. The prayer minister agreed with me on Psalm 107:20 and we considered it done. That night I slept well without any pain. But for the next two days, it tried to return. I stood by the Word and our agreement and continued to resist it. Praise the Lord—it left, never to return. There is power in the Word and power in agreement on the Word. Thank You, Jesus, and thank you, KCM.

A.B. | Canada

The Lord Is Faithful

I called the KCM prayer line in a crisis. I needed \$7,425 and did not know of any way to get this amount of money. After a KCM staff member prayed and believed with me, God showed me a way to get this money, and I received more than that amount! I needed the money immediately, so when

I deposited the check, I decreed that the check would clear immediately. The money was available the following day. I am grateful for God's faithfulness and for the partnership I have with KCM.

E.O. | Texas



"Seeing and hearing
The WORD renews your
mind, affects the senses
of your body, and most
importantly, it causes
faith to come."

-Kenneth Copeland

Transformed by His Word

I've been watching Gloria Copeland, changing my diet and declaring healing scriptures. I've also been taking herbs and supplements as led by the Holy Spirit. I am now cancer free without chemo and radiation! Thank You, God! J.B. I Georgia

'Pain Disappeared'

Just a few minutes after sending KCM my prayer request about the pain that was around my abdomen and radiating to my back, I was getting ready to go to the hospital. As soon as I stood up to walk out the door, the pain disappeared! I give all the glory to the Lord. God bless KCM for being a blessing to others.

A.B. | Australia

Healed and Whole

I had a 500-pound cart at work fall on my shoulder, had five tears in my shoulders, and one shoulder was "frozen." At Healing School in Chattanooga, Brother Ken said during his teaching, "shoulder healed, shoulder healed." I turned to my wife and said, "I receive that." At the end of the message, Brother Kenneth told us to stand up and praise God. When I raised my hands, it was the first time in nine months that the length of my hands was

the same. God touched my body that morning and I have full range in what was that frozen shoulder. I praise God for healing my body.

W.C. | North Carolina



SALVATION PRAYER

If you do not know Jesus as your Savior and Lord, simply pray the following prayer in faith, and Jesus will be your Lord!

Heavenly Father, I come to You in the Name of Jesus. Your Word says, "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved" and "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Acts 2:21; Romans 10:9). You said my salvation would be the result of Your Holy Spirit giving me new birth by coming to live in me (John 3:5-6, 15-16; Romans 8:9-11) and that if I would ask, You would fill me with Your Spirit and give me the ability to speak with other tongues (Luke 11:13; Acts 2:4).

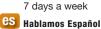
I take You at Your Word.
I confess that Jesus is
Lord. And I believe in my
heart that You raised Him
from the dead. Thank
You for coming into my
heart, for giving me Your
Holy Spirit as You have
promised, and for being
Lord over my life. Amen.

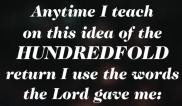
connect with us

If you have just prayed this prayer, please let us know of your decision. Call or go to kcm.org/salvation.
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THE MAXIMUM, HIGHEST LEVEL ATTAINABLE

In Mark 10, a rich young ruler asked Jesus, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus told him to sell all he had and give it to the poor. The Bible says the man "went away grieved: for he had great possessions" (verse 22). In the next verse, Jesus turned to His disciples and said, "How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!"

This statement left the disciples perplexed. Scripture tells us that they asked each other, "Who then can be saved?" (verse 26).

But Jesus didn't say to the disciples that it was *impossible* for the rich to enter heaven—only difficult. Why? Because rich people

usually trust in their riches more than they trust in their God.

Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, but he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life (verses 29-30, emphasis mine).

In that moment, when the disciples

wondered about this challenge that Jesus gave the rich young ruler, He responded with a lesson on the hundredfold. That's significant. People may argue about it. Religious people may fight the idea of it. But the principle of the hundredfold return is real. It's a principle that God established—and it's

Introduction to the Hundredfold

still working today.

