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April 2008

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*Ten Keys to
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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 35 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 and Gloria Copeland

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A few years ago while preparing to minister to a conference of charismatic Catholics in Bari, Italy, a familiar shout thundered through my being with fresh excitement that has lingered in my heart and mind ever since. Never, in more than 40 years of ministry, had the impact of this awesome truth hit me with greater force. | Even now, as I write that declaration once again, I am shouting it in my spirit:

He's Alive!

BY KENNETH COPELAND

Think about it: He lives! And because He lives, every one who will receive Him can be made alive with the same glorious power that raised Him to immortality.

Because He lives, men can stop looking for answers in empty tombs, dead religions and powerless gods. They can ask themselves the same question and hear the same glorious answer the women heard when they found an empty tomb Resurrection morning: "Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen" (Luke 24:5-6).

Eternal Life Manifested

Jesus is alive. His Word is alive. The manifestation

of His life through His Body on earth today is increasing in majesty and intensity beyond what most men have ever thought or imagined.

You see, the resurrection of Jesus was about much more than the restoration of His natural physical life—the life of His flesh. And it includes much more than the fact it lasts forever. This is clear in the opening words of the Apostle John's first epistle:

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; (for the life was manifested, and

we have seen it, and bear witness, and show unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) that which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ (1 John 1:1-3).

Notice the phrases “the Word of life” and “that eternal life.” We cannot escape the relationship between the Word and the resurrection of Jesus. Jesus is alive. His Word is the Word of life.

“The [eternal] life was manifested,” John wrote. “We have seen it, and bear witness, and show unto you that eternal life.” The English word translated “life” here comes from the New Testament Greek word *zoe*. Wanting to make it clear that he was not just talking about physical life, or the life of the flesh, John added the word translated “eternal” here. It is the same word translated “everlasting” in John 3:16. But John was not just talking about life without an end. This refers to the life of God Himself.

This eternal, *zoe* life manifested in Jesus at two different times in two different ways.

The first manifestation was in Bethlehem when the Word *gave birth to Jesus* in Mary’s womb: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us...” (John 1:1-4, 14). So in this first manifestation of eternal life, God received His body that would give Him authority in the earth and His blood that would be shed to pay the penalty for man’s sin.

The second manifestation was when the Word raised Jesus and His body from death, hell and the grave. It was the Word seed in Mary’s womb that brought that life to manifestation, and then it was the Word of the Almighty Himself that raised Jesus from the dead. The words the Father said while Jesus was still in the grasp of hell are recorded for us in Hebrews: “For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son? And again, when he bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him” (Hebrews 1:5-6).

When God says something, things happen. His words are full of life, light and glory. And life always overcomes death. Sin’s price had been paid, the blood had been shed and death had been forever defeated. And when God spoke, glory filled the body and immortality of life was manifested in a body that would never suffer corruption

and decay. God’s Word, alive with His life, raised Jesus from the dead.

Look at what we are told about the heavenly exaltation of Jesus in the opening verses of Hebrews 1:

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they (verses 1-4).

Notice that Jesus is seated on the right hand of the Majesty on high. But He’s not the only one seated there! We have been seated with Him! Ephesians 2:5-6 declares: “Even when we were dead in sins, [God] hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.”

Jesus was appointed “heir of all things.” But He’s not the only heir of all things. You and I have been appointed joint heirs with Him (Romans 8:16-17).

How did all this happen?

By the very same Word of His power and our faith in it—the Word of God which lives and abides forever! Proverbs 4:20-22 tells us to incline our ears unto the words of God and “let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. *For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.*” Hebrews 4:12 declares His Word is “*quick [alive, living], and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword.*”

And just as Jesus was born from the dead by the incorruptible Word of God, 1 Peter 1:23 tells us we have been “born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”

The Same Seed—the Same Life

What every person on this planet needs to hear is Jesus was not the only one raised that day. He was raised the first-born of a new race. *Before* the resurrection, Jesus is called the



Jesus is seated on the right hand of the Majesty on high. But He’s not the only one seated there! We have been seated with Him!

“only begotten son” of God (John 1:18, 3:16; 1 John 4:9). After the resurrection, He is called “the first begotten of the dead” (Revelation 1:5) and “the firstborn among many brethren” (Romans 8:29). Jesus became the firstborn of many joint heirs.

Let me ask you, were you born again by half a seed?

No, the seed of the Word of God that produced new life in you and made you a new creature in the Anointed One and in His Anointing was complete. You were born again not of corruptible seed, but incorruptible seed by the Word of God which lives and abides forever. The Word of God lives, it is alive, and it's here to stay.

Just as you were not born by half a seed, in the same way you are not a subheir, but a joint heir.

Can you see that? We are just as alive as He is. His life is living in us *now*, not after we get to heaven. That's what the Holy Spirit is telling us in 1 John 4:17: “...as he is, *so are we* in this world”—now!

First John 5:1 tells us, “Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God.” To be born of God means to be born of the very same Word and manifest the same eternal *zoe* life of Jesus.

You see, God doesn't have two kinds of life—one for Him and a lesser version for us. The same incorruptible seed of the Word of God that brought Jesus back to life is alive in you and me. We are re-created in His image; we have His life in us.

Life to the Max in You

The life in every New Testament believer is no different than the life that manifested in Peter and John only a few days after the resurrection of Jesus. They were stopped outside the Temple gate by the man who was lame from birth. Every day his friends had taken the man to beg for alms by the gate named Beautiful.

Peter told the man, “Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk” (Acts 3:6). And as the Spirit of God confirmed the word which Peter spoke in the authority of Jesus' Name, the man leapt to his feet and began walking and jumping. His legs, lame since birth, were suddenly filled with strength and life.

What I want you to see is how Peter explained these events to the crowd of people that had gathered and were amazed at what had taken place:

Why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus. [You] killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses. And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong... (Acts 3:12-13, 15-16).

Did this happen because Peter and John were apostles, or because of their anointing or holiness? No.

Faith in the Name of Jesus released life and light through the hands of Peter and John. The moment they grabbed that man, the lightning-like power of God's Anointing and glory

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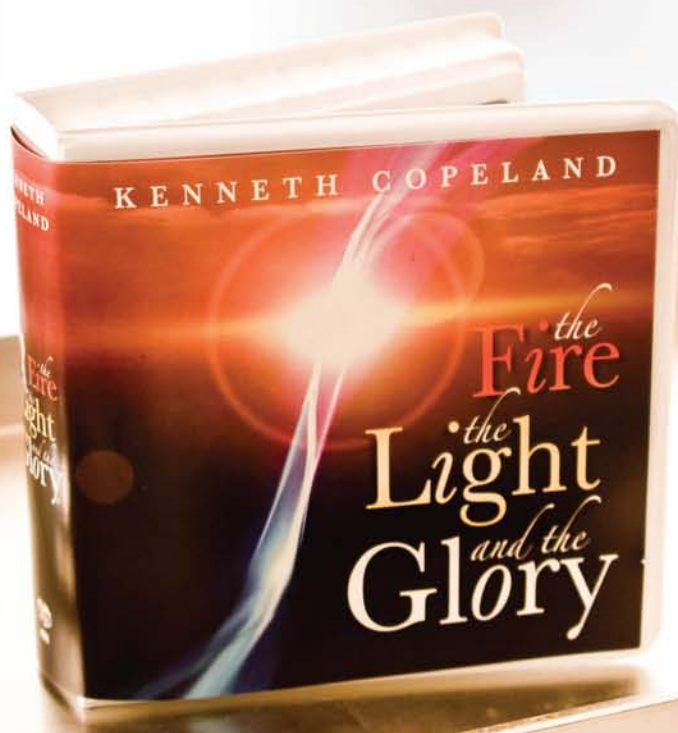
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went shooting through his system and light came into his bones.

That's the life that was imparted into you and me and every other believer when we made Jesus the Lord of our lives. And that life is not in us in some little measure, but in the same measure as in Peter and John, because it's the same as in Jesus. We are reborn in His likeness. His glory is in us!

Romans 3:23 says we all sinned and came short of the glory of God. But we don't have to continue falling short of the glory. Right before He went to the cross Jesus prayed to the Father, "And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one" (John 17:22).

His glory is in the believer. His faith, hope and love are alive and here to stay. His living faith is already in His living Word. His life is flowing into us and will flow through us and out of us if we will learn to walk in the light as He is in the light.

Jesus is alive, and His mission is that we "have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows)" (John 10:10, *The Amplified Bible*). The days of settling for second best are over.

We're not in religion anymore, praise the Lord.

We're in life. And life is in us.

Activate the Life in You

So how do we activate this life by which we have been reborn?

With the Apostle Paul we declare: "I am crucified with Christ [the Anointed One]: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ [the Anointed One and His Anointing] liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

We commit ourselves to keeping the greatest commandment of our Commander in Chief, to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and love our neighbor as ourselves (Matthew 22:37-39).

