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VICTORY



June 2008

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Confident
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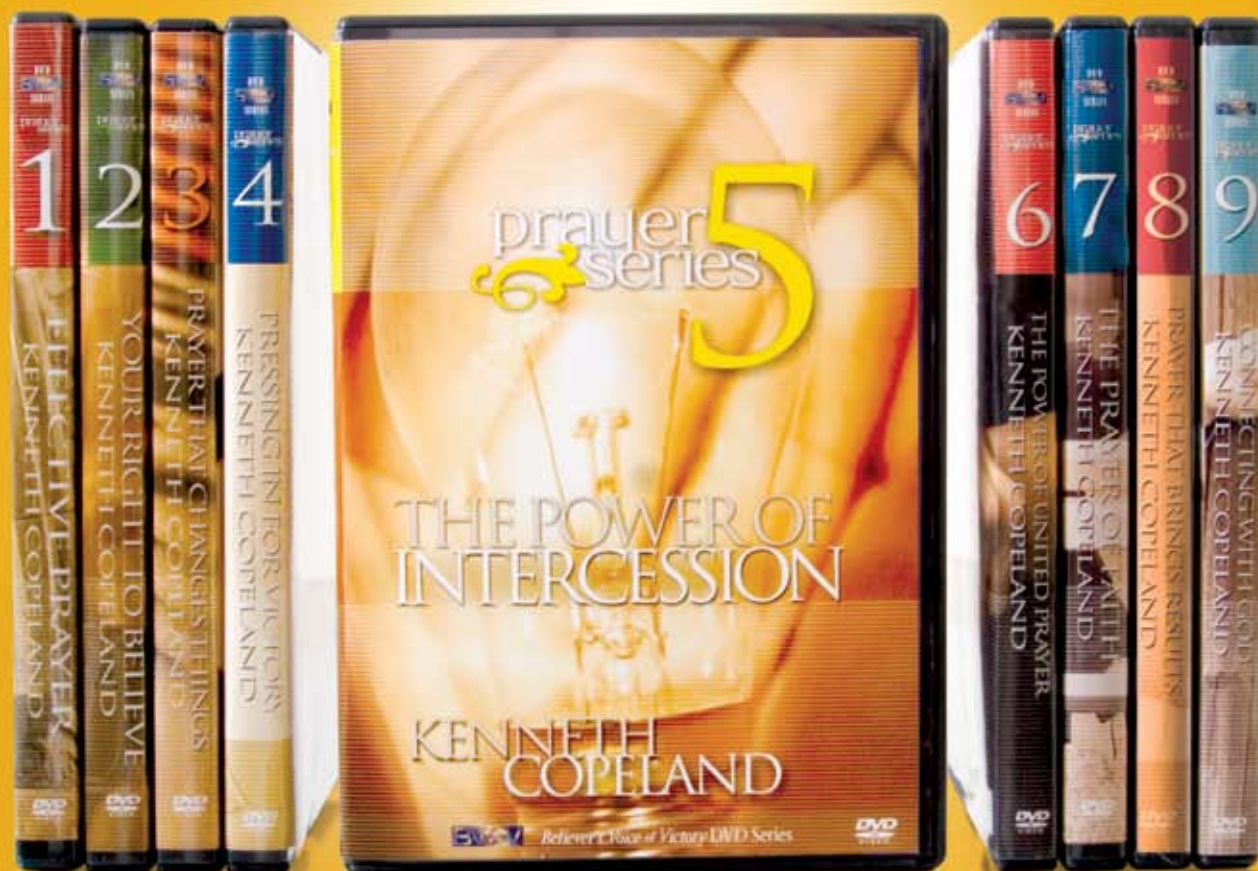
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When the Lord first spoke to us about starting the *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine, He said: *This is your seed. Give it to everyone who ever responds to your ministry, and don't ever allow anyone to pay for a subscription to it.* For 35 years 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.

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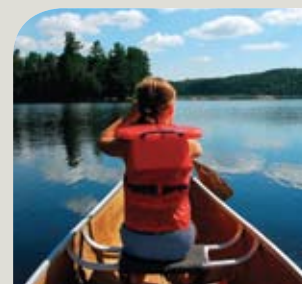
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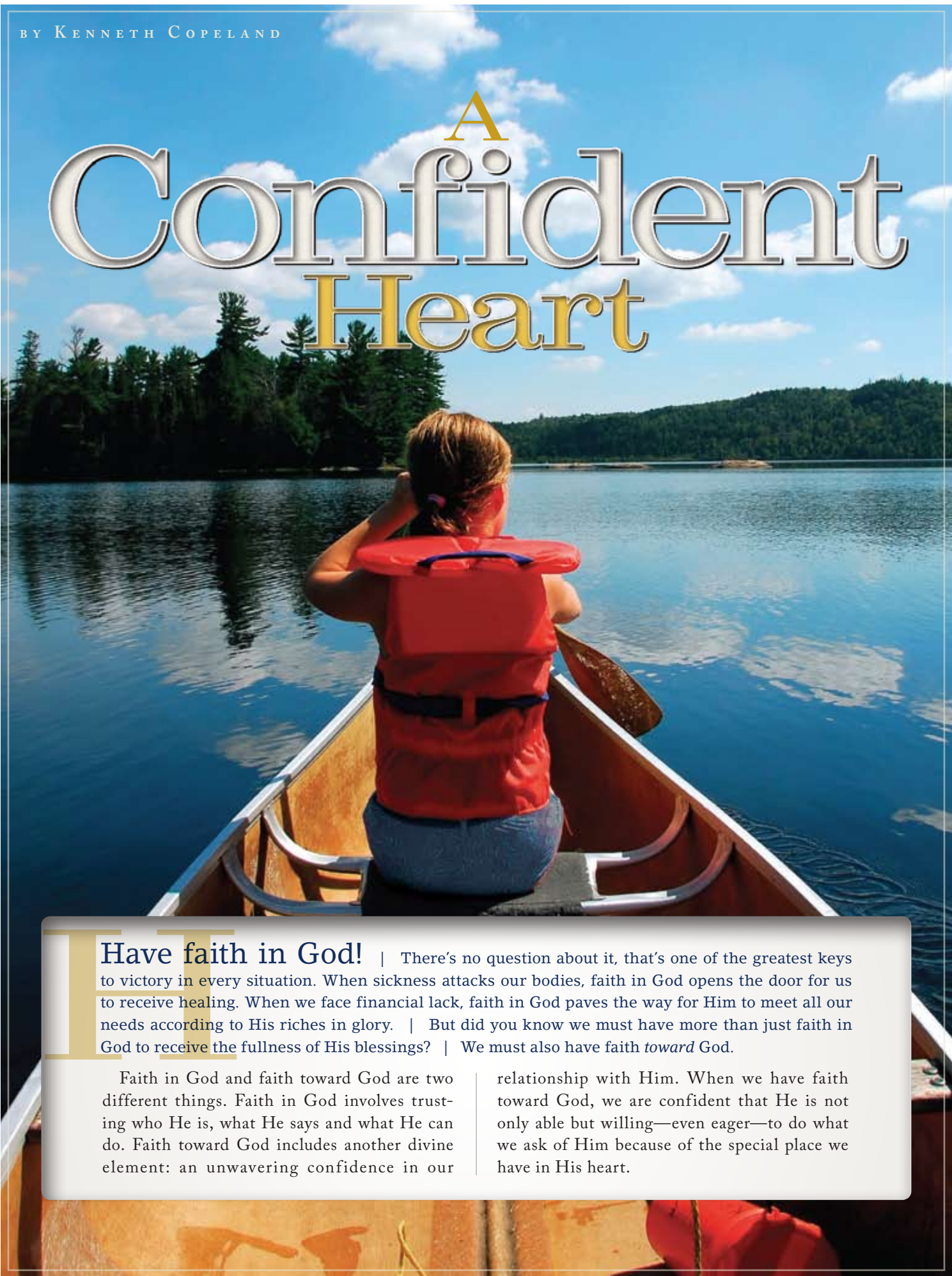
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A Confident Heart



Have faith in God! | There's no question about it, that's one of the greatest keys to victory in every situation. When sickness attacks our bodies, faith in God opens the door for us to receive healing. When we face financial lack, faith in God paves the way for Him to meet all our needs according to His riches in glory. | But did you know we must have more than just faith in God to receive the fullness of His blessings? | We must also have faith *toward* God.

Faith in God and faith toward God are two different things. Faith in God involves trusting who He is, what He says and what He can do. Faith toward God includes another divine element: an unwavering confidence in our

relationship with Him. When we have faith toward God, we are confident that He is not only able but willing—even eager—to do what we ask of Him because of the special place we have in His heart.

When we have faith toward God, we are so assured of His love for us we can walk into His throne room and relax in His presence. We can draw near to Him without the least bit of condemnation and without one iota of self-consciousness. We can bounce into His presence with a smile on our face, full of joy, and say, “Abba! Father! Let’s have a good time together, just You and me!”

Many believers can hardly imagine having that kind of fellowship with God. Even though they love Him, and know He loves them, somewhere lurking in their hearts is a fear that He is still a little bit mad at them. Linger in the back of their minds is a sense of shame that makes them feel condemned in His presence. Because of their past sins and failures, they assume such an attitude is normal. They figure God expects, and perhaps even prefers, for them to feel that way.

But the truth is, that kind of spiritual insecurity hurts God’s heart!

He paid an awesome price to set us free from it. He sent Jesus to the cross to shed His blood so we can walk into the holy of holies with no sin-consciousness at all, and fellowship with Him. He laid down His own life to purchase forgiveness and cleansing for us so instead of groveling like sinners, we can sit beside our heavenly Father as the righteousness of God in Christ.

God gave His all to deliver us from guilt and shame because, as 1 John 3:21-22 says: “Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.”

Stop Arguing and Agree With God!

If you’re like most believers, however, when you read the two verses above, your heart sinks. *Oh, no!* you think. *I can’t have confidence toward God because I don’t always do what’s pleasing in His sight. Sometimes I stumble and mess things up.*

But before you go too far down that track, I want you to notice something. In those scriptures, an uncondemned, confident heart precedes (rather than follows) the keeping of God’s commandments.

That’s because confidence toward God must always come first. It’s what gives us the ability to do the things that please the Lord. It’s understanding His love for us and being free from condemnation that enables us to obey His commandments by loving others.

“But Brother Copeland, how can I be confident toward God when I’ve done so many bad things in my life?” you may ask.

Here’s the secret. Stop viewing yourself in light of past

failures, and start seeing yourself like God does. Instead of focusing on the sins you’ve committed in your life, He sees you the way you were created to be in the beginning: as perfect as Jesus Himself!