The first time I heard a sermon on the hundredfold return, I was listening to Kenneth Copeland. It was 1969, and I was still living in Shreveport, La. Brother Copeland was visiting our church, and the message he shared about the hundredfold ignited something in me. I was deep in debt. In the natural, there was no way out. Like Charles Capps used to say, "I wasn't just in debt. I was in supernatural debt. You can't get in debt that far naturally!"

Sure, I'd always been a giver, but I didn't know any giving scriptures. If somebody had a need that I could meet, I'd help them out. Simple as that; it's how I was raised. My dad was a giver and so was my grandfather. It was just a natural part of life.

The difficulty for me came in receiving.

I didn't want anyone giving me anything. I had learned to work from Dad, and I only wanted what I could earn with my own two hands. But in preparation for full-time ministry, I had shut my automotive business down, and Carolyn and I had no income or savings. We had to believe God for food on our table.

Then I heard Brother Copeland preach a message about the hundredfold, and I grabbed hold of it! I had already begun tithing and giving as much as I could, but after hearing about this principle, I asked the Lord, "Am I entitled to a hundredfold?" I let Him know that I didn't need a tenfold, a thirtyfold or even a sixtyfold return. Those wouldn't help me. I needed a hundredfold!

Well, guess what? It began to happen.

It didn't happen overnight, but something was triggered. In a supernatural amount of time, we were out of debt. We paid off all our business debts and most of our personal debts. Praise God! All of that came about because I grabbed hold of the Word and believed for a hundredfold.

In a supernatural amount of time, we were out of debt. We paid off all our business debts and most of our personal debts. Praise God! All of that came about because I grabbed hold of the Word and believed for a hundredfold."

God, Did You Really Mean That?

Over the years, people have challenged me about the hundredfold. When I asked the Lord about it, He said just three words: *In this time*. That might have sounded strange to some, but I knew exactly what He meant when I went to the Word. Jesus had taught about it, and just like everything else He taught, His words still held up *in this time*—that is, *today*.

In John 7:16, Jesus said, "My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me." Jesus made it clear that anything He said didn't come from Him. The words He spoke were from His heavenly Father. He repeated this in John 8:28: "I do nothing of myself, but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things." And again in John 12:49: "The Father which sent me, he gave me...what I should say, and what I should speak." Jesus was clear: If He said it, it was from God.

I realized that if Jesus spoke about the hundredfold, then it must be real. Everything He said was from God, and God doesn't lie (Titus 1:2, Hebrews 6:18).

"Brother Jerry, you mean to tell me that you have received a hundredfold on every seed that you've ever sown?"

No, not on every seed I've sown. But it's not over yet, and I haven't given up that I will receive a hundredfold on all my seed.

Years ago, when a group of preachers challenged me about preaching the hundredfold, the Lord said, From now on when you read this verse, refer to the hundredfold as the maximum, highest level attainable. So now, anytime I teach on this idea of the hundredfold return I use the words the Lord gave me: the maximum, highest level attainable! And I've seen it prove out time and again—for myself and others.

Visitation of the Lord

In October 1981, in Charlotte, N.C., I had a supernatural visitation of the Lord. I didn't know it at the time, but I was about to learn a lesson about the hundredfold that would alter my life and ministry. Carolyn and I had just finished an afternoon service with Brother Copeland. Carolyn went to take a nap, and I sat down on the sofa in our hotel room.

Suddenly the Shekinah glory filled the room. I could not even see the furniture

Jerry Savelle is president and founder of Jerry Savelle Ministries International and founder of Heritage of Faith Christian Center in Crowley, Texas.

For information or ministry materials, visit jerrysavelle.org.



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anymore. The Lord appeared and said, My people are in financial famine, and I'm going to reveal to you the keys that will bring them

I grabbed a notepad from the table next to the sofa, and started writing everything the Lord said to me. Later that night at the meeting, Brother Copeland sang a couple of songs and then opened his Bible to preach. He stopped. Then he shut his Bible and said, "Jerry, God visited you today. Come tell us what He said."