By allowing the Anointed One and His Anointing to dwell in our hearts by faith, and being rooted and grounded in love, we are enabled "to comprehend [understand, have working knowledge] with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know [have intimate understanding of] the love of [the Anointed One and His Anointing], which passeth knowledge" (Ephesians 3:17-19).

Then, as we grow in that working knowledge of how to receive and release that love, we are filled with all the fullness of Love Himself who will "do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power [the light, life, love and glory of God] that worketh in us" (Ephesians 3:20).

This hope is not the world's kind of wishful dreaming

that may or may not come to pass. This is hope that has taken on faith. Hope steps out of the dream realm and becomes Bible hope when you begin to intensely expect it to come to pass.

Remember what this kind of Bible hope did in Abraham and Sarah? When Abraham was "fully persuaded that, what [God] had promised, he was able also to perform" (Romans 4:21), this faith-filled hope brought life to the bodies of a 100-year-old man and 90-year-old woman and gave them a baby.

But even on that level of faith, Abraham did not have the kind of faith you have. You have the faith of Jesus. You have the living faith of the Son of God burning in your bosom, doing its best to get out of the prison in which you have it trapped.

He's Alive in You Now

Jesus is still here on earth—in His Body! The exciting thing is His Body is waking up to these truths all over the world. We are opening our eyes to the fact that the Word of God is not a storybook. It is a life-impregnated source of energy that is beyond anything the mind of man has yet to conceive.

The Body of Christ is just beginning to see the power of the life that has been birthed in us by the Word of God. We have been looking for the glory to be manifest somewhere outside of us, but now we understand the glory is already in us. And it will manifest as it comes up out of us, rivers of living water—life, life flowing like a river, a swelling tsunami of His glory in the making right now.

The glory we have been waiting and looking for is not coming someday. It's already here. This message we preach is called the glorious gospel. The glory is in His Word. The glory is in His Name.

The glory is in your bosom. The living forces of His faith, hope and love are alive in you, ready to do the same works they did when He was here on the earth in His body.

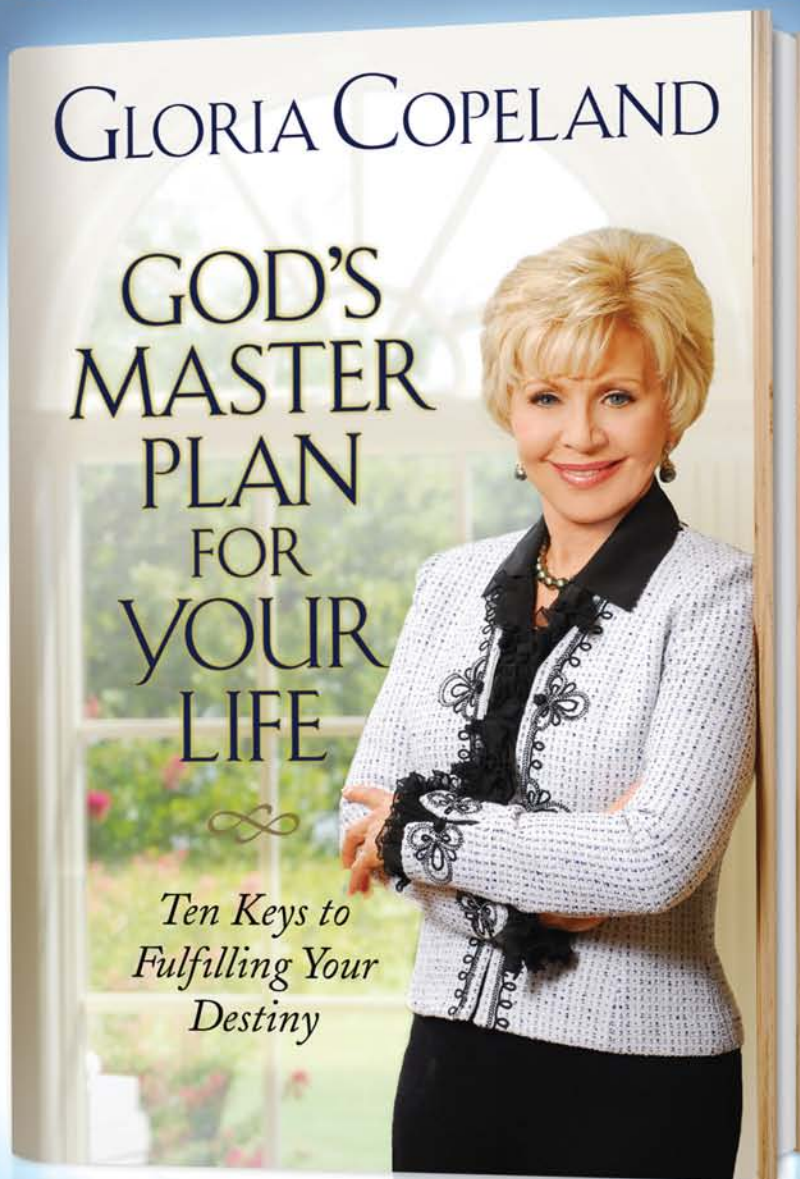
That is the message the whole world is looking for. They are looking for Jesus. Most of them don't know whom they seek, but if they're seeking healing, they are looking for Jesus. If they're trying to save their marriage, they're looking for Jesus. If their children are in trouble, they need Jesus. He is *the* Savior. He is *the* life. He is *the* answer to every question, every despair, every hurt known to man.

They need to see that answer—the life of God Himself—manifest in you and me. When they return from their empty searches into dead religions, loveless and powerless gods and philosophies of men that produce despair instead of hope, they—like the disciples on Resurrection day—need to hear the good news.

They need to hear: "Jesus is ALIVE!" VICTORY

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Following is the second of three excerpts from Gloria Copeland's new hardcover, *God's Master Plan for Your Life*, coming out this spring from Putnam Praise, a division of Penguin Group (USA). We're excited to offer it to you, our Partners and Friends, because we know what a blessing it will be in your life! When you seek God with all your heart, surely you will find Him.

SEEK AND YOU WILL FIND

OVER THE YEARS, THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE HAVE WRITTEN KEN AND ME TO SHARE THEIR TESTIMONIES AND TELL US HOW GOD DELIVERED THEM FROM SICKNESS, TROUBLE, POVERTY AND DISTRESS, AND FILLED THEIR LIVES WITH HIS GOODNESS. I'VE READ MANY OF THEIR LETTERS AND I CAN TELL YOU, THEY ARE HAPPY PEOPLE.

They've discovered the same thing I have—that when you do what God calls you to do and connect with His Master Plan, you're satisfied. The plan of God is where true peace is. His plan is where true joy is. God's shining path is the place of freedom.

I don't know where you are on God's shining path today. You may be taking your first few steps. You may have strayed away from that path and you want to return. You may have walked that shining path for years. Wherever you are, I can assure you it will take courage to keep going because along God's path there are surprises. There are twists and turns, mountains and valleys that will challenge your faith.

To meet those challenges, you must dare to believe God truly is as good as the Bible says He is. You must understand that you can trust Him absolutely and that everything He tells you to do is for your good. You have to trust God and what He says to you in His written Word and in your heart.

You must turn your back on the lies of the devil and believe what Psalm 145:8-9 says about Him:

- ☛ *That He is gracious.* He is disposed to show favors and likes to do good things for you.
- ☛ *That He is full of compassion.* He is absolutely overflowing with love for you. He cares deeply about everything

that concerns you and has promised never to leave nor forsake you. Because He loves you as a father, He wants you to succeed and be blessed even more than you do.

- ☛ *That He is slow to anger and great in mercy.* When you disobey Him or make a mistake, He's not quick to punish you or make you pay. He just asks you to repent and confess your sin so that He can forgive it and help you get back inside His circle of blessing. Even if you've been a repeat offender and you're afraid you've worn out God's patience, He'll still receive you with open arms when you turn to Him. As Lamentations 3:22-25 says, "Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. 'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul, 'Therefore I hope in Him!' The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him."

- ☛ *That the Lord is good to all and His tender mercies are over all His works.* He doesn't have a great plan for one person and a lousy plan for another. He doesn't love one of His children more than another. He has a glorious plan for every one of us because He loves us equally and He is good to all! His plans for each person will be

To meet those challenges,
you must dare to believe God truly is as good as the Bible says He is.

different because we're all unique. But you can be sure His plan for you will be just as good for you as mine is for me.

How could His plan for you be anything less? It's been perfectly designed by the Master.

Once you begin to grasp how amazingly good God's shining path actually is, you'll have one burning question.

How do I find that path?

You won't be content to wander here and there, wherever circumstances might lead. You'll not be satisfied just getting up every morning, going to work, coming home, watching television and going to bed. You'll want to take definite steps toward your destiny. You'll want to be sure you're living according to God's Master Plan.

If you're anything like I was when I began my relationship with God, at first, you may feel overwhelmed by the challenge. You may look back at the mistakes you've made and the wrong turns you've taken and wonder how you'll ever figure out exactly what God wants you to do.

