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Editor's Letter



When was the last time you stopped to smell the roses?

Before you try to answer, that was a rhetorical question. But now that I have your attention, let me be more direct.

When was the last time you stopped what you were doing, and took time out to observe and appreciate the beauty of God's creation?

I did that just this morning while driving to work.

How awesome!

From the brightness of the sun that appeared in response to His powerful demand: "Let there be light," to the oceans deep that cover the vastness of a seemingly endless expanse, to the rolling hills and the tree-lined mountains where creatures roam.

It's all God's creation-fashioned by Him, and made for us.

How sad it is that many are so distracted by the busyness of life that they overlook the wonders of the creation of life.

In Psalm 8:3-4. New Living Translation. the psalmist wrote: "When I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers—the moon and the stars you set in place—what are mere mortals that you should think about them, human beings that you should care for them?"

What are we that He should care for us? Ephesians 2:10 says, "We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works...." God used the power of His words to create, then He looked at His creation and saw that "it was very good." It's the same for you and me. We are His workmanship, His masterpiece, created in His image and with His purpose-to prosper and succeed in everything we do. In His eyes, we are "very good."

In his article this month, titled "Your Will, Your Choice, Your Words," Kenneth Copeland says: "God doesn't do anything without saying it. He always creates and changes things by speaking words because that's where the power is. That's where the life is."

It's also where the beauty is.

Take a moment to stop, look at and appreciate God's creation. Then look at yourself. You're part of His creation. And He is just as pleased with you, His masterpiece, as He is with all of His creation-and even more so.

Ronald C. Jordan Managing Editor

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THIS ISSU



Your Will, Your Choice. **Your Words** by Kenneth Copeland

Clvde McGee: Faith. Satellites and the First Global Communion

A Face of Victory by Melanie Hemry

18 Partnership & The Blessing by Kenneth Copeland

> Give Yourself a Spiritual Audit by Creflo Dollar

26 Supernatural Power-24 Hours a Day! by Gloria Copeland



"I consider Gloria a hero of the faith... her book changed my world."

-Sarah Foster



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 52 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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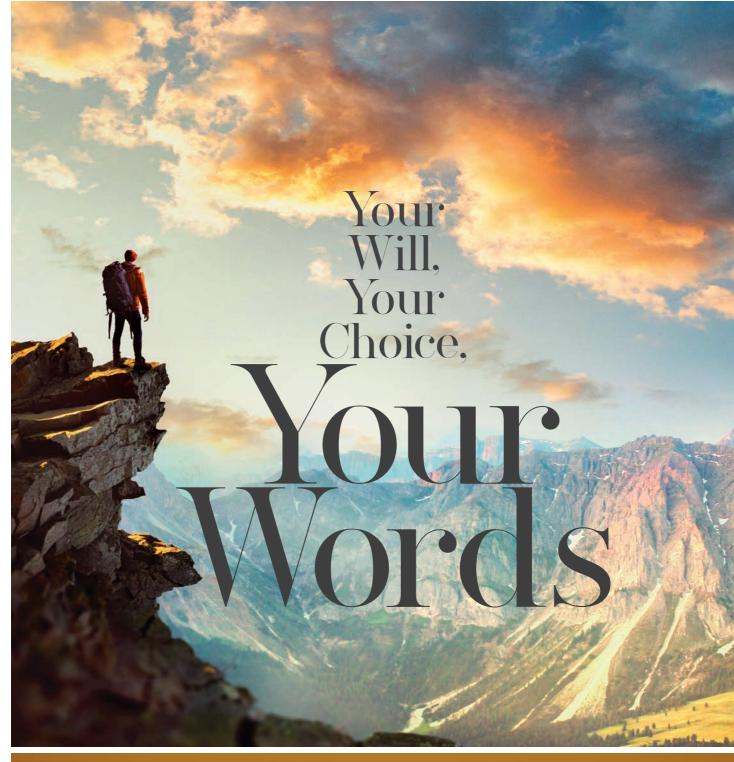
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There's an expression that's worked its way into people's conversations recently. You've probably heard it. Somebody will flippantly spout off about something, make a pronouncement they probably shouldn't, and then add with a shrug..."I'm just saying."

Just saying.

As harmless as that expression may sound,

it's extremely deceptive. It implies that what we say doesn't make any difference—that our words only reflect what we *think* about reality, they don't actually affect it.

Nothing, however, could be further from the truth. Words are behind everything that happens on this planet. They're what brought it into existence. God *spoke* it into being. He

"IT'S A REVELATION GOD DOES NOT WANT US TO MISS. AS HIS EARTHLY SONS AND DAUGHTERS, WE ARE TO OPERATE LIKE HE DOES, SO HE WANTS US TO UNDERSTAND THIS ALL-IMPORTANT TRUTH: GOD CREATES AND GIVES LIFE WITH HIS WORDS."

said...and there it was.

As believers, we know this very well: The universe didn't just accidentally come together through a random cosmic explosion. No, as Hebrews 11:3 says, "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." The first chapter of Genesis lays out the process in more detail.

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. [Or as it's literally translated from the Hebrew, God said, Light be! And light was] (verses 1–3).

There's a reason those are the first verses in the Bible. They set the stage for everything that follows. They also set the stage for how we, as His children, are to live our lives. They tell us not only that He is the Creator but also His method of creation, a method which He considers so vital for us to understand that in Genesis 1 it's repeated time and again:

"God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters.... and it was so" (verses 6-7).

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

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

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

"God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly...and fowl that may fly above the earth..." (verse 20).

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

The Bible could have conveyed the information in those verses much more concisely. It could have told us just once that "God said," and then listed everything He called into being. But it doesn't. It tells us over and over that "God said" because this isn't just information. It's a revelation God does not want us to miss. As His earthly sons and daughters, we are to operate like He does, so He wants us to understand this all-important truth:

God creates and gives life with His words. This planet was dead before God said those things in Genesis 1. It was formless, empty and dark. That's not how He originally created it. According to Isaiah 45:18, He did not create the earth "to be a worthless waste; He formed it to be inhabited" (Amplified Bible, Classic Edition). But the fall of satan in ages past killed it. His rebellion against God brought on the earth a massive destruction that left this planet and the atmosphere around it totally dead.

Yet God was able to bring it back to life...with His words.

God doesn't do anything without saying it. He always creates and changes things by speaking words because that's where the power is. That's



This article was adapted from the new book by Kenneth Copeland titled *Live Fear Free*.

BVOV BROADCAST CALENDAR







Greg Stephens



Benny

SEPT

Sept. 1-5 Redeemed: You Have the Victory Over Death! **Kenneth Copeland**

Sun., Sept. 7 Seek God First To Find the Right Plan for Your Life **Kenneth Copeland**

Sept. 8-12 Faith Expects To Receive **Kenneth Copeland**

Sun., Sept. 14 Pray In the Spirit To Find God's BLESSED Plan for You **Kenneth Copeland**

Sept.15-19
How To Walk
In Divine Health
Kenneth Copeland and
Jonathan Shuttlesworth

Sun., Sept. 21 Receive God's Good Plan for You by Having

Faith In His Love Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 22-26 The Bible Is a Book of Blood Covenants Kenneth Copeland and Professor Greg Stephens

Sun., Sept. 28 Faith In God's Love Connects You to the BLESSED Life

Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 29-Oct. 3 The Covenants Point to Jesus

Kenneth Copeland and Professor Greg Stephens

OCI

Sun., Oct. 5 Trust In God's BLESSING Power for Your Provision **Kenneth Copeland**

Oct. 6-10 The Ten Commandments Reveal Our Covenant With God

Kenneth Copeland and Professor Greg Stephens

> Sun., Oct. 12 Receive God's Provision by Being BLESSING Minded **Kenneth Copeland**

Oct. 13-17
The Ten Commandments
Are Based on THE
BLESSING of The LORD
Kenneth Copeland and
Professor Greg Stephens

Sun., Oct. 19 Trusting In God Releases His BLESSING Power In Your Life

Kenneth Copeland

Oct. 20-24 How To Leave a Legacy of Faith **Kenneth Copeland**

Sun., Oct. 26 Walk In Boldness by Building Your Life on God's WORD **Kenneth Copeland**

Oct. 27-31 Receive Your Healing Today Kenneth Copeland and Benny Hinn

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ET

"He always
creates and
changes
things by
speaking
words
because
that's where

That's where the life is."

the power is.

where the life is.

In Genesis 1:26, we see that even Adam was created with words. He was spoken into existence when God [or *Elohim* in Hebrew, which refers to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit] said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." The LORD wasn't just thinking out loud there. He wasn't just saying to Himself, "Here's an idea: Why don't we make a man?" He was releasing His power. Just as He brought forth light by saying, "Let

there be light," He was bringing forth Adam by saying "Let us make man...."

"But Brother Copeland," someone might say, "I thought God made Adam out of the dirt."

No, only his body was formed from the dust of the ground. Adam himself was created when God "breathed into his nostrils the breath, or spirit, of life, and man became a living being" (Genesis 2:7, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

Jesus said, "The words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life" (John 6:63). God breathed spirit and life into Adam with His words!