I went up and preached a message from Genesis 26 titled "Sowing in Famine." In verse 12 of that chapter, it describes how, when Isaac sowed during a time of famine, he "received in the same year an hundredfold: and the LORD blessed him." By the time I finished teaching, the Lord revealed to me that my ministry was in financial famine too. He instructed me to sow 10 checks of \$1,000 each—one for each department and outreach in our ministry. It was a stretch because we needed hundreds of thousands of dollars for each of those departments or outreaches. I was determined to be faithful, though, and I knew right where those checks needed to go. In addition to the initial 10 checks, Carolyn and I sowed a \$1,000 personal check into Kenneth Copeland Ministries.

One week later, I received the first hundredfold return on those checks. At a meeting in Tulsa, Brother Kenneth Hagin called me up on stage and gave me his airplane. By the end of that year, I had reaped a hundred times on every seed that I had

When people tell me, "This doesn't work," or "God didn't really mean that," they're too late. It's already happened too many times for me to deny that the maximum, highest level attainable exists.

It's a Lifestyle

Will every Christian experience a hundredfold, or the maximum, highest level attainable on what they give? I wish that were true, but it's not. Simply being a Christian doesn't qualify anyone. Read Mark 10:29-30 again. Is Jesus talking about every Christian? No, He's talking about deeply committed believers who will do whatever God tells them to do Believers with no reservations. Believers with no hesitations. Believers who are faithful in the big and small things.

In other words: Believers who make following the Lord and doing what He says a priority, and a lifestyle.

Remember the rich young ruler in Mark 10? When Jesus told him to "go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come. take up the cross, and follow me," he couldn't do it (verse 21). The Bible says that ruler walked away grieved because he had so much.

The truth is, he didn't have so much. His so much had him.

If you can't give something that God has blessed you with, then you don't have it. It has you.

Learn To Be Consistent

Consistency is another major factor in qualifying for the maximum, highest level attainable. Proverbs 28:20 says, "A faithful man shall abound with blessings."

Paul said in Galatians 6:9, "Let us not be weary in well doing." The well doing he was talking about is sowing. It's giving. He was talking about being *consistent* in giving. The Amplified Bible, Classic Edition, says, "Don't lose heart and grow weary and faint." The Passion Translation adds, "The wonderful harvest you've planted is coming!"

There comes a time when your consistency will penetrate a barrier and cause a divine flow. That's exciting!

Something is happening in the Body of Christ. All that sowing and giving we've been doing is going to result in a divine flow that will produce the maximum, highest level attainable.

I can't stress this enough: Be part of this committed and consistent group of believers. Be one of those who are willing to leave it all behind, give even when in the natural it doesn't look like it makes sense to do so, and be consistent in the big and small things. Those are the ones Jesus says can look forward to a hundredfold return-the maximum, highest level attainable.

Let that be you!

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by Gloria Copeland

Secret Place

DO YOU KNOW THAT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS IN THIS MIXED-UP, CHAOTIC WORLD, YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID? IT'S TRUE. IF YOU'RE A BORN-AGAIN BELIEVER, YOU HAVE A COVENANT OF PROTECTION—AND NOW, PERHAPS MORE THAN EVER, THAT'S GOOD NEWS!

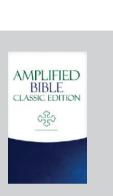
WE'RE LIVING IN DANGEROUS TIMES.

This age is ending, and all around us we're seeing the things Jesus said would happen. He said in Luke 21, for instance, that in the last of the last days, we will "hear of wars and insurrections (disturbances, disorder, and confusion)," but that we're not to "become alarmed and

panic-stricken and terrified; for...nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be mighty and violent earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences (plagues: malignant and contagious or infectious epidemic diseases which are deadly and







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"While the world is getting darker and darker, however, the Church is getting lighter and brighter. In the Church things are looking up even while in the world they're looking down."

devastating); and there will be sights of terror and great signs from heaven" (verses 9–11, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

That sounds a lot like what's being reported both on the national and international news these days, doesn't it? All over the world it seems that things are being shaken. What's more, between now and the time the Lord returns (which I expect will be soon) the world is only going to get worse.

