

Believer's Voice of



VICTORY

September 2009

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what the Lord has done

Angela and Aaron
Derksen with
children, Averly,
Autumn and
Andrew

God is _____.

(How do you fill in the blank?)



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contents September

contents

4 What Are You Looking At?

by Kenneth Copeland

The greatest danger in economic times like these is getting our eyes—and faith—off our Source. Learn how to keep your eyes on God and continue walking in THE BLESSING.



12 Don't Just Survive—Thrive!

by George Pearsons

God has more for you than just getting by. See how you can thrive in even the most challenging of times!



8 Look What the Lord Has Done!

by Melanie Hemry

Read how Aaron and Angela Derksen weathered dark days of miscarriages by holding onto a bona fide promise from God—and today have playful children running their hallways.



27 The Seeking Life

by Gloria Copeland

Get a glimpse of the kind of life that begins every morning asking, "God, what do You want me to do today? What do You want to show me?" And discover it's the best life there is.



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 36 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

articles

18 Where's the Power?

by Kenneth Copeland

Jesus promised power to His disciples—and to us, too! Discover how to walk in the flow of His power in all you do.

24 The Nature of God Is Abundance

by Jerry Savelle

Some think God's nature is the miraculous, but it's not. Instead, God wants you to receive His nature of *abundance*—so you won't need a miracle.

features

16 Good News Gazette

Read about real-life faith triumphs from people just like you.

23 2009 Meeting Itinerary

Live your faith and share the Word by bringing someone you love to a KCM meeting!

30 We're Here for You!

Discover all there is to do on kcm.org... and how it's a powerful tool for staying connected.

31 September BVOV Broadcast Calendar

Join Kenneth and Gloria Copeland as part of your daily time in the Word.

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What are you LOOKING AT?



What is the greatest danger in economic times like these? | Most people would say it's losing their job or their house; seeing retirement savings dwindle; or not having enough money to pay the bills, buy groceries and put gas in the car. | But for those of us who are

Getting your eyes off Jesus and onto...this world's system will draw you off course.

believers, those things aren't dangers at all because we have a God who supplies all our needs according to His riches in glory. We have a Savior who makes all grace abound toward us so that we, always having all sufficiency in all things, can abound to every good work. We've been BLESSED with THE BLESSING of Abraham that causes us to prosper even in the midst of famine.

The only danger we face in times like these is losing sight of that fact. When there's such a whirl of bad reports, worldly ideas, media and Wall Street junk flying around, we run the risk of focusing on those things instead of on Jesus; and this world's economy can bring us down if we take our eyes off Him.

That's why the most important question we can ask ourselves right now is this: *What am I looking at?*

Whatever we focus on most is what we become. That's a strong, biblical truth that controls all

human learning. It's the root of all conduct and behavior. I've seen it proven time and again. People will get their eyes on money and start focusing on all the failing and falling financial systems around them, and they'll end up duplicating that failure. If they keep their focus on money long enough, it will become their goal and eventually wreck their lives.

That's what happened to Judas. As one of Jesus' first 12 disciples, he had the privilege of learning firsthand from the Master how to seek first the kingdom of God and let everything else be added to him. He had the opportunity to see "heaven open,

and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man" (John 1:51).

Yet right in the presence of heaven's light and glory, Judas took his eyes off the Lord. He began looking at money and it became more important to him and more precious in his eyes than Jesus. As a result, he betrayed Him. Afterward, instead of repenting, he ended his life. Because Judas' focus was off, all he could see was failure—and a failure is what he turned out to be.

DON'T GET CONFUSED

"Oh, Brother Copeland, I'd never be like Judas!" you might say. "I'd never get so caught up in the love of money that I'd turn my back on the Lord."

No, if you're a born-again child of God, I don't believe you would. You have a different kind of heart than Judas had. You are a new creation in Christ Jesus. Your reborn spirit would stop you from going that far.

But, even so, getting your eyes off Jesus and onto money (or anything else in this world's system) will draw you off course. It will cause you to take the wrong path. It will disorient you and leave you confused.

According to the dictionary, *confusion* is "a mixture of several thoughts, ideas or things being blended and mixed together creating disorder in the mind." It comes into our lives when we try to blend the ways of God with the ways of the world, and the result is disaster! Proverbs 14:12 says it this way: "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

Believers who are confused in times like these make bad decisions. They do things that seem right and logical in the eyes of the world without realizing that those things cut them off from THE BLESSING and open the door to the curse in their lives. They quit tithing, for example. They listen to their worldly friends who say, "Tithe? You can't be wasting your money like that right now. You'd better hang on to it. Don't you know you're about to lose everything?"

By mixing the world's perspective into their thinking, they lose sight of the fact that tithing is the best thing anyone can do right now. Tithing keeps the door open to God's promises of provision. That's why Malachi 3:10-11 says:

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove

me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts.

The tither is the last one to lose his job—and if he does lose it, God always has a better one waiting for him someplace else. Talk about financial security. The tither is the only one who truly has it!

Why can't the world see that?

They're confused. They've been confused ever since the tower of Babel because God scrambled their imaginations there. (See Genesis 11:1-7.) Although that was thousands of years ago, to this day the unsaved person or the carnally minded Christian cannot control his imagination.

I didn't say they can't use their imagination. They can. They just can't control it. When it kicks in, they see themselves losing their jobs, losing their homes, losing their health and losing their lives before they're 50 years old. Uncontrolled imagination is the base of all worry. They worry and meditate on those kinds of imaginations until they believe them. Then they say it, and say it, and worry, and say it some more, until it comes to pass.

When it does they cry, "Why does this kind of thing always happen to me?"

JESUS DOESN'T NEED A GOVERNMENT HANDOUT

Thank God, you and I have been set free from that kind of bondage. Because of what Jesus has done for us, we can live another way!

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ" (2 Corinthians 10:3-5).

We can take authority over negative imaginations that contradict the Word and put them in prison so they can never take root and spoil our faith. But to do it we must keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

What do we see when we look at Him? We see:

- The Word of our salvation
- *The* Life and *the* Light



Believers who are confused in times like these make bad decisions. They do things that seem right and logical in the eyes of the world without realizing that those things cut them off from THE BLESSING.



BY KENNETH COPELAND

- The Author, Finisher and Developer of our faith (and faith is the victory that overcomes the world)
- The Minister of grace and mercy who helps in times of need
- The King of kings and Lord of lords
- The High Priest forever over THE BLESSING—the Eden covenant

Everything we will ever need is in Jesus; and as believers, our one goal is to be like Him and not like the world. He is not confused, and neither should we be. He’s not sick, and neither should we be. He’s not worried about the economy, and neither should we be.

Jesus doesn’t need Wall Street or any government handout to meet our needs. He meets them according to His riches in glory. Did you get that? *His riches!* Debt-free, filled-with-joy riches. Not riches filled with sorrow and worry. “The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it” (Proverbs 10:22).

“But Jesus is in heaven and we’re on earth,” someone

might say. “I don’t understand how we’re supposed to keep our eyes on Him.”

We do it by keeping our eyes on His Word. We focus on Him by putting His Word first place in our lives. He said it Himself, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word” (John 14:23, *New King James Version*).

If you want to see what happens to people who keep their eyes on God’s Word in troubled times, read about Joshua in the Old Testament. God told him to meditate on the Word 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).

Joshua had more to deal with than just a bad economy. He was headed into combat. If he let himself think and worry about things (like dying in battle) he would lose his vision—and his courage along with it. If he allowed himself to see his situation the way the world sees things, he would have thought, *This land is filled with giants. I’m going to fail God and all of Israel.*

Instead, Joshua chose to keep his eyes on the Word, thereby controlling his imagination. As a result, he became what it said. He became a giant-conquering victor and an absolute success.

STEP ONE: DECIDE THE WORD IS RIGHT

You and I can do the same thing. We can walk in total victory through all the junk the world is so upset about these days. We can keep our eyes on Jesus and our focus on His Word by following the instructions in Proverbs 4:20-27:

My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. 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. Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee. Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil.

Notice, the first thing those verses tell us to do is *attend* to God’s Word. That means we must make God’s Word our final authority. We must decide it is right. Whether or not it sounds right and looks right, we must commit to it. We must

never try to alter the Word to fit our lifestyle. We change our lifestyle to fit the Word.

That’s what Gloria and I did years ago when we saw that the Bible said, “Owe no man any thing, but to love one another” (Romans 13:8). When the Lord spoke to us through that scripture and commanded us never again to go into debt, I couldn’t see how we were going to live, much less accomplish what He had called us to do. The worldly ideas I had about money at the time made it hard for me to see that His way was right.

All my life, I’d seen borrowing as the right financial path. Most of the time, it looked like the only path available.

But that changed once Gloria and I saw what the Word said about it. Even though we couldn’t understand how it was going to work for our good, we altered our way of doing things to fit the Word. We stepped out by faith and acted on it because we had decided the Word is right.

Eleven months later we were debt free, and have been ever since.

STEP TWO: KEEP THE WORD BEFORE YOUR EYES AND IN THE MIDST OF YOUR HEART

The second thing Proverbs 4 tells us to do is to keep the Word in front of our eyes so it never departs from us. That means we must read and meditate on the Word not just when we think we need it, but constantly. The Word must replace all the other things that compete for our attention.

One woman in the New Testament who did that quite well was Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus. She was so committed to keeping the Word before her eyes and in her ears that when Jesus held a teaching meeting at her house, she didn’t even concern herself with taking care of the guests. She just “sat at Jesus’ feet, and heard his word. But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her” (Luke 10:39-42).