One day, years ago, while I was studying this, The LORD showed me how it happened. In a vision, I saw Him holding up Adam's grayish, lifeless body. He had it by the shoulders, and as it hung there in front of Him, I could see it was the same size as God Himself.

God isn't 100 feet tall. Jesus said,

"Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father," and Jesus stands around six feet tall. We can picture what Adam looked like by picturing Jesus. Adam was His exact replica. They looked like twins because they were. Both looked just exactly like their Father. So, when God held up Adam's body, they were eye to eye, nose to nose, and mouth to mouth.

Imagine standing right in front of someone your own size and talking to them. Particularly if you were very close, where would your words and breath hit them? In the face. Not on the forehead or on the throat, but right in the nostrils.

In my vision, that's what I saw happen when God breathed life into Adam. He spoke into

the face of Adam's perfectly formed body and said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth" (Genesis 1:26). With those words, the breath and Spirit of God flowed into Adam's flesh; flooded it with the glory, power and life force of God Himself; and Adam came alive.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God BLESSED them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth (verses 27–28).

The Jewish sages note that of all the creatures on earth, only man was made "a speaking spirit" like God. Only man was given the gift of speech. What did God intend for him to do with this royal gift? The first words Adam heard God say made it clear: He was to be fruitful, multiply, replenish and exercise dominion over the earth.

Just like God, who had BLESSED him, Adam was to operate in THE BLESSING, releasing God's life and power to create and change things by speaking faith-filled words.

"Open to Me the Gates of Righteousness"

Can you see now why your words matter so much?

Not only are you living in a world that was created and ordered by words; you came from the same place Adam did. He came out of God, and so did you! When you received Jesus as your LORD, you were "born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by The WORD of God, which liveth and abideth for ever" (1 Peter 1:23). God breathed His own eternal life, glory, power and faith into you and re-created you in the image of Jesus.

Jesus is called "the last Adam" (1 Corinthians 15:45). Through Him, you've been empowered to reign in life by speaking faith-filled words, just as the first Adam did

It's Time to Live Fear Free

ou can live fearlessly for God and victoriously against the enemy, but it requires faith in the power you already possess to overcome.

KENNETH

COPELAND

In Kenneth Copeland's new book, discover how to stop fear from preventing you from walking into a new level of freedom. You can do it!

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before the Fall. You've been authorized to speak God's WORD by faith and expect it to come to pass for you, just as the Gospels reveal that it did for Jesus.

Once you get hold of this, you'll never be the same! When you realize where you came from and what your words of faith can do, it will absolutely make a tiger out of you. It certainly did me!

People who hear me preach now might think that I was always a faith man, but I wasn't. There was a time in my life when fear crawled up and down my spine and successfully robbed me of the BLESSINGS of God. There was a time when I just accepted the lies the devil told me.

"You're nothing but a lousy, no-good worm," he'd say. "You'll never amount to anything. You'd better not set your goals too high. You're sure to fall short of them. You'll end up being a failure and looking like a fool."

If I had kept listening to the devil and saying what he says, I would have spent my whole life in anxiety, speaking fear-filled words and watching them come to pass. I never would have experienced the peace that passes understanding that causes others to look and me and think, *That poor dummy hasn't got sense enough to worry*. I never would have known the joy of just relaxing and rolling the care of things over onto my heavenly Father.

But, praise God, I have experienced that joy. I have experienced that peace. Because I found out what The WORD says about me, I no longer have to live in fear of failure, thinking and talking like I'm an unworthy worm. Instead, I can boldly say about myself what Psalm 118 says: "The LORD is on my side; I will not fear.... Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, and I will praise The LORD" (verses 6, 19).

Sadly, many Christians would never dream of saying the gates of righteousness are open to them. They've been taught to say things like, "I'm not worthy to go through those gates. I'm just an old sinner saved by grace." They think they're just being humble. They have no idea that by taking that attitude, they're agreeing with the devil. But they are.

They're flatly contradicting God's WORD! His WORD says in Colossians 3:10 that when we were born again, the old sinner we used to be died, and we "put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him." Second Corinthians 5 says that in Christ we are new creatures and have been "made the righteousness of God in him" (verses 17.21).

As believers, we're to think in line with the New Testament. We're to say what it says about us instead of repeating man-made religious traditions.

We are to practice following the example of the Apostle Paul. He not only penned those verses I just cited from Colossians and 2 Corinthians; he personally saw himself in the light of them. Before he was saved, he persecuted Christians and put them in jail. Before he was saved, he participated in the stoning of Stephen by holding the men's coats while Stephen was being killed. But after Paul was born again, he said this about himself:

We have wronged no man, we have corrupted no man, we have defrauded no man (2 Corinthians 7:2).

I remember the moment the seeming irony of that statement first dawned on me. I jumped up from the desk where I'd been reading my Bible and said, "I caught that man telling a lie! I know from his own testimony that he harmed and defrauded men."

Immediately, the Spirit of The LORD spoke up on the inside of me. His tone of voice was so stern and loud, it froze me right where I stood.

You watch who you call a liar! He said. The man you're talking about died on the road to Damascus!

The moment He said it, I realized it was true. In Christ Jesus, the Apostle Paul had become a new man—a new creature in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17). What's more, he knew it. He believed it. He had meditated on it until he thought and spoke like a man who had gone through the gates of righteousness.

That's what all of us, as believers, are to do. We're to think and talk about ourselves the way God does. We're to keep looking in the Bible at all the doors Jesus has opened for us and saying by faith, "That's my door, and I'm going through it."

YOU CAME FROM THE SAME PLACE ADAM DID. HE CAME OUT OF GOD, AND SO DID YOU!"



Clyde McGee: Faith, Satellites and the First Global Communion.

IN AN AGE

DEFINED BY rapid technological advancement, it's easy to overlook the divine inspiration that often sparks such innovation. But in the life of Clyde Thomas McGee, a brilliant satellite engineer and Spirit-filled believer from Ackerman, Miss., science and faith weren't separate paths—they were one.

His extraordinary journey intertwined mathematical genius with spiritual obedience, ultimately making possible one of the

most unifying events in Christian Kenneth Copeland history: Ministries' World Communion Service. The service, conducted via satellite on Aug. 28, 1982, brought together churches in 200 locations in the United States and 11 other countries, including South Korea, for a first-ever worldwide simultaneous Communion.

Humble Beginnings, Heavenly Vision

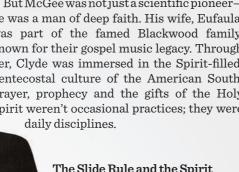
Clyde McGee started life modestly, working in his father's grocery store in the small town of Ackerman, Miss. But a high school test revealed his genius-level intellect. That discovery led to a full scholarship to Mississippi State University, followed by military service and a career with Hughes Aircraft's Space Division, where he became a pivotal figure in America's satellite program.

But McGee was not just a scientific pioneer he was a man of deep faith. His wife, Eufaula, was part of the famed Blackwood family, known for their gospel music legacy. Through her, Clyde was immersed in the Spirit-filled, Pentecostal culture of the American South. Prayer, prophecy and the gifts of the Holy Spirit weren't occasional practices; they were daily disciplines.

The Slide Rule and the Spirit

What set Clyde apart wasn't just his brilliance—it was how he used it. While his peers turned to early computers, Clyde relied on a slide rule-and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. "We never went outside the laws of physics," he once said. "God just showed us how to use them and

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SECTION C-C



"At the core of it all was a man who depended not only on formulas and physics, but also on divine insight received through prayer."

brought it into being."

His greatest technological achievement came with Syncom, the first successful geosynchronous communication satellite. Weighing only 100 pounds, the small satellite was designed to match Earth's rotation, hovering over a fixed point in the sky—something never before accomplished. It would become the foundation of modern global broadcasting.

Despite early setbacks, Clyde's belief never wavered.

"I never doubted that we could place one in geostationary orbit," he said, crediting colleagues like Dr. Harold Rosen, and divine wisdom obtained through prayer. Clyde and Eufaula would pray in tongues until they received revelation from God—a spiritual practice later affirmed by Kenneth Copeland, who emphasized: "That's the way it came to pass. When you search God's heart...the Spirit Himself makes intercession...and He that searches the heart knows what is the mind of the Spirit."

'Birds' In the Spirit

The integration of Clyde's faith and engineering was so deep that even prayer meetings touched the classified world of aerospace. Phillip Halverson, a prayer partner known for praying in tongues and interpreting in English, once began declaring, "Birds, birds, come out, birds!" Unbeknownst to him, "birds" was the classified term for satellites. Clyde immediately recognized the spiritual significance: "There's no way anybody could have known that," he remarked, "except by the Spirit."

Another miraculous moment came when a satellite was lost in orbit. Clyde was given the seemingly impossible task of locating it. Brother Halverson came to Clyde's home in El

T.L. Osborn joins Kenneth Copeland in receiving Communion.

Segundo, Calif., and prayed over him as Clyde lay back in his leather recliner. After extended sessions of intercession, Clyde received divine insight—and they recovered the satellite.

It was just one more instance of God showing up in the details of orbital science.