While the world is getting darker and darker, however, the Church is getting lighter and brighter. In the Church things are looking up even while in the world they're looking down.

"But Gloria," you might say, "how is that possible?"

Because as believers, we have the "victory that overcometh the world, even our faith" (1 John 5:4). And because even while we're living here on earth, our life "is hid with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3).

Actually, as believers we're in much the same situation Moses was after he asked God to show him His glory in the Old Testament. Have you ever read about that? In response to Moses' request, the Lord hid him in the cleft of the rock and covered him with His hand (Exodus 33:22, *New King James Version*). Then, He showed Moses His goodness. In the New Testament, our Rock is Christ Jesus! We're hidden in Him in the secret place of God's protection!

The world knows nothing about this secret place, nor can they live there. But this secret place is very real. It's a place surrounded by the power of God and by His angels. A place in Christ Jesus where we can live without fear, in safety, health and prosperity. A place where we're safe from all evil and where God can show us His goodness.

God is a good God! He is always endeavoring to get us in a position where He can fully do the good He desires to do in our lives. That's why He sent Jesus—so we could experience His goodness and enjoy all the blessings of salvation. It's also why He gave us His written Word—so we don't have to wait until we get to heaven to experience those blessings but can walk in them while we're still here on earth.

We need the Word to live free on this earth! Because we're surrounded by a world whose god is the devil, we can't fully experience God's goodness here and be lazy about the Word! Instead, we must do what Hebrews 2 says and "pay much closer attention than ever to the truths that we have heard, lest in any way we drift past [them] and slip away." For "how shall we escape" (the perils of this world) "...if we neglect and refuse to pay attention to such a great salvation [as is now offered to us, letting it drift past us forever]?" (verses 1, 3 AMPC).

Dwelling and Saying

Salvation is more than the new birth! The Greek word translated *salvation* means "deliverance, preservation, material and temporal deliverance from danger and apprehension, pardon, restoration, healing, wholeness, and soundness."

All those things became yours when you were born again. Healing, peace, prosperity, well-being, your family being intact, supernatural deliverance when you need it, and the goodness of God are all part of your salvation and God wants you to have them. But if you don't keep what the Word says about them in front of your eyes and going in your ears, it's easy to let those

POINTS TO

things get away from you.

You can let your healing slip if you don't keep feeding on healing scriptures. You can slip back into lack if you stop meditating on God's promises of abundance. If you neglect the truths revealed in the Bible about our great salvation, you can find yourself being shaken right along with the world.

That's not God's will for any of His children. On the contrary, His eyes "run to and fro throughout the whole earth to show Himself strong in behalf of those whose hearts are blameless toward Him" (2 Chronicles 16:9, *AMPC*). He will not force His blessings on us; however, He'll see to it that they manifest in our life as long as we give Him our faith, loyalty and attention. But He won't just come in, take over and make us do things His way.

That's the difference between God and the devil. The devil will try to dominate and run over you. He'll try to use the dangerous things that are happening in the world to force you to fear. As believers, you and I have no business being afraid! Fear opens the door to the devil. It works the same way that faith does, only in the opposite direction.

"God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (2 Timothy 1:7). So, when fear tries to get on you, refuse to entertain it. Instead, rebuke it and speak words of faith from the Bible that contradict the fear.

"But I don't know what those words are," you might say.

Then find out by spending time in the Scriptures. Once you know what God has said in His written Word, you can declare it by faith and live free. One of the best passages of Scripture you can use to combat fear is Psalm 91. That's a good Psalm to feed on continually because it's packed with powerful promises of God's protection. Describing the person to whom those promises are made, it starts by saying:

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty [Whose power no foe can withstand]. I will say of the Lord, He is my Refuge and my Fortress, my God; on Him I lean and rely, and in Him I [confidently] trust! (Psalm 91:1–2, *AMPC*).

