

# VICTORY

JUNE 2019



Kenneth and John Copeland

## EVERY MAN IS CALLED TO BE A FATHER.

“Wherever we go, we always ask pastors the same question:  
‘What is the greatest need that you have in this country?’  
Their answer? ‘We need spiritual fathers!’”

—Pastor George Pearsons



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**“It happened instantly.  
We fell in love with the people. They were  
wonderful and so hungry for God.”**



**“His love and  
commitment  
to bless us  
never change.  
We shut the door  
to that blessing  
when we refuse  
to honor what  
He says.”**

# JUNE

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Gloria and I consider partnership a very sacred thing and are convinced that the principles of partnership are key to victory in these last days.

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# *Pleasing Daddy Has Its Rewards*

***Have you noticed the strange ideas some people have about what it takes to please God?***

They say: “Well, you’d just better not slip up.” Or they think, *I’d better read my Bible an hour a day or God won’t bless me.* Some folks have given up altogether saying, “Man, I’ve messed up my life so bad and fallen so far there’s no way God could ever be pleased with me again.”

They seem to be trying to please an angry God who can only see their imperfections—a God who is waiting to knock them down in their health, finances or relationships to teach them some kind of lesson. They are being robbed. The truth is, satan is the one who comes to steal, kill and destroy.

God desires to have

fellowship with them as a heavenly Father whose only desire is to pour out the riches of heaven on His children. Pleasing Him is simply a matter of getting into position to receive all that is in His heart to give. That’s why Hebrews 11:6 says, “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

Being “without faith” is not talking about another law or standard by which you are judged. It’s talking about a broken connection with a Father who desires to bless you. It is impossible to please God without faith





*“His love and commitment to bless us never change. We shut the door to that blessing when we refuse to honor what He says.”*

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because faith is our connection to God. With faith we are in place for our heavenly Father to do what pleases Him most—blessing His children.

So, let's turn this verse around from the negative to the positive: If it is impossible to please God without faith, then we know it is possible to please Him with faith. In fact, if you'll think about it, trusting what someone says is the only way to create a pleasant atmosphere and establish a meaningful relationship with them.

### KEY TO PLEASING

I had many opportunities to learn this as a teenager and young adult. On more than one occasion before I left home, I went to my earthly father, A.W. Copeland, with things in my life that seemed messed up beyond hope. What a relief it was to always hear him say, "Well, now, this thing is not as bad as it looks."

"Boy, that's good," I would often say, "because I thought I'd messed up for life."

Then he'd usually say, "No, now let's think about this a little bit."

As we talked about the situation, my father would bring up things that I hadn't considered, or didn't know. Soon, relief and peace would begin to settle into my spirit, and I would think, *Where, I'm going to get out of this. Thank God...and thank Daddy!*

Why did that happen? It happened because I put faith in my father's words and rested in the integrity of what he said. I put my confidence in his desire for my success. Because I was willing to make decisions that honored his word and his commitments to me, he had opportunity to do what was in his heart for me.

If I had continued to walk in that as I grew older, instead of thinking I was smarter than he was, I could have enjoyed many more benefits in our father-son relationship.

But I didn't. I rebelled. When I got old enough to think I knew more than Daddy did, I got deeper into trouble. That was stupid! Daddy knew how to get me out, but I wouldn't listen. Without faith in someone who knew better, I continually made decisions that worsened my situations.

The atmosphere of mistrust I created drove a wedge between my daddy and me. Did his love for me change? No. Did my actions make him less willing to do everything he could to help me? Not at all. The choices I made hurt him because, eventually he could no longer reach me, and I couldn't reach out to him. None of it was his fault—it was mine.

It's the same way in our relationship with God. His love and commitment to bless us never change. We shut the door to that blessing when we refuse to honor what He says.

What would you think of a son who told his father: "Dad, I really love you, but I don't believe a word you say"? A child's declaration of love is meaningless if he will not take action on the promises, or counsel of his parents. His statement is an insult.

This is the same problem many believers face because, as the last half of Hebrews 11:6 tells us, when we come to God we must "believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." You can tell many believers aren't doing this by the way they treat His promises, like 1 Peter 2:24: "By [His] stripes ye were healed."

"Well, yes, I know it says that, Brother Copeland. I know God *can* heal, but I just don't know whether He *would* or not. You see, I believe that God doesn't heal everyone. He just heals one here and one there. I don't believe I'm one that He does. My religion doesn't believe it. I just don't think it could happen."

What an insult to a loving Father!

You might as well call God a liar to His face. It's absolutely awful to blame God when all the time we are the ones who are not receiving.

### DON'T DRAW BACK

The person who approaches God and His promises that way is described in Hebrews 10:38: "If any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him." In other words, the person who draws back from trusting what God says He will do, robs God of the pleasure of blessing him. Pleasing God requires that we trust His WORD as we would the word of an honorable man. It demands that we let Him pour out His blessings on us as vessels of His glory in the earth.

Faith pleases God because it gives Him access into your life. Psalm 35:27 says: "Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the Lord be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant."

Your faith gives God an opening to come into your life. He needs access in order to remove burdens, destroy yokes and make you a living demonstration of His desire to bless men. But He has that access only when you "believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

Acting on His WORD gives Him opportunity to heal your body, to prosper you, to save your children, to deliver your children from drugs—whatever it is you desire and need. Faith gives Him access into your life, and gives you access into the grace of God—His divine favor and blessings.

Do you need further proof that God's desire is to bless you, and not to teach you a lesson? Read 3 John 2, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

Look at what His prosperity includes. *To prosper*, by the dictionary definition means "to excel in something desirable, to go forward." You desire to be well. You desire to be born again. You desire to go to heaven. You desire to please your heavenly Father. You desire to feed your family. That's prospering.

God desires for you to excel in the entire realm of human existence: spirit, soul and body. He also desires for you to excel financially and socially. God desires you to be born again, baptized in the Holy Ghost, learning about faith and walking by faith. He desires your mind be renewed to His WORD and walking in His wisdom—the God-given ability to use knowledge.

His desire is that you know His healing power and walk in divine health. God delights when you have your financial needs met and are able to give to every good work. In every relationship, He desires you to be a strong witness and lighthouse of His love, His way, His will and His power, to help others to prosper and know The WORD of God.

God has committed Himself to your

## 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.

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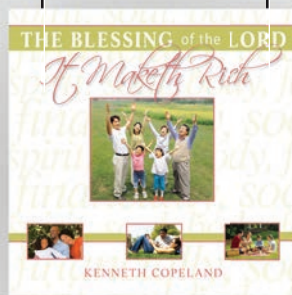
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success in every area of life. You need to keep this thought in mind all the time: *My God receives pleasure from my excelling by faith in every area of my life.*

#### ATMOSPHERE FOR FELLOWSHIP

Second Peter 1:3 tells us God “hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue.” God is not holding back anything from us that will set us free and assure us total, overcoming victory in life.

That’s what I finally realized in 1967 when, as a young believer, I saw His WORD as a love letter to me—a letter filled with promises He had made to me. I began to see that God was honorable, His WORD had integrity, and He was committed to doing those

things He had promised to make me the successful person He had created me to be—spiritually, emotionally, physically, financially and in my relationships with others.

Peace and hope began to flood my heart when I saw that the promises of God’s WORD belonged to me. They were expressions of His love for me in Christ, and provision for all my needs. I became hungry to be in God’s presence and began filling my heart with His WORD day and night.

The circumstances surrounding me didn’t look any better. I still lived in a tiny, wooden house. But I had fallen in love with God and started relating to Him on the basis of His WORD. I began to rejoice that God had recreated me in the likeness of Jesus because He desired to fellowship with me. He desired to run with me, and raise me. He desired to enjoy me, and have me enjoy Him.

I discovered He’d do anything in the world for me. I learned that, when you start living in love and acting in love, God’s the biggest pushover there is. You start telling Him you love Him, and He’ll get all over you like a fur coat!

#### THAT THRILLS THE FATHER

One afternoon I was driving down the road when my newly found awareness of God’s love came all over me. Finally, I had to pull my car over and stop. It was the first time in my life I had come to God without a bunch of begging and wanting and trying to get.

“I can’t stand to drive this car any farther,” I cried out to God. “I just have to stop and raise my hands and tell You how much I love You, worship You and care for You! Heavenly Father, my needs are met according to Your riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

The old car I was driving leaked at every joint. But I didn’t care what the car was like. I didn’t even talk about the car. “It just dawned on me a few days ago, that the whole world is running against You,” I said. “I desire to run with You! I desire to do something to give You a good day. I desire to do everything I can for You in a big way. Just tell me what You would like for me to do.”

But He wouldn’t tell me! Instead, He said, *Son, what would you like for Me to do for you? Is there anything?*

“No, no, no, no!” I responded. “My needs are met according to Your riches in glory, and I just worship You and praise You for it. I just would like to know what You desire.”

*You don’t know how that thrills the heart of the Father,* He said.

I want you to know, that old car didn’t last long. That tiny house didn’t last long. In just a few days people started inviting us places to preach. Eventually I had to tell God, “Let off of this a little bit! I’ve preached until I can hardly talk!” We went seven days a week, two services a day as hard as we could go for several years. I have never had so much fun in all my life.

I’m still having fun. It’s getting better all the time, all because I learned how to create an atmosphere of faith and let God be who He desires to be to me.