In God’s eyes, you are exactly as Ephesians 1 describes you: “blessed...with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:...chosen...in him before the foundation of the world...holy and without blame before him in love.”

“There’s no way anyone could call me holy and without blame—especially God!” you might say.

That would be true if He called you that because of your perfect behavior. But He didn’t. He declared you holy before you ever did anything, either good or bad. He called you blameless *before the foundation of the world*.

To understand how that’s possible you must realize you existed in the mind and heart of God before you were ever created. He knew you before the devil ever got a chance to mess you up. Before time began, He saw you as the pure, perfect child of God He planned for you to be.

He also knew the devil would use sin to try to mess up His plan for you. So before the earth was even created...before Adam and Eve took their first breath...and before the devil ever hatched his demonic plot against them...God put His plan of redemption in place. He established Jesus as the “Lamb slain from the foundation of the world” (Revelation 13:8). He redeemed you...and me...and all who would ever receive Jesus as Lord “with the precious blood of Christ” (1 Peter 1:19).

God didn’t wait until after you sinned to redeem you. He did it before you were even born. He put His redemption plan in place and declared you righteous, holy and blameless before time began. All of that came rushing into your innermost being when you accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

So stop arguing with Him and start agreeing with Him! Instead of seeing yourself in the light of your old, sinful past, start seeing yourself like God does—with old things passed away and all things become new (2 Corinthians 5:17). That’s the secret to developing a confident heart.

No More Mr. Mistake

“But what if my past isn’t my only problem?” you might ask. “What if I still have sin in my life today?”

Don’t beat yourself up about it. Instead, repent and get rid of it by doing what 1 John 1:9 tells you to do. Confess your sin and believe God is faithful and just to forgive you of it and to cleanse you from all unrighteousness.

I learned how to do that years ago when I was working for my spiritual father, Brother Oral Roberts. He has a confidence toward God that keeps him untroubled by the kind of condemnation that plagues so many believers. One day I

found out why. He looked at me, smiled real big and said, “Do you know that I’ve never made a mistake?”

I had no idea what he was driving at, but I wasn’t about to contradict him. “Uh...is that right, sir?” I said. “You never made a mistake?”

He grinned at me again, his Cherokee eyes dancing. “I did a lot of things that turned out to be mistakes, but I never got up in the morning and said, ‘You know, I think I’ll make myself a mistake today.’”

Then he got right in my face and made his point. “Kenneth, once you’ve made Jesus Christ the Lord of your life, committed yourself to Him, and you are doing your best to obey His Word and follow Him, you may make mistakes,

you may slip, but that doesn’t change the fact that you have been redeemed.”

That was shouting ground for me because up to that point I’d always seen myself as Mr. Mistake. But from then on, I decided I am Mr. Redeemed!

Entering the Rest

As I’ve discovered since then, that kind of attitude irritates some people. They think we should have to work hard to please God and be confident toward Him—that we must struggle to win His blessings.

But that’s not what the Bible says.

It tells us to enter God’s *rest*.

What is “God’s rest”?

It’s the rest of redemption! It’s the rest that comes when we put our faith not in our own efforts but in the finished work of Christ. It is the rest we enjoy once we dare to believe THE BLESSING God spoke over Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden is operating in our lives today simply because we are in Christ.

Have you ever thought about the fact that once God spoke that blessing on the sixth day of creation, He considered His work done? It’s true! When God said in Genesis 1:28, “Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion,” He released all the power necessary for His perfect will for mankind to be accomplished for all time. Through that blessing He put His plan in motion—the plan that would culminate in our redemption and restoration, bring forth His eternal family, and expand the Garden of Eden through THE BLESSING on that family until it filled the whole earth.

Once that blessing was released, “... God did rest the seventh day from all his works” (Hebrews 4:4). He didn’t intend to rest alone, either. He planned for us to enter into that rest with Him. That’s why Hebrews 4:9-11 says: “There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.”

It’s entering God’s rest that gives us

confidence toward Him. It’s daring to believe we are holy and blameless before Him, not because of anything we’ve done but because of what He did for us before the world began, that gives us the confidence to bound into the throne room of grace, and say, “Good morning, Heavenly Father! I’ve come to sit here and visit with You awhile. I’d like to just watch You run the universe and learn a little about how You do it!”

A Lesson From Einstein

If you think we shouldn’t say that kind of thing to God, think again. That’s exactly the kind of fellowship He wants with us. One person who discovered that was a little, silver-haired gentleman named Albert Einstein.

When he started coming up with his “theories,” the scientific community got so mad at him they totally ostracized him. They couldn’t understand how he was getting his information. After all, they’d been to the best schools. They were supposed to be the smartest people around, but somehow Einstein was outsmarting them.

When they asked him how he came up with his theories (which, of course, turned out to be true) he told them he would just sit for long periods of time with a tablet in his lap (and a Bible, as people learned later). He’d say, “God, let me come up there with You and look down on this universe so You can show me how You made it.”

Most people consider that kind of thinking sacrilege, but God doesn’t. That’s what He has wanted all along. He always planned for us to come up there with Him and see things through His eyes. He “hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus” (Ephesians 2:6) for that very purpose!

But we can’t fulfill that purpose as long as we’re hanging back from God, hiding behind the throne-room door feeling unrighteous and ashamed. No, we must be able to relax in God’s presence and enjoy His company. We must have the confidence that comes from entering His rest.

I don’t mind telling you, I haven’t always had that confidence because I grew up hearing religious folks tell me I wasn’t good enough for God’s company. For years, they told me I would never amount to anything, and I believed it.

Even after I got saved, I still thought that way because of my sinful past. I’d been born again several years before someone told me I was a new creature in Christ Jesus and those old things had passed away. When I finally found it out, I got so excited I could hardly stand it.

Oh dear heavens! I thought. *I’m a joint heir with Christ Jesus! When I come to God, I come in His righteousness, His Name, His blood, His Word, His life, His Spirit, His past*

and His future. My past is gone! God doesn’t hold it against me anymore because it doesn’t exist!

Get With God’s Program

Even after I got that revelation, I still found myself stumbling at times over the old, religious mind-set I grew up with. It takes awhile to renew our minds and get totally with God’s program. I was reminded of that a few years ago when I got irritated with a bunch of folks who were just too rowdy and happy to suit me. I wanted to be spiritual and they were bothering me by whooping, dancing and hollering all over the place.

That’s enough of that! I thought. *Why can’t they just calm down and be quiet?*

About that time, I heard the voice of the Lord in my spirit. *Kenneth, did you know if it hadn’t been for sin, I would never have had a serious thought?*

Hub? I thought, certain I hadn’t heard Him right.

It’s the truth! He said. *If it weren’t for sin, there’d be nothing to be serious about. We would have just had a party every weekend. If you doubt it, look at the feasts I prepared in the Old Covenant. I commanded My people back then to have fun, shout and make a lot of noise!*

It was unbelieving, heathen Christians who didn’t know anything about My Word, about the Old Covenant and about Me, who decided to be sad about this whole thing. They’re the ones who thought it was spiritual to cry and wear a long face at church.

Of course, I don’t mind you being sorry when you sin, but don’t stay that way. Repent for your sin, get rid of it and get right back in fellowship with Me!

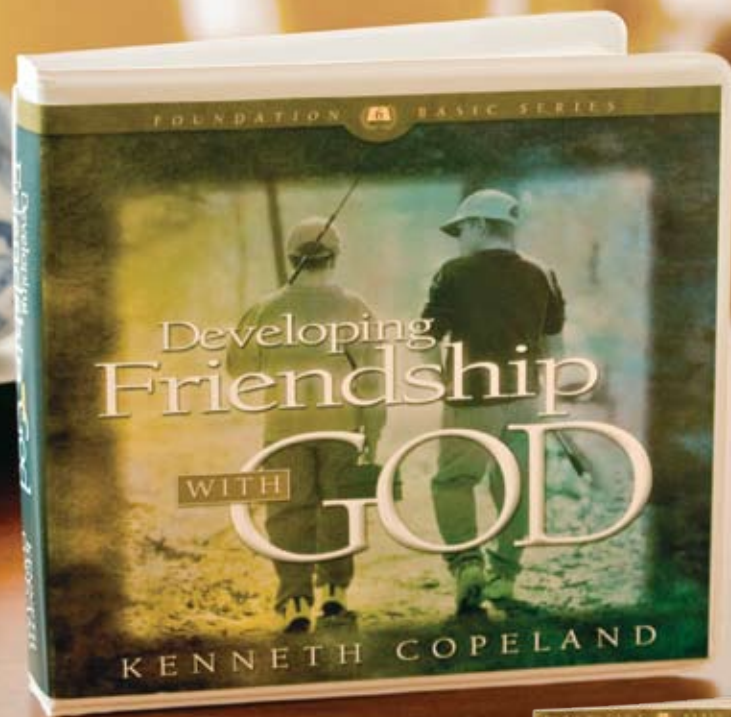
That revelation changed my attitude. I began to realize that if I keep repentance at hand, God and I can have a big time together. If I quit majoring on my failures and shortcomings and focus instead on the love God has for me, I can spend the rest of my life—and all eternity—enjoying the kind of relationship the Apostle John wrote about in 1 John 1:3-4, where he said: “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. And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.”

You can have that kind of relationship, too. If you’ll enter God’s redemption rest, you can have more than just faith in Him, you can have faith toward Him. You can have the kind of unshakeable confidence that sends you bouncing into His throne room, grinning from ear to ear, and shouting, “Abba! Father!”

And when it comes to living in His Blessing, that confidence makes all the difference. **VICTORY**

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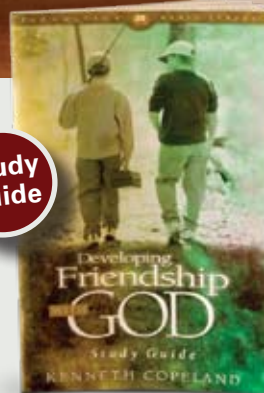
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Study Guide



Our obedience to follow what the Holy Spirit says is the defining characteristic of a child of God.

“Here we are at the second time I’ve ever ridden my bike without training wheels. Sir, would you please show them around?”

Dad slowly panned the camera from left to right, revealing the expansive parking lot. Then I said something that really stood out: “This will be pretty hard, but I can do it without help.”

Whenever I watch that video, those words jump out at me. The reason? From learning to tie our shoes to cleaning our rooms, as children we thrive on our rise to independence. And it’s always accompanied by great praise.

At some point while growing up, the concept of “I can ride my bike...brush my teeth...tie my shoes without help” turned into “I can have this relationship...study the Word...operate this marriage without help.”

As adults, our wheels are spinning in the *I can do this on my own* trench without realizing that it is a prideful, childish concept that we have held onto for dear life.

