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Editor's Letter



Still 'Sheltered In'

Nearly a year ago, our nation was introduced to a whole new way of living. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, many were forced to leave the workplace and sent to work from home; we were all told to physically distance ourselves from others so as not to contract the virus; and we began conducting business meetings and attending school and church virtually. We were also urged to "shelter in," which meant staying inside as much as possible to avoid exposure to the deadly virus.

Other than being a major inconvenience, I had not given much thought or concern to being locked away behind closed doors. Then, I read an article by Vikki Burke, a frequent contributor to the Believer's Voice of Victory magazine, that gave me a fresh perspective. In her article, titled "Always Increasing," Vikki stated: "When the 'shelter-in' order was first issued, I said to my husband, Dennis, 'I've been "sheltered in" the secret place of the Almighty for 50 years!"

The secret place of the Almighty! That's the key.

The Bible says in Psalm 91:1-3, New Living Translation, "Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty. This I declare about the LORD: He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I trust him. For he will rescue you from every trap and protect you from deadly disease."

Though there is now a vaccine that works against COVID-19, remnants of the disease still linger. But despite its presence and continued imposition on society, the power and authority of God and His Word still reign! As we remain sheltered in the secret place of the Most High, as we abide under the shadow of the Almighty, He keeps us safe. He is our place of safety, and He will "protect us from deadly disease!" As Vikki points out in her article: "This is our finest hour. When the world has gone completely crazy with fear, hopelessness and despair, we have the answer!"

Vikki shares more detailed information in her article, which you'll find on Page 10 of this issue of BVOV. Be encouraged in God as you read the other articles in this issue, including "Hello, BLESSED!" by Kenneth Copeland, and "They Shall Recover," by Gloria Copeland.

Ronald C. Jordan Managing Editor













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Pass this magazine

on to a family member or friend.

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 48 years it has been our joy to bring you good newsthrough the teachings of ministers who write out of living contact with God, and the testimonies of believers who took God at His WORD and experienced His victory in everyday life.

-Kenneth & Gloria Copeland



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Spanish edition es.kcm.org/LVVC

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"We know that we're never alone. We are connected to a ministry of believers who pray and stand with us."

- David Caudillo





you should get excited every morning when you look in the mirror. Even if, in the natural, you see some things that could use some sprucing up, you ought to look past the messy hair or whatever and get excited about who you really are.

HELLO, BLESSED!

You're not just a flesh-and-blood human being, or an old sinner saved by grace. You're a child of the Almighty God.

Born of the seed of His WORD, your inner man has been re-created in the image of Jesus. Your spirit—which is the real you—looks just like Him.

Talk about good-looking!

So what if on the outside your body isn't yet totally glorious? It will be one of these days when Jesus returns—and in the meantime, on the inside you're nothing less than stunning. Your inner man is shining with the glory of God!

"Even so, Brother Copeland, I sure would like for there to be more visible evidence of it in my life."

Then spend more time in front of the mirror.

Not the one in your bathroom. The one you carry to church on Sunday. The mirror of God's WORD. It contains the full truth about your spiritual identity and inheritance: You are who it says you are. You have what it says you have, and you can do what it says you can do.

The more you renew your mind to what The WORD says about you, the more who you are on the inside becomes visible on the outside. The more your faith grows and the more you and everyone around you can see that, although you live in this world, you're not of this world. You've been delivered from the power of darkness and, as Colossians 1:13-14 says, you've been "translated into the kingdom of [God's] dear Son: in whom we have redemption through His blood."

Redemption is a big word! It doesn't just refer



Through the new birth you've been redeemed from the curse and into THE BLESSING. (Gal. 3:13-14)

THE BLESSING of Abraham that's yours in Christ is the same BLESSING God put on Adam when he was created. (Gen. 1:28)

According to Melchizedek, THE BLESSING of Abraham made him possessor of heaven and earth. (Gen. 14:19)

As Abraham's seed in Christ, THE BLESSING gives you victory and dominion in heaven and earth.