#### FROM PRESSURE TO PROMISES

God loves you. His reason for saying you couldn’t please Him without faith is not to put some kind of law or boundary on you. Not walking by faith won’t make God love you less. But it will keep Him from doing what gives Him the most pleasure—giving you whatever you need to succeed.

Whether you have a sick child, a broken dream, bondage of continual sin, or a threatened foreclosure—take it to Daddy. God gets pleasure when you allow Him to meet your needs. He is pleased when you turn from the pressures of your circumstances to the promises of His WORD.

Come to Him believing that He is and that He is the rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. Let Him overtake you with the promises He has made to you in His WORD.

“But how do I do that, Brother Copeland?”

Do what we read in Psalm 35:27: “Let them *say continually*, Let the Lord be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant.”

In other words, say it all day long. Say continually, “God takes pleasure in the prospering of His servant. I diligently seek You, LORD. I diligently say

with my mouth, 'You are my Healer.' I diligently say it with my mouth, just like David said."

Talk to God. Talk to your spirit. Remind the devil of what God, in His WORD, has said about you.

Has a problem tried to raise itself up before you? Don't talk about the problem. Don't try to figure out what you can do about the problem. Say those things your heavenly Father has said are in His heart to do for you.

Whether it's a mountain of debt, sickness or fear, Jesus said you are to have the God kind of faith that speaks to the mountain and orders it cast into the sea. Speak The WORD of God to the problem and rest in what He has said about it.

I don't care what situations are before you right now, your faith will see you through. The only way the devil can get his hands on them is that you let him. And you do that by letting go of the promises of your heavenly Father, who cares about you and will give you whatever it takes to succeed in Him.

#### TAKE YOUR PLACE

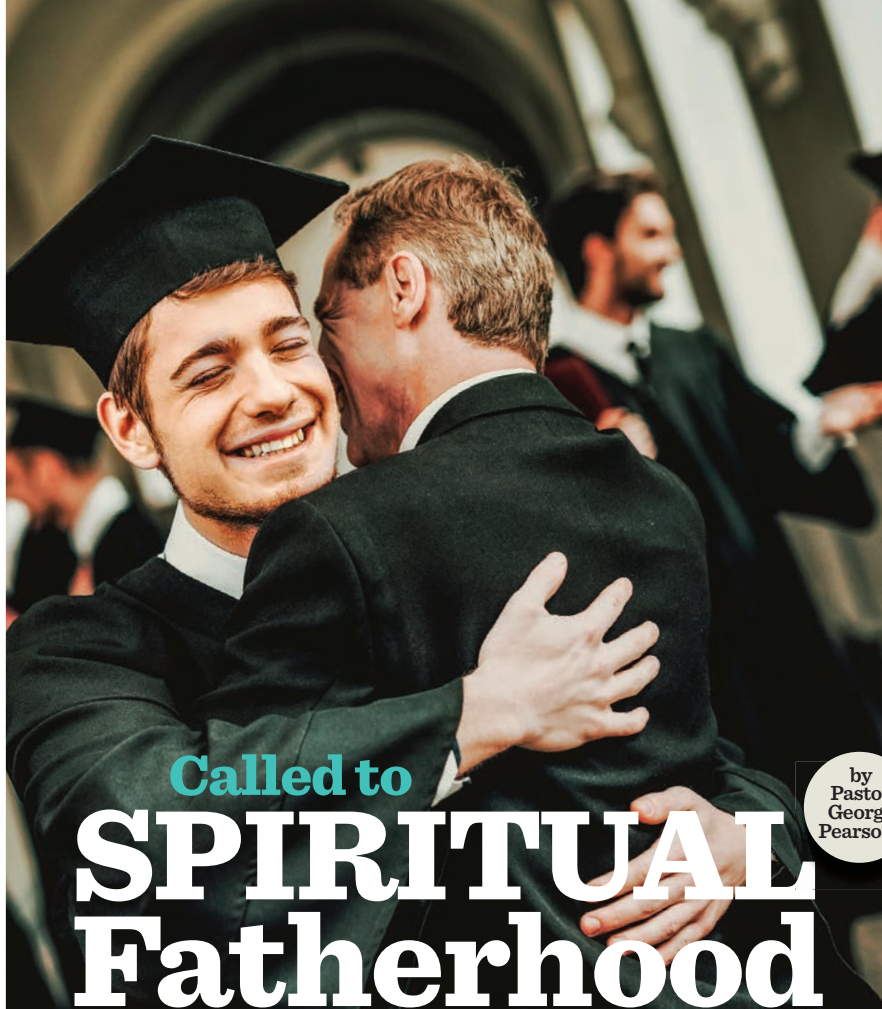
God is pleased when you access the riches of heaven by the only means possible—faith. He gets pleasure when you speak His WORD in faith to those mountains in your life. He is pleased when you stand, unmoved, until situations and conditions get in line with His WORD.

Take your rightful place of being seated with Him in heaven as Ephesians 2:6 says. By faith, receive that you've become the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus and walk in righteousness where He walks (2 Corinthians 5:21). By faith let God help you to excel at being as healthy and as prosperous as He desires you to be.

Remember: The challenge before you is not getting God to desire to fellowship with you and meet your needs. The challenge is to stir up your faith to receive all that God has for you.

Let faith settle the issue of what God desires you to have. Stay connected to the supply line of God's provision. By faith, let your heavenly Father lavish the provisions of His love on you.

Nothing would please Him more. ❶



# Called to SPIRITUAL Fatherhood

by  
Pastor  
George  
Pearsons

## EVERY MAN IS CALLED TO BE A FATHER.

THAT IS QUITE A  
STATEMENT THE  
LORD GAVE ME  
SEVERAL YEARS AGO.

YOU MIGHT BE  
ASKING, "EVERY  
MAN A FATHER?"

ABSOLUTELY!

The LORD wasn't implying that all men needed to have biological children. Rather, He was saying that all Christian men—especially ministers of the gospel—are called of God to be spiritual fathers in the faith.

Right this minute, there are people

in your life who are desperate for father figures. They are looking for godly men to be godly examples.

I'd been pastoring for almost 14 years before the idea of being a spiritual father to others became a reality for me. I was preparing the Father's Day message in June 2006, when a "great awakening" took place in my heart. The LORD revealed to me that there were people in my congregation who were looking to me as a "spiritual" father. I had become a "daddy" in the faith to them. They were seeing me as a father in the same way my son, Jeremy, and my daughter, Aubrey, look to me as their father.

Brother Kenneth E. Hagin has preached that the pastor is the "daddy" of the church. Over the years, many people have referred to him as "Dad" Hagin. There are many people today who view Brother Kenneth Copeland as their spiritual "dad"—

“Spiritual orphans are out there, waiting for a father like you to mentor them.”

their father in the faith. And over this last year, I have experienced the transition to spiritual fatherhood as well. I have received cards and notes that emphasized the fact that people in our congregation were looking to me as their spiritual father—people who were looking to me for guidance, direction, love, acceptance and integrity—everything our own natural

children look to their fathers to fulfill. They said things like:

“Thank you for everything you have done for me. I now have a father in my life, thanks to you!”

“You remind me of my late father. You two are alike—sensitive, tender and thoughtful.”

“Thank you for showing me not only the love of God, but also the love of a father.”

“Even without knowing it, you have been a father to me.”

### Spiritual Fathers

I do not share these comments in order to exalt myself. God forbid! I share them to help men realize that people are looking up to us to be the example of our heavenly Father. I am still amazed that people view me in that light. But, I am also learning how to step in to that role by faith and be the father I am called to be.

The need for spiritual fathers is great.

The story is told in Spain of a father and his teenage son whose relationship had become strained. The son decided to run away from home. Heartbroken, the father began a journey in search of his rebellious son.

The search led him to Madrid. The father placed an advertisement in the newspaper as a last-ditch effort to locate the boy.

The ad read, “Dear Paco, meet me in front of the newspaper office at noon. All is forgiven. I love you. Your father.”

The next day at noon, 800 “Pacos” showed up. They all came seeking love, forgiveness and acceptance from their fathers.

Never underestimate the power of fatherhood. Never underestimate the need for fathers. Our children are crying out for them. Adults live their lives hungering for the love, approval and acceptance of a father. The need for true fathers is real—and it is staggering.

My wife, Terri, and I have traveled all over the world on behalf of Kenneth Copeland Ministries and Eagle Mountain International Church. Wherever we go, we always ask pastors the same question:

“What is the greatest need that you have in this country?” Their answer? “We need spiritual fathers!”

Unfortunately, many men never come to the realization of how important this powerful call to spiritual fatherhood is.

The Apostle Paul said it best in 1 Corinthians 4:14-16, *New Living Translation*-96: “I am not writing these things to shame you, but to warn you *as my beloved children*. For even if you had ten thousand others to teach you about Christ, you have only one spiritual father. For I became your father in Christ Jesus when I preached the Good News to you. So I ask you to follow my example and do as I do.”

### A Father's Love

Since that day when I received a revelation of the importance of spiritual fatherhood, I have been seeing myself as a father to those The LORD has placed in my life—nurturing them as a father would nurture his own children. I desire to see them grow and become all God has destined them to be. I am always willing to encourage them and never afraid to lovingly correct. I want the very best for their lives—as a father desires the very best for his children.

There is something so precious, so wonderful, so holy about fatherhood.

I looked up to my father. He provided stability and security. He always seemed to know what to say. We never went without. His wisdom for us and compassion toward others was a hallmark of his life. He was a man of integrity. His effect on my life is evident to this day. If you know me, you know my father. What influence fathers have on their sons and daughters!