GROWING UP, PUTTING AWAY

Following his masterful description of love, in 1 Corinthians 13:11 the Apostle Paul said something very profound: “When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things” (*New King James Version*).

Paul didn’t say, “When I became a man, I *grew out of* childish things.” He said he “*put away* childish things.”

Once we become adults, there are things you and I grow out of. But there are other things we have been holding onto for a long time...and it’s time to make a conscious decision to put those childish things away as well.

My mom still has clothes I wore when I was 5 years old, but they’re in boxes because they don’t fit me anymore. We had to take those clothes out of my closet and put them away. In the same way, this prideful concept of *I can do it on my own...I can do it without your help* doesn’t fit us anymore.

SENDING HELP

Jesus knew you and I would need help. He said, “...without Me you can do nothing” (John 15:5, *NKJV*). He knew we would need *Him*. The good news is He didn’t leave us high and dry. Of course, at the time, the disciples weren’t so sure about that. John 16:5-7 (*NKJV*) records the moment when Jesus told His disciples that

He was leaving: “Now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away...if I depart, I will send Him to you.”

Jesus said He was leaving and His disciples didn’t even ask where He was going. I think I’d be hung up on the fact that He was *leaving*! But Jesus had it all planned out. He said, “It’s to your advantage if I go, because I’ll send you help.” The disciples didn’t really grasp what He was saying at that point, but it was profound. God was sending help for them—for us—the promise of the Holy Spirit.

Yet, often we pray just like the disciples probably did when He first left. “Jesus, if You were just here everything would be OK.” But Jesus has already taken care of things. He sent the Holy Spirit, our Helper.

OUR TOUR GUIDE

The Holy Spirit is also our Guide. Jesus said, “When He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth...” (John 16:13, *NKJV*). Pastor Rick Renner has said that in the original Greek, the word *guide* in that scripture is where we get the idea of a *tour guide*.

Awhile back a friend and I went on a bicycle tour of Washington, D.C. Our tour guide not only knew about the major sites, but he also knew the ins and outs of the city. He knew how to get us where we were going despite heavy traffic. We wouldn’t have known that, but he did, because he had given the same tour over and over. He knew things about this nation’s capital that most people don’t know.

In John 16:13, Jesus was saying, “I am sending you a Guide like no other. He is Someone who knows all the ins and outs of any challenge you might face. He’s been where you’re going. He knows what’s around every corner. He knows every pitfall. He has been there, done that, and all you have to do is listen to Him. Then you’ll get to your destination safely and quickly. He is *the* Tour Guide.”

Without the influence, the consistent involvement and the voice of the Holy Ghost in our lives, we are lost. We *need* His help and guidance.

THREE STEPS TO RECEIVING HELP

So, how can we make sure we’re listening to our Guide and following His lead?

PUTTING AWAY

childish things

When I was 6, I learned to ride my bike without training wheels. To record this momentous occasion, my dad loaded me and my bicycle into the car and drove to an empty parking lot. I remember this well because we have the whole thing on videotape. | Dad didn’t just shoot simple home videos, he made full-fledged productions. He began with the “pre-bicycle-riding-without-training-wheels” interview. | “OK, Jeremy, tell me about this.” | I played along.

Although we have been led to believe Christians are the minority, we are not!



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First, we need to *stop*. Psalm 46:10 (NKJV) says, "Be still, and know that I *am* God...." If you read the nine verses before that, you'll see that the psalmist paints a very dire picture of everything falling to pieces—and then he says, "Be still." *Stop*.

If you're a real go-getter, you might have a hard time stopping. You may like momentum and getting things done, but the Lord is telling us to take a break. It takes discipline, but He wants us to *stop* running this rat race for a moment.

Next, God wants you to *ask* for help. If you find yourself in trouble, you may start quoting scripture, binding things and shouting, "In Jesus' Name!" But don't forget to ask for help. The Holy Ghost is standing there with a name tag on His chest that says, "Hello: My Name is the Holy Spirit. My Name is your Helper. My Name is your Guide, Counselor, Comforter, Standby, Advocate and Intercessor. I am all of this for you, and all you've got to do is ask for My help and it's yours."


Finally, *follow* what He says to do. Romans 8:14 (NKJV) says, "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God." He leads, we follow. Our obedience to follow what He says is the defining characteristic of a child of God.

Stop. Ask. Follow.

THE CHARGE

This is the charge of the Lord to believers today: *Stop. Ask. Follow.* We've been living out of habit, but He wants us to live out of *purpose*. It's time to grow up in the Lord and put childish ways behind us. It's time to be open to His help, guidance and the help of His people. When we do, we'll have learned to ride through life without training wheels, with the comfort of knowing we don't have to ride alone.

VICTORY



From a rich heritage of faith, Jeremy ministers the uncompromised Word of God to congregations at home and around the world. He and his wife, Sarah, passionately believe and preach to believers the simultaneous importance of holding fast to what we have been taught and reaching beyond ourselves to teach those coming behind us. "There are two kinds of legacies: The one you keep and the one you leave."

YOUR OneVote

can change America

BY DAVID BARTON



When it comes to elections, we've all heard or perhaps even made statements like, "I'm only one person, what can my one vote do?" Or, "My vote won't make a difference. As Christians, we're already in the minority."

The fact is, such statements are not true.

The results of one Gallup Poll showed that 84 percent of people surveyed firmly believe in Jesus Christ, while a separate poll indicated 94 percent believe in God. Other polls have had similar findings, leading to the conclusion that although we have been led to believe Christians are the minority, we are not!

Imagine a vote in the U.S. Senate where the final tally is 94 to 6. It would be untenable for the six to be declared the winner and have their policy enacted over the votes of the 94. Yet this is exactly what happened when public acknowledgment of God was prohibited. Unfortunately, this travesty continues on a regular basis. Why? Because we, as Christians, have relinquished our right to be a democratic-republic and have become a nation ruled by a small council of "elite" individuals.

President James Garfield once said: "Now, more than ever before, the people are responsible for the character of their Congress.... 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."

Power in a Single Vote

Proof that it is up to us came in the 1986 Senate races, when five candidates in separate states who stood for returning godly principles to public affairs were defeated by a collective total of 57,000 votes—less than 12,000 votes per state. In those five states, over 5 million Christians did not vote! If only one of every 100 nonvoting Christians (1 percent) had voted for the candidate supporting godly principles, all five would have been elected, thus creating a 10-vote swing in the Senate.

Though disheartening, this report is actually encouraging in that it reveals godly candidates are most often defeated not by activists and radicals, but by inactive Christians! When we, as Christians, begin to believe we can make a difference, and act like the majority we are, we will make a difference. The ability to change the current situation is in our hands.

It is time to believe and behave differently. We are not a minority, but 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 to abrogate the rights of the 94 percent. 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, and we can make a difference!

VICTORY

Your Vote Makes a Difference!

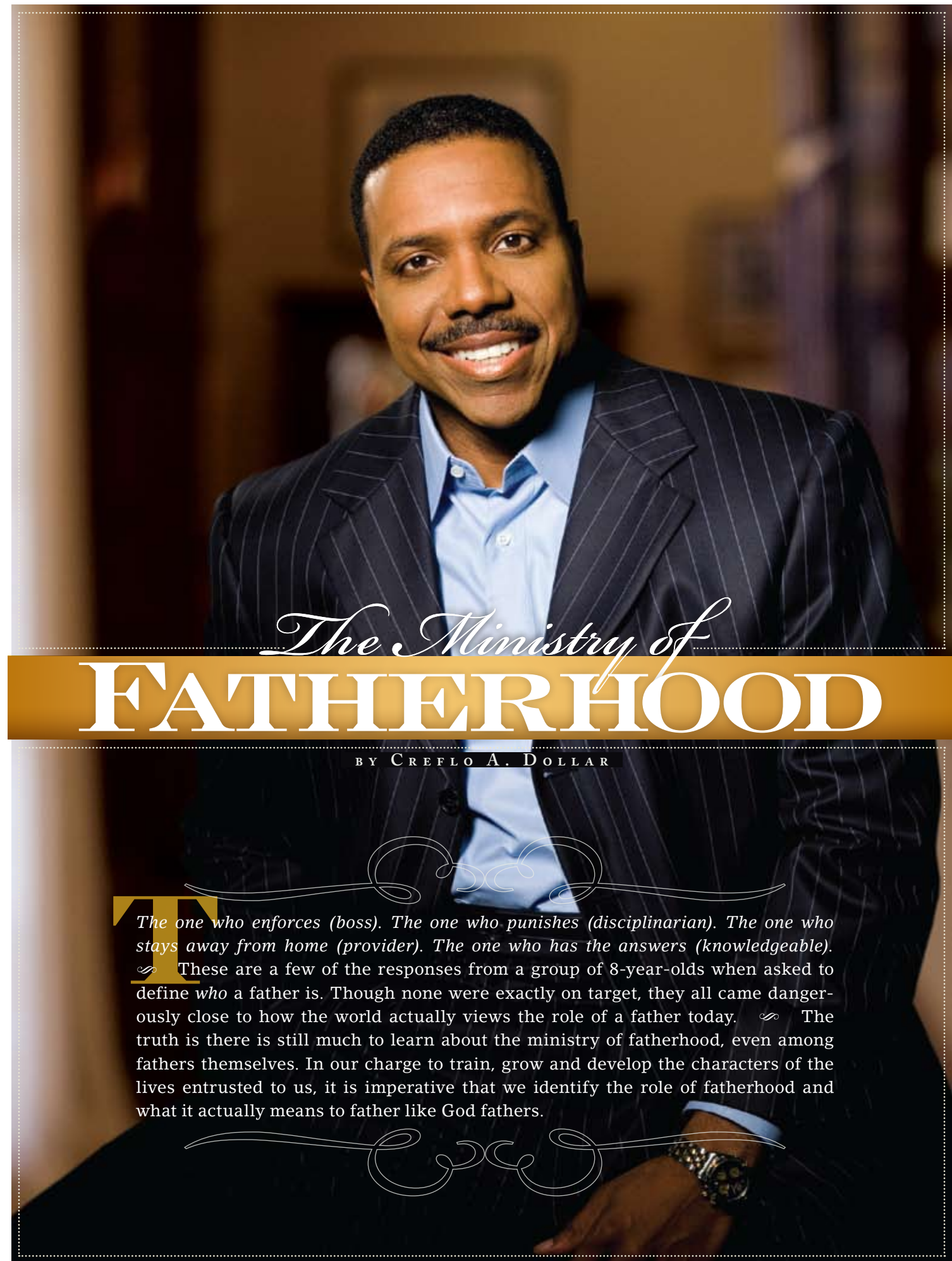
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David Barton is founder and president of WallBuilders, a pro-family organization which seeks to educate grassroots society to rebuild America's constitutional, moral and religious foundations. For more information go to www.wallbuilders.com, call 817-441-6044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



The Ministry of

FATHERHOOD

BY CREFLO A. DOLLAR

T*he one who enforces (boss). The one who punishes (disciplinarian). The one who stays away from home (provider). The one who has the answers (knowledgeable).* These are a few of the responses from a group of 8-year-olds when asked to define *who* a father is. Though none were exactly on target, they all came dangerously close to how the world actually views the role of a father today. The truth is there is still much to learn about the ministry of fatherhood, even among fathers themselves. In our charge to train, grow and develop the characters of the lives entrusted to us, it is imperative that we identify the role of fatherhood and what it actually means to father like God fathers.