The Divine Idea: World Communion Service

By the early 1980s, Clyde's groundbreaking work had laid the technological foundation for global satellite communication. That's when Kenneth Copeland received a stirring from the Lord.

"The LORD dropped in our hearts to have a worldwide Communion service," Copeland recalled. "So I called Clyde and said, 'Can you hook satellites together and make them talk to one another?"

Clyde's answer was quintessentially faithfilled:

"Yeah, I can. How do you do it? I don't know. But if you need it, God knows how to do it."

And so began one of the most daring spiritual and technical undertakings in Christian history.

The Communion service was set for Aug. 28, 1982, during the Southwest Believers' Convention. Working with a team of more than 11,000 technicians, Clyde successfully connected eight satellites to link 137 U.S. cities and 22 international cities—something never done before. Helping execute the vision was Dale Hill, a pioneer in Christian television who had worked with ABC Sports and understood the power of live broadcast.

"To be a part of that," Hill said, "I felt like it was the largest thing ever done in Christian programming at the time," recalling how sports broadcasting had just begun experimenting with mobile satellite trucks. "We brought that same level of technology back to the ministry."

It was an unforgettable moment when cameras at Dr. Yonggi Cho's church in Seoul, South Korea, panned across the massive congregation. As the congregation in Fort Worth saw the Korean believers on screen, they stood and applauded, overwhelmed by the spiritual connection.

"There was a real connection," Hill reflected. "Today, we take it for granted. But back then, it was a miracle."

Signs In the Heavens

As millions took Communion across the globe—united in body and Spirit—Kenneth Copeland turned his eyes upward while standing on the platform in the Fort Worth Convention Center, reflecting on the satellites that filled the sky. "There are several of those wonders in the sky tonight," he said, "those satellites sailing around the Earth. The entire world has this message coming to it tonight."

Referring to Acts 2:19, he said: "I will show signs and wonders in the heavens above...." But Copeland wasn't just marveling at technology—he was proclaiming a deeper spiritual truth:

"To think that we could all just lay aside our differences of denomination, of doctrine, of politics, of nations, of skin color...just lay it all aside and reach out and love one another—that's a wonder of all wonders. Jesus has got to be one of the signs of the last days."

And for that night, the Body of Christ did just that—across continents, cultures and time zones.

A New Era for Christian Broadcasting

The success of the 1982 World Communion Service marked the beginning of a new era in Christian broadcasting. NASA consultants described it as a watershed moment, saying, "This is the beginning of a new phase of Christians utilizing technology provided by God through the space program." Clyde McGee's work was no longer just about engineering—it had become a vital component of global ministry.

The interconnected satellites—spanning the Indian Ocean, Atlantic and Pacific regions, along with systems operated by Western Union and RCA—allowed Kenneth Copeland Ministries to accomplish what had previously been unimaginable. And at the core of it all was a man who depended not only on formulas and physics, but also on divine insight received through prayer.

The story of Clyde McGee serves as a powerful reminder that faith and science are not adversaries, but allies in the hands of those who are called. Whether designing satellite trajectories with a slide rule, or laying in a recliner while being prayed over by intercessors, McGee exemplified the fusion of





Top: Kenneth Copeland conducts Communion service with Dr. David Yonggi Cho and his wife, Dr. Kim Sung-Hae Cho.

Bottom: Church members in Hong Kong participate in world Communion service.

intellect and inspiration. He proved that groundbreaking innovation can—and often does—begin in the prayer closet.

In a world increasingly dependent on technological advancement, Clyde McGee's legacy urges believers to engage boldly with innovation, confident that God still inspires "witty inventions"

for His purposes. Clyde McGee was more than a scientist. He was a Spirit-led innovator, a husband of prayer, and a vessel of divine purpose. His story is the perfect example of what Kenneth Copeland calls a "be the one" moment.

"God had to have a man," says Kenneth, "and Clyde McGee was the one. He yielded to God. Look what he did for the gospel."

From slide rules to satellites, from whispered prayers to global Communion, Clyde McGee's life proves that faith and science, far from being opposites, can orbit the same divine truth.

Because one man listened. One man believed. One man obeyed.

And through that obedience, the heavens declared the glory of God. \P





Sarah Foster stood in the stands cheering for her brother's varsity baseball team when the headache started. Had she ever had a headache? At 20, she was strong, healthy and athletic. Still, the headache persisted.

Two days later, her hands and feet began

to tingle like they were asleep. Crippled by debilitating pain, she only slept for 30-minute intervals.

In addition, Sarah could no longer smile. Half of her face had become paralyzed.

Sometimes her brain signaled her legs to move,



but they didn't get the message. Her doctor ran test after test but was unable to find the cause. Finally, he scheduled her to see a neurologist.

On March 28, 2007, while preparing to go see the doctor, Sarah took a bath. When she could not get out of the bathtub, she had to call on her mother for assistance. Walking into the kitchen to eat lunch, suddenly she was unable to lift her left leg. When she sat down to eat, she couldn't cut her food with a knife and needed to be fed by her mother.

In just a few short weeks, Sarah had gone from excellent health to being an invalid. The excruciating pain caused her to despair of life.

Once the neurologist finished his exam, he told Sarah: "You have Guillain-Barré syndrome.

"It's an autoimmune disorder that causes the body to attack itself," the doctor explained. "It damages the protective sheath around the nerves, or sometimes the nerves themselves. That's what's causing your pain."

A rare disease that usually attacked older people, Guillain-Barré is often triggered by vaccines, the doctor said.

"Have you had the flu vaccine?" Sarah had not.

"I'm going to admit you to the hospital, and tomorrow we'll start treatment."

"If you're not going to start treatment until tomorrow, couldn't I take her home tonight?" Sarah's mother asked.

"If I send her home and her diaphragm becomes paralyzed, she could die in her sleep."

Sarah pondered his words. Death sounded like sweet relief.

A Fight for Life

"When we got to the hospital, I was shocked because they admitted

me to the ICU," Sarah remembers. "Nurses were waiting on me. Soon I was hooked up to all kinds of monitors. The respiratory therapist made me breathe into a machine that measured the level of my breathing.

"She kept saying, 'You've got to do it harder!' I felt like I was giving it everything I had, but

Sarah could no longer smile. Half of her face had become

paralyzed.

it wasn't much. If I breathed less than 30%, I had to be put on a ventilator. She pushed like a drill sergeant to keep me off it. It took every ounce of strength within me but I finally met the mark— I reached 30%."

"The treatment they gave me was called plasmapheresis. They ran my blood through a machine that filtered it. I was in the ICU for four days before moving to a regular room. My family lived in the small town of Hartwell, Ga. The neurologist and the hospital were an hour away.

"A family from Hartwell came to visit because they had a son who'd also been diagnosed with Guillain-Barré syndrome. It's extremely rare for young people to get this disease. Rarer still that two young people from the same small town got it. Thankfully, he survived too.

"When I was finally discharged, I thought I'd go home and everything would go back to normal. That's not what happened. It took a full two and a half months for me to be able to smile again. There were other lingering effects like weakness and fatigue. I took naps every day.

"Cognitively, my mind was also messed up. While I was talking, I would get stuck on a word or sentence and repeat it three times. And I couldn't always comprehend what people were saying. It was embarrassing."

New Medicine

Sarah had been raised in a Christian home and was in church seemingly every time the doors were open. She loved the Lord and served Him. But she had never been taught about God's divine healing. She didn't know that God still does miracles today.

That changed when, three years after her diagnosis, Sarah's mother gave her a book by Gloria Copeland titled *God's Prescription for Divine Health*. The book explained that God's Word could work like medicine.

"If a doctor's prescription required the medication to be taken three times a day, then you might take it morning, noon and night," Sarah explains.

Following that rationale, Sarah began reading and confessing healing scriptures listed in the book three times a day—like medicine. Several months after starting this practice, she had a revelation. She couldn't remember the last time that she'd taken a nap.

As she renewed her mind by confessing those healing scriptures, Sarah noticed that every

symptom that had plagued her since becoming sick had disappeared.

She was healed.

"That introduced me to a whole new world of faith," Sarah recalls. "Growing up, I'd heard of Kenneth and Gloria. My grandmother graduated from Rhema Bible Training College when I was a small child. Now, with my health restored, God directed me to go to St. Louis for a summer internship with Joyce Meyer Ministries."

Following that, the Lord instructed Sarah to eventually move and enroll in the ministry's three-year ministry program.

"When I moved there, they asked anyone who served in the kitchen to take a Hepatitis A vaccination," Sarah recalled. "Of course, my doctor exempted me from that and later the COVID-19 vaccine. He said either might trigger a return of Guillain-Barré. I read a book about different vaccines and their side effects, and Guillain-Barré syndrome was listed as one of the side effects of the tetanus shot. It said the side effect might not manifest for five years.

"I was diagnosed at age 20. At 15, I had had a tetanus shot before going on a mission trip. Although there's no way to prove it, I suspect that's what triggered the disease.

"The ministry school was wonderful. In addition to classes, we had hands-on experience serving the homeless, doing street evangelism and children's ministry. I accepted a job and stayed there after the program ended."