*Every man is called to be a father!*

There comes a time in every man's life to “step up to the plate” and fulfill his role as a spiritual father. People around us are crying out for it. Spiritual orphans are out there, waiting for a father like you to mentor them. Begin to see yourself as a father to those The LORD places in your life.

As we men continue to seek The LORD, study His WORD, live holy lives and be an example, God will equip us to do for others what He does best for us as our loving, caring, heavenly Father. 🙏

WATCH  
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George Pearsons  
is CEO of Kenneth  
Copeland Ministries  
and senior pastor  
of Eagle Mountain  
International Church,  
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# A LONG AND SATISFIED LIFE

God's definition of long life is a minimum of 120 years.  
Gen. 6:3

Youth renewal is a benefit of your covenant with God.  
Ps. 103:5

Healing is always God's will.  
Luke 5:12-13

Jesus never turned down anyone who asked for healing.  
Luke 6:19

Because God's own life is in your spirit, you can release it by faith and let it flow.  
Prov. 4:23



VICTORIOUS  
LIVING

## Strife Will Keep You Carnal

by Gloria Copeland

"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 3:3

It's bad enough that strife opens the door of our lives to confusion and every evil work (James 3:14-16). That alone should make us resist it with all our might. But that's not all the Bible has to say about it.

In his letter to the Corinthians, the Apostle Paul gave us even more information about the damaging effects of strife. He wrote:

"And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. 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 3:1-3).

Carnal Christians are

miserable people. They're born again and they know enough about God not to enjoy sin, but they aren't committed enough to stay out of sin.

If you don't want to find yourself trapped in that condition (and I know you don't) then stay out of strife, because strife will keep you carnal! It will inhibit your ability to digest the meat of the Word, and without

that meat you won't be able to grow into a strong, victorious Christian. If you fuss and bicker with others, your spiritual growth will be stunted. You'll remain in a perpetual state of spiritual infancy and the devil will run over you regularly!

So grow up. Don't stay a baby. Get out of strife and into the Word. Soon you'll be the overcomer the Word says you are! 🙌

by Melanie Hemry

# To RUSSIA WITH LOVE

**R**ick Renner absorbed the sights and sounds of the ancient city of Jelgava, Latvia, in the Soviet Union. Standing against a faded sky, it appeared weary with exhaustion. It was May 1991 and parts of the little city stood as if it was at the end of World War II.

Long lines of people snaked down the street, hoping to buy bread. Dark spiritual oppression hovered over the city, casting it in shadows. Rick felt his heart move on behalf of the people who needed the light of the gospel to drive out the darkness and bring hope to the hopeless.

The underground church had thrown off restraint and shot up from its hiding places like a green shoot of grass after a long winter. Young adults—the children and grandchildren of formerly persecuted parents and grandparents—were now

attending the first above-ground Bible school in the Soviet Union.

That's why he was here. He had been asked to speak in the school. In truth, he hadn't wanted to come. It wasn't that he didn't care. It was that God had blessed him with a growing ministry in the U.S.

Just months earlier, Rick had been in Michigan when his friend said, "I'm going to speak at the first above-ground Bible school in the Soviet Union. It's in Jelgava, Latvia, and has 200 students. I want you to go."

"I'm not going to Latvia," Rick told his friend.

"That's fine. You stay in Tulsa with your new house. Enjoy yourself while people go to hell. We'll go to the Soviet Union and help."

*Guilt!*



That's why Rick was now here—preparing to speak at the Bible school in Latvia. Rick walked to the podium. As he opened his Bible, the Lord spoke.

*Welcome to your new home.*

"I was stunned," Rick recalls. "I wasn't expecting that.

"Later, I said, 'Lord, You're calling me to move my wife and children to

*this?* The conditions were deplorable, the place broken. At the time, I couldn't figure out how I would break the news to my wife, Denise.

"After speaking in Latvia, we took a sightseeing tour of Moscow. Denise was back home with the kids praying for me. But with others who joined me for the trip, I toured Moscow. The population in the millions, Moscow was massive with Soviet soldiers everywhere.

"I was standing in Red Square in front of Lenin's tomb when I had a literal vision. The mausoleum disappeared, and I saw myself pastoring a church in Moscow. In a split second, I saw into my future and knew my destiny would be in Moscow."

## TWO COUNTRIES; TWO CALLS

Rick's journey to the Soviet Union began in Tulsa, Okla. One of three children in a Baptist family, Rick learned to love God and His Word at his mother's knee. At age 14, he had visited his aunt, who was Pentecostal. She'd been listening to a message by Dr. Charles Goodwin, when the man began praying in tongues. Fascinated by the experience, Rick wanted to know more.

He started by attending some of Kenneth Hagin's meetings, which were small at the time. During one service, Brother Hagin offered an altar call to those who wanted to be used by God. Rick went forward. When Brother Hagin prayed, Rick fell under the power of the Holy Spirit.

He got more than he bargained for. He had been born with deformed kidneys that were causing trouble at the time. But when Brother Hagin touched him, a miracle took place and his kidneys were instantly healed.

On Jan. 11, 1974, at the age of 16, Rick received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. That same year, even though he was still in high school, he enrolled in a class at Oral Roberts University, taught each week by Oral Roberts, on the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

In college, Rick studied Greek and journalism, which began his lifelong habit of intensely studying the New Testament in Greek.

## HARD LESSONS

"After university, I moved to Arkansas and joined the staff of a large Baptist church," Rick said. "The pastor was a mixture of what I loved—the Holy Spirit and brains. I was smart, but undisciplined. I was the pastor for single adults, and we had somewhere between 30 and 40 when I took the singles' ministry. Though I had known Denise for years, that is where I was when I married her.

"The singles' ministry continued to grow. Within three years, we had hundreds of single adults in the church, which created a big problem. Many of them had been baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke with other tongues.

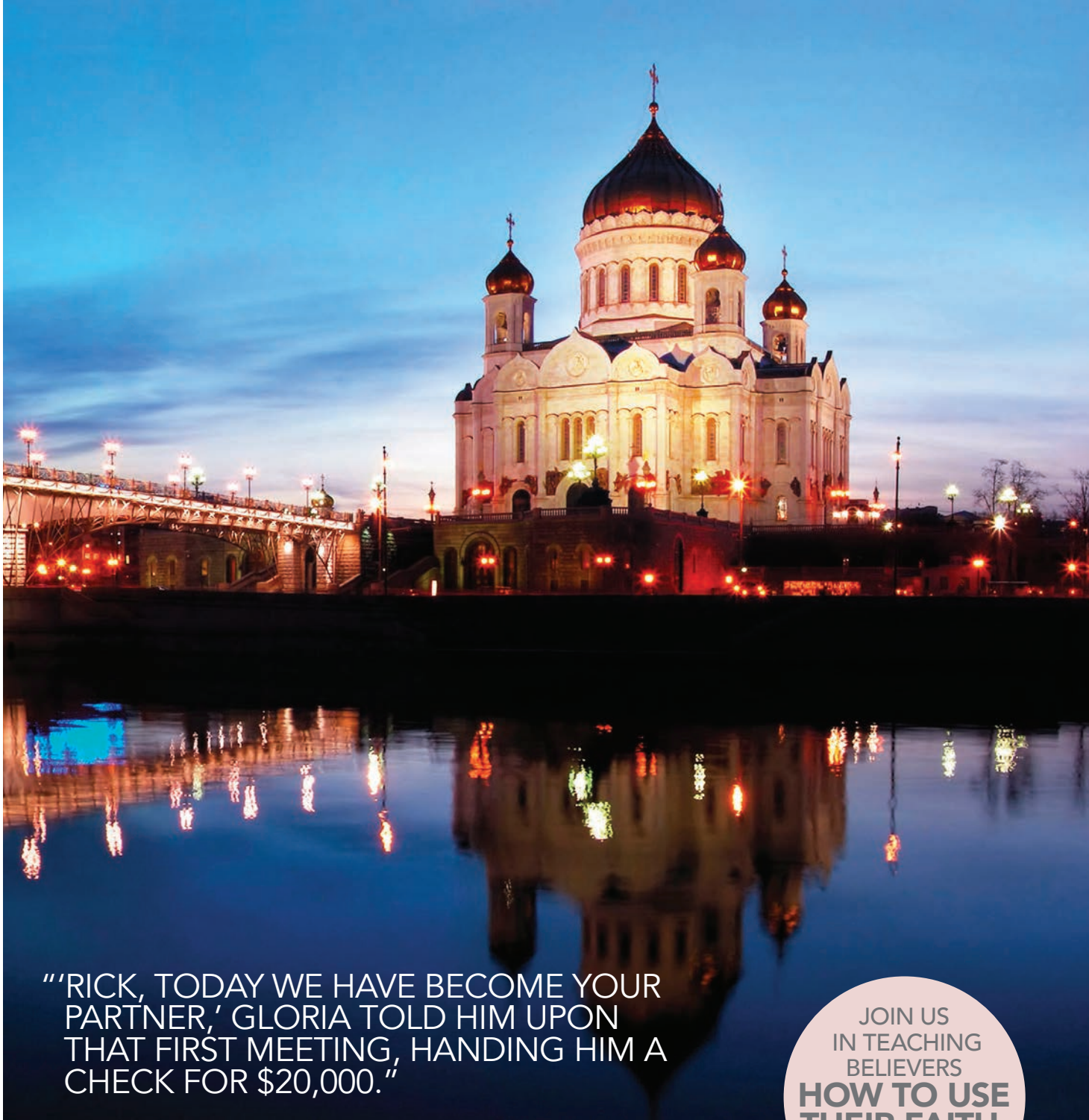
"When problems erupted, I resigned and was disrespectful to the pastor. I'm sorry to say it, but out of rebellion I started another church in the same town. It was an absolute disaster. I resigned from that church after two years. The truth is, God had never told me to start it. He said, *Your ministry will go no further until you apologize to that pastor.* I apologized and supported him for as long as he lived.