As fathers, the first thing to realize is that we're responsible to minister correction, love, grace and mercy to our children.

Fatherhood is a commitment. The very word is rooted in the word *nourisher*, which the dictionary defines as “protector, upholder, guide, teacher, example and trainer.” A father is a counselor and guardian. He strives to preserve the life of those he fathers. He purposes to impart into the lives of his children the principles and oracles of God. Believe me, there is a distinct difference between making babies and fatherhood. Any man with a few minutes to spare can make a baby! That doesn't make him a father. But the ministry of fatherhood is a totally different level of operation.

The Needs of the Children

Last year, in response to a tragedy at one of the nation's colleges, I did a special address to the nation entitled, *Are We Producing Mass Murderers?* In my message I asked the country to ponder this very question. I also addressed the four, basic, human needs: *acceptance, security, identity and purpose*. Watch any national news program and you'll get a clear picture of the current condition of our society—a society that is the progeny of the family unit. We have to ask ourselves, “*Are those four, basic, human needs being met in our own lives?*” If not, we may fail at fulfilling the needs of children we bring into this world. We're responsible for meeting those needs from birth and the rest of our children's lives.

As fathers, the first thing to realize is that we're responsible to minister correction, love, grace and mercy to our children. Proverbs 22:6 says, “Train up a child in the way he should go...and when he is old he will not depart from it” (*The Amplified Bible*). This scripture reveals the importance of applying guidance and wisdom to the lives of our children while they're still teachable. Believe it or not, children look to the actions of their fathers to judge what is right and wrong in their own lives. When we show them by example the importance of applying God's Word, something happens. They see the intimate relationship we cherish with our heavenly Father, and begin to imitate that intimacy. This is far beyond providing only food and shelter.

In addition to meeting their basic needs, we are charged with aiding in the development of their character; ensuring they are well-rounded human beings who contribute *positively* to our society and are able to deal with the issues of life as they arise.

I can remember when I realized that providing food and a good home for my children wasn't enough. My two sons demonstrated loud and clear they needed my time, attention and love. They observed me providing attention, guidance and direction to church matters and members, but failing to do the same at home. They started acting out and doing things that made me wonder if they had lost their minds! I was confused as to why they were acting this way. But, God revealed to me that providing food and shelter *alone* did not fulfill the ministry of *fatherhood* or meet their four, basic, human needs. I had to begin spending quality time with them and let them know, through my actions, they were significant in my life. I also learned to have *date days* with my daughters. If you spend time *dating* your daughters, then you will provide the example of the type of man they should look for. Without you as an example, they'll follow any example they see—whether on television or on the street. Don't let the television *tell-a-vision* to your daughters about the type of man they should date.

Spiritual and Practical

The ministry of fatherhood includes spiritual as well as very practical things. For instance, having a job is an excellent practical example! Why? Because while providing



You can tell me all day how much you love me, but it would impact me much more if I had a full stomach, lived in a clean house and slept in a warm bed.

food and shelter *alone* doesn't necessarily say "I love you," you can't effectively minister *fatherhood* without a job to provide the basic necessities for your children. You can tell me all day how much you love me, but it would impact me much more if I had a full stomach, lived in a clean house and slept in a warm bed. How effective can a father be if he's broke? The bottom line is you can't provide for your children without adequate resources.

Imagine the disappointment a child feels when the only thing they can get from their father is an excuse for why they can't have something. That's not to say you should always give your children whatever they ask for, but having the resources to do it, if you choose, is an aspect of ministering fatherhood.

You might think to yourself, *Well, Pastor Dollar, that's easy for you to say, you have the resources to do whatever you desire for your children!* That may be true, but that doesn't make me special. The Bible says God has made available to every man the same provision. When you live according to God's Word and sow seeds, He'll provide you with more than enough to take care of your family. You won't have to kill yourself working two and three jobs to provide.

On the other hand, don't work so much at that one job that you fail to be a "present" father to your children. I remember when I was growing up, my father would always remind me: "*I work because I love you.*" While I appreciate the fact that he was a good provider, I'm more grateful he played an active part in my life growing up.

Failing as a father is a failure to understand a father's purpose (Psalm 82:5).

Here are some of the basic facts about fatherhood:

Fatherhood is inherent: Whether a man has children or not, his *need* to father will always be there.

A father is *the source that sustains*. It's the true purpose of a man: A man can't be a father without the willingness to uphold that which comes out of him.

A father is the only one who can give a son his identity as a man.

A father realizes the impact he has on his children. You might say, "Well, Pastor Dollar, I never had a father, so where does that leave me?" God promises

The measure of a man's success is directly related to his effectiveness as a godly father, of which God is the ultimate standard.

in John 14:18 that He will not leave you as orphans, meaning comfortless, bereaved or helpless. God will stand in and take the role of father to the fatherless. Psalm 27:10 says that even if your father and mother forsake you, the Lord will step in and be your Father!

There are men who enjoy standing in as fathers. I'm honored to be in a position as a surrogate father, where I'm able to impart into the lives of my spiritual children. When someone refers to me as dad, it touches me because it means they've opened themselves up to say *help me reach my destiny*. The measure of a man's success is directly related to his effectiveness as a godly father, of which God is the ultimate standard.

Fathering like God sets the stage for you to be honorable before your children and your children's children. You actually set them up for success! When you operate in the ministry of a father, your children can experience long life! Ephesians 6:2-4 says, "Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

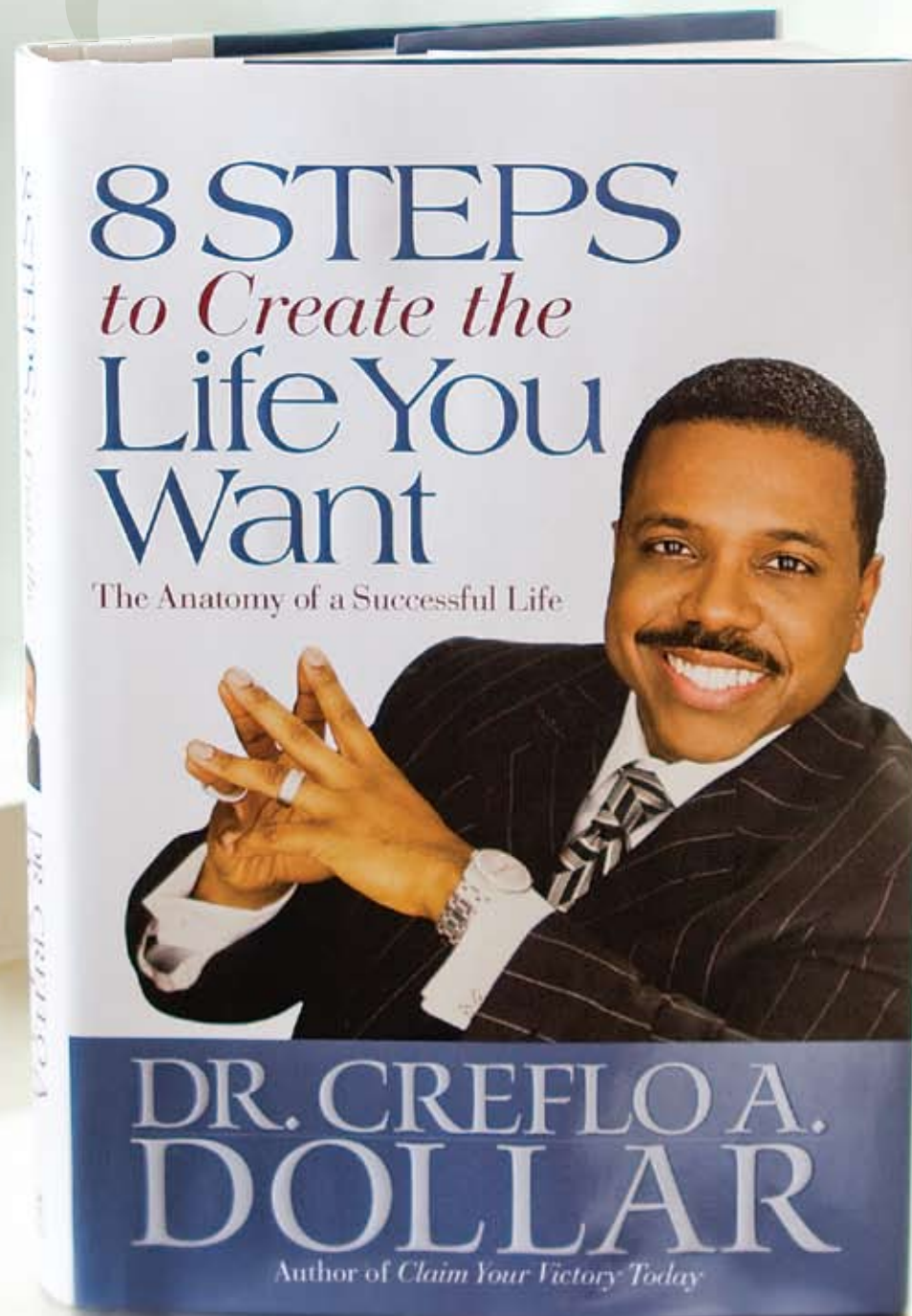
Notice the scripture wasn't speaking of the after-life—they can experience it today! And don't make it difficult for them to obey the Word of God. When you see your children in a fault, reprove them with mildness, and counsel them against wrong practices. Not overly aggressive, but with mildness, and receive positive results from your children. They in turn will receive long life on the earth!

Fathers are pro-generators; they produce generations; they have an essential function in the creation of generations. That's why God called men to be fathers like Him. The level in which your children refer to you is the measure of your effectiveness as a father. Fatherhood is simple—learning to father like God is your simple commission. To get there, go to your *heavenly Father*. Determine *what* you're supposed to do, and *how* you're supposed to do it *effectively*. Then, simply do it—and enjoy the fruits of fulfilling the ministry of fatherhood. **VICTORY**

Creflo A. Dollar is the founder and senior pastor of World Changers Church International in College Park, Georgia, which serves nearly 30,000 members, and World Changers Church-New York, hosting over 6,000 worshipers each week. For more information, visit creflodollarministries.org.