Notice, according to those verses, God's

GET YOU THERE:

Make a quality decision to stay close to God and make Him your permanent dwelling place. (Ps. 91:1)

2

Instead of repeating worldly words of doubt and unbelief, keep saying by faith what God says.

(Ps. 91:2)

3

Shut the door on the devil by refusing to fear. (2 Tim. 1:7)

4

Continually read and meditate on the all wonderful benefits of salvation revealed in God's Word. (Heb. 2:1)

5

Don't wait until trouble hits to make God's promises of protection in Psalm 91 part of your daily life. promises of protection don't apply just to everybody. They belong to the person who *dwells* in the secret place of the Most High and *says* that the Lord is his Refuge and Fortress. Dwelling and saying: Those are the two things we're supposed to do. They're our part of God's protection plan.

The word *dwell* means "to abide or to live in a place permanently." To make it your home. So to dwell in God's secret place means you stay close to Him all the time. You don't just pop in on Him occasionally, and then pop out again. You don't ignore Him day to day, and think, *Well, the Lord took care of me last time I got in trouble; if something else bad happens I'll go to Him again.*

No, that doesn't work. God is wonderfully merciful, but when you get away from Him your heart gets full of other things. You start getting rebellious and stubborn. You can even get to where you're not willing to turn to Him in times of trouble. You can't play that game safely! The only safe way to live on the earth is to live dedicated to God and stay tightly under His wing. If you want to enjoy His protection 24/7 that's the first thing you do.

The Greatest Challenge You Will Face

The second thing you do is speak God's Word. You say about Him and about yourself what He says. You don't say things like, "I'm afraid I'm going to have a car wreck...or get sick...or lose my job." Words like that give the devil a shot at





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you. The devil can work with words of fear. He cannot, however, work with words of faith. So when trials arise he always pressures you to say something negative.

Have you ever noticed that when you start experiencing symptoms of sickness, for example, you feel almost eager to talk about them? You have this burning fleshly desire to find somebody and tell them, "I feel sick." The devil is behind that. He knows if he can get your words, he can get you!

One of the greatest challenges you'll face in the faith life is keeping your mouth in line. It's not easy sometimes to make yourself say the right thing. But, praise God, you can do it! You can get your heart so full of the Word that when trouble comes you immediately start speaking words of faith. Instead of saying what the devil wants you to say, you say what God says and what you want to come to pass.

I began training myself to do that when I first began studying Mark 11:23. Jesus said there: "Whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass: he shall have whatsoever he saith."

I got the revelation from that verse many years ago that I needed to get to the place where I believe that my words come to pass. I also realized that meant I needed to stop

saying things I don't want to come to pass.

Ken and I got that revelation at the same es.kcm.org time. So, we quit using even seemingly trivial colloquialisms. We stopped saying things like, "That thrills me to death" or "That just kills me."

After some years went by, however, a new phrase became popular that I adopted without thinking. The phrase was, "That just blows me away." For a while, I used that phrase. When talking about something that amazed or impressed me, I'd say, "That just blows me awav."

But then I heard Jerry Savelle say the Lord had told him not to use that expression. So, I decided to stop using it, too.

A few weeks later, I was teaching Healing School in Tallahassee, Fla., one stormy Saturday. I could hear rain and thunder outside, but I wasn't paying any attention to it. Then suddenly-BAM!-I heard a loud noise and saw drops of water falling on my open Bible.

A tornado had hit the convention center!

It ripped off the massive steel "elephant door" right behind me and left it dangling precariously from one corner. It also blew off a portion of the roof right above my head. When I saw what was happening, I spoke to that tornado. I said, "In the Name of Jesus, you get out of here! Dissipate!"

We learned from the newspaper the next day the tornado had formed just outside town and gone to the convention center. But that's where it stopped. It never went anywhere else.

Wow! Was I glad I had quit saying, "That just blows me away"! Those are not the words I wanted to come to pass that day. They are not words my angels could have acted on to protect me.