"That's when Denise and I moved back to Tulsa. We had nothing. No money, no car and no credit history. We finally bought a little car. A few speaking opportunities trickled in. I wrote my first book, *Seducing Spirits and Doctrines of Demons*, which sold thousands of copies very quickly. My second book, *Living in the Combat Zone*, did as well. And my third book, *Dressed to Kill*, has been distributed by the millions over the years. By 1990, I couldn't keep up with all the invitations to speak. I felt like I was finally on track."

In January 1991, a few months prior to visiting Latvia, Rick spoke in Florida. Noticing a Bible someone had left on the pew, he picked it up and realized it was printed in Russian. Stunned by how similar Russian was to Greek, he took it to his room that evening and devoured it. Although he didn't understand what he was reading, he could generally pronounce the words right from the start.

In hindsight, it was easy to see that God had been preparing him for his call

| JUNE READ THROUGH THE BIBLE |    |                              |               |
|-----------------------------|----|------------------------------|---------------|
|                             |    | Old Testament                | New Testament |
| Sat                         | 1  | 1 Kgs. 3-5                   |               |
| Sun                         | 2  | Ps. 69-70;<br>Prov. 14:15-35 |               |
| Mon                         | 3  | 1 Kgs. 6-7                   | Acts 21       |
| Tue                         | 4  | 1 Kgs. 8-9                   | Acts 22       |
| Wed                         | 5  | 1 Kgs. 10-11                 | Acts 23       |
| Thu                         | 6  | 1 Kgs. 12                    | Acts 24       |
| Fri                         | 7  | 1 Kgs. 13                    | Acts 25       |
| Sat                         | 8  | 1 Kgs. 14                    |               |
| Sun                         | 9  | Ps. 71-72;<br>Prov. 15:1-15  |               |
| Mon                         | 10 | 1 Kgs. 15                    | Acts 26       |
| Tue                         | 11 | 1 Kgs. 16-17                 | Acts 27       |
| Wed                         | 12 | 1 Kgs. 18-19                 | Acts 28       |
| Thu                         | 13 | 1 Kgs. 20-21                 | Rom. 1        |
| Fri                         | 14 | 1 Kgs. 22                    | Rom. 2        |
| Sat                         | 15 | 2 Kgs. 1-3                   |               |
| Sun                         | 16 | Ps. 73-74;<br>Prov. 15:16-33 |               |
| Mon                         | 17 | 2 Kgs. 4-6                   | Rom. 3        |
| Tue                         | 18 | 2 Kgs. 7-8                   | Rom. 4        |
| Wed                         | 19 | 2 Kgs. 9-11                  | Rom. 5        |
| Thu                         | 20 | 2 Kgs. 12-13                 | Rom. 6        |
| Fri                         | 21 | 2 Kgs. 14-15                 | Rom. 7        |
| Sat                         | 22 | 2 Kgs. 16-17                 |               |
| Sun                         | 23 | Ps. 75-77;<br>Prov. 16:1-17  |               |
| Mon                         | 24 | 2 Kgs. 18-19                 | Rom. 8        |
| Tue                         | 25 | 2 Kgs. 20-21                 | Rom. 9        |
| Wed                         | 26 | 2 Kgs. 22-23                 | Rom. 10       |
| Thu                         | 27 | 2 Kgs. 24-25                 | Rom. 11       |
| Fri                         | 28 | 1 Chr. 1-2                   | Rom. 12       |
| Sat                         | 29 | 1 Chr. 3-4                   |               |
| Sun                         | 30 | Ps. 78;<br>Prov. 16:18-33    |               |



“‘RICK, TODAY WE HAVE BECOME YOUR PARTNER,’ GLORIA TOLD HIM UPON THAT FIRST MEETING, HANDING HIM A CHECK FOR \$20,000.”

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to the Soviet Union. That experience had put a hook in Rick’s heart to learn the Russian language. He bought a Russian textbook, and by the time he visited Latvia, Rick had memorized 800 words in Russian.

A short time after speaking in Latvia in the spring of 1991, Rick knew he had to break the news to Denise that they would be moving there.

“Honey,” he said, “God has asked us to move to the Soviet Union and live in Latvia.”

Denise grew quiet and still. The silence felt deafening as Rick waited for her response. Lifting her head, she met his gaze.

“Rick, I’m not excited about this right now, but I will be when we get on the plane.”

What more could anyone ask?

#### **A NEW LIFE IN A NEW COUNTRY**

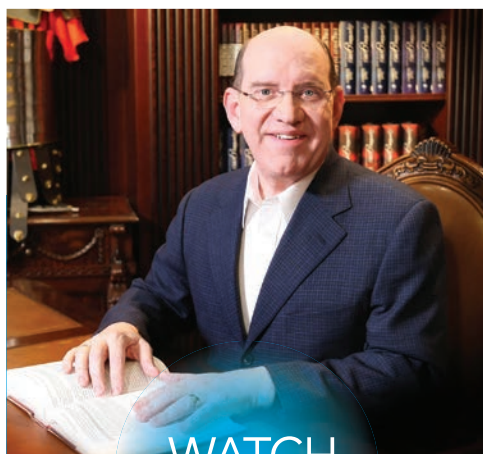
On Jan. 27, 1992, Rick, Denise, and their three sons, Paul, Philip and Joel, ages 8, 6 and 2 years old respectively, said

goodbye to family and friends and their life

in the U.S. Landing in Latvia, they knelt and kissed the ground, asking God to put His love for the people in their hearts.

“God did just that,” Rick remembers. “It happened instantly. We fell in love with the people. They were wonderful and so hungry for God. Settling into a rent house, we had to use our faith

“THERE WERE A COUPLE OF PROBLEMS WITH THAT PLAN. FIRST, NO AMERICAN HAD EVER DONE IT. SECOND, THERE WAS NO SUCH THING AS A TELEVISION MINISTRY IN THE SOVIET UNION AS WE KNEW IT IN AMERICA.”



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RICK RENNER  
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to believe God for food while I taught at the Bible school. During those early days, I preached at an event in Riga, the capital. It was filmed for television, and Denise and I watched it when it aired. As I watched that broadcast, I heard the Lord say, *I'm calling you to take Sunday school to the whole Soviet Union on television.*

“There were a couple of problems with that plan. First, no American had ever done it. Second, there was no such thing as a television ministry in the Soviet Union as we knew it in America. There were 11 time zones in the Soviet Union. I flew back and forth across all of them, meeting with communist deputies, making friends with many of them. When I said I wanted to teach the Bible on television, it sucked all the air out of the room. When I offered to buy television time, they'd never heard of such a thing.

“God moved in a powerful way, and we were granted permission to buy television time. We needed money to pay for it, and our partners from the U.S. provided it. By 1993, I was teaching the Bible on television across much of the Soviet Union.”

#### A STRONG PARTNERSHIP

On Rick's first trip home to the U.S., he stopped in New York City to preach in a small church, testifying about what God was doing in the Soviet Union. A lady in that church was a Partner with Kenneth Copeland Ministries, and sent the Copelands a copy of Rick's message. Not long after, Rick got a call from Gloria Copeland.

“Kenneth and I would like to meet you,” she said.

Rick had listened to Kenneth and Gloria since he was 14 and attending Brother Hagin's meetings, but he had never met them.

“Rick, today we have become your partner,” Gloria told him upon that first meeting, handing him a check for \$20,000. “I've always had it on my heart to have our program broadcast in the Russian language. Would you be willing to handle KCM's television ministry in the Soviet Union?”

“I said yes before I even thought about what it would entail,” Rick

remembers. “That same year, we started broadcasting *Believer's Voice of Victory* on television in the Soviet Union. Our partnership with KCM was very mutual. We became dear friends, like family. They entered into partnership with us and we with them. God genuinely connected us to become family.

“We'd been in Latvia for one year since the Soviet Union fell apart when the Lord directed me to start a church in Riga. We started Riga Good News Church. During the following years we constructed the first church building to be built there in 55 years. On the day we dedicated the building, I heard the Holy Spirit basically say, *Now your job here is finished. Go to Moscow and do it again.*”

Rick knew it was time to give Denise the full picture of what he had seen in the vision on Red Square in front of Lenin's tomb years earlier.

“Honey, God is calling us to Moscow to start a church.”

Denise went still, allowing herself to absorb the shock. Lifting her head to meet Rick's gaze, she spoke to both her husband and her God: “I'm not excited about this now, but I *will be.*”

#### PEOPLE HUNGRY FOR GOD

The August sun glinted off the gold crosses which stood atop the stunning architecture and brilliant colors on the domes of St. Basil's Cathedral on Red Square in Moscow. Rick and Denise crossed the square to the Rossiya Hotel. Inside, they rented a space for Moscow Good News Church to meet. God had directed them to move to Moscow, and they were now there. And just as He did in Latvia, God put His love for the people of Moscow into their hearts.