Putting the Word first place by giving it your time and attention keeps your heart focused on Jesus. It causes Him to become the most precious thing in your life. Mary was living proof of that. Just before Jesus’ crucifixion, she took a pound of spikenard ointment worth approximately \$30,000 in today’s currency and anointed His feet with it. She considered Jesus to be worth far more than the most expensive thing she owned because she had kept her eyes on Him and on His Word.

As we’ve already seen, however, Judas did just the opposite. He put his attention on money. So when Mary poured out

that costly ointment, instead of appreciating her devotion to the Lord, he was among those who “had indignation within themselves, and said, Why was this waste of the ointment made?” (Mark 14:4).

Think of it! Judas considered money spent on Jesus a “waste!” “Oh, Brother Copeland, I’d never think that way about Jesus.”

I know that’s not your intention, but if you’re spending more time worrying about your job than you do in His Word, you’re already doing that. If the news reports or your financial statements are weighing more heavily on your mind than THE BLESSING of Abraham, you are acting like the things of this world are more important than the promises of God.

STEP THREE: SPEAK WORDS OF FAITH

Once you center your thoughts, your heart and your life around the Word, the next step in Proverbs 4 will become a way of life for you. You’ll put away from you a froward (disobedient, unbelieving) mouth and you’ll start speaking words of faith.

Instead of saying what the world says, you’ll start saying what the Word says. It’s simple to do when the Word is in your heart in abundance, because out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks.

When you’re full of His Word, talking like God just seems normal.

STEP FOUR: PONDER YOUR PATH

With steps one through three behind you, you’re ready to do what verses 25-27 tell you to do. You are ready to ponder the path of your feet. If you’re like most people, that’s nothing new—you’ve probably spent years pondering and it hasn’t helped much at all.

That’s because if you aren’t looking at Jesus and His Word, it does no good to ponder your path. You have no way of knowing which path is right. You can think...and think...and think about it and still end up confused.

When your eyes are on the Word, however, you’re looking in the right direction. You’re looking away from the world and looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of your faith. You’re not confused anymore. Like Joshua, you can see what to do in the Word, so you’re on track to prosper and have good success—no matter what the economy does.

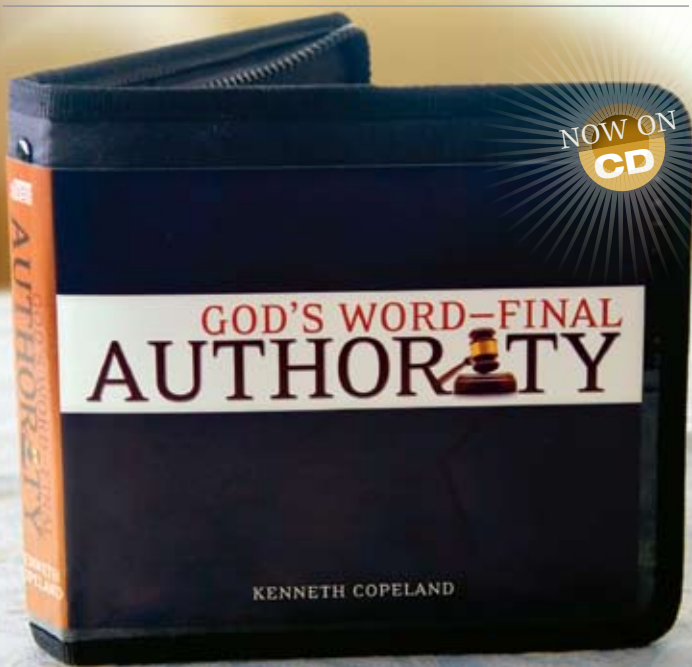
Get on that track and stay on it, my friend. Don’t look back at what the world is doing. Don’t get drawn off course by the dangerous distractions that are swirling all around right now. Every time you do, you lose momentum. So press forward. Keep Jesus—the prize, the high calling—before your eyes.

Keep looking at Him and walking in THE BLESSING because now—as always—THE BLESSING is the only place to be! **VICTORY**

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BY MELANIE HENRY

Look

what the Lord has done

Aaron and Angela Derksen smiled as they walked hand in hand down the aisle of a store near their home in Florida, running their hands over the baby cribs they passed. They wanted a crib generic enough for a boy or a girl and sturdy enough to withstand the demands of more babies as their family grew. Angela's blue eyes sparkled with joy as she crooned over each crib. "Look at this one!" she said, standing by a crib covered in swirls of pink. While Angela enjoyed looking at the cribs, Aaron enjoyed looking at her. Watching the way she glowed with health and happiness, his eyes warmed like molten chocolate. He would have bought her the moon if there had been a way to hang it in the nursery.

Aaron sighed with contentment as he set the crib, still in its box, in the nursery. He and Angela were about to leave for Fort Worth, Texas, for Kenneth Copeland Ministries' Southwest Believers' Convention. When they returned, he would assemble the crib. Soon their little two-bedroom Cape Cod house would become home to their first child. He whistled as he turned off the light in the nursery. Life was *sweet*.

At home after the convention, a wrinkle of worry creased Angela's brow when she noticed some bleeding. *It's probably nothing*, she thought, but made an appointment to see her doctor.

After blood work and an ultrasound, the doctor entered the exam room with a grim expression. "We didn't see a heartbeat on the ultrasound, and your blood hormone levels are too low," he explained. "I believe this is the beginning of a miscarriage. I recommend surgery to clean out your womb."

Stunned, Angela refused surgery and went home to pray with Aaron. They prayed in agreement that the bleeding would stop and Angela's hormone levels would rise. The next day, the bleeding stopped. Two days later, Angela returned to the clinic for more blood work. Her hormone levels had risen. Back home, she and Aaron praised and worshipped the Lord.

Another ultrasound was scheduled when Angela reached the fourth month of her pregnancy. "I'm sorry, Angela," the doctor said. "Your hormone levels are too low and there isn't a heartbeat."

That night, Angela miscarried.

Devastated, she lay in bed and sobbed until the sun rose the next morning. Blinking back his tears, Aaron shoved the crib into the closet and shut the door.

The Promise

"As a child, some of my early memories involve my whole family listening to Brother Copeland on the radio, and later my mother taped all the television broadcasts," Aaron recalls. Although his parents had been Partners for years, they had never attended a Believers' Convention until the month before Aaron and Angela's wedding.

When they came home, they said, "You've got to go!" So, the year after they were married, Angela and Aaron attended the 1995 SWBC.

"It caused us to hunger for more of God," Aaron says. "Then two years later, in 1997, when we lost the baby, I heard the Lord speak two words to my heart."

I promise.

Angela, gripped in the worst kind of emotional pain, heard the Lord speak Psalm 34:8 to her hurting heart. "Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who trusts in Him!" (*New King James Version*).

"I knew that if I maintained my trust in Him and

confidence in His Word I would taste and see the goodness of God," Angela explains. "Then the Lord whispered three words to me."

Angie, trust Me!

"That was an anointed word for me," Angela remembers. "I meditated on Romans 1:17, which says, 'The just shall live by faith.'" Angela was reminded that faith isn't a Sunday thing. It isn't a Wednesday thing. Faith is a lifestyle. God expects us to live by faith when life is sweet *and* when trouble comes. She clung to God and told Him, "Lord, I'm trusting You." Two weeks later, someone from KCM called and asked if they had any prayer needs. "When I told the woman about losing the baby, she prayed the Word of God over us with such faith—she prayed that God would perfect everything concerning us. That comforted me."

One Word From God

A year later, in 1998, Angela and Aaron returned to the SWBC. As she sat in Section 317, the devil began taunting Angela. Every direction she looked she saw women with babies.

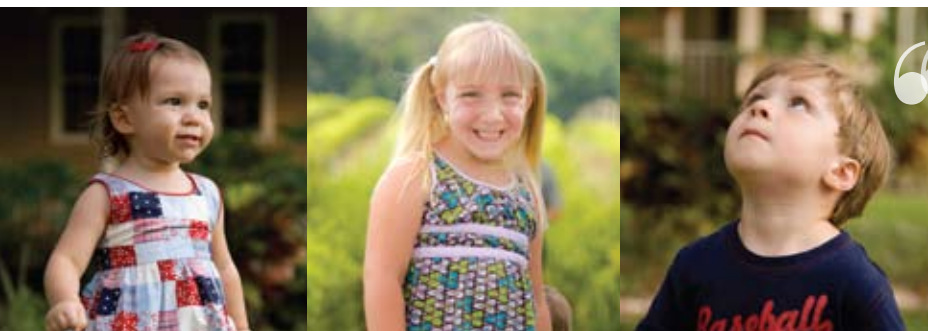
"You would have had your baby with you this year. See the woman in front of you? She's holding her baby. You would have been holding your baby."

Feeling lost in a crowd of thousands, Angela's eyes burned with tears and her heart ached for the child she had lost. Brother Copeland was in the middle of his message when he suddenly stopped and stared up at Section 317. His blue eyes seemed to pierce through the crowd and focus on Angela.

He said a mother was there whose child had died, and in his spirit Brother Copeland heard her say she had lost her child. But he corrected her—her child was not *lost*, and she was never to say that again—her baby wasn't dead. He said that Jesus is coming and she would see her baby sooner than she thought. She hadn't lost her baby. She knew where her baby was and her baby knew right where she was. And then he said she was going to have another baby!

The anointing on those words broke the grief the enemy was trying to impart to Angela. Joy welled up inside her and she left the convention uplifted and empowered. Back home, she and Aaron continued to stand in faith for their family, encouraging one another with Scripture verses.