New Attacks

Over the years, Sarah battled bouts of depression.

One evening, while standing in her kitchen, she felt a dark spirit attach itself to her. It urged her to pick up a knife. That dark moment spurred her to ask God how to get free.

Sensing the Lord telling her to attend Keith Moore's church in Branson, Mo., that weekend, Sarah took off from work that Friday and drove to Branson for the evening service. Standing in the congregation, she expected to hear a word that would bring deliverance. Instead, the associate pastor taught on the goodness of God.

Though she felt angry and disappointed, Sarah listened to the teaching and took notes. The following day, she sat poolside and studied the notes. On Sunday, Keith Moore preached. His message—the goodness of God.

Even the songs that were ministered during worship were about God's goodness, Sarah remembers. Despite her feelings, she yielded and worshipped God for His goodness.

The next day after work, while walking at the park with friends, Sarah found herself laughing again. She noticed the world now sparkled with color instead of being black and white. The heaviness of the depression had created an emptiness, which caused her to lose significant weight. Before, she was physically incapable of eating more than a few bites. With her appetite restored, she found herself eating as many as five tacos—another miracle. Sarah had been delivered from depression through praise!

Sarah lived across the street from the Dream Center where she worked. One day as she started her car, a young man approached her. "Get out!" he commanded.

She laughed, thinking it was a joke. When he grabbed her phone from her hand, kicked her car and demanded that she get out, she realized it was no laughing matter. When she stepped out, he drove away.

Sarah ran across the street to the Dream Center and told a staff member what had happened. He took her to an office and called the police. A church member pulled her aside. "You know what to do. Call the car back to you." Sarah did that. A pastor's wife called the enemy confused, and that he would go around in circles.

"My car was recovered a mile away," Sarah says. "I had a quarter tank of gas. The person who stole it drove to a gas station and met another man. Together, they robbed another young woman. When police arrived, they ran on foot.

"When I got my car back, the tank was full. My phone and the other woman's purse was inside. I didn't have cash in my purse and one of my coworkers had called to put a hold on my debit card. Still, I prayed for my purse to be returned.

"Two days later, my purse was returned. It had been found on the steps of a nearby church. Through this, I learned that there is no reason to be a victim. If we use our authority, we don't have to be one."

"The officers thought I was crazy for believing that I would get my purse back. It was so satisfying to email them a picture of me holding my purse *with* a smile."

A New Direction

After seven years in St. Louis, Sarah moved home to Georgia. In the fall of 2019, she listened as Brother Copeland spoke about KCBC. Since Sarah had already graduated from a ministry school, she saw no reason to go. But in early 2022, she knew the Lord was leading her there. One Sunday during worship

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the Lord said, Do you trust Me enough to say yes? She did.

"I applied to Kenneth Copeland Bible College and moved to Fort Worth in July of 2022," Sarah recalls. "I was hired to work as project administrator at Eagle Mountain International Church. Eventually, I started working in WordWorks, the bookstore at EMIC."

Last year, Sarah graduated from KCBC with an Associate of Biblical Studies degree. She is now part of the writing staff in KCM's Communications department.

One day while at work, Sarah had an instant flashback after a co-worker looked at her and said, "You have a beautiful smile." For a moment she remembered Guillain-Barré syndrome; how the debilitating disease had left her face totally paralyzed, and how the Lord had healed and delivered her from the enemy's evil attack on her life. Then she thought about KCM, and how being connected with such a powerful ministry, fixing her mind and her faith on the Word of God, had brought her *total* restoration.

"Just before she spoke the words to me, I had gone for a walk outside during lunch," Sarah recalls. "While I was walking, I was remembering that time in my life and thinking: The enemy stole those years from me. That had been my mindset for the last 20 years. And then I heard the Lord ask, What do people think about you now? What do they think you are?

"For almost 20 years, I had grief in my heart that my early 20s were robbed from me because of the sickness. Stolen. But then the Lord showed me that He had totally and fully restored me. Here I am today, almost 40 years old, and people think I'm in my early 20s, which was exactly the season of life the enemy tried to steal. I walk in the youthfulness of a 20-year-old.

"Being a Partner with KCM is special to me because my prayers and finances help people around the world," says Sarah. "The message of this ministry changed my life. I'd venture to say that it saved my life. I consider Gloria a hero of the faith because her book changed my world."

The enemy tried to kill Sarah Foster through Guillain-Barré syndrome. When that didn't work, he tried to destroy her mental health through depression. Failing again, he tried to decimate her finances through a carjacking. That didn't happen, either.

Jesus won the victory for Sarah, and for you, at Calvary. $\ensuremath{\mathbb{V}}$



Thinking about Kenneth Copeland Bible College? Get a taste of KCBC student life with a miniimmersion event!

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A Greater Hunger

I was baptized in the Holy Spirit in 1977, and became hungry to learn more about the Word. Through a friend, the Lord led me to connect with KCM and I have been a Partner ever since. I am thankful to Kenneth and Gloria for all the teachings they have provided, as well as many others in the ministry. I thank the Lord for leading me to be a Partner with this ministry!

S.W. | Georgia

Inhale His Truth

I had called in for prayer for my husband, as he had a collapsed lung and was taken to the hospital. HE IS NOW restored and has FULL capacity in BOTH LUNGS!

GLORY to GOD, and I am thankful to KCM for being there for me for prayer!

N.W. | Oklahoma



God Loves You!

When I was a young teenager, I learned of Kenneth Copeland Ministries. I had a job making a little money, but I put \$10 aside so I could mail out \$2 each to five ministries that blessed me—KCM was one. I was a member of a church where everything was a sin, especially makeup, pants and jewelry.

I'd turn my television on, and there was Sister Gloria preaching and wearing everything that I was told

Ah, You Look New!

God used Gloria to save my life. The first time I heard her was in the '80s when a friend recommended the broadcast. I was in a dark season, and was suicidal. That night I turned on BVOV and heard the teaching of grace and healing. Romans and 2 Corinthians were part of

was a sin. Long story short, I got gloriously delivered from confusion and fear. God loves me with my pants, makeup and jewelry. My tithes and offerings have increased. Thank God for the Word of Faith. God bless you, Brother and Sister Copeland.

B.M. | Texas

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that teaching. Soon, I came out of condemnation and believed I was NEW! I believed my life was reconciled to Christ! I'm thankful for Kenneth and Gloria Copeland and have been a Partner ever since.

B.P. | Florida

"I want you to know, God gives us all the same test—and it's the *easy* test! The answer is simple: *Choose* life."

-Gloria Copeland

Your Voice of Victory

My wife and I teach a class on healing every Thursday evening. Over the years, we have deepened our faith through your broadcasts and the *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine. We have seen many healings and miracles, and we attribute that

to the consistent flow of faith teachings we receive; not only to keep our own lives built up, but to teach from the overflow you impart into our ministry. Thank you, KCM!

D.F | North Carolina

The Heart Doctor

I called the prayer line for healing. At my recent checkup, the doctor removed me from heart medications!
I was also healed from vertigo and diabetes—
I haven't taken insulin for over a year!

B.A. | Texas

The Hungry Will Be Fed

I have been saved since I was young, but didn't enjoy reading the Word. It seemed every word just stayed on the surface and didn't go anywhere. I heard everyone say I needed to read the Word and keep it first place, but I couldn't enjoy it.

One day, while watching BVOV, Brother Copeland said the translators got a word wrong. It actually meant something else, and it changed the entire meaning of the verse to me. I thought, If they got it wrong on this one, did they get it wrong on something else? The Holy Spirit, speaking through Brother Copeland, helped me to find a way to enjoy reading the Word. I have now read through the Word many times, and I find something new and exciting every time! It also led me to want to attend KCBC. I graduated in 2022 and it was one of the best experiences of my life!

Thank you, Brother Copeland, for letting Holy Spirit use you to help me find a love for the Word!

T.H. | Tennessee

Let the Blood Speak

I have been calling for prayer since 2020 when I was diagnosed with blood cancer. Recently, I was prayed over during Victory In Prayer and went for my last checkup—there was no blood cancer to be found.

K.E. | Michigan

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Do You Know Jesus?

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.

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the assignment
God gave
to Abraham—
we're taking
THE BLESSING
of The LORD
to all the families
of the earth.
As believers, that's
our primary job."

It's about walking in higher levels of His grace and experiencing the fullest possible manifestation of His supernatural BLESSING. The money part is part of THE BLESSING.

THE BLESSING is the most powerful force with which mankind has ever had anything to do. It's the force God used to

create the earth. After it was lost to mankind through Adam's rebellion, God established the ordinance of partnership to help restore it. He made a Covenant with Abraham and said:

Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a



land that I will show thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed (Genesis 12:1-3).

Notice God not only called Abraham to receive and walk in THE BLESSING himself, He also commissioned him to take it to all the families of the earth. That was Abraham's job! He was to go forth and take THE BLESSING to people. As he did that, God said those who BLESSED him would be BLESSED, and those who cursed him would be cursed.