The room in the Rossiya Hotel accommodated 180 people comfortably, but 220 attended the first service. Clearly, this would be a temporary home for the new church. Rick and Denise found the Russian people hungry for God and very loyal. They loved to remember and celebrate the day they'd repented. The church flourished and grew, exploding out of temporary locations until Dec. 7, 2014,



## CHURCH PARTNERSHIP

Kenneth Copeland Ministries partners with churches and ministries in communities around the world—churches that, like KCM, teach the whole, uncompromised Word of Faith, boldly pro-claiming that Jesus is Lord.

Here's one of our Partner churches:

### chooselife CHURCH / Hobbs, New Mexico

when they dedicated their permanent church facility in Moscow.

In the years since, Moscow Good News Church has added campus churches around the city. Today the church has 2500 people in attendance each weekend. On Mondays, it hosts an outreach to the elderly that is attended by up to 1,000 people. Denise, who now feels at home in Moscow, hosts a significant outreach to women.

"Don't believe what you hear about Russia," Rick says. "Russia is doing well and the Church is getting strong. At present, we are broadcasting programs in 10 languages every week across the former Soviet Union. In addition to broadcasting my own TV program, we also broadcast for KCM, Joyce Meyer and Charles Stanley. We also do work for John Maxwell's organization and for other ministries. My own TV program is recorded in Russia and is being sent to America. Who could ever have imagined a Christian TV program would be sent to America from Russia? In America, we broadcast on TV on KCM's Believer's Voice of Victory Network® and multiple other platforms.

"Russia has a long history with Christianity that they veered from for 70 years during the rule of communism, but they are coming back to it. I believe the future for Russia is very bright."

It's been nearly three decades since Rick and Denise moved their family to the Soviet Union. Paul and Joel help lead the church while Philip leads worship at a church in the U.S. Rick and Denise have eight Russian grandchildren—all born in Russia. At family gatherings, the loud, boisterous group speaks primarily Russian!

Looking back over the past three decades, Rick reflects on his greatest faith challenges.

"Dealing with the devil is easy," he says. "Dealing with life is easy. We've been robbed. We've been swindled. We even had to deal with the mafia in the early years. But the hardest thing I've had to deal with is *me*. My greatest faith challenges have been using my faith to put down my flesh: staying in faith, keeping a joyful attitude and obeying God. Everything is easy if we can master ourselves. If we can conquer ourselves, we can conquer the world."

With a mandate from God to establish a training center where they could teach the Word of Faith, Dean and Kathy Shropshire started chooselife CHURCH in Hobbs, N.M., in 1989, in a storefront with only about 20 people. In the years since, they've seen attendance reach as high as 1500 in any of their three Sunday services and about 500 on Wednesdays in their newly renovated 50,000-square-foot, debt-free building.

"We decided when we got married in 1978, that we were going to start serving God," says Dean, "but we didn't really know what that was like. We were blessed early on to be introduced to the teachings of ministers who helped lay a strong spiritual foundation for us, people like Dr. Fred Price, Kenneth E. Hagin, Charles Capps, Marilyn Hickey and Jerry Savelle."

But it was when Dean, who was then working for an automobile dealership as general manager, had dinner with Kenneth Copeland in 1982 to talk about a truck sale, that things really began to change.

"That meeting with Kenneth made a lifelong impact on my life," says Dean, who has partnered with KCM nearly 30 years. "I've always felt that our Christianity ought to have some down-home effect in everything we do, not just our church services. Hearing him talk about his love for people and his love for his family, I connected to him right then in my heart."

"Among the things that endeared us to Kenneth and Gloria Copeland was their stability, sincerity, intensity and unwillingness to quit in the face of challenges—whether personal or external. Some ministers will blame God when they get in a hard spot, or at the very least they use Him as an excuse or reason for something going bad.

Kenneth and Gloria have never blamed God. They have never preached a 'God is the problem' message. They're never in such a hurry to do something that they let the world be part of it. They believe God for what they need, and they use their faith to trust Him to give it to them."

While remaining under the teaching of KCM, chooselife CHURCH has continued to impact the lives of many, as Dean and Kathy faithfully teach the uncompromising message of faith in Jesus Christ.

They recognize the needs of people and provide the tools to help meet those needs through a wide range of ministries, including their KIDZ; YOUTH; Internship; and Bible school ministries, as well as meeting natural needs with food bag distribution after every service. They use KCM as a model for how they do ministry, says Dean.



To learn more about chooselife CHURCH, visit their website at [chooselifehobbs.com](http://chooselifehobbs.com), or call the church at 1-575-397-4604.

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## ‘Money Cometh’

I have been very blessed by Pastor George and Sister Gloria’s broadcasts about Bible-based finances. I have watched them through multiple times and have the notes, which I appreciate as a constantly available reference. Recently, I had an opportunity to sow a ministry seed, but I hadn’t named it or claimed my harvest. I mostly just forgot about it. Yesterday, driving to work I was prompted to speak out loud Pastor George’s phrase, “Money cometh to me now in the Name of Jesus.” Three hours later, I got a phone call from an accounts payable office telling me that for some unknown reason, they have a \$179 reimbursement check for me that has been sitting in their office since October 2017, and they would like to reissue it to me now. Money “cameth” to me—glory to God!

A.V. | Clarinda, Iowa

## ‘You Made My Birthday Happy’

Kenneth, Gloria and George, I want to thank you so very much for blessing me with the *Bulldog Faith* CDs. They were a part of rescuing me, and ignited my faith. The laughter helps the medicine of the Word go down so smoothly. I’m listening to them over and over—a delight in my day that has brought me up higher since my husband went to be with the Lord. With my children all grown it has been a challenge. My outlook is now brighter. I look forward each day to listening to those CDs. The calendar is also a treasure—you made my birthday happy. Blessings to you!

Jan J. | Marion, Iowa

## When She Forgave, Healing Began

I want to thank you for the book *Limitless Love*. I could never have gotten through the last attack without it. I didn’t see all the truth at first—I was completely destroyed. Your book showed me I had to forgive my family. Once I did that, the healing process

began. I saw that they needed to experience God’s love through me. It’s a step-by-step, ongoing process. I don’t have a plan of my own. I am following God’s leading and direction. Thank you for your wisdom and guidance.

Judith D. | Little Elm, Texas

## ‘The Lord Answered My Prayers’

I was sinking financially when I attended the Southwest Believers’ Convention in 2016. The Lord answered my prayers, and since then I have increased supernaturally. J.B. | Litchfield, Minn.



**“Whatever you have established that you are in prayer, that’s what you are...even before you see it.”**

—Gloria Copeland

## ‘Swelling and Infection—Gone’

Yesterday at the healing service, I believed for the infection on the right lower side of my jaw to be healed. It had been swollen and painful where I have a broken tooth. This morning the swelling and the infection are completely gone! And I’m still praising God because I know I have a new tooth coming! H.J. | Corona De Tucson, Ariz.

## ‘I Draw on the Anointing of Our Partnership’

I just wanted to write to thank you for all that you do for the Body of Christ.

BVOVN® is a source of great strength, comfort, correction and health to my husband and me. I draw on the anointing of our partnership and receive great grace for my life. Thank you for being a faithful priest who does the mind and will of God.

Mary R. | Katy, Texas

## I Thank God for My Healing

What a great day it was when BVOVN popped into our TV! Thank you so much for your practical, life-changing Bible teaching. Gloria says to always have the Word ready in us.

Nov. 13, 2018, I had been at work for just over an hour when I felt a stroke coming. My first response was to pray in the spirit. The ladies at work wanted to call an ambulance. Instead, I asked one of them to take me home, since I walk to work. At home, I called KCM for prayer. The peace of God is so amazing and I never had any fear. I was taken by ambulance and admitted to ICU. After much testing they couldn’t find a reason for the stroke. I was released, and returned to work right away. Typing was difficult at first, but with prayer and persistence I’m doing quite well. I am thanking God for my healing, and for those who speak the Word into my life—BVOVN, family and friends.

Janet L. | Goldendale, Wash.

## ‘God Healed Me!’

I was unable to move from my neck down. Then, for the first time, I saw Kenneth and Gloria teaching on Healing 101. I ordered *Healing Promises* and read the scriptures every day. I am now able to do everything—even walk without help. God healed me!

L.B. | Harlingen, Texas



# THE THREE MOST POWERFUL ELEMENTS

by Kenneth Copeland

"And now abideth faith, hope, charity [or love], these three." 1 Corinthians 13:13

Wishing won't accomplish anything in the kingdom of God. But hoping will, especially when you couple it with faith and love!

Hope is one of the three most powerful elements in the universe. It is one of the three eternal and living substances that runs the entire kingdom of God. I preach a lot about faith. I'm constantly teaching believers that they can't get anything done in the kingdom of God without faith. But do you want to know something? Faith can't get anything done without hope—intense expectation!


Hebrews 11:1 says, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for...." In natural terms you might say faith is the building material and hope is the blueprint. You have to have hope before faith can begin building anything in your life.

For instance, someone who has liver cancer might say to me, "I fully expect to be healed of this liver condition."

I might ask, "What makes you believe that, when the doctor just declared your condition incurable?"

If he has Bible hope, he'll say, "I'm going to be delivered from this liver condition because God's WORD says every sickness and every disease is under the curse of the Law, and Galatians 3:13 says Jesus has redeemed us from the curse of the Law, being made a curse for us. In other words, Jesus has already redeemed me from the curse of this liver condition. *That's* why I fully expect to be delivered from it."