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GoodNewsGazette

Mission Accomplished!

Months ago I called to request protection prayer for my son who is in Iraq as a land corp Marine. Time had gone by and I called again for prayer on behalf of my son's group. I called because my son, along with other Marines, received orders to capture an important al-Qaida leader. They had not slept for seven days and only drank water, coffee and Gatorade™. They also dug foxholes and kept watch.



The city and military were demanding the capture of this leader, which was proving to be very difficult. One day my son, who is a Christian and believes in the power of prayer, called and asked me to pray for their protection and the quick capture of this leader. So I called KCM for the prayer of agreement. Soon after, my son called to tell me that they had accomplished their mission, and that he would be receiving a medal of recognition for the mission accomplished.

Prayer works! To God be the glory and thanks to Kenneth and Gloria for having a staff of prayer ministers available when we need them the most.

Juanita Aguilar | San Antonio, Texas

Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He will give you the desires and secret petitions of your heart.

(PSALM 37:4, THE AMPLIFIED BIBLE)

The Word of the Lord Came to Pass

I have been waiting since 1995 to write this letter, testifying of the goodness and reality of God!

In June 1995, the Holy Spirit spoke to me and told me to start sowing toward a house in which people would come to receive wholeness, healing and life abundant! We sowed, and sowed, and sowed—we sowed the entire contents of our house—twice—in the last seven years, at the Lord's direct instruction. We continued to stand, knowing that *His Word* says that *whatever* a man sows in life, that shall he reap! God is not mocked!

There were times when God told us to proclaim every time that we drove into Pretoria that we *have* a house! People mocked us and we were attacked by our own thoughts. The Lord again spoke to me in 2003 and said, *The lady with the red dress will help you get the house*. Later on, after we had received the house, I asked the Lord about this lady again—because I was looking for the lady in the red dress!

Then one day, I sat reading aloud my “house scriptures” that I received from KCM a few years back. As I looked down, I *saw* the lady in the red dress! It was a picture of Gloria Copeland on the pamphlet. Often, when I got tired of standing, I would read the scriptures that Gloria used to get her house built—debt free, filled with *all* good things, just like God says in His Word. Never try to figure out the “how”—the lady in the red dress helped me and it wasn't what I imagined at all. I was expecting her to walk up to me and give me a house! Instead, Gloria's steady testimony, and the scriptures she stood on, is what brought about the manifestation of that which seemed totally impossible. God fulfilled His Word and proved Himself faithful again!

L.A. | Russia

Supernatural Prayer Support

We are from the San Diego area. We want to thank you for your prayers and phone call of concern. I had been listening to the *BVOV* podcasts on taking authority, and that is exactly what my wife and I did concerning the fires in California. Our home was approximately 500 yards north of one of the fires. When we were mandated to leave, we took authority over the wind, fire and our home, and believed God for divine protection when we left.

Praise God! The wind continued to move west and firefighters were able to contain the fire 100 percent in a matter of hours. We really appreciated your telephone call letting us know that KCM had been praying for us.

D.C. | California



God fulfilled His Word and proved Himself faithful again!

No More Migraines

I want to share with you how great my life has been since I received more of the Lord in my life. Thanks to Kenneth Copeland Ministries, I started to understand what God really wants for my life. I have also been growing in my relationship with God and living in victory.

I used to have migraines twice a week or more, for 10 years. These migraines made me really sick and I couldn't do anything. But when I heard that God already healed me, I started to read and believe all those scriptures of healing. Since then I have been healthier than ever before! For the last five months I have gone from migraines twice a week to zero. Isn't that great? So, God's Word works and I am standing here in *victory*! Thank you, KCM.

G.V. | Germany

Fear Had to Flee

I was scheduled to have surgery last March. The night before the surgery, I was awakened by fear. It was like a heavy weight on my chest. I commanded it to go, in Jesus' Name. Then I got up and began confessing God's Word from Scripture cards I received from your ministry. I went back to sleep and slept very well.

I took the cards with me to the hospital and used them just before going into the operating room. I was rested and at peace when I went into surgery. My family was amazed. Thank you so much!

G.A. | Canada

No More Bondage

If it wasn't for Kenneth Copeland Ministries, I would still be in bondage to New-Age beliefs. One of my dear friends introduced me to KCM 13 years ago. When she first told me about watching your program I thought, *Oh no, she's become a Jesus freak!* No disrespect intended, it's just what I thought. I had difficulty even speaking the Name of Jesus; Satan had such a hold on my life. My mother and her family practiced card reading and Ouija, which I was subjected to. I have now overcome this. I'm 52 years old and starting fresh! It's never too early or too late for God to influence our lives. I am so grateful to be back in the Lord's arms.

J.A. | Texas

I Am Changed!

While attending Healing School last year at the Washington, D.C. Victory Campaign, I told the Lord I expected to be set free from a lifelong bondage to food and wrong eating habits and patterns. When Kenneth spoke by the Holy Ghost for people to be healed and released from food, excess fat and addictions of any kind, I knew it was for me. Hallelujah! I declared it, received it and know I am changed! It is so refreshing not to feel stressed about eating anymore or worried that I'll fall back again. Thank You, Jesus!

S.M. | Pennsylvania

No Plague Came Near Us

We are Partners with KCM and live in San Diego. We had to evacuate our home in October due to fires. We stood in faith: “No plague comes near our tent; no calamity near our dwelling. The angel of the Lord encamps around about us to deliver us.”

As a family, we watched our words and only spoke good things about our home and property. We received news a few days later that we could return. We found our home *exactly* as we left it. Praise God! Jesus' precious blood paid the price for our deliverance and we give Him honor!

T.B. | California

Delivered from Drugs

We are thankful and blessed by the way you teach the Word of God. Thank you for praying for our son when we sent in a prayer request that he be delivered from drugs. On July 5, 2007, at a camp, he gave his heart to Jesus, was filled with the Holy Spirit and is free from drugs. Praise God!

I.W. - Canada

“I Am Healed!”

I have thought of myself as a Christian for years, failing at times, some more than others, and have always been at odds about healing. In the past I have thought that I was too smart to believe in that; why else would we have doctors? Or why would God bother healing someone as unworthy as me?

One day I was watching the broadcast, and near the end Gloria spoke a word of healing. I can't explain it and I couldn't understand it, but her words, given by God, struck right in the very heart of me. My right shoulder, which I couldn't move properly since I broke it 13 months ago, now has full mobility. My joints that had become stiff and painful now feel fine and normal. Even my allergies are subsiding. For years they have been so bad during this time of year that I haven't been able to sing special music at the church I attend. But this year, thank God, I will sing.

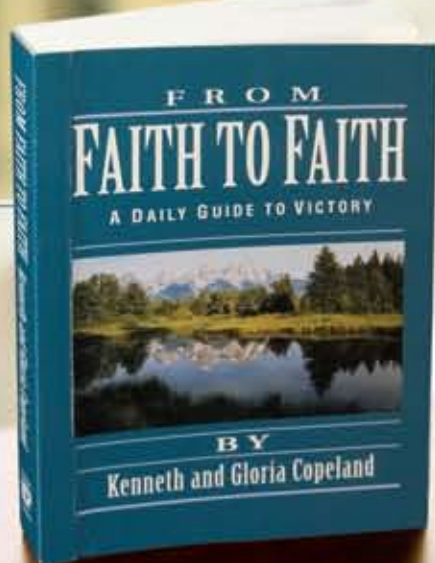
Thank you, Gloria, for delivering the message of healing. You may never truly know what God has done for me through you, but the heart that was hardened is now soft, chains are now broken, the fog of the world is cleared and the weight has been lifted. Praise God, I am healed!

G.V. | Florida

From Prisoner to Pastor

In the late '70s I heard a tape of Vinetta Copeland's saying how she had believed God for Kenneth. At the time our son was on drugs and I made a decision that day that if Vinetta Copeland could do it, so could I! Our son gave his heart to the Lord in a jail cell, later went to Teen Challenge, then to Rhema. He has now been our pastor for over 20 years! We just praise the Lord for you and your ministry.

A.G. | Tennessee



Jesus says you're more than a conqueror—you're a world
overcomer, a winner in every sense of the word. The question is...

Who do you think you are?

— BY GLORIA COPELAND —

Under the circumstances....” Have you ever caught yourself using that phrase? :: “I suppose I’m doing pretty well under the circumstances.” Or, “I guess that’s the best I can hope for under the circumstances.” :: If you’ve ever said something like that, I want you to kick those words out of your vocabulary right now. Because you, as a victorious child of God, don’t have any business living your life “under” your circumstances. You don’t have any business letting problems and situations rule over you.

As 1 John 4:4 says, “Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”

Two thousand years ago, Jesus—the One who is in *you*—ransacked Satan’s kingdom. Through His death at Calvary, He legally entered the regions of the damned and stripped Satan of everything. He took away all his armor. He took the keys to death and hell. He bound that strong man, took the armor he had trusted in, looted his kingdom, and Colossians 2:15 says He spoiled principalities and powers and made a show of them openly, triumphing over them. Satan knows he is defeated. When the Lord Jesus, the Anointed One, makes a spectacle of your defeat, you know it!

Why did Jesus do all that? Certainly not for His own sake. He didn’t need to gain dominion over the devil. He *already* had it. He went to hell and back to give that dominion to you.

When you made Jesus the Lord of your life, you were born into victory—because the Victor came to live in you. Think about it. The victorious Jesus—the Anointed One! Not Jesus as He was on the streets of Galilee, He’s much more than that today. He’s the glorified, resurrected Lord. He rules the universe from the right hand of the Father. That’s the Jesus who lives in you.

“Well, if I’m such an overcomer,” you may say, “then why isn’t life easy for me? Why am I always running into trouble?”

Jesus put it this way: “I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence. In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration; but be of good cheer.... I have overcome the world” (John 16:33, *The Amplified Bible*).

Jesus said as long as you live in the world, you’re going to have trouble. (I can vouch for that!) But you’re not just in the world. You’re in *Jesus* in the world, and that makes all the difference in the world! You’re in Him and He has overcome every kind of trouble there is.