If that's what you're thinking, I have good news for you. You don't have to be a spiritual genius to find God's shining path. You don't have to be an expert theologian or even an especially experienced Christian.

The Bible says:

Does not wisdom cry out, and understanding lift up her voice? She takes her stand on the top of the high hill, beside the way, where the paths meet. She cries out by the gates, at the entry of the city, at the entrance of the doors: "To you, O men, I call, and my voice is to the sons of men. O you simple ones, understand prudence, and you fools, be of an understanding heart. Listen, for I will speak of excellent things, and from the opening of my lips will come right things.... I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently will find me" (Proverbs 8:1-6, 17).

According to that passage, no matter who we are or where we might be in life, God is speaking His wisdom to us. He's making it available to everyone.

If we want that wisdom, however, we can't just wait for it to find us. We can't just sit around expecting God to look us up. He will do some maneuvering for us. He will help us. But ultimately, if we want to get the wisdom we need to find

God's shining path for our lives, we'll have to do what this passage says. We'll have to seek God's wisdom diligently. To connect fully with God's Master Plan, we'll have to go after Him with our whole hearts.

- ☛ The Bible makes that abundantly clear. It tells us again and again that the blessings and wisdom of God are reserved for people who avidly seek Him.
- ☛ "Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with the whole heart!" (Psalm 119:2)
- ☛ "Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near" (Isaiah 55:6).
- ☛ "You will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart" (Jeremiah 29:13).

According to *The Amplified Bible*, when God says, "Seek My face," He means *inquire for and require My presence as your vital need*. A vital need is something we can't live without. People who think they can live without seeking God are greatly mistaken. Without God, they're just existing. They're totally missing out on real, abundant life.

Once we, as believers, fully understand this, we'll get serious about seeking God. Once we realize it takes the wisdom and knowledge of God for us to live a truly blessed life, we'll find time to search out that wisdom, no matter how busy we are.

We'll get up early in the morning to spend time with the Lord or we'll go to bed a little later and seek Him at night. We'll even turn off the television. (Think of that!) We'll do whatever we have to do.

Obviously, it's going to take some effort. We can't just be casual Christians and find the fullness of God's wisdom and plan for our lives. We can't just show up at church once a week, sing some songs and listen to a sermon. Going to church is good,

and any measure of seeking God will bring us a certain amount of blessing. But if we want to live in power and victory, if we want to operate in the gifts of the Spirit and see miracles in our lives, seeking God must be our No. 1 priority.

There is nothing more important than going after God with your whole heart. It's the answer to everything. The more you seek Him, the more blessed you'll be, not only in spiritual things but also in natural things. Seeking God will keep you healthy. It will enable you to prosper financially and bring peace to your home, healing to your body and joy to your life. **VICTORY**

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Changing a NATION

BY DAVID BARTON

We must regain the conviction that biblical principles are vital to national success, and be willing to pursue their reinstatement.



It was the plan and intent of our founding fathers for godly people, and thereby godly principles, to be intimately involved in the political, judicial and educational realms. The founders believed only the godly would understand the unalienable freedoms provided by God and thus protect them in our government. They never intended for Christian principles to be divorced from public affairs.

Unfortunately, over the years Christians en masse have voluntarily removed themselves from the political, social and legal arenas. Whenever the godly depart from any arena, their godly values depart with them. A person in office always legislates according to his personal beliefs and convictions, and herein is the wisdom of Proverbs 29:2 made evident: "When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; But when a wicked man rules, the people groan" (*New King James Version*).

Christians, through bad doctrine, political inactivity and apathy, handed over the reins of the nation to leaders who awarded lifelong appointments to justices eager to uproot Christian values that had been the heart of this nation for centuries. Quite frankly, the court's religion-hostile decisions were merely an outgrowth of what the Christian community at large had permitted and encouraged in the decades preceding those rulings.

A biblical description of how this process worked is



Positive change actually rests in the hands of us the citizens, not our leaders.

given by Jesus in Matthew 13:24-26. In that parable, good people had a good field growing good seed. However an enemy came in and planted bad among the good, thus contaminating the entire field. What afforded the enemy such an opportunity? The stark answer is found in verse 25: “While [the good] men slept, [the] enemy came [in]....”

Jesus never faulted the enemy for doing what he did, for it was his task and purpose to destroy. Jesus placed the fault on the good men who went to sleep, thus allowing the enemy the opportunity to contaminate the field. Very bluntly what has occurred in America happened first because the church went to sleep—and then because the enemy came in and caused the damage.

First Things First

The problems we have created for ourselves, although colossal, can be solved. The first thing we must do is to put first things first: “I exhort therefore, that, *first of all*, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for [leaders], and for all that are in authority” (1 Timothy 2:1-2).

This is not an arbitrary, haphazard plan given by God. God wants every individual to pray for civic leaders first, because civic leaders and their policies affect every individual. For our own benefit we should be praying regularly for our leaders at local, state and federal levels, in each branch of government. Prayer is the first key to effecting significant change, for situations do not change on earth until they have been changed in the heavenlies.

Additionally we need to pray God will uproot the wicked from office and raise up righteous individuals to replace them. “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure,” and having the right individuals in office will prevent the enactment of damaging policies.

Christians Are a Majority

The political realm, formerly dominated by Christians, is still available to us. The elimination of religious activities and acknowledgment of God from public affairs occurred through the political system; it can therefore also restore those principles. While it might seem easier to empty the ocean with a thimble than to change politics, it is not as difficult as you may think. You’ve probably heard, or perhaps even made statements such as: “My vote won’t make a difference anyway.” “It does us no good to vote. As Christians, we’re already in the minority.”

Sound familiar?

The fact is such statements are not true.

A recent Gallup Poll shows that 84 percent of this nation firmly believes in Jesus Christ and a separate poll indicates that 94 percent believes in God.

Polls have also shown:

- ★ More than 80 percent approves of voluntary prayer in school
- ★★ 81 percent of the nation opposes homosexual behavior
- ★★★ 89 percent opposes the use of abortion as a means of birth control

Additional findings could be cited, but the conclusion is inescapable: Although we have been led to believe that we, the 94 percent who believe in God, are the minority—we most definitely are not!

Imagine a hypothetical vote in the U.S. Senate where the final tally was 94 to 6. It would be untenable for the 6 to be declared the winner and their policy enacted over the votes of the 94—yet this is exactly what happened when public acknowledgment of God was prohibited. Can such an act truly be appropriate either in a republic (to which we pledge our allegiance) or in a democracy (which we most often claim to be)? Certainly not! Yet unfortunately, this travesty occurs on a regular basis today.

While polls show the overwhelming majority seems ready to return godly precepts to public affairs, it is clear that a vast number of our elected officials are not. Whose fault is that?

Notice President James Garfield's answer to this question:

Now, more than ever before, the people are responsible for the character of their Congress. If that body be ignorant, reckless and corrupt, it is because the people *tolerate* ignorance, recklessness and corruption. If it be intelligent, brave and pure, it is because the people *demand* these high qualities to represent them in the national legislature.... If the next centennial does not find us a great nation...it will be because those who represent the enterprise, the culture and the morality of the nation do not aid in controlling the political forces.

Positive change actually rests in the hands of us the citizens, not our leaders. This has been proven time and again over recent years. For example, in U.S. Senate races a decade ago, five candidates who stood for returning godly principles to public affairs were defeated by a collective total of only 57,000 votes—less than 12,000 votes per state. Yet in those five states, there were more than 5 million Christians who did not even vote! If only one of every 100 nonvoting Christians—1 percent—had voted for the godly candidates, those five would have been elected resulting in a 10-vote swing in the Senate toward godly policies. Imagine how different America would now be if those godly leaders had been working in the Senate for the past decade.

And in the last election, five incumbent God-fearing U.S. Senators were defeated in their five states by a collective total of only 100,000 votes—and millions of Christians did not vote in those states. If only Christians had returned those five to the Senate, partial-birth abortions would now be banned, religious liberties protected, and many other measures reflecting biblical values would have been passed over the past two years.

This is not the disheartening report it seems—it is actually encouraging in that it shows godly candidates are most often defeated not by activists and radicals, but by inactive Christians! This means the ability to change the current situation is in our hands. As Edmund Burke explained: "All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing."

Believers to the Ballot Box!

There is much that "good men" can do to stop the triumph of evil. And one of the most important is to vote, and to vote biblically.

Founding Father Noah Webster delivered this admonition:

Let it be impressed on your mind that God commands you to choose for rulers just men who will rule in the fear of God [Exodus 18:21].... If the citizens neglect their duty and place unprincipled men in office, the government will soon be corrupted... If government fails to secure public prosperity and happiness, it must be because the citizens neglect the Divine commands, and elect bad men to make and administer the laws.