That didn't just mean if someone was nice to Abraham then He would be nice to them in return. It meant anyone who partnered with Abraham would become a partaker of THE BLESSING that was on him. They'd be BLESSED on the same level he was, because by helping him be a BLESSING they'd be assisting him in carrying out his calling.

On the other hand, those who cursed Abraham would be cursed, because in coming against Abraham they'd be trying to stop him from getting his job done. They'd be opposing THE BLESSING, which would

put them on the side of the curse.

From that day to this, that's how it's been. Those who partner with a person who's BLESSED and sent by God to bring THE BLESSING to mankind, enter into THE BLESSING themselves. They're BLESSED at the same level.

You can find this all through the Bible!

Take for example what happened in 1 Kings 17 to the little widow woman from the land of Zidon. She got BLESSED during a time of famine because the prophet Elijah came on the scene just as she and her son were about to eat their last biscuit and said, "You feed me first and everything will be all right." She chose to be a BLESSING to him and did what he said. As a result, "She, and he, and her house, did eat many days" (verse 15).

That widow wasn't even an Israelite. She lived in an ungodly nation. Yet because she partnered with a minister of God in what he was doing, her pantry stayed supernaturally full throughout that famine. Better yet, she still stands before God today in a place of prominence right alongside Elijah!

You can see the same principle in operation in 1 Samuel 30. It tells about a time God sent out David and his army to pursue and defeat the Amalekites. Some of David's soldiers who'd already been marching for days were too weary to make the journey, so David left them at the brook Basor and gave them the job of guarding the supplies.

Later, when David's forces returned from the battle, some of his soldiers argued that the soldiers who'd served as guards shouldn't share in the spoils of victory because they hadn't been involved in the actual fight. David, however, overruled them. He said: "Ye shall not do so, my brethren, with that which the LORD hath given us.... as his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike. And it was so from that day forward, that he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel unto this day" (verses 23-25).

Why did David make that decision? He understood what it meant to be partners in THE BLESSING of God, and he considered it so important he actually turned it into a national law.

Miracle-Working Grace!

"Yeah, but Brother Copeland, those things happened in the Old Testament. What about in

"Money is the lowest form of power in the kingdom of God. The highest kind is prayer power.

So in this ministry, prayer is front and center."



Live broadcast:

Mon.-Fri. 12:30 p.m.

Replays: Mon.-Fri. 9:30 a.m the New Testament? Are there any examples of spiritual partnership there?"

Certainly. Just look at the disciples who helped in the earthly ministry of Jesus. They became partakers of His Anointing. They did the same works He did, exercised the same authority in His Name, and walked in the power of THE BLESSING on the same level with Him.

As Jesus' disciples today, we're following in their footsteps. We've become partakers of His Anointing and we're walking in the promise He made in Mark 16:17-18: "These signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

As we do those things, we're actually carrying out the assignment God gave to Abraham—we're taking THE BLESSING of The LORD to all the families of the earth. As believers, that's our primary job.

"Well," someone might say, "I think our job, as believers, is to spread the gospel."

It is! We just haven't fully understood what that means. We've thought of the gospel as being simply the good news that Jesus purchased forgiveness for our sins and made the way for us to be born again. But it includes more than that.

The full gospel is the good news that through Jesus THE BLESSING is back! That God has brought to pass in our day what He began in Genesis 13 when He "preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed" (Galatians 3:8).

That BLESSING is released and spread abroad in our day just as it was in Abraham's day—through divine partnerships. It's manifested first as we enter into "the fellowship [or partnership] of...Jesus Christ our Lord" (1 Corinthians 1:9) and become partakers with Him in the anointing that belongs to every believer. Then it's further multiplied as we partner with other ministers of the gospel, and become partakers of the anointing and grace God has given them to equip them for the specific work to which He has called them.

You can see what I mean in Philippians 1.

There, the Apostle Paul was writing to some of his ministry partners. Expressing his appreciation for them, he said:

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, for your fellowship [or partnership] in the gospel from the first day until now; being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace (verses 3-7, emphasis mine).

Just think for a moment about the grace that was on the Apostle Paul! It enabled him to operate in the power of God at a very high level. One time when he and Silas were locked up in the bottom of a dungeon, it exploded into manifestation and, as they were praying and singing praises to God, an earthquake hit. It rattled the foundations of the prison so hard that all the doors in the place came open.

Where did that earthquake come from? It came out of Paul and Silas. It was produced by the power of God that equipped Paul to be an apostle and assisted him in "his bonds."

The grace that worked in him for the "defence and confirmation of the gospel" manifested in the form of signs, wonders and miracles. It produced the remarkable healings that marked his ministry—the anointing that flowed into the handkerchiefs that, after they touched his body, healed and drove demons out of anyone who came into contact with them, and the kind of lightning-like power that temporarily blinded a sorcerer named Elymas in Acts 13 when he tried to stop Paul from preaching to a political leader.

Talk about an exponential increase in the anointing! That's the kind of divine power the Philippians tapped into when they became partners in Paul's ministry and grace.

Nothing but a Pencil

I'll never forget the first time I understood this. I was a student at Oral Roberts University, just getting started in ministry. I was working

Pastor Bert Wimberly (left) and Riley (right) praying for a man who lost his granddaughter in the flood.

'God needs us there, checking on our Partners and Friends.'

KCM Provides Relief to Flood Victims In Central Texas

Boots on the ground!

It's a phrase most often used to describe combat troops that have been deployed to a foreign country, or people in place to control a situation. But when disaster strikes in most any region where Partners of Kenneth Copeland Ministries live, the phrase takes on an even more important meaning.

As Riley Stephenson, who leads KCM's Disaster Relief Team, describes it, having boots on the ground means "God needs us there, checking on our Partners and Friends."

That was the case in July when catastrophic floods inundated parts of Kerr and Burnet counties in Central Texas, killing more than 100 people and destroying miles of property. Weeks after the flooding, state and federal responders, alongside thousands of volunteers from across the country, continued search and recovery efforts.

Within hours following the flooding, KCM's Disaster Relief Team was mapping out a plan to connect with local churches in and around Kerrville and Marble Falls in Central Texas; determining how we could best serve the communities, as well as our KCM Partners and Friends in those areas. As soon as the roads were cleared, Riley and other team members left KCM to make the 250-mile drive to Kerrville.

Meanwhile, employees in the Partner Service Center at KCM's Headquarters in Fort Worth were already on the phones, reaching out to KCM Partners in the area of Kerr and Burnet counties.

Grateful and Overwhelmed

"We focused first on reaching out to our Partners and Friends," Riley said, "going door to door in the hardest-hit areas to check on their welfare, pray with them, and offer financial assistance. We worked closely with Gates of the City Church in Kerrville and Victory Church in the Marble Falls area, using them as local hubs to identify affected Partners and connect with the surrounding community.

"We ministered to individuals and families face-to-face, many of them in tears, just grateful someone showed up. One pastor, whose house had flooded, was overwhelmed when we gave him financial support. With tears in his eyes, he said, 'I thought Kenneth Copeland forgot about me.' In another case, we arrived at the home of a Partner living in a high-risk area just in time to confirm she was safe.

"There were emotional moments for our team. The devastation was heartbreaking; homes were destroyed, bridges washed out, and lives forever changed. But we also witnessed the power of faith in action. We saw the Lord show up powerfully through prayer, encouragement, and divine appointments.

"Our team was deeply moved and humbled to be part of what God is doing through KCM during these moments of crisis. These moments

reminded us why we do this. It's not just about physical relief; it's about bringing hope, love and the tangible presence of Jesus into every situation."

Partners, you may not have been among those who were able to rush to the aid of those in Central Texas, but as a KCM Partner, you were right there with us—joining us in provide whatever relief was necessary, and wrapping

The KCM
Disaster Relief
Team is made
possible by the
financial support
and prayers of
our Partners.

lef le with Kenneth Copeland Ministries, thank you! Your support through prayer and giving has a profound impact on lives, enabling us to respond immediately when disaster strikes across the nation or in your backyard. To give to the disaster relief fund please visit kcm.org/relief

loving arms around the Partners and Friends who desperately needed our help.

You not only have a part in ministering to those affected by this disaster, but through your prayers and support, you are part of everything we do to bring help and healing to those in need.

When tragedy strikes, just as Riley said, "God needs us there" to help in whatever way possible. Please continue to be in prayer with us for the cities of Kerrville and Marble Falls, the Central Texas region, and those across the country who have been affected by this devastating event.





Schedule is subject to change without notice.

for Brother Roberts as co-pilot on his airplane, and I'd flown him to a meeting in Georgia. He preached on the principle of partnership and at the end of the service he invited the people to become partners in his ministry.

Thrilled at the opportunity to become a partner, I filled out the partnership envelope. I didn't have any money. I don't mean I didn't have any money with me, I mean I didn't have any money, at all. None. But I put the little pencil they'd given us inside the envelope and said, "LORD, this represents my \$10 partner offering."

After the meeting I started to leave and a woman in the congregation hollered at me. (This was Georgia, remember. So, yes, she did holler.) "Hey you!" she said. "The LORD has been worrywarting me this whole meeting to give you \$10."