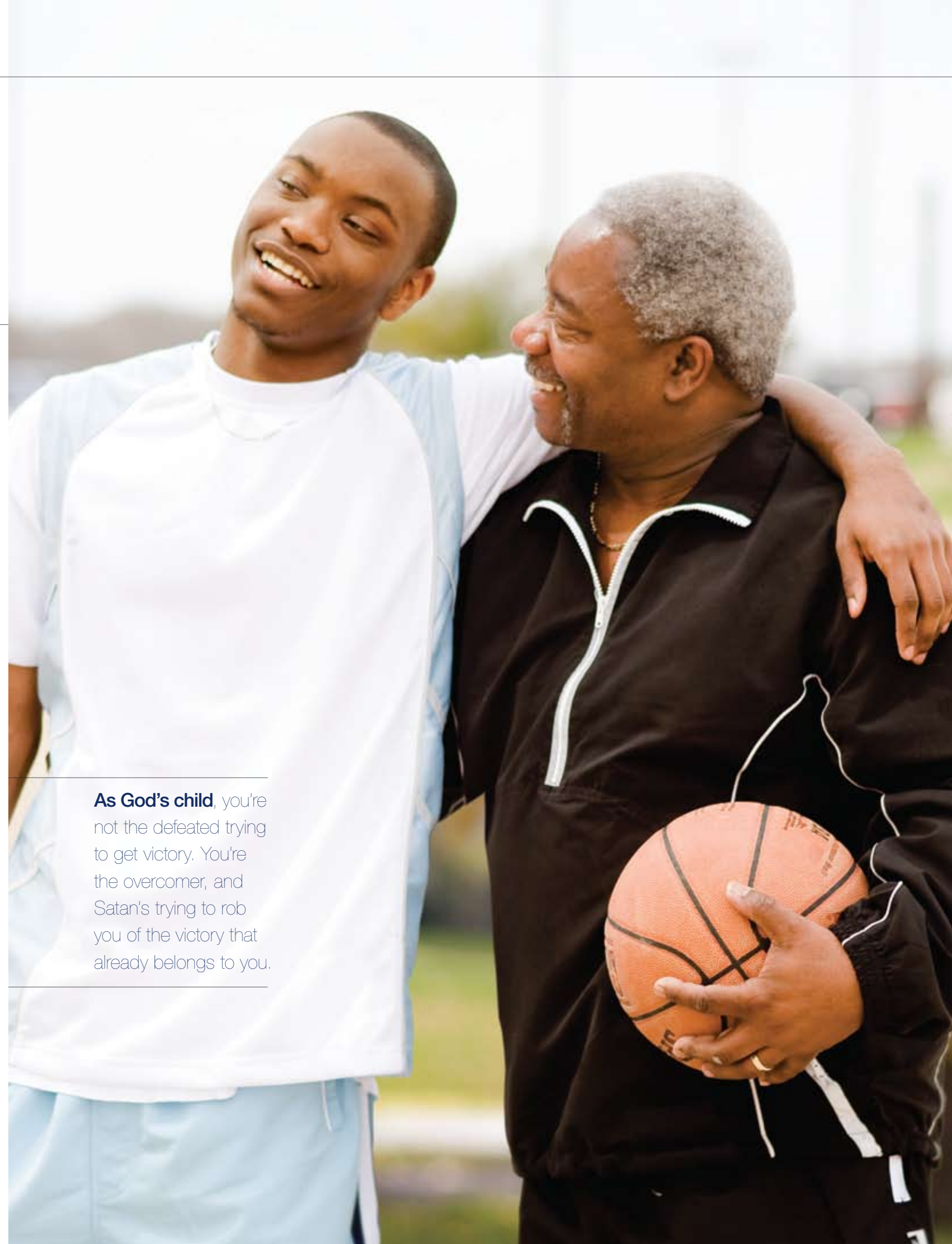
What I’m telling you is this: As God’s child, you’re not the defeated trying to get victory. You’re the overcomer, and Satan’s trying to rob you of the victory that already belongs to you.

Some believers haven’t understood that. They’re looking forward to having victory over the devil sometime in the future...when we all get to heaven. But that’s not what the New Testament teaches.

Colossians 1:12-13 says, God “has qualified and made us fit to share the inheritance of the saints in the Light. [He] has delivered and drawn us to Himself out of the control and the dominion of darkness and has transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love” (*The Amplified Bible*).

Qualified. Delivered. Transferred. Do those words sound like they’re describing something that’s going to happen in the future? No. They’re all *past* tense! They tell us it’s already been done. The Father has already qualified and transferred us into His Son’s kingdom.

As God’s child, you’re not the defeated trying to get victory. You’re the overcomer, and Satan’s trying to rob you of the victory that already belongs to you.



When that powerful truth really begins to dawn on you, you'll start to step out and live like the overcomer you are. You'll be ready to learn how to live in victory:

- Over the world
- Over the flesh
- And over the devil himself

So let's look quickly at those three areas.

To have victory over the world means to live "over" the circumstances instead of "under" them—to triumph over troubles generated by this worldly system around us. Romans 12:2 says, "Be not conformed to this world." If you live like the world, you'll be overcome by the world. It's as simple as that. So don't let the world squeeze you into its own mold.

Instead, Romans 12:1-2 says to "make a decisive dedication of your bodies.... Be transformed by the [entire] renewal of your mind so that you may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you]" (*The Amplified Bible*).

You overcome the world by having your mind transformed to think like God thinks. In other words, when you see something in the Word, you say, "I agree with that. From now on I'm acting on that instead of what I used to think."

For example, the Bible says sin shall not have dominion over us. It says we ought to reckon (or consider) ourselves dead to sin. That means when sin calls your name, you don't answer. You just agree with the Word and say, "I'm dead to that, devil. You can't pull me into it anymore. I'm through."

As you do that, you'll find yourself changing. Second Corinthians 3:18 describes it like this: "And all of us, as with unveiled face, [because we] continued to behold [in the Word of God] as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are constantly being transfigured into His very own image in

ever increasing splendor and from one degree of glory to another" (*The Amplified Bible*).

Overcoming the flesh is your second area of conquest. As a born-again, ascended spirit who sits in heavenly places with Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:6), you have authority over your body. You tell it what to do, you don't let it tell you what to do.

Galatians 5:16 is the key. "Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh." If you follow the promptings of the Spirit of God within you, you won't be dominated by the pressure your flesh tries to put on you.

As you listen to the written Word and the Holy Ghost telling you what to do, you'll be constantly making little adjustments in your life according to what He says. And those little adjustments will keep you in victory and keep darkness from overtaking you.

You see, God knows just what you need. He can look ahead in your life and see the fleshly traps and pressures the devil is laying for you. And if you'll follow His leadings, He will maneuver you safely around them to victory.

Sometimes the Holy Spirit may speak to you about some activity. He may say, "Drop that out and spend more time with Me." There may be nothing wrong with that activity. But the Spirit of God knows what you need. He may know you need to spend that time in prayer right now because you're about to meet a test or trial you're not ready for.

So you overcome the flesh by walking in the spirit—by trusting the promptings of the Holy Spirit and following them faithfully.

Your third area of conquest is the devil himself. One thing we know: He's already defeated. He has no power and authority. So what does he have? He has deceit. He gets his foot in the door by trying to make you believe something other than what the Word says.

Let me warn you. Deceit is the devil's specialty. If you don't continually

You overcome the world by having your mind transformed to think like God thinks.

feed on God's Word and keep your mind in agreement with God, when Satan's lies come at you, you'll fall for them.

When he begins to whisper, *You're not going to get your healing this time*, it'll be easy to believe if you haven't been overcoming that power of darkness around you with the Word of God.

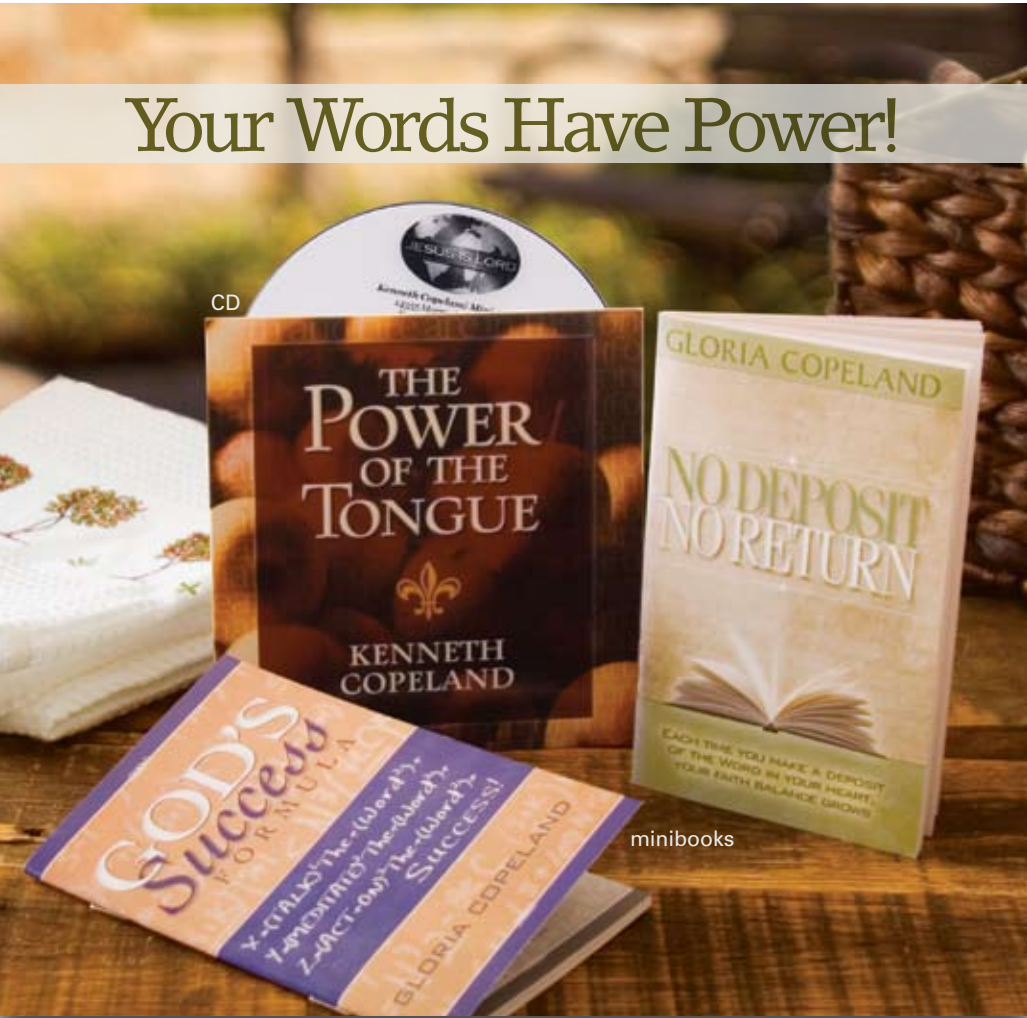
You overcome the devil, the Bible says, by resisting him—by rebelling against him when he tells you to do something and doing what God says instead! When Satan tells you some lie, contradict him with the Word of God. Oppose him. The Bible says when you do that, he'll *flee* from you. He'll "run as in terror."