"I read an article in the *BVOV* magazine about John and Marty Copeland's faith battle for children," Angela recalls. "One thing that struck me was that Marty sowed into other women's lives by giving a baby shower for one mother and sowing into the lives of children around her." The Lord led Angela to do the same thing. She spent what seemed like years giving baby showers and babysitting other people's children. Meanwhile, she and Aaron continued to stand in faith for their children. Watching



“There were other families in the church who couldn’t conceive, but now we’re like a baby factory. Our faith broke through something spiritually and the church has never been the same.”

the *BVOV* broadcast and going to the believers’ meetings helped carry them through.

The Midnight Hour

In 2000, three years after her miscarriage, Angela conceived. Before Aaron had a chance to set up the crib, she miscarried again.

“This is not uncommon,” the doctor assured her. “Everything is fine.”

Six months later, she conceived again. Angela and Aaron shared the news with all their excited family and friends. Angela was in the third month of her pregnancy when she started bleeding. This time the doctor wasn’t so optimistic. “It looks like you’re going to miscarry,” he said, shaking his head. “If you keep the remains of your baby we can check for genetic problems.”

Angela woke at midnight with debilitating pain. She sat in a recliner and prayed in the spirit, but the pains increased until she passed the baby. Holding his tiny body, Angela wept until she had no more tears. The next morning, trembling with exhaustion and sorrow, Angela handed her baby—resting in a tiny, plastic-kitchenware coffin—over for testing.

“That was one of the darkest days of my life,” Angela says. She thought about how Gloria Copeland had talked about staying engaged with the Lord during the battle. “It was hard,” Angela admits, “but I knew she was right—I had to stay engaged.”

The enemy bombarded her with thoughts of despair, and Angela countered with the Word of God. “Hebrews 11:1-2 says, ‘Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good testimony’ (*NKJV*). God doesn’t lie, so Aaron and I have obtained a good testimony through faith. There’s no reason for despair.”

The Lord spoke to Aaron and said, *Every time you pray, even at meals, thank Me for your children.*

Numerous times throughout the day and at every meal, Aaron prayed, “Lord, I thank You for our children born full term without any complications.”

“The Lord says I will be a joyful mother of children,” Angela agreed. “The Word of God says my husband’s quiver will be full.”

“All the promises of God are yes and amen!” Aaron declared.

The Darkest Days

The test results revealed no genetic abnormalities and Angela was referred to a reproductive endocrinologist. Meanwhile, every other area of their lives prospered in the Lord. Aaron had started several businesses and completed a degree with dreams of becoming a professional pilot, but God told him to start a church. In April 2002, Aaron and Angela started the West Coast Word Church.

With the church thriving, they spent a year undergoing every kind of test and treatment imaginable. Doctors could find no reason for the miscarriages, and eventually suggested they try in vitro fertilization.

Another year passed as Angela took fertility drugs and received in vitro fertilization. By January 2004, they had tried everything medically possible. The baby crib still sat in its box in the closet.

“As difficult as the whole process had become, for me the darkest moments came regularly when Angela would be a few days or a week late starting her cycle. My hopes would soar only to be dashed. It was such an emotional roller coaster of hope deferred that my frustration mounted. When medical science could offer us no more options, we stopped the medications and treatments.”

But God...

In January 2004, Aaron and Angela once again traveled to Fort Worth, this time to attend KCM’s Ministers’ Conference. After returning home, Angela discovered she was pregnant.

“We’d made a decision early on to keep the members of our church informed about our struggles and our stand of faith,” Aaron explains. The Derksens knew the only way they could fail to win this battle was to give up. They also realized that by being transparent as they walked this out in faith, it would help others learn to win their own battles. In spite of their conviction, however, after three miscarriages, they were hesitant to tell anyone. When Aaron and Angela talked it over and realized the root of their hesitation was the fear of having to share another negative report, they refused to cooperate with fear. They told all of their family, friends and congregation.

“For us, that was an important act of faith,” Aaron said.

Angela glowed with good health, praising her way through every day.

“I had such joy in me!” she recalls. “I’d never carried our

other babies past the fourth month, so when I reached my fifth month without a single complication, I was beyond excited.”

A Spiritual Shift

Seven years after buying the baby crib, Aaron pulled the box out of the closet. “When I opened it I discovered there were some parts missing,” Aaron remembers. “It took a lot of work to put it together, but I was so happy to be setting up the crib that I enjoyed every moment of it.”

Finally, the nursery was ready to welcome their baby.

Oct. 9, 2004, Angela gave birth to Averly Promise. Blond and blue-eyed like her mother, Averly started talking at 10 months. That same month, Angela was shocked to learn she was *three months pregnant!* And Feb. 14, 2006, Andrew Samuel was born.

Almost two years later, Jan. 30, 2008, Angela gave birth to their third child, Autumn Grace.

Recently, Angela suffered excruciating back pain and went to see a Christian chiropractor who took X-rays. Looking at the films, she approached Angela with a puzzled frown on her face. “You have a birth defect,” she said, holding the film up to the light. “Your pelvis never fused! This would make it difficult for you to carry a pregnancy to term because your pelvis couldn’t support it.”

“So that’s what happened!” Angela said. “I never knew my pelvis hadn’t fused, but when I was born they must have realized something was wrong because the doctor said I had a problem with my hips and put me in a brace for a year.”

Not only had her unfused pelvis sustained three pregnancies, Angela had worn high heels throughout each of them. When the chiropractor warned Angela that the problem could land her in a wheelchair, she and Aaron used their faith and every symptom disappeared.

The results of such a mighty move of God had a powerful effect on their church. “There has been a spiritual shift in the church,” Aaron explains. “People now understand in a real way that *all* things are possible for those who believe. I think it’s important that we not back away from our faith but rather live every area of our lives with faith as our DNA. There were other families in the church who couldn’t conceive, but now we’re like a baby factory. Our faith broke through something spiritually and the church has never been the same.”

“I’m happy to be one of the second generation of my family to partner with KCM,” Aaron says. “Our church is prospering, our businesses are prospering and our family is prospering because of the great things we’ve learned from them.”

The Derksen family outgrew the two-bedroom Cape Cod house and moved to a larger home on sprawling acreage where the children have room to run and play. At 4, Averly is very compassionate and acts like a little mother. Three-year-old Andrew sleeps with his ball and glove, and loves to pray. Autumn is a peaceful baby and the third child to sleep in the family crib which shines with the oil of love. Without a doubt, Aaron and Angela Derksen have received an excellent testimony because of faith. **VICTORY**

We’re here for you!

To learn more about partnership, contact KCM today and ask for our free Partner Package with complete information about partnership, complimentary gifts and more. Simply check the circle on the response form in the center of this magazine, call 800-600-7395 or visit kcm.org.

partnership supporting your stand of faith

As second-generation Partners with Kenneth Copeland Ministries, Aaron and Angela Derksen started their married life in a good place. They hungered for God and His Word to be the strong foundation in every area of their family’s life.

The Lord brought them through tremendous challenges they didn’t expect in beginning their family. And KCM was there to support them in their stand of faith. From the telephone prayer ministry, to a *BVOV* magazine article, to a word from Brother Copeland at a Believers’ Convention, the Lord made sure Aaron and Angie heard from Him that they would surely receive His promises for their family.

For seven years they trusted God. And with the birth of each of their three children faith increased—not only for the Derksens but for the church family they pastor. Having stood with Aaron and Angie through the years, many have witnessed God’s faithfulness and received their own promises from Him. Today, they all stand and declare, “Look what the Lord has done!”

We invite you to become a Partner with KCM. We stand with you as you trust God for the promises He has made to you and your family.



We shouldn't get caught up in the current negative spiral; instead, we need to get caught up in God's economy.

DON'T JUST SURVIVE

THRIVE

Have you ever watched one of those survival reality shows? | You know the ones I am writing about. They take a fellow and drop him off in some desolate, remote location. His supplies are limited. He must survive in the wild until he reaches civilization. For days on end his diet might consist of tree roots or bugs. Conditions are barely tolerable and decent sleep is rare. What is he doing? He is surviving—just getting by to the best of his ability. | It would be very easy to fall into a similar “survival mode” during these economic times. There is a temptation to think, *I would be happy if I could just maintain. Times are tough and we are all going to be affected by this economy.* | That is a “survival mentality.”

Get a grip on yourself! Don't ever forget that we are covenant believers in Christ—blood bought and redeemed from the curse of poverty and lack. We are the head and not the tail. We are above and not beneath. All of THE BLESSING should be coming on us and overtaking us. Deuteronomy 28:8 says the Lord shall command THE BLESSING upon us in our storehouses and in all that we set our hands unto. Verse 11 in *The Amplified Bible* tells us

the Lord shall make us to have a surplus of prosperity.

That doesn't sound like survival to me. Does it to you? Absolutely *not!*

A few months ago, the Lord spoke a clear and distinct word to me about how we are to conduct ourselves in this economy. He said, *This is our time to thrive—not just survive.*

You may be wondering just how we can thrive during times like these. I have good news for you. Bible

precedent has already been set. A covenant man in the Old Testament has already proven that a believer can live in tough times *and* prosper.

Let's take a look at the life of Isaac.

Genesis 26 begins, “And there was a famine in the land.” The word *famine* means “a severe shortage” or “extreme scarcity.” It might as well mean a “serious economic downturn.” Sound familiar? The times we're living in are very dark and serious for unbelievers. It is just as bad for Christians who don't know their covenant with God. They are in the middle of a famine and don't know how to stand in faith. That's why it's important to know what the Word tells us about famine—especially what to do when the world is experiencing one.

THRIVING IN A TIME OF FAMINE

Psalm 33:18-19 says, “The eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy; to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.”

As believers we must realize we have been delivered from death in times of famine. That doesn't only apply to a physical death. It can mean a death in our businesses, a death in our attitudes, a death in our finances or even a death in our investments. We are redeemed from destruction. Job 5:22 even says we will laugh at famine—for it holds no power over us!