When you have that kind of clear, WORD-based image inside you, you have real Bible hope—and it's an absolute must for anyone who wants to live by faith.

So put hope to work in your life today...and couple it with faith and love. Then you will have the three most powerful elements in the universe working for you! 

## 'I Took Hold of My Healing'

I am a widow, who was working 50-60 hours a week on my feet. For months, the pain in my right heel had been excruciating. In addition, at home I was unstable on my feet and could barely walk. While watching your healing service on BVOVN, I took hold of my healing! The pain in my foot was all but gone. I got up and was able to walk pretty steadily.

Since then, I have been working even longer and harder hours at the plant. Most days, I am practically pain free. When the pain and unsteadiness come, it stops me in my tracks, and I simply thank the Lord for my healing, and speak to the pain calling

it a lying symptom, because I am healed! Within seconds, I am able to walk right out of the pain and back into the healing the Word promises. I am so grateful to BVOVN for reminding me that, as a believer, pain and sickness have no power over me! Praise God and thank you!

K.R. | Mount Vernon, Mo.



The Bible clearly tells us that we have an enemy. His name is Satan. And he works against us. But we don't have to fall prey to his plans!

The devil is our adversary.

He's always working against us and looking for ways to keep us from enjoying the victorious life Jesus has bought and paid for on our behalf.



by  
Keith  
Moore

# Avoiding the Enemy's Setup

**He is the accuser of God's people—always looking to take action against us.**

**But the truth is, the devil has no right to do any of those things unless we allow him. We don't have to participate in his setups!**

## We're Not Ignorant

Paul warns us clearly in 2 Corinthians 2:11 that the way to keep Satan from getting an advantage over us is by not being ignorant of his devices—his tricks and schemes. He uses devices against us that are totally within our reach to take back and overthrow his setup.

The word *devices* can mean “plans thought out.” Satan's most common device is to get us to fall into his way of thinking.

God's Word is clear regarding how to steer clear of the devil's devices. Paul's second letter to the Corinthians is his final word on the disciplinary action of the man in that church who had been involved in an adulterous affair. The church had already obeyed Paul's direction to put the man out of the church. Now, Paul basically says to them: “That's enough.” Then he told them how to deal with the man going forward.

In 2 Corinthians 2:6-10, Paul says:

Sufficient to such a man is this punishment, which was inflicted of many. So that contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed

up with overmuch sorrow. Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm your love toward him. For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether ye be obedient in all things. To whom ye forgive any thing, I forgive also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ.

Then comes the admonishment: “Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices” (verse 11).

What was Paul saying?

He was warning them to not fall for Satan's “setup.” He was saying, “Don't be ignorant to the tricks the devil uses, but instead treat the man the way Christ would treat him. *Forgive the man. Comfort the man. Love the man.*”

Paul didn't say, “Go ahead, let him live however he wants and just put up with him.” No. He said forgive, comfort and love. That's the nature of God. It's the way God thinks and acts toward all of us.

Contrary to God's plan in forgiving us through the person of Jesus Christ, the devil's device is to keep us in a state of unforgiveness—neither loving nor comforting the man.

This device of the devil is one of the most dangerous, subtle things he does. It's one of the most widespread and most effective tactics and devices he has used in the Body of Christ since the beginning. And it's not just that the enemy will tempt you to not forgive other people. He will tempt you to judge other people. Forgiving is the opposite of judging. If you forgive, you don't judge. If you judge, you don't forgive.

#### Jesus Set the Standard

In Matthew 5:22 Jesus said, "Whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire" (*New King James Version*). What is he talking about? Why is this so serious?

The word *raca* is basically calling the person an "empty-headed idiot." It's like saying he is good for nothing, worthless, valueless. This idle talk (after all, this person had no cause to be angry—he hadn't been sinned against) was bound to come back on him, according to Jesus. "Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment" (Matthew 12:36).

Words like this are part of the devil's vocabulary. They are the kind of words he uses as an adversary, accuser and destroyer.

What if this causeless name-calling is directed at someone who is weak in faith and doesn't know his true identity in Christ? We don't know how our words will affect people, but words like this will most likely do serious damage to the person.

Jesus goes on to say in Matthew 5:23-25, "If thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift. Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge...and thou be cast into prison."

Those are strong words, but Jesus is clear: Don't let the offense go on...be made right with your brother!

Matthew 7:1-2 tells us to "judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and

There are two very practical ways to give the Word first place in your life.

**1** First, plan your schedule around the Word instead of trying to squeeze the Word into your schedule.

**2** Second, give the Word priority in your life by acting on it.

## ***"Don't let the offense go on. Setting our hearts to walk in forgiveness will make all the difference in our daily lives."***

with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again."

In short, walk in the way of Jesus.

#### **Don't Judge—Forgive!**

Judge not! Forgive! Love! Those words are contrary to the devil's devices.

Setting our hearts to walk in forgiveness will make all the difference in our daily lives, because it will stop the devil in his tracks. When we forgive, we put the devil in his place and close the door to his setups. Living in love and forgiveness will open doors to the promises of God to flood our lives.

One of the most beloved passages of Scripture for my wife, Phyllis, and myself, are these words of Jesus in Mark 11:22-24: "Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say to this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."

We use this scripture as our stand of faith for everything in life!

Take a look at the two verses that follow: "And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses" (verses 25-26).

If Mark 11:22-24 is for us, then how much more are verses 25 and 26 for us? They go together. And the devil knows more than we do just how important those verses are. That's why he is continually

tempting us to not forgive and to not walk in love!

Jesus paid the price for us to walk in love and forgiveness. We do not have to let the devil set us up and use his devices against us.

The Holy Ghost, through the Apostle James, gave us a whole epistle about loving, living free of judgment and walking in forgiveness. Your faith will be built as you read the words of the Holy Ghost that expound on the life of Christ lived out in the life of believers. (Take time to read it soon!)

James tells us exactly how to stay free of the devil's devices. He says, "Submit yourselves...to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you....Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up" (James 4:7, 10).

In other words, live according to what God has done for you! Live by Jesus' words. Live free of judgment. Live a life of forgiveness. Walk in love toward the people God has placed in your life.

This way of living will put the devil in his place, and keep him out of your life! 🙏



Keith Moore is founder and president of Moore Life Ministries and Faith Life Church in both Branson, Mo.; and Sarasota, Fla.

For more information or ministry materials visit [moorelife.org](http://moorelife.org).

by John  
Copeland

# Things I've LEARNED From My Dad

## Steadfast and committed!

**Of all the things I could say about my dad, Kenneth Copeland, those two words stand out, because that's the only way I've ever known him to be. I can say the same for my mom, as well. They have always been steady in whatever they've done, and in whatever they've believed. They've never changed from being steady in God's Word, and they've never compromised. And that's what I am most proud of about them.**

**Even in some of their most difficult times, some of which included enduring my years as a teenager, they always stood firm.**



John Copeland is the former CEO of Kenneth Copeland Ministries and the son of Kenneth and Gloria Copeland. He lives in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Growing up, I was an independent spirit. So, even though Dad and Mom were there to teach and guide me, I always had to figure things out on my own. One of the things I figured out, and I'm glad I did, was that they were *right*.

It's a story of the *older* you get, the *smarter* your parents become.

As I reflect on this month, and Father's Day in particular, I can't help but think how true that really is when it comes to my dad and me.

I think back over those days, as I was growing up, and I recall some of the mistakes I made and the valuable lessons I learned from those mistakes. I also think about the things I learned from my dad—things that helped me grow up and mature. For instance, he taught me about faith and how I should never waver in my trust in God and always let the Word be my foundation. And he taught me about fear—and how *never* to allow it in my life.

What powerful lessons those two things alone have been! But they only scratch the surface of what I have learned from Dad down through the years. I have learned both spiritual and natural things, and they all have made me better in so many ways—including being a father and provider. They have made me a better man! And today, I am passing those same lessons on to my children.

There have never been two sides to my dad. He has always practiced what he preaches. And that has probably impacted me more than anything else. I was inspired just watching how he and Mom lived—never wavering in their faith and trust in God, and always letting the Word be their foundation.

If my dad had not been that way when I was going through those difficult times

in my youth, and if he hadn't truly believed in what he was doing as a minister of the gospel, and been steadfast and committed to what he believed, I honestly do not believe I would be where I am today.

I'm grateful to God for my dad, and all that I've learned from him.

And now I'd like to share some of those things with you. I hope they will bless you and that you will share them with your children.

1. "A wise son heeds his father's instruction, but a mocker does not listen to rebuke" (Proverbs 13:1, *New International Version-84*).

2. When you borrow something, always return it in better condition than when you got it.

3. Never put pressure on people. They are not your source. When you have a need, turn to the Word and find a scripture that addresses that need. Then stand on that scripture.

4. Don't seek revenge. Wait on the Lord and He will deliver you.

5. Never borrow money. It's not a sin, but it is not God's best and it causes you to become a servant to the lender.

6. Always tithe! If you don't it will seem as if you have a bag of money with holes in it.

7. Give, especially when you are in financial trouble.


8. When God tells you to do something, obey Him and do it *then*. He is trying to get something to you.

9. Never make rash, knee-jerk decisions when the pressure is on. Relax and roll the care of it over on God.

10. Always put others first.

11. Respect law enforcement officers and the military. Buy their dinner and thank them when you see them.

12. Pray for the president and all our leaders—on all levels.



“Never make rash, knee-jerk decisions when the pressure is on. Relax and roll the care of it over on God.”