Do you know what that means? It means everywhere you go, as you walk in faith and oppose the devil, darkness is pushed back.

So start pushing back that darkness. You *can* do it! The life of God is within you. The Overcomer Himself is living inside you. Everywhere you go, God goes. Every problem that rises up against you, every evil spirit that tries to influence your life, is coming up against *God* when it comes up against you.

All you need to do is become conscious of that—to begin living your life moment by moment, knowing the light of God is in you. The Word of God is in you. The Spirit of God is in you. Jesus the Anointed One—the Son of God—is in you.

Every spirit in heaven and hell knows exactly who you are. You're the overcomer. Once *you* find that out—the devil doesn't even have a chance. **VICTORY**



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If you do not know
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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.

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King's Cathedral

June 22

777 Mokulele Highway | Kahului, HI 96732

West Coast

Believers' Convention | June 30-July 5

Long Beach Convention Center | 300 E. Ocean Blvd. | Long Beach, CA 90802

Southwest

Believers' Convention | August 4-9

Fort Worth Convention Center | 1201 Houston St. | Fort Worth, TX 76102

Great Lakes

Believers' Convention | August 18-23

U.S. Cellular Arena | 400 W. Kilbourn Ave. | Milwaukee, WI 53203

Thunder Over Texas

August 29-31

Granbury Historic Town Square | 100 E. Pearl St. | Granbury, TX 76048

Days of Refreshing

September 14-19

Eagle Mountain International Church | 14355 Morris Dido Road | Newark, TX 76071
(not a mailing address)

King's Daughter

2008 National Conference | September 19

Cornerstone Church | 239 N. Loop 1604 West | San Antonio, TX 78232

Word Explosion

October 9-11

Crown Arena | 1960 Coliseum Drive | Fayetteville, NC 28306

Prayer Mountain

Conference | October 23-27

Hilton Convention Center | 200 E. Main St. | Branson, MO 65616

Washington, D.C.

Victory Campaign | November 13-15

Hylton Memorial Chapel | 14640 Potomac Mills Road | Woodbridge, VA 22192

S P E A K E R S



KENNETH COPELAND



GLORIA COPELAND



JERRY SAVELLE



JESSE DUPLANTIS



CREFLO A. DOLLAR



KEITH MOORE



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Helping Others Find Their Way

BY MICHELLE MEDLOCK ADAMS

Pour me another one, Duff,” Steve Cook motioned to the cute bartender he’d been eyeing for months. | “Sure thing,” she said, smiling back at the grinning truck driver. | Steve was quickly becoming Duffy’s best customer. She’d pour his drinks, and he’d tease her endlessly. | Before long, Steve and Duffy were dating and began living together. Though there was no doubt they loved each other, their individual brokenness made a healthy relationship almost impossible. Both battled alcoholism and brought much emotional baggage into the relationship. After about six months, the couple called it quits and Duffy took a good, long look at herself in the mirror.

Standing there staring at her own reflection, she saw a woman who was hurting and hopeless. Then, she glanced down at the little, 8-year-old girl standing beside her.

I have to make a change for my daughter, Duffy thought.

That very night, Duffy decided to find an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting to attend.

Wrong Turns, Divine Direction

Duffy looked up the location of an AA meeting in the vicinity and she and her daughter, Dolly, headed that way.

Do I turn left or right? Duffy pondered, pausing at the intersection.

Little did Duffy know that would be a turning point in her life. She turned left and ended up at a meeting—but instead of an AA meeting, it was a revival meeting. Duffy *knew* this was no coincidence. She and Dolly cried through most of the service. Holding hands, they prayed and asked Jesus to be Lord of their lives. For the first time in a long time, they had peace.

Two nights later, Steve received a call from a friend who

told him, “Get ready. I’m picking you up and taking you to church.” Steve ended up at the same revival meeting where Duffy and Dolly had given their lives to the Lord. That night, Steve surrendered his life to Christ, as well. Excited about his new life, Steve wrote to Duffy to share the good news. They both had found Jesus in the same place, the same week. One week later, the two were married.

Diving Headfirst Into Faith

The Cooks dove headfirst into the Word of God. Duffy started attending a Bible study in Joshua Tree, Calif., where someone gave her several Kenneth Copeland teaching tapes.

“I’d never heard anything like that before,” Duffy remembers. “I couldn’t get enough. I kept asking for more tapes.”

She would rephrase Brother Copeland’s messages to Steve and get blessed all over again. They were now getting high on the Word of God—alcohol and drugs were in their past.

“We would literally look in the newspaper for any revival meetings going on in the area,” Steve shares. “If there was a church open, we’d go.”

When Duffy learned about the *Believer’s Voice of Victory* TV broadcast, she was ecstatic.

“We rigged up a homemade antenna with a coat hanger to get the *BVOV* broadcast,” Duffy explains. “That Los Angeles station was snowy at best, but we were hungry for more of what we’d heard on Brother Copeland’s tapes.”

Though Steve was growing in the things of God and learning to walk by faith, he wasn’t as open to the message of prosperity as Duffy. When Duffy asked Steve to accompany her to the 1982 West Coast Believers’ Convention in Anaheim, Calif., he declined.

For the next two years, Duffy continued speaking faith and praying Steve would let go of some religious thinking he’d picked up and enter in to all God had for him. By 1984, Steve agreed to attend the convention. But Duffy didn’t realize Steve had his own agenda.

“I really wanted to prove that Kenneth Copeland wasn’t all he was cracked up to be,” Steve admits. But during one of the sessions, Steve had a personal encounter with God.

“The Holy Spirit said to me, *How dare you judge another man’s servant!*” Steve recalls. “Things changed for me right then and there. I repented and gave my all to God.”

Finding Their Way

With their faith unified and reignited, the Cooks were ready to change the world—they just weren’t sure where to start. But God had a plan, and Steve was about to discover it.

Every day as Steve passed the homeless in their community, his heart pounded as if it would leap out of his chest. Soon he and Duffy began going to the parks to sing

and play guitar and hand out doughnuts to the homeless and hurting. But Steve wanted to do more. One day, frustrated with the enormous need, he prayed: “Lord, You need to raise up someone to feed the homeless.”

You do it.

Steve heard God loud and clear, but just in case he needed confirmation, Steve’s barber gave him \$5 to start his homeless ministry. Within a week, they had a building and a full year’s rent totally paid.

That same year—1985—Steve and Duffy opened The Way Station.

“We were both truck drivers and used to have to pull into the weigh stations along the highway,” Steve explains. “That’s how we got the name—Jesus is The Way, and The Station is a place to get filled up on the way to your destination.”

The Lord gave Steve and Duffy specific instructions concerning The Way Station, which they were quick to obey.

“The Lord said He wanted us to love people into the kingdom,” Steve explains. “We couldn’t have walked that out during the past 20 years without the teaching we’ve received from the Copelands.”

When the homeless visited The Way Station, they received a box of food and were asked to fill out a questionnaire. One of the questions on the form was, “Do you believe in God?”

“We led a lot of people to the Lord that way—one box of food at a time,” Duffy shares, “but it became taxing. So we started doing Bible studies to make better use of our time and resources.”

In the 23 years since starting The Way Station, the Cooks have distributed more than 85,000 boxes of food and helped thousands find Jesus. People come to the facility Monday through Friday for a continental breakfast and Bible study every morning, then a hot meal and church service Friday evenings.

“We also try to help them find work,” Duffy says. “Our only requirement is: They have to hear the Word.”

The Lord has continued to grow the Cooks’ ministry and prosper it, but there have been some tests along the way.

Growing Pains

Early on, a food organization approached Steve and offered them an unlimited supply of food. It sounded great, but there was a catch.

“They told us we couldn’t make it mandatory to hear the Word,” Steve says. “We prayed about it and said, ‘Thanks, but no thanks. We’ll just trust God to bring in the food.’”

And, He always has.

“God has taken care of us in so many ways,” Duffy shares. “We can’t even list them all—so many miracles along the way.”

One of those miracles happened about six months into the ministry after Dolly, the couple's 16-year-old daughter, had become disillusioned with God. In a fit of rebellion, Dolly ran away—her parents had no idea where she was. Steve and Duffy simply trusted God to take care of her.

One afternoon, a man who often referred people to The Way Station called Steve and said, "I have a 16-year-old girl who really needs help. She is hungry and scared."

The girl turned out to be Dolly.

"You know it's funny...we always keep in mind that each person we help is someone's son or daughter," Duffy says. "This one just happened to be ours."

God brought Dolly back home, and she's been there ever

Partners in Ministry

Steve and Duffy Cook's lives forever changed when they discovered the power of the Word. But they knew it wasn't just for them. God revealed that He had much more in store—an outreach that would end up touching thousands. Today, the Cooks are ministering the same Word that ministered to them, and the people they share it with are *living* for the first time in their lives.



At Kenneth Copeland Ministries, we believe partnership is a two-way street. When you join with us, you become a part of our world-wide ministry and its heav-

enly rewards. But we also join with *you*—becoming a part of *your* ministry, our anointings working together to do far more than either of us could do alone.

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since. In fact, all three of the Cooks' daughters are serving God.

The Cooks recognize they are blessed. And that's the principle by which they have built their ministry.

"From the beginning, our goal has been to bless the church and the unchurched through The Way Station," Steve says. "We are reaching those who wouldn't darken the door of the church."

Dreaming Big, Sowing Bigger

As the ministry has grown, so has its need of square footage. A major growth spurt came in 2000. Their current contract was ending on their rental building and they needed a miracle, so the Cooks sought God for the next step.

"I was struggling with being *need* minded instead of *seed* minded," Steve admits.

But God had a word for the Cooks at the 2001 WCBC. After Brother Copeland and Jerry Savelle had ministered the Word, there was an opportunity to sow seed. The consistent message of that convention was "Sow a seed toward your need," so that's exactly what Steve and Duffy did.

One year later, the Cooks received a single check that completely paid off their property—a 1660-square-foot building—and all their ministry debt.

"I know if we hadn't heard that word at the West Coast Believers' Convention, we wouldn't have been able to sow that seed," Duffy says. "We are so grateful to Kenneth and Gloria Copeland for teaching us."

Steve and Duffy had learned how to dream big and walk by faith. So, when God spoke to Steve in November 2007 about constructing a 13,000-square-foot building on a piece of property that was given to them five years before, Steve didn't hesitate.

The architectural drawings are done and in the hands of the city planner. The Cooks' new building, which will be called The Blessing Center, is on its way to becoming reality.

"This center will house The Way Station, the King's Kitchen, a recording studio, a Christian community center and various other ministries," Duffy says.

"The Blessing Center will be a beacon," Steve adds. "God said, *As big as you can think...it will be even bigger.*"

And Steve admits to being a pretty big thinker.