Psalm 37:18-19 reveals that “The Lord knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be for ever. They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.” The *New Living Translation* says, “Even in famine they will have more than enough.” The Hebrew literally says, “He will supply until no more is needed.”

Regardless of the news reports, we must not allow ourselves to slip into a survival mentality. We must see ourselves as God sees us—thriving in every realm of our lives. We don't just *survive* and barely get by during times of famine. We *thrive!* *That's* what we do. *That's* who we are. When we hear economic pundits say, “We *might* make it through this year,” we must say, “No! We will not have it that way. This will be the *best* year we've ever had!”

From the Genesis 26 account, I have discovered five major keys to thriving and not just surviving during times of famine. Isaac is our standard and a shining example of a covenant man who experienced prosperity in the midst of a depression. In the midst of famine, we must keep doing what Isaac did.

KEY NO. 1—WE MUST KEEP OBEYING GOD

And there was a famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar. And the Lord appeared unto him, and said, Go not down into Egypt; dwell in the land which I shall tell thee of:

Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I swore unto Abraham thy father; and I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws. And Isaac dwelt in Gerar (Genesis 26:1-6).

Obedience is a key principle in time of famine. Note that Isaac immediately obeyed God's instructions. God needed Isaac to stay right where he was. He needs us to stay right where we are. We are here for a purpose—and that purpose is to be a symbol of the goodness of God. God's economy is thriving. So keep listening to the Holy Spirit. Keep obeying Him. The Holy Spirit will always lead us in the direction of abundance and prosperity, and to our wealthy place. Isaiah 1:8 says, “If you will be willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land.”

KEY NO. 2—WE MUST KEEP SOWING

Look at verse 12: “Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the Lord blessed him.”

Isaac didn't live in a fertile area. There were other locations better suited to agricultural endeavors. On top of that, it seemed like a crazy idea to sow during the middle of a famine. Yet his sowing produced a hundredfold return that year.

Verses 13-14 say, “And the man waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great. For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants....” This phrase *wax great* means “to increase,” “to advance” and “to tower.” Isaac was, at that time, the richest man in the world. He became “very great.” In the Hebrew that means he prospered very quickly. Even though there was a famine going on around Isaac, he wasn't subject to it. You and I are not subject to the famine around us either. We are operating in a different system, unfamiliar to this world—living and reigning as kings and priests!

During times of famine, people have a tendency to pull back from their giving—or even quit entirely. Now is not the time to quit. Now is the time to keep sowing seed. Ecclesiastes 11:4 (*AMP*) says, “He who observes the wind [and waits for all conditions to be favorable] will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap.” It may appear as though this isn't a good time to sow. On the contrary. It's a *great* time to sow. If we want to thrive, we must be obedient to God whenever He tells us to sow.

BY GEORGE PEARSONS

Our Free Gift to You!
Thriving in the Midst of Famine
Free download at www.emic.org/free

In this message from the 2009 Branson Victory Campaign, Pastor George shares principles on how you can THRIVE regardless of difficult circumstances.

"Yes, I will make rivers in the dry wasteland so my chosen people can be refreshed." (Isaiah 43:20, *New Living Translation*)

THRIVE

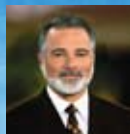
2009 Days of Refreshing

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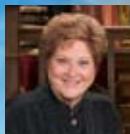
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on the grounds of Kenneth Copeland Ministries



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KEY NO. 3—WE MUST KEEP TITHING

Another reason Isaac thrived in famine was because he tithed. How do we know Isaac tithed? Because his father tithed. Genesis 14:20 says, "And he [Abram] gave him tithes of all." In Genesis 18:19 it says, "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord..."

Isaac grew up in a household where his dad, Abraham, tithed. Abraham taught Isaac to tithe. Isaac knew the first 10 percent belonged to God. He knew what he had to do in order to stay in THE BLESSING. He knew that he stood under the open windows of heaven as long as he tithed. The next time you tithe, look up and shout, "When I am tithing—I'm thriving!"

KEY NO. 4—WE MUST KEEP WALKING BY FAITH

This is not the time to give up. This isn't the time to back up or lay down the Word of God. If you want to thrive, you must keep walking by faith.

Let's go back to Genesis 26. Isaac dug many water wells for his flocks. These wells were vital. But each time he dug one, the Philistines filled them back up. Finally, in verse 22 it says, "And he removed from thence, and digged another well; and for that they strove not: and he called the name of it Rehoboth; and he said, For now the Lord hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land."

Isaac didn't stop digging wells. Instead, he continued to walk by faith. He continued to do what he needed to do until he received his breakthrough. Hebrews 10:35 (*AMP*) says, "Do not, therefore, fling away your fearless confidence, for it carries a great and glorious compensation of reward." Don't throw away your faith at a time like this. Keep standing. Keep believing. Keep walking by faith and not by sight.

KEY NO. 5—WE MUST KEEP ATTENDING CHURCH

I am not just writing this key because I am a pastor! We thrive when we stay connected to the word of our pastor. We thrive when we stay connected to other believers. "The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God" (Psalm 92:12-13). That word *flourish* means "to increase in wealth, favor and honor." It means "to thrive."

Get rooted and grounded in the house of the Lord. Stay in church! Stay in an atmosphere that is rich with God's Word. Stay connected to strong believers.

Are you ready to take a bold step of faith?

Are you ready to determine that you are going to thrive and not just survive?

If so, then stand up and say this out loud: "In Jesus' Name, I settle this issue today: I am not just surviving! I am thriving! I'm not moved by what I see. I'm not moved by what I hear. I will keep obeying God. I will keep sowing seed. I will keep tithing. I will keep walking by faith. I will keep going to church. In times of famine, my family and I prosper. We flourish. We excel. We succeed. This is our time, and THE BLESSING of the Lord maketh rich, and He adds no sorrow to it!" (See Proverbs 10:22.) **VICTORY**

George Pearsons is senior pastor of Eagle Mountain International Church, located on the grounds of Kenneth Copeland Ministries. For information or ministry materials write to Kenneth Copeland Ministries, Fort Worth, TX 76192-0001.

God is not looking to the government for change in America, He is looking for the Church to pray. —Kenneth Copeland

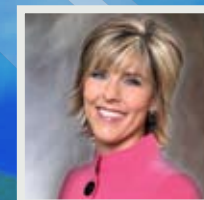
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Spirit-Led

prayer conference

Sept. 27-29

Terri Copeland Pearsons



Terri Copeland Pearsons, eldest daughter of Kenneth Copeland, learned at an early age that prayer is a way of life, not a mundane ritual. Sharing her father's passion for faith in the Word of God, she specializes in revealing the presence of God through prayer. She and her husband, George, minister together as senior pastors of Eagle Mountain International Church and at conferences throughout the world.

with
Patsy Cameneti



Patsy Cameneti is a gifted and anointed Bible teacher and communicator. While focusing on helping people to be all God has called them to be, she places a special emphasis on the subjects of prayer and a personal pursuit of God. Under the ministry and leadership of the late Kenneth E. Hagin, Patsy developed into a well-known and loved leader in prayer. Patsy has ministered around the world and established Bible schools in Italy, Singapore and Australia.

Admission is FREE! Preregister at events.kcm.org to be entered in a drawing for a free, three-night hotel stay at Marriott Burbank Airport Hotel.

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GoodNewsGazette

Blessings From Unexpected Sources

The BVOV magazine is the lifeline in my life, has boosted my faith and has been an inspiration to me to have a closer walk with the Lord.

God has truly been good to us. For the past year He has blessed us from unexpected sources with a home of our own, furniture and finances. He is truly an awesome God and faithful to perform His Word. I've learned so much from reading BVOV that I am able to share with people about the goodness of God.

C.A. : South Africa

Words of Wisdom

We want to thank you and your prayer team for standing with us about our son taking drugs. We received a quick answer to prayer and breakthrough came the next day! Everything hidden was revealed and exposed. The presence of God was so real to us. Thank you for those words of guidance and bless you all in Jesus' Name.

R.L. : United Kingdom

“Let your heart hold fast my words; keep my commandments and live.” (Proverbs 4:4, *The Amplified Bible*)

Fight the Good Fight of Faith



In 2003, after I threw my back out, I was diagnosed with a chemical imbalance in my brain. After seeing several doctors and undergoing tests the problem was discovered. I was put on more than one medication that took away the symptoms. I prayed every day, but my condition did not go away immediately.

Finally, on Easter Sunday in 2006, I decided to spend 30 minutes every night reading and meditating on healing scriptures from Gloria Copeland's minibook *God's Prescription for Divine Health*. I needed to build up my faith for a healing miracle. I knew in my heart I was healed after I received words from the Lord.

Over time God taught me how to get the victory. He taught me to be a doer of the Word and not a hearer only, and how to fight the fight of faith and win. I didn't know I had to cast down every imagination! I decided to wean myself off the medicine. I must have rebuked the devil 100 times a day after that. I was exhausted! After two weeks, which is the time it takes for the medicines to leave your system, the symptoms came back strong. I almost went back on the medication, but I turned to prayer instead. I continued the fight of faith and defeated the devil. God healed me and I feel so much better. Praise God!

Diane Grubis : Holly Springs, N.C.

Harvest Time

I really received my harvest this year! God has done so many things. I received a godly wife, and was given a car—debt free! My small business is also expanding aggressively!

M.D.H. : Belgium

Living in God's Economy

Last fall, when real estate came to a crashing halt and our accounts went to minus zero, we decided to become Partners with you and began sowing into KCM. Since then my husband has had many closings, I have a new job teaching in my profession, we have money in our accounts and a new church. The list goes on and on. God is faithful.