"God bless you, lady!" I said, and grabbing the money I chased down the usher. He gave me my envelope back and I replaced the pencil with my \$10. I was so excited I could hardly stand it. "Praise God!" I said to myself. "I'm a partner with Oral Roberts!"

Almost immediately, his anointing began to manifest in my ministry. It came on me so clearly that Brother Roberts' wife, Evelyn, actually commented on it. After watching me minister to people in a prayer line she said, "Kenneth, it's the strangest thing. You and Oral don't look anything alike but when you're praying for people, somehow it's like I see glimpses of him in you."

These days, people who partner with Gloria and me in our ministry experience the same kind of thing. If they believe and act on the partnership principle, they find they have available to them every gift that manifests in our lives. They become partakers of our anointing and grace, and as they put that grace to work, we all increase!

This is what I mean when I say that partnership isn't just about money. Finances are included in the increase we all experience, but money is the lowest form of power in the kingdom of God. The highest kind is prayer power. So in this ministry, prayer is front and center. Gloria and I, as well as members of our staff, pray

for our Partners every single day.

We also treasure their prayers for us, because we know prayer can do things finances cannot. It can release additional supplies of God's power into our lives and ministry. It can turn situations the devil meant for evil and cause them to work for our good.

The prayers of the Apostle Paul's partners certainly did that for him. When he wrote to them, he was in prison facing a possible death sentence, yet he had such confidence in the power of their partnership he wrote, "I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1:19).

Of course, at the end of his letter he also thanked them for their financial support. "No church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving," he said, "but ye only. For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God. But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:15-19).

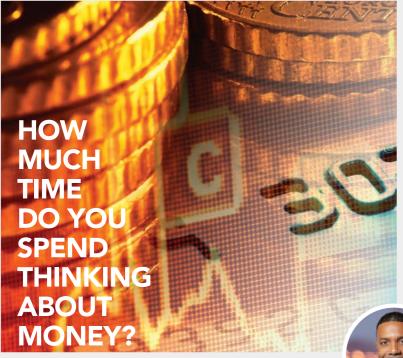
Look again at how Paul put that. He said, "My God shall supply all your need." Why did he say, "My God?" Because he wanted his partners to know their needs would be divinely supplied, not on their level, but on his level as an apostle.

Unlike Paul, the Philippian believers, as individuals, didn't have international ministries. Personally, they couldn't take the gospel to that whole part of the world like he did. Yet because they partnered with him, Paul said God would BLESS them financially at a worldwide level!

If you're a Partner with Gloria and me, I can say the same about you. Our God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. As Partners in the seed we sow, He'll give you an equal share in the harvest.

That's the power of partnership!

Spiritual Audit



Probably more than you care to admit. This may surprise you, but it's also probably more than God wants you to think about it. God wants us to use money as a tool to bless others—all the while keeping it at the bottom of our list of things we care about.

For many of us, this takes a mind shift. Jesus knew that was the case, and that's why He told a parable to show us the purpose of money—and the priority it shouldn't have in our lives.

That parable is found in Luke 16: "And he said also unto his disciples, There was a certain rich man, which had a steward; and the same was accused unto him that he had wasted his goods. And he called him, and said unto him, How is it that I hear this of thee? give an account of thy stewardship; for thou mayest be no longer steward" (verses 1-2).

This steward had obviously not been doing a good job when it came to watching over the goods and money of his rich employer, and he was given a good, old-fashioned audit. Read verses 3-8:

Then the steward said within himself, What shall I do? for my lord taketh away from me the stewardship: I cannot dig; to beg I am

ashamed. I am resolved what to do, that, when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses. So he called every one of his lord's debtors unto him, and said unto the first, How much owest thou unto my lord? And he said, An hundred measures of oil. And he said unto him, Take thy bill, and sit down quickly, and write fifty. Then said he to another, And how much owest thou? And he said unto him, Take thy bill, and write fourscore. And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely.

The employer commended his steward for understanding that he could use his position to prepare for his future. Verse 9 reveals the takeaway: "Here's the lesson: Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends.

Then, when your possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home" (New Living Translation).

In other words, on earth you're to use your money to be a blessing to others and to interrupt their misfortunes. If you do, when you get to heaven, there will be people coming to you, grateful for what you did.

Money: No Big Deal

But the lesson didn't end there. In verse 10, Jesus added, "He that is faithful in *that which* is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much" (*emphasis mine*).

Did you catch that? Jesus called money "that which is least." When you use your faith in the area of money, you are using your faith in the smallest area of the kingdom of God. Money is *not* a big deal.

You might say, "You could have fooled me!"...but that's the point, isn't it? You're taking something that's small to the Lord and you're making it bigger than what it is. This is important, because Jesus says if you can't be trusted with the least—with money—then you won't be "faithful also in much."

Where Jesus headed next brings everything together.

If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon (verses 11-13).

Either you're going to serve God or you're going to serve mammon. There's no middle ground.

But why didn't Jesus say, "You can't serve God and *money?*" Because He's talking about more than money—so much more. He's talking about the demonic spirit of mammon that has been in hiding under the radar for centuries. It's a spirit that hides behind the norms and values of society.

Mammon is an Aramaic word that means "riches." It was the name of the Syrian god of riches and money. At the very heart of the word is an attitude that says, "You don't need God. Don't trust God. Be self-sufficient."

Mammon is responsible for divorce and the spirit of division. It was responsible for slavery in this country. It's responsible for inequality and racism.

Mammon wants to rule your life. It will promise you security, significance, identity, independence, power and freedom—but in the end, it can't deliver. Only God can provide those things.

The Influence of Mammon

The spirit of mammon is in direct contrast to the Spirit of God.

God says sow and reap. Mammon says buy and keep.

God says give and receive. Mammon says cheat and steal.

God is generous. Mammon is selfish. While money by itself is neither good nor



If you seek out friendships only because you believe they'll lead to better business opportunities or affluent networking, that's a motive straight from the spirit of mammon.



the *use* of the money—the spirit of mammon or the Spirit of God.

Like the steward in Jesus' parable, it's time

bad, what matters is what spirit is influencing

Like the steward in Jesus' parable, it's time to give yourself a spiritual audit. Ask yourself: What's influencing the use of my money? Is it God, or is it the spirit of mammon?

If you think that money can solve your problems instead of God, then the spirit of mammon is influencing you.

I've seen preachers hold revival meetings not because God told them to have them, but because they needed the money. Mammon drove their decisions.

I've known people who were willing to exploit their friends if the price was right. If you seek out friendships only because you believe they'll lead to better business opportunities or affluent networking, that's a motive straight from the spirit of mammon.

I've even known people who married solely for the security provided by money. Like Tina Turner, they ask, "What's love got to do with it?" But if Jane only marries Harry because he brings home the bacon, when the mammon leaves her, she's going to find herself in a ditch.

That's what happened to the prodigal son. He was driven by the spirit of mammon and ended up working in pig slop.

Mammon is not committed to you like God is. And when mammon leaves you, only then will you come to yourself and think, What in the world have I done? How did I get here?

Be Motivated by the Spirit

God wants us motivated by His Spirit, rather than by mammon.

Years ago when we were building our church, we ran out of money. The dome wasn't finished and God had told me to build it debt free.

We still needed more than \$2 million.

I was left asking the Lord, "What are we supposed to do? Fry fish? There ain't that much fish in the world!"

The Lord replied, Find someone who's building a church and find out what's going on there. Take what you have in the bank and give it all to them.

Now if you're being governed by the spirit



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of mammon, that ain't happening.

But we had already made the decision to be led by the Spirit of God. We stood on Proverbs 3:9 and were determined to "honor the LORD" with our "wealth and with the best part of everything" we produced (NLT). So we found a growing church and emptied our account into it. Ten days later, we had more than we needed. Our building was not just prayed for, but also paid for! We were determined to trust Him, and He provided.

Dealing With Doctrine

You might say, "I know the Bible says He'll supply our needs, but I need the money now!" God knows that.

What you don't want to do is allow mammon to govern your steps. God wants you to see things differently than the world does. Peter learned that the hard way. When Jesus told Peter about His upcoming death and resurrection, Peter didn't want to hear it—and was immediately rebuked by the Lord. Jesus said to him, "Get away from me, Satan! You are a dangerous trap to me. You are seeing things merely from a human point of view, not from God's" (Matthew 16:23, NLT).

When money gets tight, give yourself a spiritual audit. Ask yourself: How am I looking at my money? Is it from a human point of view or from God's point of view?

Remember, the day you got born again, you were no longer just human. You became a supernatural being. There's something about you that's so awesome and so powerful that when you speak to a mountain, it has to move. There are certain things you don't have to tolerate. If the flu hits you, remember that you're supernatural. You can rise above what the natural says. If the bank says your account is empty, focus on what God has told you. Speak the Word. Stand on His promises. Don't give in to the spirit of mammon, thinking you need to be completely self-sufficient, trusting only in what you can do.

This is what it comes down to: The spirit of mammon isn't just about dealing with your money. It's about dealing with your doctrine. It wants you to turn away from the gospel and what you believe. It wants you to trust in

yourself and your abilities alone. It wants to get you back to operating like a mere human being, like the person you were before you got

But you are not that person anymore!