And Charles Finney, a prominent minister in the early 1800s, succinctly declared: "The time has come that Christians must vote for honest men and take consistent ground in politics or the Lord will curse them.... God cannot sustain this free and blessed country which we love and pray for unless the Church will take right ground."

It is time to believe and to behave differently. We are not a minority—we are the majority! It is time to declare at the ballot box that we will no longer allow officials who embrace the values of the 6 percent who do not believe in God to repeal the rights of the 94 percent who do. We must remove officials who do not comply with traditional, historical and biblical principles and replace them with those who do. Our vote does count!

We must regain the conviction that biblical principles are vital to national success, and be willing to pursue their reinstatement. In recent decades, we have wrongly allowed the very principles which produced morality and virtue, and thus national stability, to be restricted in public life. We need once again to recognize the truth so well understood by George Washington that: "The propitious [favorable] smiles of Heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which Heaven itself has ordained."

We must become convinced of the principle expressed by Abraham Lincoln and then accept the civic responsibilities implied by his statement: "The truth announced in the Holy Scripture, and proven by all history [is] that, 'Those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord.'" VICTORY



David Barton is the founder and president of WallBuilders, a pro-family organization which seeks to educate grass-roots society to rebuild America's constitutional, moral and religious foundations. For more information go to www.wallbuilders.com, call 817-441-6044 or write to WallBuilders, P.O. Box 397, Alledo, TX 76008-0397.



REAL PEOPLE. REAL NEEDS. REAL VICTORIES.

GoodNewsGazette

The Word Spoken Really Works!

In 2005, I wanted to go to the Great Lakes Prosperity Overflow Convention, but was not able to attend. In October I received a note from Kenneth Copeland Ministries that if I wanted the CDs from the convention, KCM would sow them into my life—free! That same month I was also diagnosed with stage-three breast cancer. The CDs came about 10 days before my surgery. I listened to them constantly, plus quoted scriptures.

When I went for the ultrasound, God gave me such joy. I was not afraid, even when I watched this mass that looked so big. After surgery, I was taken to the recovery room. I was laughing in the spirit so loudly they only allowed me to stay in there for 10 minutes and sent me home. I was disturbing the other patients!

The cancer was tiny and not a stage three.

During radiation treatments I stayed strong and even walked a mile every day. The Word spoken really works. God is so good to me!

Sandra Gentry | Independence, Mo.



Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. (ROMANS 12:9, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION)

I Was Lost, but Now I'm Found

For 14 to 15 years I was estranged from God. I blamed Him when my parents died, when my husband and I couldn't conceive children and when my sister committed suicide.

In early 2007, my employer announced that many of our jobs would be outsourced to India, mine being one of them. After 15 years of working for this company I was distraught and fearful.

Then, a co-worker mentioned the prophecy from Kenneth Copeland and Leroy Thompson that 2007 was the Year of the Open Door and I should consider that in dealing with my job situation. Little did I know that God was using this to bring me back!

For many years, back in the 1980s, I spent every morning watching *Believer's Voice of Victory*, but as my life became busier, I couldn't find the time in the mornings and frankly, until my co-worker mentioned this, I hadn't thought of Kenneth Copeland. But it stewed in my mind for a few weeks. Then, while I was unpacking a box of books that had been sitting around I found Gloria's tape series *Choose Life*. I listened to those tapes and then visited kcm.org. That was almost a year ago, and since then I have been devouring the archived webcasts in addition to watching the daily ones. I have also rededicated my life to God.

I have shed a lot of tears about the lost years when I turned from Him. But I have no more fear about my job or my health. Satan's bond is broken, praise God! I just want to thank you for the blessing that these archived broadcasts have been to me and tell you that Jesus is Lord of my life and I have received THE BLESSING.

Christy Pedersen | Florida

BVOV Transforms Business

I just wanted to share how magnificent the meetings are and what an awesome blessing it is to be able to attend via BVOV.TV online. It's a tool in the Master's hands!

For several weeks I had been exposing my customers to the BVOV radio and TV broadcasts, along with replays of the WCBC. Recently, while Brother Copeland was preaching, I had a few customers in the store from Romania. Brother Copeland began shouting, "Hallelujah" repeatedly, and gloriously these men resounded, "Hallelujah" right after him. For a moment I thought revival was about to break out in my shop.

This broadcast has transformed my business. I have begun to see a change in my life and in the lives of my co-workers. Customers ask us, "Who is that? I like that stuff, man!" And at times, when we have to turn the volume down for a moment to take phone calls, people will tell us, "Don't turn it down. I was listening to that!" These are customers saying this! This broadcast is reaching the lost in a very different way. Neighbors have come over because they can hear the broadcast through the walls. Praise be to God. Thanks so much for your service to the Lord!

Jared Foster | Loganville, Ga.

Sowed Seed, Reaped Harvest

I sowed a seed into your ministry at the end of 2006. I was laid off from my job Feb. 9, 2007, but started a new job on February 10! My wages have more than doubled with this new job! Praise God for His perfect timing and perfect will. God bless you!

K.F. | Canada



Healing Comes Anytime!

I'm a Partner, but I also grew up listening to Kenneth and Gloria for as long as I can remember. Awhile back my ear was bothering me to the point I couldn't sleep. I was very frustrated with it, so I decided I had been sick long enough and I was going to listen to Gloria's Healing School from the 2005 Great Lakes Prosperity Overflow Convention until the pain left. I put on the CD at 4 a.m.! For the first 30 minutes I fought myself not to fall asleep; I was going to get my healing and I was determined! Well, after that I got excited. I had no problem listening to the rest of the CDs. In fact, I couldn't sit still! By the time Gloria got to the healing prayer, I was fully ready to receive. I prayed that prayer with all my heart and the pain began to fade.

T.P. | Canada

New Job, Better Income

Thank you for your prayers. We have a great praise report! We had been believing for a job for my husband for two years. He had been at a job where there was no more increase, according to his employer. God preserved him there until provision came. We continued to give to your ministry, because we know KCM is good soil.

Well, my husband started a new job, utilizing some of the skills he is trained for, but they hired him with the willingness to train him on other skills he would need to know. It was totally God's favor. That's not all; our income has increased! Not only doubled, but is *four times* what he was making! We give God all the glory!

Sylvia Larremore | Baytown, Texas

Favor With the Parole Board

I would like to thank God and the KCM prayer team for all the help and prayers you have given me. God's work is really amazing. In spite of what everyone believed, I have gotten full parole for deportation. Even the parole board said it was an exception!

A.W. | Netherlands



Freedom Behind Prison Walls

I just wanted to let you know how much your ministry means to me. I received *From Faith to Faith* and also the *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine. They have had such an impact on my walk with God while I'm in prison. By the power of the Holy Spirit, I'm changed.

I do thank God for His anointed messages through your voices. I feel the presence of God with me. I'm serving a 31-year sentence, but now I'm a born-again, blood-washed child of God. I feel like you are the family I never had. May God use you more to populate heaven.

MK., Namibia



Delivered From Destruction

While driving home from a Sunday church service, my car began to sway. I thought it was windy, so I ignored it and continued driving. A few feet down the road it happened again, only this time my car went out of control, spinning. The car moved across lanes, then ran off the highway and into a ravine. As the car was spinning, the right rear end struck one of the poles holding up a billboard, straightened up, rolled between the two poles, spun around again and stopped. Then, I saw the billboard fall.

Moments later, I looked and saw the billboard was standing straight up on the poles. My tire tracks show my car went through one of the poles.

When my car went out of control, I was listening to a tape by Creflo Dollar on daily confessions and confessing God's Word. The moment my car began to spin, I called on the Name of Jesus. I kept repeating Jesus' Name until the car stopped.

While all of this was happening, there were no other vehicles on the highway. It was like God sent His angels to keep back traffic. I was not injured, and the only damage to my car was a broken taillight and a small dent.

I give all the praise and glory to God that He protected me.

S.K. | Texas

Most people don't understand the power of words. Do you realize that the things you are speaking out of your mouth are setting the cornerstone of your life?