M.C. : Tennessee

Renewed Life in Paralyzed Arm

In September 2000, I was in a motorcycle accident that paralyzed my left arm. On Feb. 5, 2009, God started healing my arm. It has been eight long years with no movement and the possibility of amputation. But now I can move my index finger and ring finger. Thank You, Jesus!

L.D.B. : Florida

The Eden System Works!

My Lord has made a way for me! The Eden system works and this has been my *best* year for finances. I see so many people crying because they are in the world's system...and won't listen to me share about God's system. Thank God for your ministry.

Joseph Moffett III : Texas

Nothing Is Impossible

Recently, an eviction warrant was given for the property my mother and I share. I shared this with the KCM prayer team and together we believed in faith. Two days before the eviction date I received favor from my employer who agreed to help me out financially. Praise be to God! God has truly blessed me. This would not have been possible without Him. I thank Him for choosing me so I never have to live without Him.

D.B. : United Kingdom

Miracles in My Marriage

I just wanted to say thank you for your prayers and support. I'm sending a praise report about my husband who was baptized and filled with the Spirit. Now he is working on a relationship with the Lord! God is good! We are both working together on our marriage and getting structure in our family. I want to praise God for His faithfulness to me and answering my prayers! I am very blessed to be a Partner with you.

D.B. : Canada

Significant Raise

Awhile back at work my boss asked to speak with me. Near the end of the conversation he explained that he was not paying me enough and gave me a substantial raise! Thank you for your prayers and continued agreement concerning my prosperity.

Ethan Harlacher : Pennsylvania

Relationship Restored

I have been a Partner with KCM for 20 years. God has ministered to me so many times just when I needed a particular word of wisdom.

Recently, your magazine has again been used by God to instruct, correct and focus my attention on what is needful. The article by Brother Copeland “Put Out the Fire” was just what my son needed to hear. It has corrected us and redirected our focus on Jesus and His Word.

My son and I are directors for our family business and with the pressure on business over the last several months we had allowed strife to get into our relationship. When I shared the article with him we both repented and received forgiveness from the Lord. Our faith has been restored and we are fully persuaded that God will bring us through this difficult time in victory.

E.M. : Ireland

Prayer Is Our Priority. Please Call 800-600-7395.

Proud to Have Served My Country

We are so thankful for the many things your ministry has done for us. A few years ago we attended a meeting in Atlanta. During the meeting you asked for all the Vietnam veterans to stand and you made a simple statement: “Welcome home.” I was delivered instantly from all the shame, survivor's guilt and other baggage I had been carrying ever since I returned. I now stand tall, and if someone asks if I'm a Vietnam vet I can say, “I am and I served proudly.”

Lamar Dunkle : Perry, Fla.

God Turned It Around for Good

Our family moved out of our home earlier this year because we were about to be evicted due to late rent payments every month. Our financial life had been bad. We were always broke, our food supply was also very low and we could hardly afford anything. My wife works for a financial services company and I have my own business, which hadn't been very successful since I started it. We were depending on one income and with the kids the burden was heavy—we were living from crisis to crisis.

But now the Lord has turned our situation around! I bought Leroy Thompson's book *I Am Not Broke, I Have a Seed*; Charles Capps' book *The Tongue, A Creative Force*; and Brother Copeland's series *Tithing the Tithe* (now titled *The Tithe—God's Invitation to Financial Freedom*). After reading the books and listening to the tapes my life has never been the same. We have gone from having no place to stay to receiving the favor of God by moving into a two-bedroom townhouse.

If that wasn't enough, I received money from an acquaintance I hadn't seen in a long time. All of this happened because I started to speak and align my conversation with the Word of God concerning my life and finances. From now on I will do what Jesus did: Speak to the mountain. I am not going to move...it's the mountain that's got to move! I will speak as Jesus spoke to turn my life around.

T.P. : South Africa

Prosperous in Kingdom Business

This has been the best year we've ever had!

We started our ministry in 1999. Last August we enlarged our meeting room and did some remodeling with all of our bills paid on time. We appreciate you and your support so much!

K.R. : Switzerland



To order this product, please visit kcm.org or call 800-600-7395.

where's the POWER?

“Ye shall receive power....” | That’s what Jesus said to the early disciples. And all you have to do is scan the book of Acts to see how dramatically His words were fulfilled. | The first-century Church electrified the world around them. They healed the sick, raised the dead and cast out demons. The power of God so surrounded the Apostle Peter that members of his community actually dragged their sick into the street in hopes his shadow would fall on them as he passed.

“Ye shall receive power....”
Jesus has made that promise to us too. To you and to me—to everyone who believes on Him. He has sent us out to carry on the miraculous work He and the early Church began.
But somewhere along the way, there’s been a power failure. For years we’ve tried to sweep it under our religious rug. We’ve given excuses. We’ve explained it away by saying the age of miracles is past. We’ve tried to cover up

our lack of power with plans and programs and activities. But today more and more believers are facing the problem head-on. More and more are daring to ask the question that’s been secretly on our minds for years.
Where’s the power?
It’s a crucial question. And, praise God, the more we ask it, the more we’re beginning to see there *is* an answer—one that can set the Church on her feet again. An answer that, once we grasp it and apply it, will give us the ability not only



to be victorious in our own lives, but to electrify the world around us with the glorious power of God.
Today, I want you to glimpse that answer for yourself by looking with me at John 14. It is perhaps one of the most gripping passages of the Bible. In it, we can see Jesus at one of the most critical points of His ministry.
He is about to go to the Cross, and He’s taking His last real opportunity to talk with the members of His staff before His death. He has little time left to get across to them all they need to know.
There’s an urgency in His voice, a seriousness about the moment that must have arrested the attention of His disciples as never before. He is about to put His miraculous ministry into their hands. He is about to give them the keys to His power.
Here are just a few of the things Jesus said. Read them carefully. They are tremendously important.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. If ye love me, keep my commandments. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him (John 14:12-15, 21).

In those last precious hours before the cross, Jesus spoke to His disciples about supernatural power. He told them they would soon be able to have *whatever* they asked for in prayer. He told them He was about to make so much power available to them they’d not only be able to do the miraculous signs and wonders He’d done, they’d be able to do even greater things.
And what’s more, He told them exactly how to keep that power operating in their lives. He gave them a three-part power package that will work for us as surely as it worked for those first disciples.
It is a package with three inseparable elements, none of which will work without

the others. And it is a package that can provide a sure solution to the supernatural power failure so many believers are facing today.

PART ONE: KEEPING THE COMMANDS
The first and perhaps most obvious part of this three-part power package is the Name of Jesus. He said, “If ye shall ask any thing *in my name*, I will do it.”
But I don’t want to begin there. The reason is simple. Most believers try to use that part without the other two and they fall flat on their spiritual faces. So, let’s look first at this verse: “If ye love me, keep my commandments.”
Most of us know that scripture well. But few realize it is one of the precious keys without which we can never unlock the power of God.
When Jesus said, “Keep my commandments,” He wasn’t just encouraging His disciples to be good. He was letting them know that if they wanted the power to receive whatever they asked for in prayer, if they wanted the power to work wonders as He did, they were going to have to meet some conditions. They were going to have to do the things He’d commanded them to do.
In short, He was saying, “Boys, there’s power in My Name. And if you’ll keep My commandments, that Name will get you anything you ask for. But if you don’t keep My commandments, My Name won’t work for you.”
And the same thing is true for us today. If we will keep the commandments of Jesus, His Name will release tremendous, miracle-working power when we say it. If we don’t, it won’t. It’s that simple.
As Jesus continued to speak to the disciples that day, He drove that point home again and again. In John 15:7, He said: “If ye abide in me, *and my words abide* in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.”
And again, in verse 10: “*If ye keep my commandments*, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love.”
And in verse 14: “Ye are my friends, *if ye do whatsoever I command you*.”
To get a better grasp of what Jesus is talking about in all these verses, go back

Salvation Prayer

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

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

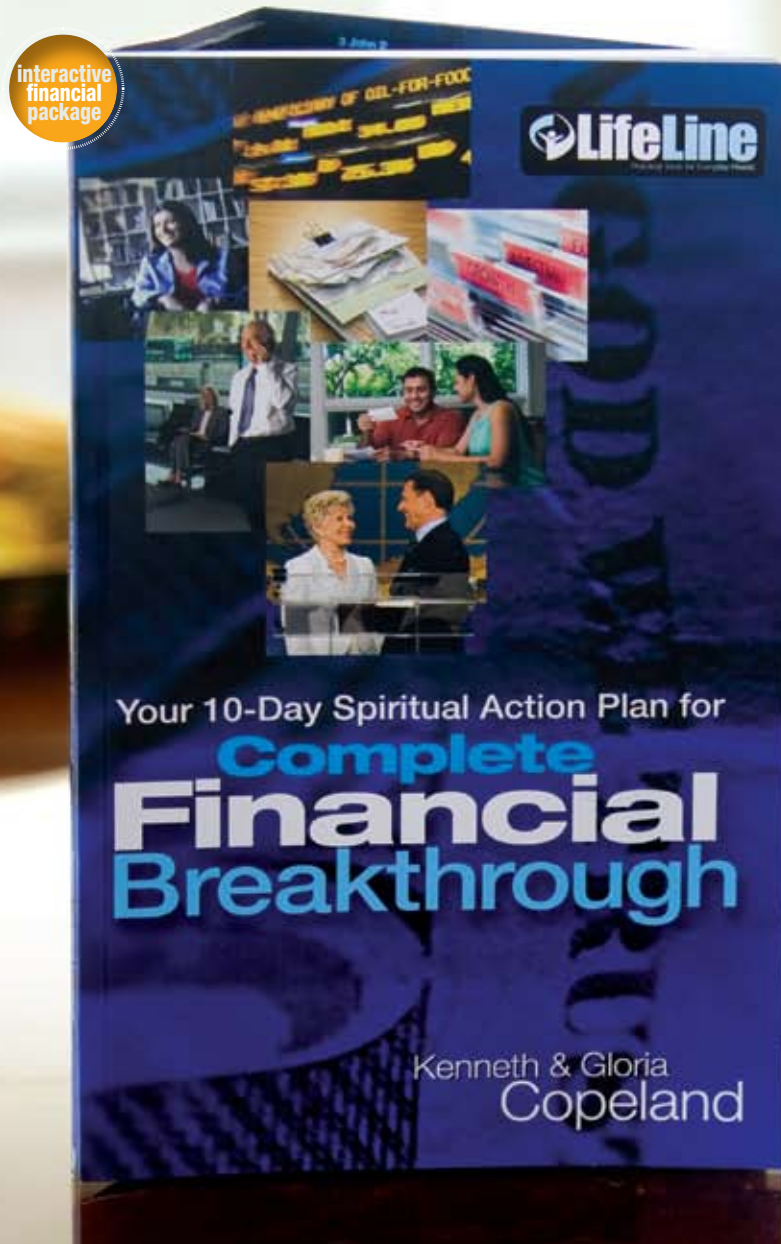
I take You at Your Word. I confess that Jesus is Lord. And I believe in my heart that You raised Him from the dead. Thank You for coming into my heart, for giving me Your Holy Spirit as You have promised, and for being Lord over my life. Amen.