13. Don't give heed to what people say about you—good or bad. Don't listen to the bad stuff because you might start believing it. Don't listen to the good stuff because you might start believing it.

14. Always tell the truth. There is

no such thing as a white lie.

15. Keep your word even to your own hurt.

16. Always believe the best of people.

17. “[God] satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s” (Psalm

103:5, *NIV*-84). Speak over yourself and say, “My youth is renewed like the eagle’s.”

18. It is better to give the wrong man a break than to break the wrong man.

19. Always be on time.

20. Never say, “I can’t afford it.”

21. Don’t allow strife to exist in your life—ever!

22. Never make a decision based solely on money. Do it based on what the Spirit of God says.

23. Do what is right. Do it because it is right. And then, do it right—even when no one is watching.

24. Don’t spare the rod. “He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him” (Proverbs 13:24, *NIV*-84).

25. Love people, and let them live their lives. We should not judge, and it is not our place to correct them.

26. John Wayne is pretty much the best actor ever! ♥



# Living a Heavenly Life

---

*by Gloria Copeland*

SOMETIMES PEOPLE ACCUSE WORD OF FAITH PREACHERS LIKE KEN AND ME OF PREACHING THINGS THAT ARE TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE. "YOU MAKE IT SOUND LIKE GOD WANTS PEOPLE TO LIVE IN HEAVEN ON EARTH!" THEY SAY.



***“He didn’t want them to have to live by their own sweat and toil, and deal with scarcity, sickness and death.”***

that His family could have plenty to enjoy.

Talk about heaven on earth! That’s exactly what the Garden of Eden was. Adam had a perfect wife. Eve had a perfect husband. The food grew on trees. The temperature was perfect. Nothing was lacking and there was even plenty of gold.

Best of all, Adam and Eve got to walk every day with God and they only had one command from Him to keep: “Do not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.”

If they had kept that command, everything on earth could have remained heavenly—forever! But, as we all know, they didn’t. They doubted God’s Word, believed the lying devil, fell for his temptation, and threw their heaven-on-earth away.

God allowed them to do it because He had created them with a free will. But it wasn’t His plan for them. He didn’t want them to open the door to the curse that came on the earth through sin. He didn’t want them to have to live by their own sweat and toil, and deal with scarcity, sickness and death.

No, He still wanted them to be BLESSED. Josephus, the Jewish historian, noted in the book *Works of Josephus*, that even when God was confronting Adam and Eve about their sin, He said to them: “I had before determined about you both, how you might lead a happy life without any affliction and care and vexation of soul, and that all things might contribute to your enjoyment and should grow up by My providence of their own accord without your own labor and painstaking.”

That’s really the way God wanted things to be! But Adam and Eve, by rejecting His Word, rejected God’s will. They bowed their knee to the devil, and as a result conditions on earth changed.

God didn’t change though. He never changes (Malachi 3:6). So, He put into effect a plan that would once again make it possible for His people to live in His perfect will.

He made a covenant of BLESSING with Abraham and his descendants. He told them that if they’d do things His way, their days and the days of their children would be “as the days of heaven upon the earth” (Deuteronomy 11:21). Although they couldn’t yet be born

They don’t mean it as a compliment. But that’s how I take it, because what they’re really saying is, we’re preaching the scriptural truth.

According to the Bible, from the very beginning God created this earth to be a heaven-on-earth kind of place. He didn’t put any sickness or scarcity in it. He made everything “very good” (Genesis 1:31). He filled it with His blessings and commanded them to multiply so



POINTS  
TO GET  
YOU  
THERE:

**1**

When God created the earth in the beginning, He intended for His people’s lives to be filled with His goodness.

Gen. 1:31

**2**

Things changed on earth when Adam sinned, but God’s will for His people remained the same.

Mal.3:6

**3**

God told His people, even under the Old Covenant, that by putting Him and His Word first they could enjoy heavenly lives.

Deut. 11:21

**4**

Jesus told us in the New Testament if we give ourselves 100 percent to God, we can enjoy heaven’s blessings on earth too.

Matt. 6:33

**5**

Give yourself wholly to God, go after Him with all your heart, and He will move in your life in ways that will amaze you.

2 Chr. 16:9



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again under that covenant (because Jesus hadn't come), God still made a way for them to live in **THE BLESSING**. He told them how to enjoy a life of abundance, with no vexation, care, lack, sickness or disease.

That's what God wanted for them, and it's what He promised those who would obey Him, all the way through the Old Covenant.

What has God promised us in the New Covenant?

Even more!

He's provided for us through Jesus "a better covenant...established upon better promises" (Hebrews 8:6). We have all the **BLESSINGS** promised in the Old Testament, *plus* we've been made partakers of God's very own nature. We've been delivered from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son: in whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins (Colossians 1:13-14).

We're citizens of heaven. (Philippians 3:20, *New Living Translation*)

We have the written Word of God *plus* we have the laws of the New Covenant written in our hearts. (Hebrews 8:10)

We have the indwelling Holy Spirit to teach and empower us. (John 14:26)

We've been given the Name of Jesus, the Name above all names, to use in prayer and spiritual warfare. (Ephesians 3:14-15)

We don't have to wait until we die to walk in heavenly victory. "We are more than conquerors through him that loved us," right now! (Romans 8:37)

If the Israelites could have days of heaven on earth under the Old Covenant, how much more can you and I as born-again believers!

#### **A DEFEATED FOE**

"But what about the devil?" someone

might ask. "Isn't he still running around causing trouble?"

Yes, but he's a defeated foe. He's been reduced to zero by Jesus' life, death and resurrection (1 Corinthians 2:6). The devil doesn't have the authority to tell us we can't have heaven breaking out in our lives. He's under our feet, he doesn't have the right to tell us what to do.

We ought to be telling him what to do, not the other way around. When he tries to put some part of the curse on us, we ought to be saying, "No, devil! Get out of my house. You're not bringing the curse in here. Jesus redeemed me from it and I'm not taking it back!"

In addition, we ought to be saying yes to God so that His will can be done in our lives on earth as in heaven. We ought to be operating according to the plan He outlined in Deuteronomy 11 when He said to the Israelites:

Hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the Lord your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.... Lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul...speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.... Diligently keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, and to cleave unto him (verses 13, 18-19, 22).

"But Gloria, those are Old Testament instructions!"

True, but Jesus gave them to us again in the New Testament. He summed them up in Matthew 6 by saying, "Seek (aim at and strive after) first of all [God's] kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these things taken together will be given you besides" (verse 33, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

The phrase "all these things...will be given you" in that verse refers to all the

**"I decided if every BLESSING in the Bible belongs to me, I'd better find out what they are and find out quick."**

BLESSINGS of God that are required to live a heavenly life. As the surrounding verses make clear, it includes food in abundance, clothes as beautiful as the lilies, and supernatural supplies from heaven's storehouse. Everything we need to live a pressure-free, worry-free life.

God doesn't want us to live under pressure like the world does! The only pressure He intends for us to experience is the positive kind that comes from pressing toward Him. The press that comes from what Hebrews 4:11 calls laboring to enter God's rest.

What exactly is laboring to enter God's rest?

It's pressing in to hear His Word, believe it and act on it. It's being diligent to obey Him and to keep His words in our hearts and in our mouths, not just when we go to church on Sunday but seven days a week. In other words, it's laboring spiritually to do whatever it takes to keep our heart turned 100% toward Him.

Sadly, many Christians never commit to that kind of labor. They just listen to a few messages on faith, pray a few prayers and give maybe 1% of their time to God. Then, when they don't see heaven instantly breaking out in their lives and taking over their affairs, they turn aside to other things and give up.

They don't understand God's heaven-on-earth program isn't a 1% percent thing. It's not even a 10% thing. It involves going all out for Him. Making Him the first One we seek when we get up in the morning. The first One we turn to when we need help or answers. The One we desire to please above all and submit to as the final authority in our lives.

### **GOD WILL ONLY TAKE WHAT YOU GIVE HIM**

Second Chronicles 16:9 says, "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect [or 100%] toward him." He's always searching for those who will go all out for Him and open the door of faith so He can move in their lives. He isn't like the devil. He won't barge into people's lives and take over just because He wants to. He'll only take what we give Him.

When you give yourself to Him wholly, He'll do things that will astound you.



**VICTORIOUS  
LIVING**

*by Kenneth Copeland*

## **Separate Unto Him**

"Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?"

Isaiah 58:6

The fast God is talking about here has very little to do with simply going without food. This fast is a lifestyle. It is a commitment that says, "I'm breaking the hold of wickedness on my life. I will not partake of the things of the world that have kept me bound. I'll turn off the television, and I'll turn on teaching CDs instead. I'll put down the newspaper and pick up my Bible. Instead of sitting down at the table, I'll get down on my knees and pray until the sin is burned out of me and I'm 100% committed to Jesus. Then, once I'm free, I will give myself in intercession for others so they can get free too!"

Do you know what that kind of fast will do for you? It will heal you. It will cause the light of God to shine from your life. It will cause the glory of God to be your total covering! In the words of Isaiah, it will cause you to "be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not" (Isaiah 58:11).

If you want to see an example of the kind of glory that accompanies this kind of life, all you have to do is look at Jesus. He went out, led by the Spirit, into the wilderness for 40 days. While He was out there, He fasted, prayed and interceded just as

Isaiah described.