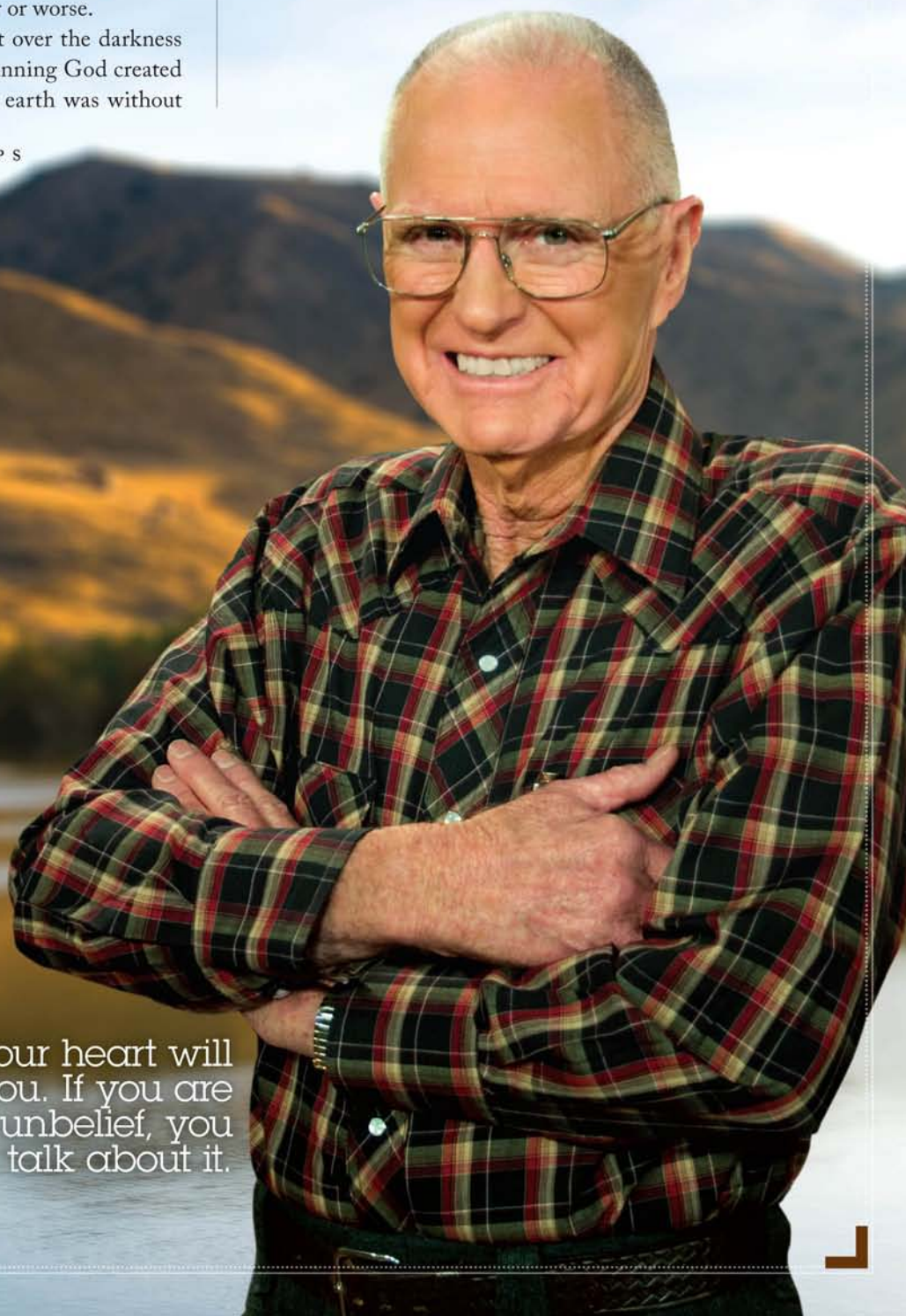
WordPower

Some words deceive. Some words transmit faith. Think about it. The words you speak can transmit *faith* or *fear*. So when we are talking about your spoken words, we are talking about things that are powerful enough to change lives for the better or worse.

In Genesis 1:1-3, God looked out over the darkness that was over the earth: "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."

BY CHARLES CAPPS



Whatever is in your heart will always tell on you. If you are in doubt, fear or unbelief, you will talk about it.

Notice the Spirit of God was hovering over the water. The water was there, the darkness was there and the Spirit of God was there. But nothing happened until words were spoken. God spoke and said, *Light*. When God spoke, it came into existence.

His words were His creative power.

So many people today think of words as being unimportant. You have heard people make statements like, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." Nothing is further from the truth. Words can *kill you*. If you don't know what you are doing with words, they can destroy you.

The Bible says in Proverbs 11:3, "The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them." Perverseness is crooked and contrary speech. Proverbs has a lot to say about perverse lips—crooked and contrary speech, or speaking things that are contrary to what we actually believe.

Many people speak perversely. They don't know why they do it, but they do. Often, they speak the very opposite of what they mean. For instance, you've probably heard people say things like, "Oh, isn't that a big dog!" when, in fact, it's a little, bitty Chihuahua.

That is what the Bible calls perverse speech. It's crooked or contrary. You are speaking contrary to what you actually mean or believe.

God created man in His own image and in His likeness. *God's Word is His will for man*. When I say *man*, I mean mankind. Man was created in the image of God. Man's words—your words—should be your will toward God. You really shouldn't speak *anything you don't desire to come to pass or that is not your will*.

Power of the Tongue

You may have also heard someone say, "What you don't know won't hurt you." Well, the truth is, what you don't know may be *what is killing you*. Proverbs 18:21 says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof."

God's Word conceived in the heart, then formed with the tongue and spoken out of the mouth becomes a spiritual force releasing the ability of God. These are words you conceive in the human spirit. Then you form them with your tongue. Have you ever noticed your words, or syllables, are separated by the tongue when you speak?

The Word of God conceived in the human spirit, then formed with the tongue and spoken out of the mouth releases the ability of God. This is how God intended for you to receive His Word.

You can also receive and speak other words. For instance, if it's the devil you are quoting, you are releasing the ability of the devil. It's just that simple.

Many people have failed to understand why there is so much teaching on confession. Some criticize our confession and teaching on the power of God's Word in the mouth.

Actually, what we are teaching is simple Bible truth. We are simply *showing you how to operate in the principles of God's Word*.

God's Principles

God's principles are involved in confession of the principles of faith. The Bible says faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God. It doesn't say that's the only way we can get faith.

Faith in God's Word comes by hearing the Word of God. By the same token, you could say that faith in the devil comes by the same method. Faith in the devil could come by hearing the words of the devil.

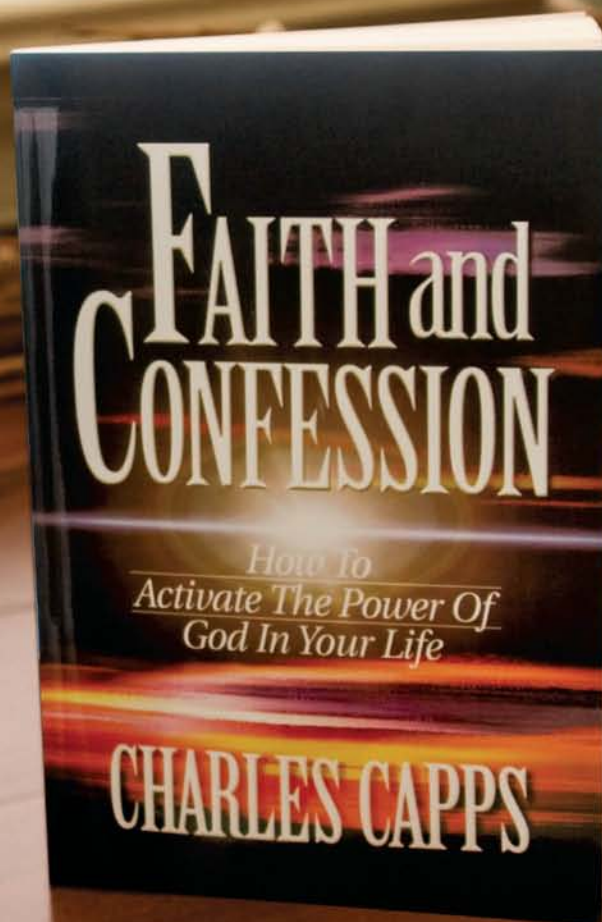
So we shouldn't take a truth and try to make *the* truth out of it.

Hearing the Word of God causes faith in God and in His Word to come to you. This spiritual force is also released out of your mouth when you speak God's Word. It actually releases God's ability on your behalf. I believe that is one of the reasons Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13). He understood the Word conceived inside him and spoken out of his mouth actually set the cornerstone of his life.



Words can kill you. If you don't know what you are doing with words, they can destroy you.

The Bible does not say faith comes by reading. No, it says faith comes by hearing. **In order to hear something, it must be spoken.**



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God's Method Works

Why is creative power released inside you when you speak God's Word out of your mouth? This is essentially what God told Joshua back under the Old Covenant when He said, "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, *that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success*" (Joshua 1:8).

Do you want to make your way prosperous? Do you want to know the key, the secret, of being successful in life? It is to do exactly what God told Joshua to do—keep the Word of God in your mouth.

Jesus Had Great Faith

Have you ever wondered why Jesus had such great faith? Jesus had great faith because He spoke only that which He heard His Father say. When He did, it caused faith to come. Faith that is in God's Word gets into your spirit when you speak it.

The Bible does not say faith comes by reading. No, it says faith comes by hearing. In order to hear something, it must be spoken. It's more powerful when you hear it spoken out of your mouth because you receive what *you* say more readily than you receive what someone else says. The words you speak affect you more than anyone else. You may get some faith by hearing me speak the Word of God. But faith will come to you more quickly if you speak it out of your mouth. That's why God told Joshua to keep His words in his mouth day and night. In other words Joshua was to keep saying what God said.