If you have just prayed this prayer, please contact us and let us know of your decision. We have a *free* Salvation Package we would like to send you to help you begin your new life in Jesus! Simply write and ask for offer #50801, check the circle on the response form in the center of this magazine or call 800-600-7395.

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and take another look at verse 7: "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you...."

That word *abide* is so important. You see, when Jesus told us to obey His commandments and keep His Word, He wasn't just telling us to follow a bunch of religious rules and regulations.

He was telling us to allow His Word—which is a living thing—to make its home within us. He was telling us to spend time with it, to meditate on it, to fill our minds and our mouths with it, and to let it guide our every action.

The Apostle Paul put it this way, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly..." (Colossians 3:16).

Most believers don't have any idea what that means. And that's one of the reasons they're so short on power. One man who *does* know what it means, however, is Brother Oral Roberts. And he once said something to me about it that I'll never forget. He said that when the Word is really abiding in you, when it's alive and producing like it should, you can *hear* it.

And he's right! When you begin to spend quality time in the Word of God, you'll begin to hear it down inside you.

You know what it's like when you get a song on your mind and you just keep hearing it over and over inside you? You may be busy doing something else and still that song will just play on.

When you start letting the Word abide in you, you're probably going to hear it in much that same way. And, believe me, that's a tremendous thing!

Many times I've been in desperate situations wondering what I was going to do, when suddenly I'd hear a scripture down on the inside of me. I'd hear verses from some Bible tape I'd been listening to. And suddenly, I'd know exactly what the answer to my situation was. I'd be delivered by the Word of God that was dwelling in me.

"Oh, but Brother Copeland," you might say, "how on earth am I ever going to be able to remember all those verses? How am I going to be able to think of them when I need them?"

Jesus Himself answered that question. He said: "The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you" (John 14:26).

So, invite the Holy Spirit to go to work on your behalf. Just keep telling Him, "Whatever You bring to my remembrance from the Word is exactly what I'm going to act on. I'm going to be obedient to every command of Jesus that You bring to mind."

Sounds simple, doesn't it?

It is! But, it's not necessarily easy. Let me show you what I mean.

In this same passage in the book of John that we've been looking at, Jesus gave us this command: "Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27).

Now, if you're going to operate in power that means you're going to have to keep that command, right? In other words, when all kinds of chaos seem to break loose around you, you'll have to refuse to panic. You'll have to be willing to say to your heart, "Heart, you're not going to be troubled and you're not going to be afraid in any situation and particularly not in this one I'm facing right now. Jesus said not to do it, and I'm going to keep His command!"

"Oh, Brother Copeland, I don't think I could do that!"

Yes, you can. And when you do, you'll have put the first part of God's supernatural power package to work in your life.

PART TWO: SPEAKING THE NAME

Once you make up your mind to keep the commands of Jesus and begin to allow the Word to dwell in you richly, the Name of Jesus will become something far more powerful to you. It will become more than just a word. It will become a force that will cause every circumstance and every demon that tries to stand in your way to bow its knee to your command.

I'm telling you, the Name of Jesus works. There is far greater power in it than any of us have yet realized. As Philippians 2:9-10 says, God has given Jesus "a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth!"

Every prayer I utter is in His Name. My faith is so set on the authority of the Name of Jesus that there are times I just say, "In the Name" and the power of God comes on the scene.

In fact, I've discovered that the Name of Jesus—just the Name alone—is effective when spoken by a Word-abiding believer. It doesn't need a lot of other fancy words to go with it.

Revelation 19:13 says the Name of Jesus is The Word of God! So, when an evil spirit is trying to bring sickness, poverty, depression or any other garbage into my household, I don't have to quote every scripture I know to stop him.

I can just point my finger at him and say, "Jesus!" That's like throwing the whole Word of God in his face at one time!

PART THREE: LIVING THE LOVE

Letting the Word of God abide in you.

Speaking the Name of Jesus.

Two parts of a power package that can absolutely tear the devil's kingdom apart. And although those two are vital, always remember, it's a three-part package. And it won't work without all three parts.

What is the third part?

Jesus tells us in John 15:12-13: “This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”

Love. That’s the power charge of this whole package. The rest is simply no good without it.

And though I realize that keeping the law of love could be included in the first step we talked about (after all, it is the first and foremost command Jesus gave us), I think we need to talk about it separately because so many believers neglect to do it.

I’m talking about believers who can quote tremendous amounts of Scripture and who may speak the Name of Jesus 35 or 40 times a day, yet they’re rough and insensitive to the needs of their friends and family. They’re so busy “serving God,” they don’t have time to serve people. They’re often critical of others in the Body of Christ. And they’ll fuss and fight with each other on a moment’s notice. Strife is their hallmark.

Such folks are not only devoid of real spiritual power, the Bible says they are spiritually foolish.

Look in 1 Corinthians and you’ll see what I mean. There, the Apostle Paul addresses the Corinthian believers about their lack of love, saying: “But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?” (1 Corinthians 2:14, 3:1, 3).

In short, what Paul is saying here is that strife will bring you down to the level of the unbeliever. It will dull your spirit until you can’t see or understand spiritual things!

You may have been saved 45 years; you may talk in tongues all day long, but if you’ve got strife in your heart and you’re not living by the love commandment of Jesus, spiritual things are foolishness to you. And as long as spiritual things are foolishness to you, Satan is going to do with you just about as he wants to.

When you’re in that condition, the Name of Jesus won’t work. Faith won’t work. Prophecy won’t work. The word of wisdom won’t work.

In fact, none of the gifts of the Spirit will work if you don’t have love! First Corinthians 13 says so!

Do you want to see the incredible power of God released through your life? Then you’re going to have to love one another. You’re going to have to stop arguing and criticizing and start laying down your life—for your wife... and your kids...and your pastor...and even that bunch down at the church who’ve got their doctrine all wrong.

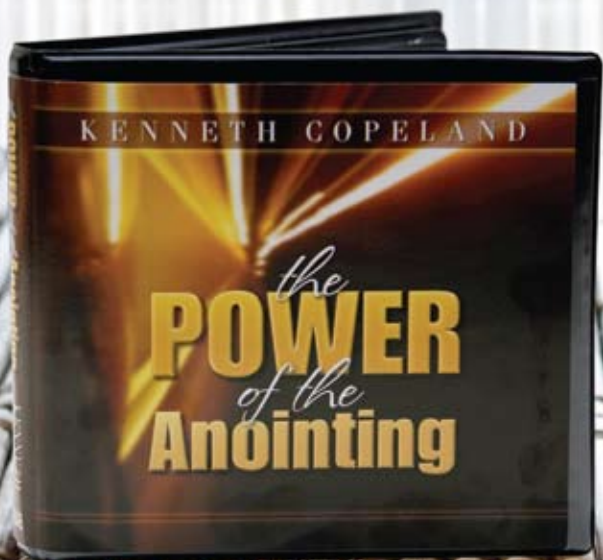
Love is the power charge, friend. You can lay hands on people till you rub all the hair off their heads; you can shout the Name of Jesus till you’re hoarse; but if you aren’t obeying the commandment of love, you’re not going to see anything happen at all. God’s power package just won’t work without it.

We’ve put up with this power failure long enough. We’ve whined and cried and begged God to fix it. We’ve done almost everything except what Jesus told us to do. But, starting today, you and I can change all that.

We can make up our minds to let the Word dwell richly within us. We can set our hearts on keeping the commands of Jesus. And we can begin to speak His Name with confidence and authority. And, most important of all, we can begin to love one another.

Then, instead of asking, “Where is the power?” we can answer boldly—“It’s here! And praise God, it’s beginning to flow!” **VICTORY**

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www.thearkatclcc.com | 573-431-7300

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the Nature of GOD is abundance

A number of years ago I was preaching in Lake Charles, La., when I had a day off between meetings. A pastor friend asked if I would like to go to lunch and see the city. | We had lunch at a well-known Cajun restaurant, and had a great time. In fact, we were having such a great time that I started wishing my wife, Carolyn, was there to enjoy it with me. | After eating, my friend said, “Is there anything else you’d like to do?” | I answered, “Could you take me to a jewelry store? I’d like to buy a gift for my wife.”

When we walked into the jewelry store I said to the lady behind the counter, “I’d like to find something for my wife.”

“Is it her birthday?” she asked.