Put God In the Cockpit

It's time to give yourself a spiritual audit.

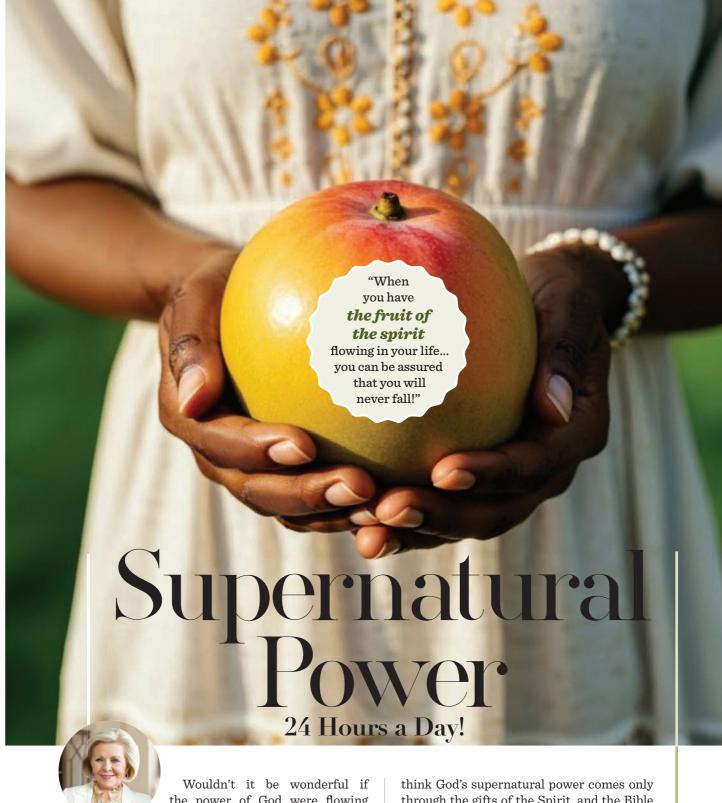
How are you using your worldly resources? Are you trusting God and being led by Him, or trusting in your bank account or your own abilities? Is the Spirit of God leading you, or the spirit of mammon? Has money taken a front seat in your life, or is it the least of what you think about?

If there is any area in your life where God is not in the cockpit, make some changes right now. There's about to be a grace explosion all over this world, and you don't want to have the wrong person driving. You want to be fully submitted to God as the supernatural being He's created you to be.

God has bigger things for you than you can imagine. It's time to trust Him for them.



HOLINESS DOESN'T COME FROM STRIVING LEGALISTICALLY TO KEEP RULES AND REGULATIONS. (Gal. 5:16)



the power of God were flowing through you all the time? Wouldn't it be marvelous if you could walk in His supernatural might every day of your life?

There's no question about it. That would be a glorious way to live. But most Christians don't believe it's possible. That's because they through the gifts of the Spirit, and the Bible says those gifts are given only as God wills.

While it's true that we can't operate in the gifts of the Spirit-such as words of wisdom and knowledge, gifts of healings and miracles-24 hours a day, God has given us a well of supernatural power that is continually bubbling up within us. He has made resident within our born-again spirits mighty forces that can enable us to overcome anything the devil might throw our way any moment of the day or night.

Galatians 5:22-23 calls these unbeatable forces the fruit of the spirit. They include love, joy, peace, long-suffering (or patience), gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance (or self-control).

Contrary to popular belief, the fruit of the spirit aren't just nice qualities we should adopt so we'll be pleasant company—although people who have those fruit are delightfully pleasant! The fruit of the spirit actually release the supernatural power of God in our lives.

Love, for example, is God's power to overcome every obstacle, for as 1 Corinthians 13:8 says: "Love never fails...." Joy fortifies you with supernatural power when you start to weaken, for Nehemiah 8:10 says: "The joy of the LORD is your strength." Peace undergirds you and helps you make supernaturally correct decisions, for Colossians 3:15 says: "Let the peace...from the Christ rule (act as umpire continually) in your hearts [deciding and settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds...]" (Amplified Bible, Classic Edition).

Although space does not permit here, I could go right on down the line listing every single fruit of the spirit, and show you how each one releases the power of God to make you victorious in some area of your life. I could also show you how failing to release even one of those fruit in your life can make you vulnerable to the enemy's attacks.

Greg Zoschak, who wrote a wonderful book on the fruit of the spirit, says it this way:

Each fruit of the Spirit enables the individual believer to better cope with

adverse situations that arise in his life. There is not any trial, any situation or temptation that a child of God will face that one of these fruits of the Spirit will not overcome.... Actually, a believer cannot be a totally successful overcomer if any one of the fruits of the Spirit is missing in his life because that particular area will be the very one in which the devil will concentrate his attack.

Your Natural Supernatural Disposition

The fruit of the spirit are so vital and so powerful that if I had to choose between the fruit and the gifts of the Spirit (which, thank heavens, I don't!)—I'd choose the fruit. Why? Because it's possible to have spectacular gifts of the Spirit manifesting in your life yet still get so far off course you end up shipwrecked, a spiritual failure.

When you have the fruit of the spirit flowing in your life, however, you can be assured that you will never fall!

That may sound extreme—but it's true. I know it is because the Bible makes that very promise in 2 Peter 1. It says:

Giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.... give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall (verses 5-8, 10).

When I realized what that verse was saying, I made up my mind. I determined to have these powerful forces called the fruit of the spirit flowing in my life because



1

As you choose to abide in Jesus, you will begin to produce fruit of His nature. (John 15:4-8)

2

You have been given everlasting fruit, which will never decay. (Gal. 5:22-23)



Use the joy that has been made available to you as your strength and you will overcome any weakness in life. (Neh. 8:10)

4

Recognize that you have matured, yet are still maturing.
You're being equipped with skills intended for a greater purpose.
(Heb. 5:14)

5

Place your confidence in this truth; His peace is the remedy for any and all confusion you'll ever face.

(Col. 3:15)

I don't want to fall. I don't want to stumble around and miss my destiny. I want to run my God-appointed course and finish it in victory!

"I do too, Gloria," you may say. "But I have a problem. I'm just not a very patient person. My personality is harsh—not gentle. And I have a major lack of self-discipline. In other words, these fruit of the spirit just don't come naturally to me."

Yes, they do.

If you're born again, the fruit of the spirit are part of your new nature. They're your natural "supernatural" disposition!

When you made Jesus the Lord of your life, you became "a new creature" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Your spirit was reborn in the image of your heavenly Father. You were made a partaker of His divine nature (2 Peter 1:4).

God is loving by nature. The Bible says: "God is love" (1 John 4:8).

God is joyful by nature. The Bible says: "In thy presence is fulness of joy" (Psalm 16:11).

God is good by nature. The Bible says: "The LORD...abundant in goodness" (Exodus 34:6).

God is peaceful by nature. The Bible calls Him "the God of peace" (Philippians 4:9).

God is patient by nature. Numbers 14:18 says: "The LORD is longsuffering [patient], and of great mercy."

God is gentle by nature. David said to Him: "Thy gentleness hath made me great" (Psalm 18:35).

God is faithful by nature. Psalm 119:90 says: "Thy faithfulness is unto all generations."

God is meek by nature. Jesus—who is exactly like the Father—said: "I am meek" (Matthew 11:29).

We know God is temperate by nature because if He were not temperate, none of us would be here anymore!

The reason I went through the whole list of the fruit is because I wanted to impress firmly on your mind that they are all attributes of God. And since you've been born again in His image, they are also your Continuing in the Word will make you free from the bondages of the flesh so the fruit of the spirit can flow!"

attributes! Because God is love, you are love. Because God is patient, you are patient. Because all the fruit of the spirit are His by nature, they are yours too! You are born of God!

How To Win the Battle

In light of that fact, you may now be wondering why believers so often act like they do. If they are loving by nature, why do they sometimes act like the meanest thing on two legs?

It's because, for the most part, they haven't cultivated the new nature. They haven't learned to allow what's on the inside of them to flow to the outside. They haven't learned to yield to the fruit of the spirit.

Instead, they continue to yield to fleshly habits they've developed over the years. They give into the devil's badgering, doing what their old sin-trained body wants to do instead of what the new man (or what 1 Peter 3:4 calls "the hidden man of the heart") wants to do.

We've all been guilty of that at one time or another. We've all discovered that walking according to our new nature is no stroll in the park. There's a struggle involved. As Galatians 5:17 says: "The desires of the flesh are opposed to the [Holy] Spirit, and the [desires of the] Spirit are opposed to the flesh (godless human nature); for these are antagonistic to each other [continually withstanding and in conflict with each other]" (AMPC). So when we decide to obey the desires and promptings of our reborn spirit, our flesh starts to fight us.

The way to keep from losing that battle and giving in to the flesh is found in Galatians 5:16. It says: "Walk and live [habitually] in the [Holy] Spirit [responsive to and controlled and guided by the Spirit]; then you will certainly not gratify the cravings and desires of the flesh" (AMPC).