When Satan came against Jesus,

tempting Him in the wilderness, Jesus responded by speaking only what His Father said. He said, "It is written..." (See Matthew 4:4, 7 and 10.) This is how you get highly developed in the God kind of faith.

Planting Seed

Speaking what God says does several things. When you speak the Word out of your mouth, you are planting a seed. And not only that, but "faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17). The more you speak the Word, the more you believe it. The more you believe the Word, the more you speak it.

In 2 Corinthians 4:13 Paul said: "We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak."

Paul was quoting Psalm 116:10 which says in part, "I believed, therefore have I spoken." Then he said, "We also believe, and therefore speak." In other words, what you believe, you will speak. But even if you don't believe the Word, if you speak it long enough, you will eventually believe it, and then you'll be bold to speak it. It is God's cycle for producing faith as well as planting seed for harvest.

This is the way you get the process going. It's in your mouth, then it's in your heart. When it's in your heart in abundance, it will stay in your mouth. For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. You can usually locate people and tell where they are spiritually by the words they speak. Just hang around them a few minutes, and that which is abundantly in their heart always shows up in their mouth.

Sometimes they don't like what's in their mouth. I remember a man who was working for me on the farm many years ago. One day he came out with some curse words. Then he slapped his hand over his mouth and said, "Oh, I don't talk that way."

What he meant was that he didn't intend to talk that way around me. But what was in his heart got in his mouth.

Whatever is in your heart will always tell on you. If you are in doubt, fear or unbelief, you will talk about it. If you are in faith, you will talk faith.

Jesus said the kingdom of God is "as if a man should cast seed into the ground" (Mark 4:26). You need to understand that: God is not sowing your seed for you. It's not going to manifest for you just because it's in the Bible and you happened to read it.

When you speak the word of promise out of your mouth, it is picked up by the *inter* ear and planted into the heart.

The Heart Is a Garden

The heart is the garden spot. It is the soil which God has provided for you to produce whatever you need in life.

In Eden, Adam had a garden which God gave him to keep. It was called the Garden of Eden. It supplied everything Adam needed. But Adam failed to protect and keep it. He allowed Satan access and he polluted it. But Jesus came and restored the garden. Now it abides within believers. Jesus said the kingdom is within you. And now the born-again human spirit which is in you is like a garden which will produce everything you need in this life.

Your spirit is capable of leading you to anything you need. It has the wisdom to lead you, for your spirit is in contact with God's Spirit. God's Spirit knows all about God. The Apostle Paul talked about this in 1 Corinthians 2:11-12: "For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God."

Paul is saying that you don't know all about you, but your spirit does. The human spirit knows all about you. No man knows all about me, but my spirit does. No man knows all about God, but the Holy Spirit does. And if you can get those two spirits together, you tap the source of all knowledge. Your spirit will search the avenues of God's wisdom and find a way to get confessions from the Word of God and cause it to come to pass in your life.

So many today have not understood the power of their words. God's words are the *most powerful things in the universe and you have the ability to give voice to His words*. John 1:1-3 says, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.... All things were made by him [Word]; and without him was not any thing made that was made."

We have the authority to speak God's words after Him. There is no authority exercised without words. And God has given us authority over the devil. Hardly anything can be done without words.

It is time we give more thought to the words we speak. We should do as David did, and ask God to set a watch over our mouths and keep the door of our lips (Psalm 141:3).

We must realize that God knew what He was talking about. If we will do what He said, we will have what He said we could have. Don't be a hearer only, but also a doer of God's Word. The Word of God is good news. It is the gospel, and it is the power of God unto deliverance, preservation, healing and soundness. VICTORY

Charles Capps is president and founder of Charles Capps Ministries and hosts a nationwide radio and television ministry, *Concepts of Faith*. For more information or ministry materials write to Charles Capps Ministries, P.O. Box 69, England, AR 72046, call 501-842-2576, or go to www.charlescapps.com.

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I believe one of the most important things God has called us to do is to meet together. Back in 1968, God told me, *I want you to conduct meetings where people can totally immerse in the Word of God.* He showed me exactly how to conduct them and that there were believers out there—believers like you—who had a strong hunger to lock in to His Word.

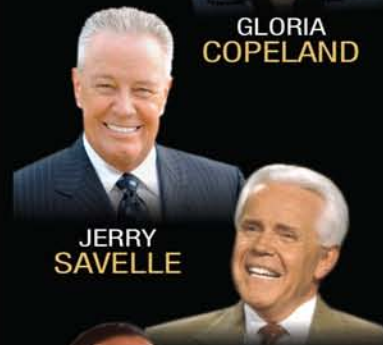
—Kenneth Copeland

SPEAKERS



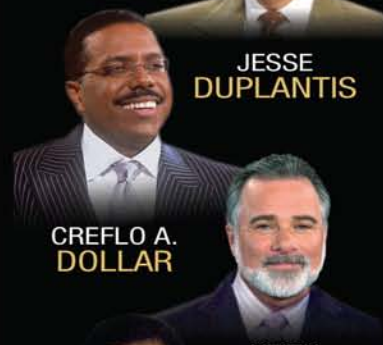
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“A melody bubbled up inside me and I penned the words to ‘Without Him.’”

Without Him

Sorrow washed over Mylon Le Fevre in staggering waves as he stepped into his living room. He froze at the sight of the indentations in the carpet where furniture had once rested. Staring up at the mirror that rose over the fireplace to the ceiling, he saw the reflection of what his life had become. | Empty.

Empty rooms, empty walls and empty bank accounts—the results of a failed marriage. He held his head in his hands as if to ward off the pain that threatened to tear him apart. *How could this have happened?*

His marriage had survived his fame as a songwriter, singer and rock star. It had survived when he'd walked away from his family's Southern gospel roots. It had survived infidelity, drug addiction and overdoses that almost killed him.

Now, 17 years after he had walked away from all that and totally committed his life to Jesus, she didn't want to be married to a preacher. He'd given up his Christian band and answered the call of God to teach and preach Jesus to a hurting world. The anointing on his life and ministry was the strongest it had ever been. If his marriage had withstood all those years of hell, why did it fall apart when they finally had a little bit of heaven on earth?

Because of the gospel.

Mylon Le Fevre hadn't been much threat to the devil since, as a teenager, he'd penned the words to "Without Him," the song both Elvis Presley and Johnny Cash had recorded and made famous. But now that he was preaching the Word of God, he'd risen to the top of the devil's most-wanted list. Strange that his last band had been named Mylon and Broken Heart. Back then, he thought he knew what a broken heart felt like. Today the pain hit him in a new and deeper way.

Lifting his arms toward his Father, Mylon wept as never before.

Roots of Rejection

"I was the youngest son of the singing Le Fevre

family," Mylon explains. "My family sang Southern gospel, and as soon as I could stretch my little fingers around the frets I learned to play the ukulele, and eventually guitar and bass. I recorded my first record at the age of 12.

"My dad formed one of the first Christian recording companies and the first nationally syndicated gospel television show. Because of my parents' demanding touring schedule, I was bounced from one boarding school to another. A turning point came when I was a sophomore at a famous Christian academy in South Carolina. When I auditioned for a class in voice, I was told my vocal style was unacceptable and I wasn't allowed to sing in the choir!

"The school also confiscated my parents' music and forbade me to listen to it. They called it 'Jesus Jazz.' Things went from bad to worse when my parents came to town to sing a concert. The school officials said I couldn't go. When my dad took me anyway, I was expelled."

That whole experience left Mylon frustrated and angry with religion, but he didn't give up on Jesus. At 17, as a transfer student at West Coast Bible College in Fresno, Calif., he sang in the school choir, and wrote music and lyrics on a regular basis.

Sitting in his room one morning, Mylon meditated on John 15:5: "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."

"A melody bubbled up inside me and I penned the words to 'Without Him,'" he recalled.

Top of the Charts

After graduating from high school in Georgia, Mylon enlisted in the Army. In 1962, while stationed

at Fort Jackson, S.C., he was invited to join his parents and sing at a gospel convention in Memphis. That weekend, Mylon hitchhiked over 600 miles to get there. Onstage, singing "Without Him," he had no way of knowing Elvis Presley was watching. After the concert, Elvis asked to meet Mylon.

Presley later recorded "Without Him," and it soared

to the top of the gospel charts. Within a short time, more than 120 other artists recorded songs Mylon had written.

After his discharge from the Army, Mylon joined the Stamps Quartet. Two years later, his father wooed him back, saying, "You're a Le Fevre, you belong with us." But a few years later, Mylon's father fired him because his sideburns were too long.

At a time when the Beatles competed for supremacy over Elvis, Mylon desired nothing more than to write and sing contemporary music that gave glory to God. But there seemed to be no place for him or his music in his family or the Church.