“No.”

“Anniversary?”

“No, ma’am.”

Then, she said, “Well, it’s July—maybe it’s an early Christmas present?”

“No,” I answered.

“Well, may I ask why you’re buying jewelry for your wife if it’s

not a special occasion?”

“Because I love her,” I told the woman.

Almost instantly she started crying and ran to the back room. Moments later she returned with another lady, tears still streaming down her face and said to me, “Tell her why you’re buying this for your wife. Tell her it’s not for her birthday, anniversary or Christmas.”

I said, “I’m buying it because I love her.” Now they both cried.

GOD’S NATURE IS TO GIVE

John 3:16 says, “For God so loved the world, that he *gave*....” When we love, we want to give. First John 4:8 tells us, “He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God *is* love.” And that’s what love does. It gives. It could have just as well said, “He that giveth not knoweth not God; for God is a *giver*.” People who love are givers. It just comes naturally. It’s the very nature of God to give, and He’s our Daddy.

To be a giver you must have

resources. You may desire to give, but if you don’t have anything to give, you can’t be a giver. The Bible also tells us God told Abraham He would bless him and make him a blessing. That means the prosperity God would give Abraham wasn’t for him only, but he was to be a “distribution center.”

Psalm 84:11 says, “For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.” The psalmist understood that God is a giver by nature and He withholds *no good thing* from them that walk uprightly.

How many times have you heard your pastor mention a new project or outreach that you desired to contribute to but couldn’t because you had nothing to give. You sat there thinking, *I wish I could put some money into that*. That is the nature of God in you wanting to express love for the work of God. Now you may not have had resources at that moment, but there is something you can do to increase your resources.

Jesus said, “Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you” (Matthew 6:33). If you will begin to seek God with your whole heart, He will add increase to your life.

When I first heard Kenneth Copeland back in 1969, I got hungry for God! I wanted to know God like Brother Copeland knew Him. My heart was bursting with a desire to sow into his ministry. The only problem was I didn’t have a dime. I prayed about it and God told me to write Brother Copeland and tell him the only seed I had right then was prayer time, but that I would dedicate the first hour each morning to praying for his ministry.

I wrote and told him I desired to sow \$1,000 into his ministry, but all I could do at the moment was pray for his ministry one hour each morning. And I did.

I’ll never forget when I walked up to Brother Copeland and handed him that first \$1,000. It didn’t happen overnight, but it happened. I was pursuing God, and increase was pursuing me. I was getting to know God, and abundance was being added to me.

GOD’S NATURE IS ABUNDANCE

Some people think the nature of God is the miraculous, but it’s not. The nature of God is abundance. Miracles only happen when there is lack.

Think about that. God’s best is not for you to live on miracles. His best is for you to live in abundance—then you don’t need a miracle. Would you rather have a financial miracle every six months or live continually in divine prosperity? Would you rather love a miraculous healing every few years, or walk in divine health?

Religion has perverted our concept of God. The Scripture clearly states in John 10:10, “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”

God and poverty cannot be linked together. Poverty is under the curse, and abundance is the blessing of God. Jesus prayed in Matthew 6:10, “Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.” Have you ever heard of anyone being sad, depressed or oppressed in heaven? Have you ever heard it said that there is lack in heaven? God wants us to live down here like we’re already enjoying heaven. First Timothy 6:17 says, “...God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy.” For the first part of my life, I didn’t know that God was interested in what brought joy to me. I thought if it was joyful, it was sinful, but the Bible doesn’t teach that at all.

HOT-ROD HEAVEN

My daddy was a hot rodder. He raced automobiles and rode motorcycles. He represented everything I wanted to be. I had a need for speed and my daddy saw to it I got it—from the fastest bicycles and go-carts to the meanest motorcycles and hot rods—all my life! I grew up on a racetrack, and that was my world. I loved the noise, the smell, the dirt and clay flying—man, that was living!

Carolyn, on the other hand, hated it. She thought it was of the devil. Her whole life centered



Some people think the nature of God is the miraculous, but it’s not. The nature of God is abundance. Miracles only happen when there is lack.

on God and church, and if I wanted to date her, I had to go to church. I hated that! The first time I took her to a racetrack, my dad saw her up in the stands with her hands over her ears, and he said to me, “Son, your racing days are over. I can tell by the look on Carolyn’s face, she’s going to pray all this out of you.”

When I came to the Lord, I wanted to show God He was No. 1 in my life. At the time I had two ’36 Ford coupes, a ’39 Chevy pickup, and a ’69 Triumph Bonneville. I gave them all up. God didn’t make me. It was my choice.

About 10 years later a man came to me and said his family had been so blessed by our ministry he prayed and asked God how he could bless me personally. He said God told him to buy me a motorcycle.

I told him I appreciated it, but no thanks, that wasn’t part of my life anymore.

He said, “Well, I guess I can hear God as good as you can.” I said, “Excuse me. I’ll be right back.”

So I just walked away and asked the Lord about it. He said, *I told him to buy you a motorcycle because I know I can trust you with it now and it won’t come between you and Me. I also know it will bring you joy; and if it brings you joy, it will bring Me joy. Thirdly, I want you to turn your former passion into a tool for evangelism.*

I told the man, “You have heard from God. Bring me my motorcycle.”

That bike did bring me great joy, and it was used mightily as an evangelistic tool. I later established Chariots of Light motorcycle club and we have chapters all over the world, and we’ve won thousands to Christ every year through this powerful tool.

It’s the result of God’s nature of giving! His nature is abundance! He’s not the God who takes away; He’s the God who *gives*.

Proverbs 10:22 says, “The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich....” One of the major characteristics of the blessing of God on a person’s life is increase. In Psalm 23 David said, “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.... My cup runneth over.” That’s overflow!

Remember when Jesus fed the 5,000? The Bible tells us after they were full, there were 12 baskets left over. That’s abundance!

Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were all prosperous in land and cattle. David took millions from his own personal treasury to build the temple. Job was the richest man in the East. The book of Acts tells us the Apostle Paul traveled around the known world three times. This is the same man who wrote in Philippians 4:12, “I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound.”

BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING

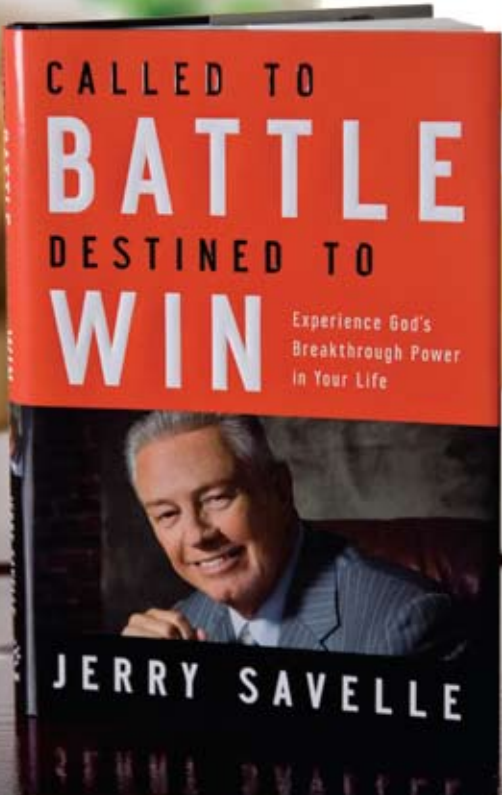
Psalm 65:11 says, “Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness.” In Hebrew the word *fatness* is translated “abundance.” That’s God’s nature. Deuteronomy 28:11 says, “And the Lord shall make you have a surplus of prosperity” (*The Amplified Bible*). That’s one of the blessings of Abraham.

Surplus means “more than enough, overflowing and abundance.” It means you’ve got so much left over that you can now help meet the needs of others!

Expect to be blessed! We are blessed to be a blessing. We are distribution centers for God. We don’t consume all the blessing upon ourselves. We distribute and keep it flowing. We’re givers. That’s who we are. That’s what we do. It’s our nature. **VICTORY**

Jerry Savelle is president and founder of Jerry Savelle Ministries International and founding pastor of Heritage of Faith Christian Center. For information or ministry materials write to Jerry Savelle Ministries, P.O. Box 748, Crowley, TX 76036; visit their Web site at www.jerrysavelle.org; or call 817-297-3155.

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NOT ARRAYED LIKE ONE OF THESE.

the Seeking Life

All the days of my early life, though I believed in God, I didn’t know God actually cared for me. I didn’t realize He was interested in whether a person had a job or decent clothes, or the prosperity of every aspect of this life. | But one day, I began to find out some things about God! | In the little house where we lived as newlyweds, with a rented rollaway bed, a metal table Ken made in high-school shop class, and a coffee pot—the only way I had to cook potatoes—I discovered God. For lack of anything else to do, I picked up the Bible Ken’s mother had given him, opened it up and read the inscription: “Ken, precious, seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these other things will be added unto you (Matthew 6:33).”

BY GLORIA COPELAND



Yes, I did believe in God and didn't expect He would ever lie to me. I thought, *This is for me. I need this. I need to know this.* I had a lot of things that needed to be added to me. So, I turned to Matthew 6 and began to read: "Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?" (verse 26).

I thought to myself, *I didn't know God cared for the birds. I didn't know He fed the birds. If He feeds birds, if He cares for them, then He would care for me.* This was a revelation to me. It was an insight I did not have, and it was all good news. I asked the Lord that day to take my life and do something with it. Now, I had never heard the term "born again" that I remember—but that day, with those simple words, I *was* born again.

God got me that day! He got my attention because I had so many needs in my life. But, more than that, He got my heart. I began to realize there was so much to know about Him that I did not know, and He made me want to know

everything about Him I could find out. On that day, He started me on a new way of life—a life of discovering His will and His ways—a seeking life.