We know He did because Isaiah 59 tells us that when God could find no one to intercede in that way, He sent "His arm." In other words, He sent Jesus.

When Jesus left that place of fasting, His ministry exploded into power. What did that power look like? From the earthly perspective, it looked like people being healed of sickness and disease. It looked like the dead being raised. It looked like people's needs being met in supernatural ways.

But in the world of the spirit, it looked like a dam had broken and a flood of spiritual power had been released.

Right now, God is calling His Church to the same place of fasting that He called Jesus. He's calling us to a fast of separation to Him that will give us such a hunger to know Him and walk in His Spirit, that we'll not be satisfied until we're raptured.

Don't wait another moment. Answer that call right now. Get down on your knees and say, "LORD, I'll do anything You want me to do. I'll be everything You've made me to be. No matter what it takes, I want the rivers of Your Spirit to flow through me."

In the ears of heaven, such prayer sounds like a symphony of triumph. In the ears of hell, it sounds like the rushing mighty waters—a thunderous announcement that, despite the best efforts of the devil, the dam has broken and the flood is on the way. ⑦

## JUNE BROADCAST CALENDAR



Kenneth Copeland

**June 2**  
**Yes, It Is God's Will to Heal You!**  
Kenneth Copeland



Gloria Copeland

**June 3-7**  
**THE BLESSING Is the Full Package**  
Kenneth Copeland

**June 9**  
**It's Easy to Receive From the Healer**  
Kenneth Copeland

**June 10-14**  
**Healing School**  
Kenneth & Gloria Copeland

**June 16**  
**Abundance for Your Household**  
Kenneth Copeland

**June 17-21**  
**Jesus, Our Care Taker—Part 1**  
Kenneth & Gloria Copeland

**June 23**  
**What Is Your Faith Saying?**  
Kenneth Copeland

**June 24-28**  
**Jesus, Our Care Taker—Part 2**  
Kenneth & Gloria Copeland

**June 30**  
**The Abraham Kind of Faith**  
Kenneth Copeland

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He'll take your most dire circumstances and completely transform them. You never have to worry that you're bringing Him a problem that's too big for Him to solve. He's a smooth operator. He can do anything He sets out to do!

He even got one man I know set free from death row. It was amazing. The man started seeking the Lord while he was in prison, got hold of some KCM materials, and learned how to stand on the Word of God. He set his faith to be released from prison and it happened.

After he got out, he was so hungry to hear more of God's Word he traveled around the country attending all our meetings. He'd get our schedule, go to the city where we were preaching next, and get a job there. He'd work the job until the meetings started, then he'd quit so he could attend all the services. Eventually he became a minister of the gospel himself.

Some people might not understand the intensity of that man's hunger for the Word, but Ken and I did. We weren't physically in prison like he was when we first got hold of the Word of Faith, but we were in prison financially. We had more debts than we could see any way to pay, no assets to speak of, and very little income. Desperate for answers, when we realized they were in God's Word we went after that Word as hard and fast as we could.

We didn't just go to a meeting on Sunday and say, "That was nice. Next week we'll go back and hear some more." We read, listened to and talked about the Word day and night. We got reel-to-reel tapes of Brother Kenneth E. Hagin's sermons and listened to them between meetings. We lived on those tapes until we could go back to another service to hear some more.

We quit watching TV and reading the newspaper, not so much because we decided to but because we were like, *who cares what's on TV?* What we were learning from God's Word was better than anything the world had to offer. *This is going to get us out of trouble*, we thought. *If we'll give ourselves to God, learn this, and apply it, it will revolutionize our life.*

Ken was going out ministering in those days, and we didn't have the

money for me to go with him, so I was staying home with the children. I'd take care of them, do what little housework there was to be done (the house was tiny, so it didn't take long to clean), then I'd dive into the Word.

In the beginning, I just stayed in the New Testament. Then I found out that, because all God's promises are yes and amen in Christ (2 Corinthians 1:20), I could claim even Old Testament scriptures for myself. So, I got busy doing that. I decided if every BLESSING in the Bible belongs to me, I'd better find out what they are and find out quick.

What happened as a result?

God showed Himself strong on our behalf!

Our financial situation started improving, and within 11 months we were out of debt and on our way to a more heavenly life. Today, more than 50 years later, we're still pressing in to God and His Word, and it's still proving to be the answer to every situation. We're still putting God first place in our lives, seeking Him and His way of doing and being right, and experiencing heavenly results.

I'm not saying we never have any trouble. Jesus said in John 16:33 that in this world trouble will come—and it's come to us just like it comes to everyone. But we don't just lie down and accept it. We overcome it by fighting the good fight of faith.

We seek God's wisdom and stand on His Word. Instead of being like the skeptics who say His promises sound too good to be true, we believe them like little children. We remember that, as John Osteen used to say, "God is smarter than we are." So, we just keep seeking His ways of doing and being right and stay in 100% agreement with Him.

That's a great way to live! God's ways produce His will in our lives. So, every day, press in to Him. Harken to His Word and obey it. Determine to love Him with all your heart. Put Him first place and open the door to what He planned for you to enjoy from the beginning: Days of abundance. Days of health. Days of love.

Days of heaven upon the earth! 📖



**Commander  
Kellie's Corner**



# THE PUZZLE PIECES

**HERE WE ARE, SUPERKID, ALMOST HALFWAY THROUGH THE YEAR. AND LITTLE BY LITTLE WE HAVE GIVEN OURSELVES OVER TO THE LORD BY FOCUSING ON THE DIFFERENT PARTS OF OUR LIVES. THIS WAS OUR PLEDGE TO JESUS:**

**THIS IS MY GIFT TO YOU, JESUS. I GIVE YOU ME! MY LIFE, MY THOUGHTS, 24/7, EVERY BEAT OF MY HEART, MY SKILL, MY TALENT, MY GOOD AND MY BAD, MY STRENGTHS AND MY WEAKNESSES, I GIVE TO YOU NOW.**

I like to clearly know WHAT (or in this case, WHO) I am giving when I give a gift, don't you? That's why we are digging deep to understand what "ME" is. I pray that this year will lead you to know YOURSELF as much as you are beginning to know Jesus. I am glad HE knows us so well! He should, because He made us!

Psalm 139:13-16, one of my favorite passages in the Bible, says so. The *New Living Translation* says,

You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

We are complex, and He made us that way. We are like a 5,000-piece puzzle that has to be put together. We were not made to live our lives in an unplanned, "whatever happens, happens" way. Jesus had a plan and purpose for your life when He made you, so He knit parts or pieces into your soul and body that would lead you and help you become what He designed you to be. Like the remote control works on your TV, telling it what to do, Jesus put TALENT, DESIRE and SKILL

in your being to move you and equip you! This terrific trio is part of His plan for your success! We just have to allow Jesus to put that "ME" puzzle together.

So, let's talk about SKILL. The dictionary (dictionary.com) says that *skill* is "the ability, coming from one's knowledge, practice, aptitude, to do something well." *APTITUDE* is an important word, that means "talent, natural leaning or inclination." This is how Jesus moves the puzzle pieces into place for you. We will talk more about our God-given DESIRE and TALENT next month but it's important to realize that talent and desire are not enough to be a success in life.

God gives us these amazing GIFTS but He requires something from us to make it all work.

To be skilled in something requires some time, study and effort on our part. For instance, you may enjoy sports, math, art or music. You could become an athlete, doctor, scientist or famous singer, but you must first develop skill. Sometimes we don't like the hard work that it requires. I wanted to play the guitar and piano when I was young and maybe I had some talent. However, since my mom could never get me to PRACTICE, that is a talent I don't have now.



I also loved to sing. Now that I would do! I practiced singing all the time! Many times the Lord would help me learn and grow. He gave me skill that I needed in some areas, as I practiced. So Jesus was able to use that talent in my life and ministry. Remember, even when we practice and work to be skilled in our talents, we are not working alone. Jesus can GIVE us skill as we EARN skill!

In Exodus 31, the Lord GAVE the people skills to create, design and build. Exodus 35:35 says, "The Lord has given them special skills as engravers, designers, embroiderers in blue, purple, and scarlet thread on fine linen cloth, and weavers. They excel as craftsmen and as designers."

Skill includes understanding and knowledge, but we are not left to learn and understand on our own! In Isaiah 28:26-28, He gives the farmer understanding. I have heard so many stories of farmers who had bigger and better crops than anyone else because of the understanding and help the Lord gave them. Verse 29 says, "The Lord of Heaven's Armies is a wonderful teacher, and he gives the farmer great wisdom."

The Lord can give you everything you need except the part that only you can do—apply yourself in learning and practice. You could have the best music talent, sports ability, STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) talent or artistic abilities in the world: You'll still require practice, learning and work, and you'll still need Jesus in order to be happy and satisfied in life. He will help, inspire, give understanding and even make learning fun. Jesus will do His part to bless when you give your skill and effort to Him!

In Ecclesiastes 12 the Bible tells us to worship the Lord and do what He says. This is His original purpose in creating us and it's the path to all happiness.

Superkids, give Jesus your efforts and practice, and He'll help you develop your skills. Becoming what He created you to be is the best way to love Him. Remember, this "ME" puzzle is a project you and Jesus do together. After all, He's the only One who knows what the picture on the box looks like because He created it!

Piece by Piece,  
Commander Kellie ❤️



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



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