The Sorrow of Success

Mylon started a band and recorded an album with three of the musicians who would later form the group, Atlanta Rhythm Section. Eventually, he toured with some of the world's top musicians, including George Harrison, Eric Clapton, Ron Wood, Allen Toussaint, Mick Fleetwood, Alvin Lee, Steve Winwood, Felix Pappalardi, Mark Farner, Kerry Livgren and Little Richard. Many others either sang or played on his records.

Despite his success, rejection and conviction gnawed at Mylon. Although he never produced an album that did not include at least one song that gave glory to God, most Christians in the 1960s rejected his style of music.

"The call on my life was to write and sing contemporary Christian rock music, but because it had not been done before, no platform existed," Mylon said. "I was in no man's land. While the Church was playing my records backward and telling me I needed a haircut, the world was offering me respect, fame and fortune to do the only thing I had ever



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dreamed of. But the more successful I was in the world, the more conviction I felt. I started getting high to deal with the stress and fit in. Before long I was addicted to cocaine and heroin and saw no way to get free. Ashamed and brokenhearted, I lost the confidence to pray."

The Prodigal Returns

After a near-fatal overdose in 1973, Mylon knew he needed to be freed from his addictions, and that his only hope was in God.

In 1980, he attended a concert by the group, 2nd Chapter of Acts. Buck Herring, the group's leader, had been praying for Mylon for years. Their long hair, great music and Christ-centered lives made it clear they weren't concerned with outward appearances, but with issues of the heart. They weren't singing *about* Jesus; but *to* Him. They had what Mylon had been looking for all his life.

Mylon had never experienced the presence of God in such a powerful way. In that atmosphere, he made a startling discovery.

I had accepted Jesus as my Savior years before, but I had never trusted Him to be Lord of everything in my life—career, relationships, money, hopes and dreams!

Instead of trying to get clean enough to return to God, Mylon ran to Him. There, in an encounter with love and forgiveness, he was set free from drugs forever!

Free at last, Mylon quit rock and roll and returned to his home church where he worked cleaning toilets while attending Bible school. His first challenge was to get out of his music contract which, according to the terms, could only be broken "by an act of God." Mylon's attorney argued that being born again is an act of God and won the case. In return for release from his contract, Mylon agreed to give up all future royalties on his songs, publishing and recordings.

Fulfilling the Call

Within months, he started a new band, Mylon and Broken Heart, which over the next 13 years led more than 200,000 young people to receive Jesus as Lord of their lives.

"Although I was finally doing what God had called me to do, years of drug use had taken a toll on my health," Mylon recalls. "After a heart attack in 1989, doctors told me I should resign from the band and rest for what remained of my life."

Familiar with the Word, yet blinded by religious

tradition, Mylon withdrew to fast and pray, and seek God's will regarding his healing. During that time, through an encounter orchestrated by God, Mylon met Kenneth and Gloria Copeland.

In obedience to the Lord, they spent hours going through the Bible teaching him what God had to say about health, sickness and disease. Finally, Kenneth and Gloria laid hands on Mylon and commanded his heart to be made whole.

"They taught me so well," Mylon says, "that even though my symptoms persisted for 10 months, I learned to say *only* what God said, confessing to everyone I met that I was healed. When my insurance company required more tests, the results stunned my doctors. They confirmed God's Word—I had been healed!"

"It was obvious God had brought Kenneth and Gloria into my life for a purpose and that I needed their loving leadership and teaching. So, in 1995, I moved to Texas. Imagine my excitement when I learned Jesus provided not only for my healing but also for my prosperity! I pored over the Word of God until I got the revelation for myself.

"By this time, I had given up the band and accepted the call of God on my life to preach the gospel. Everything looked great...until my marriage fell apart."

Taking a Stand

Standing in the living room, sobbing, Mylon looked around his empty home. It was too big for him to rattle around in alone. Besides, after the finances were settled he didn't think he could afford to keep it.



Mylon Le Fevre has appeared in two of the *Commander Kellie* and the *Superkids*SM live-action movies, *Armor of Light* (1995) and *Judgment: The Trial of Commander Kellie* (1999).

In *Armor of Light*, he appeared with waist-length, black hair as Bartholomew Darkmaster—an evil, leather-clad leader bent on recruiting kids into his corrupt motorcycle gang, the Heathens. Before long he met his match: Daniel Lyons (Kenneth Copeland)—a motorcycle-loving pastor who had a timely, life-giving word for Darkmaster, his *brother*.

A few years later, Le Fevre appeared in *Judgment: The Trial of Commander Kellie* as a reformed, renewed, saved, healed and free Darkmaster. He joined Commander Kellie, the Superkids and Daniel Lyons again, this time defending not only the Commander, but also his new school, an outreach to outcasts and troubled youth—the same group he once recruited for his gang. VICTORY

He started a new band, **Mylon and Broken Heart**, which over the next 13 years led more than 200,000 young people to receive Jesus as Lord of their lives.

We're here for you!

Called to Partnership

God has given each of us gifts and talents for a reason: to fulfill His call on our lives. Mylon Le Fevre's God-given musical talent was great, but after years of personal struggle, he realized that without God he could do nothing. To fulfill the call on his life, he had to go to another level in music and ministry.

God had Kenneth and Gloria Copeland *right there*, ready to partner with him, filling him with the Word and the encouragement he needed. And since then, God has blessed the world even more through the mighty musical gifts—and ministry gifts—of Mylon Le Fevre.

Kenneth and Gloria's call from God is here for you, too, as a believer—to join them in partnership just as Mylon and Christi did—to help develop your faith and fulfill your call. Are you ready to accept that partnership, to go to the next level in *your* ministry?

Praying about it one day, the Lord spoke to him: *Son, when you asked Me if you should buy this house and I said yes, I knew then what was coming. Remember, I cause ALL things to work together for the good of those who truly love Me and are called according to My purpose. So relax in My love and trust Me, for I am your God!*

For the next few months, Mylon felt like he was holding on by his fingernails as his income dwindled and bills mounted. Most of his meetings were cancelled as news of the divorce became public. This was where the rubber met the road. Everything Mylon had learned about prosperity was put to the test.

"In the natural, there didn't seem to be any way I could survive financially," Mylon says. "But I knew what the Bible said about prosperity, so I guarded every word, speaking only what God said.

"I couldn't imagine how God could turn my finances around, but I stood firm in faith as weeks stretched into months."

Behind Closed Doors

Later, Mylon learned that at the very moment he'd been weeping in his living room, a business deal was being brokered clear across the country. The executives in charge of Elvis Presley's estate had decided it was time for Elvis to go digital, and cut a deal for his gospel songs to be released on CD.

"It was as though Elvis had been raised from the dead," Mylon says. "God had used Elvis to make 'Without Him' a hit, and once again He was using the late singer to bring the harvest His Word had promised."

God may have used Elvis twice to help Mylon financially, but He used Kenneth and Gloria Copeland in an even more miraculous way to get a sick man healed and teach him how to believe God for miracles.

Instead of selling his home, Mylon hired one of Dallas' top interior designers to help refurnish it. What started as a professional, working relationship turned into a friendship which gradually became much more. April 5, 1998, Kenneth Copeland joined Mylon and Christi in holy matrimony. This month they celebrate 10 years traveling together, preaching and teaching the restoring power of faith in the Word of God.

Mylon Le Fevre has experienced many things since he was a teenage songwriter, but one thing has never changed. When it comes to Jesus, Mylon can still do nothing without Him. VICTORY

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A young couple is shown in a garden setting. The woman, with blonde hair, is wearing a blue denim jacket over a green top and is smiling. The man, with dark hair, is wearing a light blue shirt and is also smiling. They are both looking down at a bed of yellow and pink flowers in the foreground. In the background, there is a wooden fence and some greenery.

From Couch Potatoes to Conquerors

8 Steps to Keeping Your Spirit in Shape

It's easy to get lazy about spiritual things. | Have you ever noticed that? It's easy to get so preoccupied with the day-to-day business of life that you let the truths you've received from God slip away.

You don't have to jump into some kind of major sin to lose ground spiritually. You don't even have to get rebellious. All you have to do is nothing!

It's easy. It is also dangerous.

The truth is, it's usually not the great revelations you haven't heard yet that are causing you to be defeated in certain areas of your life. It's failing to live by the things you know.

If you want to live in victory, you have to keep yourself spiritually active. You have to keep feeding your spirit with the Word of God. You have to continually be filled with the Holy Spirit.

That's right, *continually* filled. It's not enough to get baptized in the Holy Ghost once and expect that one experience to keep you on fire for Jesus the rest of your life. That's why in Ephesians 5:18, the Apostle Paul says, "Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit." In the Greek, that phrase says literally "be being filled with the Holy Spirit."

Be filled. Keep yourself overflowing. Sounds like a tall order, doesn't it?

It is, but in the book of 2 Timothy, Paul tells us how we can accomplish it. He outlines some very important steps that will keep us moving forward in the overcoming power of God.