The *King James Version* states: "Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh."

Many times, people do just the reverse. They work and struggle trying to overcome the flesh, thinking if they can just quit acting ugly...if they can just stop smoking...if they can just get over their depression, they'll be able to walk in the spirit. But it just doesn't work like that.

I saw one of the best illustrations of that truth in Ken's life years ago when he tried to quit smoking. Although he wasn't in the ministry yet, he was born again, loved God with all his heart, and wanted to live pleasing before Him. The problem was, he had been a serious smoker for years and the habit had a strong hold on him.

He struggled for months to overcome it. Sometimes, he'd be driving down the highway and have such a desire to stop smoking that he'd throw his cigarettes out the window. Within a few miles, however, his flesh would rise up and demand a cigarette and he'd turn the car around so he could go back and find the pack he'd thrown away!

I'm telling you, his flesh and spirit were in a battle, and his flesh always seemed to get the upper hand.

But all that changed when he went to a meeting in Houston, where he heard the Word preached twice a day, every day, for three weeks. After that meeting was over and he was driving home, he suddenly realized he hadn't smoked in days! He'd been so involved in the things of God, so busy walking in the spirit, that the habit that had once seemed so impossible to break had simply dropped away. The Word of God had separated him from it.

Maintain the Fellowship

Sometimes when I tell people that walking in the spirit is the secret to having the fruit in your life, people think I'm telling them to do something mysterious and difficult. But actually, walking in the spirit is quite simple. You do it by putting God first place in your life. You do it by maintaining fellowship with Him through His Word and through prayer.

Reading, studying and listening to the

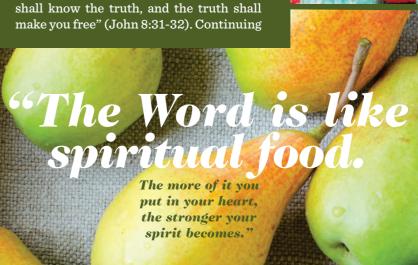
Word of God is vital to walking in the spirit. Fellowship with God through His Word opens the door to your heart so the fruit of the spirit can flow out of it.

When you think about it, you can easily understand why. The Word is like spiritual food. The more of it you put in your heart, the stronger your spirit becomes. If you'll continue to feed on the Word, eventually it will be so powerful that it can overcome the flesh every time (Hebrews 5:14).

The opposite is also true. If you spend your time feeding on soap operas, romance novels and the 6 o'clock news, your flesh will grow stronger and your spirit will weaken. And though you'll still have the inner desire to be loving and kind, the flesh will bully you into acting like the devil!

If you're specifically wanting to strengthen your spirit in the area of one particular fruit of the spirit, one of the wisest things you can do is feed on what the Word has to say about that fruit. If you've been running short of joy lately, for example, make a point each day to read and meditate on what the Bible has to say about joy and rejoicing. Build up your spirit in that particular area.

Jesus said, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32). Continuing



Come Change the World with Us!

We're currently hiring for a variety of roles.

Visit kem.org/careers in the Word will make you free from the bondages of the flesh so the fruit of the spirit can flow!

Notice Jesus said, "Continue in the Word." He didn't say, "Read the Word every now and then." He didn't say, "Do it when you feel like it." He said to stay in the Word continually.

And He didn't say it just once. He said it again and again. In John 15, for example, just before He went to the Cross, He reemphasized the importance of continuing in the Word and in fellowship with Him. He said:

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit (verses 4-8).

Jesus said if we want to bear fruit, we must abide in Him. The word *abide* has a sense of permanency about it. It doesn't mean to come in and go out. It refers to the place where you remain and dwell continually.

Contrary to what many people seem to think, you cannot live from Sunday to Sunday. You can't fellowship with the Lord once a week at church, ignore Him the rest of the time, and still have the new man on the inside be the dominant part of you. "If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered" (verse 6).

The moment a branch is broken off from the vine, it begins to die. It doesn't matter how close they are to one another. You can lay that branch beside the vine, but if the union has been broken, there will be no life flow. There will be no sap flowing from the vine into the branch.

The same is true for us. When we get too busy to spend time with God in prayer and in His Word, when we get preoccupied with natural, earthly things and disconnect from communion with Him, we immediately begin to wither.

The word wither means "to shrivel; to lose or cause to lose energy, force or freshness." That's a vivid picture of what happens to us when we aren't living in vital contact with the Lord. We still belong to Him. We have His life within us but His energy is not flowing through us, so we can't produce anything.

We lose our capacity for spiritual action. We may know what to do, but we find ourselves lacking the power to do it. We haven't the strength to bear fruit!

Make the Choice

On the other hand, when you do abide in the Vine, you are certain to bear fruit. In fact, it is inevitable! The power of the Holy Spirit flowing through you will just naturally bring forth that which God has placed within you. And you will begin to act like the loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, gentle, good, faithful, meek and self-controlled person you really are!

Of course, you'll still have to make the choice. When you're driving down the highway and someone cuts rudely in front of you, you'll have to choose whether to yield to the irritation of your flesh by honking and shaking your fist at them or yield to the love of God by smiling and saying, "Lord, bless that person and help them get safely where they're going today."

Personally, I've learned to start every day by making that choice in advance. As I begin my day in prayer I say, "Father, I make the decision right now that I'm going to yield to the fruit of the spirit today." Then I do everything I can to act on that decision all day long.

I urge you to do the same. It won't always be easy, but it will always be worth the effort. When the fruit of the spirit is flowing in your life, you'll be walking in the power of God. You'll be living—at last—like the overcomer you were born again to be!

Wisdom That Wins!



Are you ready to WIN?

Last month, you TURNED the light of Jesus ON by letting His life inside brighten the world around you. That light comes from His Spirit in you, filling your heart with HIMSELF. Now, let's see how wise choices flow out of that Light.

Sound hard? Nah! Walking in God's wisdom doesn't come by hard work, but by letting Jesus live big in YOU.

Look at Ephesians 5:15–20, starting with verses 15–16 in the *Amplified Bible*, *Classic Edition*. It says: "Look carefully then how you walk! Live purposefully and worthily and accurately, not as the unwise and witless, but as wise (sensible, intelligent people), making the very most of the time [buying up each opportunity], because the days are evil."

Living wisely, not foolishly, sounds like a challenge. So let's compare the two ways of living.

My definition of *foolishness* is to hear wisdom or truth, then choose to turn your back on or ignore it. It's not being silly, stupid or ignorant. It's a choice to turn your back on what Jesus is saying (or your parents).

You've been given true wisdom from the Creator. You're ONE with Wisdom Himself! The Holy Spirit living in you helps you hear what Jesus is saying. He leads you in the will of God. You're not left to figure it out on your own! So you are NOT witless or unwise; but wise, sensible and intelligent. You have everything and EVERYONE (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) on the inside!

Verses 17–18 are key: "Therefore do not be vague and thoughtless and foolish, but understanding and firmly grasping what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but ever be filled and stimulated with the [Holy] Spirit."

For adults, foolishness might look like getting drunk, or ignoring God's voice. But what does foolishness look like for a kid? Maybe spending too much time on video games? Using hurtful, disrespectful words?

Disobeying your parents? Being stubborn? Oftentimes we don't realize that when we live this vague and thoughtless life, we aren't considering what God wants for us.

Take a moment and ask Jesus:

How am I being foolish? What do You want to teach me about walking in wisdom?

Now, take a minute and write down what you hear the Lord saying.

Instead of being influenced by the world around us, verse 18 tells us to "ever be filled and *stimulated* with the [Holy] Spirit." That word *stimulated* means to be moved, motivated and energized! When the Holy Spirit fills you with the strength and joy to live with purpose, your life will overflow in amazing ways.

Verse 19 says, "Speaking to each other with words of Scripture, singing the Psalms with praises and spontaneous songs given by the Spirit!" (*The Passion Translation*).

When Jesus lives big in you, your heart and mouth overflow with truth, encouragement and joy—TRUE WISDOM!

Christlike Character: Jesus walked on earth with wisdom and purpose, doing the will of the Father, never wasting a moment. Now He lives on earth through YOU!

Evidence: When you're filled with His Spirit, His words bring life! When speaking life to others like Jesus would, YOU bring encouragement, not confusion; and live with purpose, not distraction.

Christ In You: Walking in wisdom isn't work. You have Jesus IN you and He IS the wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 1:30). As you yield to Him, listening to His voice, His wisdom will overflow in your choices, your words and your life.

Ephesians 5:20 is part of that overflow: "At all times and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father" (AMPC).

The Passion Translation says, "...

give thanks to Father God for every person He brings into your life."

That's not thanks for bad things, but even when you face tough stuff that didn't come from God, be thankful that Jesus is with you. He brings wisdom and people into your life—parents, teachers and godly friends—to help you walk in victory!

Your Turn, Superkid!

As you listen to Jesus and let Him lead you, you're choosing purpose, not pressure; worship, not worry; and joy, not junk. Ask Him to fill you with His Holy Spirit today—and watch His wisdom start to shine!

WINNING!

Commander Kellie



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