For more than 20 years, the Cooks have reached out to hurting, hopeless and homeless people, and have seen many go on to become pastors, counselors, teachers and successful businesspeople.

"Once they get turned on to the Word and find out it's true...then they apply it to their lives and that's when they really start living," Steve says. "That's what happened to us. And it thrills us to help others find their way, too."

VICTORY

Building Unshakeable Confidence

Earthquake! | If you've ever been in an earthquake, you know how unsettling a warning such as that can be. | Ken and I experienced some of those thoughts and feelings a few years ago while on a ministry trip. We were having breakfast in our hotel room. Ken had just handed me a bowl of cereal when the entire building began to shake.

We calmly began to plead the blood of Jesus over the situation. Psalm 91 came pouring out of our hearts and mouths into the atmosphere. We may have been *shaking*, but our confidence in God's safety was not *shaken*.

In a few minutes, everything settled down. We could hear people out in the hall talking and wondering what to do.

Continuing to pray and declare the Word, we closed our suitcases and waited for the bellman. As we left the hotel, the big, open lobby was filled with people trying to figure out

what to do next. We had previously arranged for a driver at 9. Miraculously, she showed up on time. She worked her way through the crowded streets to the airport, despite the fact the traffic lights were not working. When we arrived, the airport was closed for airline departures. But we were given clearance to take off and headed home, praising God for getting us safely into the air!

We later learned the area where we had been staying was only a few hundred miles away from the epicenter of the earthquake,

BY GLORIA COPELAND



Whatever your heart is filled with will come out of your mouth.

He speaks, we hear...and faith takes root in our heart!

which had measured 6.7 on the Richter scale. The city had not received much damage, and no lives were lost. However, most of the people could not get out to go home. The electricity was out for days. The restaurants ran out of food. We were so grateful to God for helping us come home.

Once again, our unshakeable confidence—our faith in God’s Word and His plan for us—had proved itself in a time of trouble. He led us each step of the way!

Every Step a Step of Confidence

This earthquake story is just one of many stories we have about God loading us with favor and grace because we simply believed and declared He would! He started over 41 years ago teaching us how to hear Him, believe Him and obey Him with every step.

We didn’t know much about it when we began the journey. But somehow, we knew there was no other way for us, so we dared to follow Him. We didn’t know how faith worked, but the Lord taught us.

We became students of the Word, endeavoring to learn everything we could about God’s tremendous plan for all mankind. And, we learned to hear God’s direction in our inner man about His plan for our lives in particular. From our beginning in almost total spiritual ignorance, God has developed His plan for us, leading us day by day, step by step. And He’s still leading, and we are still following.

Stagger Not at the Promises

So, what steps did we take? We stepped out in faith! The same steps God directed Abraham, and all the people of faith mentioned in the Bible.

First, the Lord spoke to Ken and me individually.

As with Abraham, He meets all of us where we are—at the place where we are pretty much at the end of our ropes, with our hearts crying out, *Help me, Lord! Nothing I’ve tried has worked. I don’t know what to do!*

In ways all His own and meant especially for us, God leads us by His Word and all its promises! He speaks, we hear, and faith takes root in our hearts! Romans 10:17 says, “Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

Through that single step God has taught us how to build unshakeable confidence in Him and His Word—confidence that doesn’t just operate when we face the big “earthquakes”

of life, but confidence for situations in everyday life.

Ken and I have learned that every day of life is a great adventure when you’re living by faith. We started out that way—expecting God to lead us...letting us know where to go, what to do, with whom to connect, how and what to say, and always revealing why He has led us in a particular way.

Once He revealed to us where following Him would lead, we committed to hold steady to His promises just like Abraham, who, according to the Bible, “...staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform” (Romans 4:20-21).

Abraham acted on what God said to him, and that is exactly what we do in our lives. Every day we have taken God’s Word, believed it, in the face of every impossibility, and acted according to it.

That’s what we all must do to build unshakeable confidence for our lives and an unswerving faith that God’s promises still bring supernatural help and blessing today.

Put Faith to Work

Keeping God’s Word and the things of faith at the forefront of your thinking will allow you to have victory in every circumstance.

Ken and I have faced some pretty big obstacles along the way, but as we’ve kept God’s Word before our eyes, in our ears and in our mouths, He has never failed us. Our confidence has been built as we experienced Him always being true to His Word!

As believers, we should never become so pressured that things begin to close in on us and smother our faith. You see, faith’s job is to work in our lives where situations need to be changed. Our job is to be diligent and consistent in keeping the Word in the forefront of our lives, so that our faith is active and powerful.

Now, you may be thinking, *Oh, but Gloria, you don’t know my situation...and besides, it’s too complicated to constantly live by faith.*

I’ll tell you what’s complicated. When you face a \$6 million bill and can see no way of paying it, that’s complicated. Complicated is when your grandchild is diagnosed with deadly meningitis, or when you’re in the middle of a tornado and the roof is leaking on your head. That’s complicated.

And those are just a few of the things our family has faced personally, and faith in God’s ability to deliver us got us through every one of them. I don’t care to even imagine how complicated those situations would have been for us had our confidence not been strongly planted in God and His promises of prosperity, healing and protection!

When you face difficulty of any kind, ask yourself,

Am I dealing with this in faith? Am I speaking in faith?

In other words, submit the situation to the authority of the Word of God and speak the Word over that situation. That’s how Ken and I started building our confidence in God and His Word. That’s how we learned God rewards those who live by faith (Hebrews 11:6), and it’s also how we have learned that faith works—every time!



“Don’t cope with stress—get rid of it!”
—Kenneth Copeland

Stress can come at you from every direction—work, home, friends, relatives, finances. The world will offer you books, seminars and expensive counseling sessions—all designed to help you cope. God doesn’t want you to put up with stress at all, but to put your full trust in Him! In this powerful series by Kenneth Copeland, you’ll learn:

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Israel

The Foundation of Unshakeable Confidence

In Hebrews 11, the Apostle Paul tells us what true faith is: “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” Then, he points us to some of the real heroes of faith as an example—men who in the face of the most complicated situations stood strong and allowed God to deliver *to* them what He had promised.

For Zion’s sake I will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns. (Isaiah 62:1, *New King James Version*)

As Christians, we are all called to support the nation of Israel. In Genesis 12:3, the Lord promises to “*bless those who bless you [Israel], and whoever curses you I will curse*” (*New International Version*). Psalm 122 instructs us to “pray for the peace of Jerusalem.”

At this crucial time in history, Israel needs believers who are willing to stand in prayer with her for unfailing strength, godly wisdom and strong leaders—both in America and in her homeland—who will uphold the purposes and plans of God.



Kenneth and Gloria Copeland have answered this call. Along with George and Terri Pearsons, pastors of Eagle Mountain International Church on the grounds of Kenneth Copeland Ministries, the Copelands have joined with **Christians United for Israel (CUFI)** to serve as co-

directors for the state of Texas. Together, they work to support Israel by building awareness among fellow believers and educating America’s elected officials on important issues.



To take action with Christians United for Israel, visit **cufi.org**, or to learn more about how KCM is involved, go to **kcm.org**.

Together, we can honor the Lord by honoring the nation of Israel!

VICTORY

How do you become so confident you can stare danger, or even death, in the face and declare, “My God is able!”? How do you stare sickness, debt or bondage in the face and not be moved by what you see, feel or hear, and expect God to come through for you? How does that happen?

It happens through the Word of God! It happens by your putting your eyes and ears on God’s Word until it fills your heart. Whatever your heart is filled with *will* come out of your mouth. If your heart is filled with the opinions and advice of the world, it comes out your mouth and intensifies whatever problem you’re facing. If your heart is filled with God’s Word, it comes out your mouth and brings the answer to your problem.

Romans 10:17 says faith comes by hearing the Word of God. But the Bible also says faith requires patience (Hebrews 10:36). *Patience* is not sitting around wringing your hands, worrying about when and how the promises of God will come. No, *patience* is simply steadfastly *resting* in your confidence in *God’s* faithfulness to His Word. Like Abraham, because you believe God, your faith will not be shaken.

Ken calls faith and patience the *power twins*—the foundation that will keep you steady in your everyday life and standing rock-solid when your world starts shaking. We both know how true that is, because for a long time now we have walked out many situations that only faith and patience could have brought us through. We have lived with an unshakeable confidence in God. And as we have stood on His Word, not yielding to circumstances or caving in to pressure that came from the outside, He has always delivered on His promises.

That’s our testimony. And, everyone who stands fast by faith

and patience until the answer comes will have the same testimony of victory in their lives.

Little did we know when we started out this journey of faith over 41 years ago that we would need our faith to stand firm in the middle of an earthquake, or any of

the many other challenges we have faced.

But our God knew! To Ken and me, this life of faith is the only life worth living—we love it. And God has a unique life of unshakeable confidence planned just for you, too. Let Him tell you all about it. **VICTORY**

Believer’s Voice of Victory Broadcast Calendar

June



Kenneth Copeland



Gloria Copeland



George Pearsons



Terri Copeland Pearsons



Creflo A. Dollar

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SUNDAY

1

Kenneth Copeland

The Word of God Working in You

Discover how the curse is removed and THE BLESSING takes over when you develop your faith in the Word!

8

Kenneth Copeland

Faith Activates THE BLESSING

When you sow a seed, it can meet any need! See how your faith activates God’s best for you each and every day.

15

Kenneth Copeland

Father’s Day Special

Celebrate Father’s Day with a timely word for men and their families. And honor your heavenly Father by being still and trusting in Him.

22

Gloria Copeland

Healing School, Part 1

See how continually hearing the truth of the Word increases your faith for healing.

29

Gloria Copeland

Healing School, Part 2

Find out how holding on to fear and unforgiveness can stop your healing before it starts.

DAILY

2 Mon

3 Tue

4 Wed

5 Thu

6 Fri

THE BLESSING of the Lord Maketh Rich

This week, **Kenneth Copeland** talks about the believer’s prosperity—how it comes from the Lord’s blessing, not the world.

9

10

11

12

13

THE BLESSING Without Measure

Can you ever have enough of THE BLESSING? No! **Kenneth Copeland** shares how what God has is more than enough...so we can work for a *giving!*

16

17

18

19

20

What NOT to Do When Facing Persecution

This week, **George** and **Terri Pearsons** talk about why the world persecutes Christians—and what to do when it happens.

23

24

25

26

27

Choose to Release Your Faith and Expect to Be Healed

Discover the vital connection between faith, expectation and healing this week as **Gloria Copeland** teaches you how to stand for your perfect health!

30

1

2

3

4

From Poverty and Sickness to Victory

Special guest **Creflo A. Dollar** joins **Kenneth Copeland** to discuss the steps that will launch you out of any dire situation and into victory!

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