1. Be strong in grace.

First of all, Paul instructs us to "be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 2:1). What is grace and what does it do? Titus 2:11-12 tells us, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, *teaching us* that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world."

Grace teaches us. It teaches us how to live in freedom in this world.

Whenever the Spirit of God corrects you, whenever He points out a mistake you're making or speaks to you about something you're doing that is grieving Him, don't be mad. Be glad! It's the grace of God teaching you something to make your life better.

Grow strong in that grace by spending time every day in prayer. Live each day expecting the Spirit of God to counsel and instruct you about the things in your life—big and small.

Expect to hear from Him. If you don't, you won't be listening for Him. And if you're not listening for Him, you're not likely to hear Him because He speaks in a still, small voice. His words are quiet words. They're not overwhelming words. If you don't have

a spiritual ear tuned to heaven, you'll miss them.

So, every morning of your life spend time praying in the spirit, talking to the Father and reminding yourself the Holy Ghost is inside you, constantly teaching and guiding you. Become strong in the grace of God.

2. Endure hardness.

Next, Paul said, "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ" (2 Timothy 2:3). In other words, get tough.

Tests and trials will come your way in this life. Don't falter and quit when they do. Don't put down your shield of faith.

Instead, when the enemy puts pressure on you, get more aggressive with your faith than ever. Do more—not less. Spend more time in prayer, more time in the Word. Speak twice as many words of victory!

When hardship comes, endure it. Stand on your faith. And refuse to let the devil talk you out of believing God's Word.

3. Don't get entangled.

"No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier" (2 Timothy 2:4).

You and I have been called to live the high life in Christ Jesus, not to be tied down to this natural realm. But all too often we allow ourselves to become tangled in the temporary affairs of this world instead. We allow those entanglements to drag us into defeat.

Don't let that happen to you. Simplify your life. If you don't have time for God, make time. Don't let your career, your family or anything else keep you from going on with God.

One thing I can promise you: Every part of your life will be more blessed if you take time to listen to God. There is nothing you can do that is better than hearing from heaven.

Before I consider taking on any new activity, I always ask myself, "Can I afford it?" Not can I afford it financially,

Salvation Prayer

If you do not know

Jesus

as your Savior & 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 prom-
ised, and for being Lord over
my life. Amen.

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prayer, please contact us
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but can I afford it spiritually? Can I give time to this activity and still keep my priority time with God? If not, I can't afford it.

There's only one thing you absolutely can't afford to do without—and that's your time spent in prayer and in the Word of God. It is your very life. It is where your victory lies. You may forget that, but Satan never does. He'll constantly be sending time-stealers your way. So be alert and don't get entangled in them. Make the time you spend with God your first priority every day.

4. Remember the Resurrection.

"Constantly keep in mind Jesus Christ, the Messiah, [as] risen from the dead..." (2 Timothy 2:8, *The Amplified Bible*).

When the devil starts telling you you're defeated, turn the tables on him and say, "You've got that wrong, devil. I'm not defeated, you're defeated. My faith is in the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ."

Satan can't whip you if you keep in mind Christ Jesus is risen from the dead. So, never let yourself lose sight of Him. Continually remind yourself that the power Satan couldn't keep in the grave is the very power that is operating inside you right now. If you'll do that, the devil will never get the best of you.

5. Study the Word.

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

Never quit studying God's Word. Whenever you stop growing in spiritual revelation, you begin to lose what you've already received. It dwindles away on the inside of you.

Have you ever noticed that some people seem to live on a spiritual roller coaster? One day they're on top of the world, excited about the Word, and full of faith... the next day they're in a valley of discouragement. Don't be like that. Instead, get up on the crest of the wave and stay there all the time.

Continual study of the Word of God will enable you to do that. It will keep you steady and consistent in your walk with God because it will constantly feed your faith and keep you strong.

6. Avoid arguments.

"Avoid all empty (vain, useless, idle) talk, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness" (2 Timothy 2:16, *The Amplified Bible*).

Here Paul specifically cites the case of two men arguing over the Resurrection. Those kinds of useless arguments

actually undermine faith and Paul warns us to stay away from them.

Don't get into conflicts with other believers over doctrine. Instead, fellowship with them over the fact Jesus Christ was raised from the dead and is Lord of the universe. If you can't agree on anything else, rejoice in that.

Don't argue with people. Just love them.

7. Fellowship with the faithful.

"Shun youthful lusts and flee from them, and aim at and pursue righteousness...faith, love, [and] peace...*in fellowship with all* who call upon the Lord out of a pure heart" (2 Timothy 2:22, *The Amplified Bible*).

If you want to live in victory, you need to fellowship with people who know God. Don't try to fellowship with the world and live like an overcomer. It won't work.

We get strength from one another. We also get weakness from one another. If you want to grow strong, find someone who is stronger in the Lord than you are and fellowship with them. They'll bring you up.

On the other hand, if you fellowship with people who don't live for God and trust His Word, they'll bring you down. Don't go to a church, for example, where people tell you healing has passed away and then try to live in divine health. You can't do it.

Listen to me now. Your very life depends on whom you fellowship with and where you go to church. Fellowship with people who are strong and walk in power, who preach God's Word and get results when they pray. You'll end up living on a much higher plane.

8. Keep on keeping on.

"But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them" (2 Timothy 3:14).

The only way the devil can actually defeat you is by convincing you to quit. So, don't let him do it.

When Satan comes to knock you down and steal your hope and faith in the Word of God, don't let them go. Hang on. Continue to do the things you know to do. Keep on keeping on!

Remember this. All it takes to lose your grip on the power of God is to get lazy in spiritual things. You don't have to do anything dramatic—all you have to do is nothing.

So beware of taking it easy in the days ahead. Now is not the time to be a spiritual couch potato. It's time to move onward and upward in the overcoming power of God! **VICTORY**

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

BY KENNETH COPELAND

Why should a believer be filled with the Spirit?

A: After you make Jesus Lord of your life, it is the will of God that you experience the fullness of the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 5:18 says, “And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit.” It is the Holy Spirit’s ministry not only to impart the nature of God to the spirit of man at salvation, but to come and live in the new creature. His job is to reveal the exact knowledge of God from the heart of the Father. A believer cannot understand, by his own spirit alone, the profound wisdom of God. This is why Jesus said in John 14:26 that the Father would send us the Comforter to teach us “all things.”

When you receive the Holy Spirit, you receive the ability of God. Acts 1:8 says, “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you.”

The word *power* in that verse is translated *dunamis*, which means ability and might. It is through the energizing force of the Holy Spirit living in us that we are transformed into effective witnesses. So, to be born again and not filled with the Spirit is like being a train without a track.

The ability you receive to pray with your spirit when you are baptized in the Holy Spirit is powerful. It edifies and builds up your spirit man and puts you in contact with the deep things of God (1 Corinthians 14:4, 2:10). It also allows you to pray God’s perfect will apart from your natural understanding and aids you in interceding for others (Romans 8:26-27). And according to Jude 20-21, praying in the spirit strengthens and intensifies your personal relationship with God.

How can I receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit?

A: The promise of receiving the Holy Spirit is for everyone in the Body of Christ because God gave His Spirit to the Church on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:33, 39). As a partaker of your covenant with God, however, you must individually receive what He has given you.

When you ask for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God promises you shall receive. Luke 11:9-13 says:

And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone?... Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

In the Bible, when believers received the Holy Spirit, they began to speak in a heavenly language. Acts 2:4

says, “And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” This is still true today. When you accept the Spirit’s indwelling, your spirit will immediately have a desire to express itself in praise to God. The Holy Spirit will give utterance through you as you give Him permission.

When you pray in tongues, you are praying in the spirit. You are letting the Holy Spirit pray through your spirit. *The Amplified Bible* says in 1 Corinthians 14:14, “My spirit [by the Holy Spirit within me] prays....” Just as English is the voice of your mind, your prayer language is the voice of your spirit.

If you desire the infilling of the Holy Spirit or if you are unsure whether you have received it, say the prayer below:

Father, I am a new creature in Christ. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit to enable me to be a powerful witness of Jesus. I believe I now receive the Holy Spirit just as the disciples did on the Day of Pentecost.

VICTORY

April



Kenneth Copeland



Gloria Copeland

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13	Kenneth Copeland <i>Seeing Past the Natural and Living Through the Spirit</i> There's a world beyond our eyesight, where we must call things that be not as though they were. Discover how operating in this unseen realm will change your life from the inside out.
20	Gloria Copeland <i>Choose to Live by Faith</i> If you want change in your life, you have to give God something to work with— <i>your faith</i> . Learn how you can <i>choose</i> to live by faith today!
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21	22	23	24	25
<i>God's Master Plan for Your Life</i> God will guide you each and every day—and this week, Gloria Copeland shares what happens when you seek Him first and connect with His Master Plan for your life.				
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<i>Staying on Course With God's Plan and Purpose</i> Gloria Copeland shares how everything changed for her and Kenneth when they put God first and gave themselves completely to Him.				

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