Psalm 103:20 tells us that God's mighty angels hearken to the voice of His Word. So. practice speaking God's Word all the time. Don't wait until trouble hits or you're in danger. Make declaring God's promises of protection a regular part of your life. Then, as He promised in Psalm 91:3-16.

Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings vou shall take refuge: His truth shall be your shield and buckler. You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day, nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you. Only with your eyes shall you look, and see the reward of the wicked. Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; for He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot." [The Lord shall say of you,] "Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name. He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him, and show him My salvation" (NKJV).

Hallelujah! What a wonderful way to live!

Our Heavenly Birth Certificate



Happy New Year, and Happy New YOU, Superkid!

I say "New YOU" because, as I look back on 2023, I realize that I am a different person than I was last year. Are you? Of course you are still you, but the Lord has been helping us to grow up in our minds, to grow healthy in our emotions, and to grow stronger in Him from the inside out.

If you have been reading Commander Kellie's Corner the last few years, you have been learning the truths the Lord has been showing me about my own life and my walk with Him. He has changed me from the inside out, so that I am stronger and more aware of my identity in Him. He is leading us into a new place of knowing Him better, loving Him more and trusting Him completely. Why is that? What is He planning for our future? The Bible describes a Church that is perfected, powerful, filled with God's love and doing miracles. He is remaking us into "Jesus on the earth" people now.

We are the Body of Christ. It is as though Jesus were walking around in your body. We are filled with Him by the Holy Spirit! There will come a time when the Body of Christ is walking in the FULLNESS OF JESUS—when all of His children who carry Him in their hearts, begin to think, feel and choose exactly as He would have them to. Superkid, that includes you and me.

As I was thinking and praying about you, the Lord put in my heart to talk through the book of Ephesians! As Jesus drew me closer to His heart, I began to see that Ephesians is a description of the Body of Christ that we are becoming. He said, "God has now revealed to us his mysterious will regarding Christ—which is to fulfill his own good plan. And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth" Ephesians 1:9-10 (New Living Translation).

Ephesians was a letter written to believers who were faithful followers of Jesus. The blessings Paul spoke over them belong to you, too. In Ephesians 1:3-4, for example, he says, "All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes."

Since your heavenly Father sees you as one with Jesus, in His eyes you are just as faultless and holy as Jesus. And you are completely His, adopted into God's family when you asked Jesus to come into your heart.

Ephesians 1:7 tells us how much He truly loves us: "He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins." God gave His Son's life to pay for ours, forgive our sins, pour out His grace on us, and shower His love and kindness on us. He even poured out His wisdom and understanding for us to be able to be just like Him (verse 8). This is what is happening to us now, Superkid. We are being shaped and formed into His

image. He is bringing us together—all His holy people—under the perfection of our Lord Jesus. Verse 11 says, "Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan."

God is making everything work out the way He planned it so long ago. He is making you and me and His plans for our lives work out, too! This is truly His peace and grace that is being poured out on all of it right now. This is the good news and we just have to say, "Yes, Lord!" Just like when the children of Israel said yes to Him, He blessed them and delivered them from trouble, showing everyone around that they were His people. When you believe in Jesus, He identifies you as His own by giving you the Holy Spirit, God's very own Spirit, to live inside you and mark you as His. Superkid, have you asked Jesus to come into your heart? Pray with me now:

Father, thank You for calling me to come to You and giving Your Son to pay the price for my sin. Jesus, come into my heart and make me just like You. Holy Spirit, I welcome You to make Jesus real to me. This is my identification, I AM A CHILD OF GOD! IT'S GUARANTEED!

Now, let's do it Superkid! Let's let our lives show His glory until all the world knows the good news that Jesus loves them!



Kellie Copeland is responsible for Covenant Partner Relations at Kenneth Copeland Ministries and is the developer of the Superkid Academy curriculum. Through her ministry and as "Commander Kellie," she fulfills the mission of drawing people of all ages into a personal, growing and powerful relationship with Jesus Christ.

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