It's ALL GOOD

I soon discovered all the good things I was looking for in this life would come from only one source, and that was God. He is the focus of the seeking life!

He started me out with that scripture, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness...." That was all I knew to do. I began to seek Him. I became a student of His Word, and I became consumed by God and His Word.

To this day, every time I open the Bible I do it with purpose and with great expectation. I expect to hear from Him!

That's how Ken and I approach His Word—knowing that as we seek Him, we'll find something about Him we've never known before. We expect Him to speak to us. I'll say, "Ken, look." Or, Ken will say to me, "Look, Gloria. Look what I saw in the Word." It's a treasure hunt for us, and we always uncover something good!

I have no doubt about Matthew 7:7, "Ask, and it shall be given you; *seek, and ye shall find*;" knock, and it shall be opened unto you." As I have discovered God's will for my life through His Word, I have asked Him for many things in these more than 42 years of ministry, and He has given me what I've asked for. I have sought healing and prosperity for myself and others and have found everything I need. I have become a child who boldly knocks on my Father's door because I know He is a Father who gladly opens every door to His children.

As I have lived seeking Him, I've discovered God is good and He loves us. His deepest desire is to give His children a good life filled with good things—to do the highest good for us.

God wants to add all good things to us. What things? Look at Matthew 6:25-32 and you'll see.

Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit

unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

He knows what we need and He wants to give us those things: food, shelter, clothing, well-being—all the necessities to have and enjoy life. And, according to these scriptures, we don't ever have to worry about these things.

NO WORRIES

Just like most people who don't know God cares for them, I had always thought it was my duty to worry. And I had gotten pretty good at it, fretting about things: *How are we going to make it? What are we going to do about furniture? Am I ever going to get a cookstove?*

Then Matthew 6:31-32 became real to me: "Therefore do not worry and be anxious, saying, What are we going to have to eat? or, What are we going to have to drink? or, What are we going to have to wear? For the Gentiles (heathen) wish for and crave and diligently seek all these things, and your heavenly Father knows well that you need them all" (*The Amplified Bible*).

Do not worry, Jesus said! We don't have any reason to worry. We have a Father who makes sure all our needs are met. We are not like the people in this world who worry and seek after the basic necessities because they are without a Father to take care of them. Besides that, we know all the worry in the world will not provide anything we need.

We have a Father who knows exactly what we need every day of our lives and He takes pleasure in loading us up with all good things to enjoy!

Jesus went on to say those words in Matthew 6:33 that "got" me that day—"But seek (aim at and strive after) first of all His kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these things taken together will be given you besides" (*AMP*).

In other words, don't fret and worry and use all your energy seeking the *things*. Relax, focus on Him and put your energy into finding out all the wonderful things you can about your heavenly Father and how He provides for you. Do that and the *things* will come to you!

FIRST THINGS FIRST

The No. 1 thing in your life is the kingdom of God and His right ways. We need to know how God does things because the way He does everything is right! That's what the whole Bible is about. So we seek.

I have discovered the seeking life is a life intent on finding what it's looking for. One meaning of the word *seek* is "to go after," which is what I have done from that day in that little house. But *seek* also means "to search for; to try to find; to look for; to go to; to resort to; to explore; to ask or inquire of; to learn or discern." The Hebrew word for *seek* means "to inquire or require" and its root meaning is "to tread or to frequent."

Seeking is not a casual or part-time activity. It's a full-time job that requires our full attention. And when we understand that everything we have need of comes from seeking God and His kingdom (according to what Jesus said in Matthew 6:33), we will be wise to invest the time and effort. Every day of our lives we can be on a great treasure hunt that's guaranteed to bring results!

Seeking Him first means before you do anything else you spend time with Him and His Word—before you start your day, before you go to work, before you wake the kids. And I'm here to tell you, it works!

Years ago the Lord led me to spend the first hour of every day with Him. That single act of obedience has made all the difference in my life and in the lives of my family. God promises when we do what the Word says we're going to always come out on top. I can look at my life, Ken's life and the lives of our children and grandchildren and say, "Thank You, Lord. You are true to Your Word!"

Ken and I have been living this life of seeking God for more than 42 years. That's longer than the children of Israel were in the



I soon discovered all the good things I was looking for in this life would come from only one source, and that was God. He is the focus of the seeking life!



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“The vision of the KCM Web site,” said Executive Director James Tito, “is to be the primary source of information for Partners and Friends to find biblical answers to today’s most challenging problems such as finances, relationships and health concerns.

“More than anything, it’s an extension of Kenneth and Gloria Copeland’s vision,” Tito continued. “KCM is a teaching ministry that helps people grow from the milk to the meat of the Word—and therefore live better, happier, healthier and more productive lives through Christ.”

KCM online supports that vision.

Great Blessings for All

KCM first appeared online in August 1996. Though its resources were limited, within five years, kcm.org offered live audio and video of KCM meetings, free downloadable ministry resources, the *From Faith to Faith* devotional subscription by email and more.

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Read articles by Kenneth and Gloria Copeland

Download audio messages

Read about KCM events

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And much, much more!

These benefits are available because behind the scenes, KCM online runs on a sophisticated content management system—one that requires considerable bandwidth to the Internet, and stable computer hardware to keep it operational. A team of programmers, artists, writers, project managers and content managers work diligently to keep the Web site updated.

Of course, just because so much is already available does not mean we’re about to stop innovating. “Exciting additions [are] coming soon,” says Tito, “including live webinars, chats with Copeland family members, an interactive community where KCM Partners can find and connect with each other, new content and new audio and video programs.”

KCM has a rich history of using the most up-to-date technologies to communicate God’s Word. Over the years, we have transitioned from radio to TV, cassette tape to CD, videotape to DVD, and local to global. Now we’re embracing the Internet as one more available voice to proclaim the Word of God without compromise from the top of the world to the bottom and all the way around. It’s one more way that We’re Here for You!

VICTORY

Each KCM office has its own Web site which serves the Partners and Friends in that area.

U.S.: kcm.org

Australia: kcm.org.au

Canada: kcmcanada.ca

Europe: kcm.org.uk

Africa: kcm.org.za

Ukraine: kcm.org.ua

Spanish Web site: kcm.org/es

Thank you, Kenneth and Gloria, for making me a woman of faith. Through your Internet ministry I have learned so much. I was living on welfare with my two boys, but today I have a job! I thank the Lord for increase in my finances, divine health, protection, wisdom and every good gift that He has given us.

Marie Ton : Germany

wilderness. We haven’t been in a wilderness—we’ve been walking a blessed life of continual increase. And we have no plans to ever change our direction. He will always be our first priority.

KEEPING ON

The *New Living Translation* of Matthew 7:7 says, “Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you.”

That’s exactly what Ken and I have planned for the rest of our days here on earth. We’ll never quit doing that. We know God has more to give, more to show us, and more for us to do than one lifetime can discover. So, we’ll keep on asking, seeking and knocking; and God will keep on giving, revealing and opening.

This is the most solid plan I can imagine to sit back and enjoy our “golden years.” It’s the plan that will keep us going when others may be ready to quit. It’s the plan that will keep increase coming to us, and allow us to keep sowing seed into the work of the gospel.

We have not spent our lives seeking Him just to receive blessing only for us and our family. Yes, we have discovered God’s will and His ways for our lives. But we haven’t stopped there. That has never been God’s plan for anyone who seeks Him.

His plan for all His children is that we help others find Him—help *them* get on the path to the seeking life.

Whether we are called to a worldwide ministry or a ministry to our neighbors, we can help someone find God’s will for them. We can help them develop their faith. We can help them become seekers of His kingdom. We can help them receive the things God has for them.

Little did Ken’s mother know the Bible inscription she wrote for *him* would turn *Gloria* into a God-seeker!

Seeking God is the key to a good life, a happy life, a blessed and abundant life. It’s a life that goes after the things of God and receives all He has!

It’s a life that enjoys every day because every day God shows us something about Himself.

The seeking life gets up every morning asking, *God, what do You want me to do today? What would You like to show me?* He will tell you, and then you take one step at

a time! Just go after it and keep on going!

God has a lot in store for you—everything you will ever need plus the most amazing treasures along the way. All you have to do to discover His plan is begin today to seek Him. **VICTORY**

Believer’s Voice of Victory Broadcast Calendar

September



Kenneth Copeland



Gloria Copeland



Kellie Copeland Swisher



Jeremy Pearsons

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DAILY				
31 Mon	1 Tue	2 Wed	3 Thu	4 Fri
<i>Living on His Behalf</i> It’s time to live our lives walking in the power of God! Kellie Copeland Swisher shares what it takes to allow God to work through us in all we say and do.				
6 SUNDAY	7	8	9	10
Kenneth Copeland <i>A Picture of the One Who Chooses Life</i> Get a picture of what it means to choose life—and live with purpose.	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19
Kenneth Copeland <i>Partnership—Divinely Connected in Purpose, Call and Destiny</i> You’re not in this walk of faith alone. Learn how partnership puts you in a position to be transformed from the inside out.	20	21	22	23
Gloria Copeland <i>Receive Your Healing Today</i> What you believe and continually say is what will come to pass. Learn the power of speaking God’s Word.	24	25	26	27
Gloria Copeland <i>Today Is Your Day of Decision—Receive Your Healing</i> You <i>can</i> live a long, fruitful life on earth. Find out what the Word says about God’s will for your lifelong health and healing.	28	29	30	1
	2	3	4	5
<i>The God You Thought You Knew</i> How well do you <i>really</i> know God? This week Jeremy Pearsons challenges you to get to know God deeper and richer than ever. Discover who He is!				

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—Kenneth and Gloria Copeland

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