(Rom. 4:13)

You don't have to run after blessings; as you listen to and obey God, His BLESSING runs after and overtakes you. (Deut. 28:2)







to forgiveness of sins. It speaks of total release from the dominion of the devil and the curse he brought into this earth when Adam fell. It also refers to what Jesus did to restore us to the plan God originally had for us. As Galatians 3:13-14 puts it: "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."

Notice according to those verses we're not just redeemed *from* something; we're redeemed *into* something. We're redeemed *from* the curse (which includes spiritual death, sickness and poverty) and we're redeemed *into* THE BLESSING of Abraham.

What exactly is THE BLESSING of Abraham? It's the original BLESSING God gave to Adam. The one that was released right after he was created when "God blessed [mankind], and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth" (Genesis 1:28).

That wasn't just *a* blessing. That was *THE* BLESSING. The one through which God bestowed on mankind all the divine power and authority we would ever need to live in total victory, health and prosperity forever. Once released into the earth, no matter how hard the devil tried to get rid of that BLESSING, he couldn't. People might not walk in it (Adam and Eve obviously didn't; they decided they'd rather disobey God) but it is still here.

We see evidence of this in Genesis 9 when, after the Flood, "God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth. And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon...all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered" (verses 1-2).

The wording of THE BLESSING is a little different there from what's recorded in Genesis 1, but the meaning isn't. In both places it's exactly the same BLESSING of The LORD.

Same BLESSING, Same Kind of Faith

After Noah, God made covenant with Abram (later known as Abraham) and gave him that BLESSING. He said: "Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and

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

Notice God didn't tell Abram where the land was or anything about it. He just said, "Go, and I'll show you," and Abraham stepped out in faith. Right there is the reason he was so hugely successful with God. Whatever God said, he did it.

That's also why in the New Testament, Abraham is called the father of our faith. As believers, we're to watch him and follow the same pattern. We're to operate in the same kind of faith and walk in the same BLESSING.

We learn more about the scope of that BLESSING in Genesis 14. There, Abraham had just won a great military victory. Melchizedek, the high priest and king of Salem (who was actually Noah's son, Shem) had come to mark the victory by ministering to Abraham the covenant elements of bread and wine. As he did, he said, "Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth" (verse 19).

For years, when I read that verse I thought Melchizedek was calling God the possessor of heaven and earth. Then I realized that wasn't the case. He was calling *Abram* the possessor of heaven and earth! That's clear because the next verse goes on to say, "And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand."

"But that's just too wild," you might say. "You can't seriously be suggesting that THE BLESSING of Abraham gives us possession of the whole world!"

No, I'm not just suggesting it. I'm saying it because that's what the Bible says—not only in Genesis but in the book of Romans.

Speaking about THE BLESSING and the promise of the Spirit given to Abraham, Romans 4 says: "For the promise, that he should be *the heir of the world*, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.... Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all" (verses 13, 16, emphasis mine).

Look at those verses again. What do they say God promised Abraham in THE BLESSING?

He'd be *heir of the world*. (That's just another way of saying he'd be *possessor of heaven and earth.*)





"REDEMPTION

is a big word!...
It speaks of total
release from the
dominion of the devil
and the curse."



2021 EVENTS

Branson Live

Victory Campaign
April 8-10 | Branson, Mo.

Sacramento Live

Victory Campaign

April 22-24 | Sacramento, Calif.

Detroit Live

Victory Campaign May 27-29 | Southfield, Mich.

West Coast

Believers' Convention
July 5-10 | Ontario, Calif.

Southwest

Believers' Convention Aug. 2-7 | Fort Worth, Texas

Word Explosion

Military Salute
Sept. 2-4 | Columbia, S.C.

Washington, D.C. Live

Victory Campaign
Nov. 11-13 | Woodbridge, Va.

Kenneth Copeland is also speaking here:

Covenant Church Feb. 19 : Destrehan, La. jdm.org

Word of His Power Conference March 21-28 : North Miami Beach, Fla. wordsoflife.com

Upper Midwest Faith Explosion Aug. 19-20 : Brooklyn Park, Minn. lwcc.org

Healing of the Nations Motorcycle Rally Aug. 27: Hidden Springs, Ariz. cofaz.org

Pathpoint Fellowship Church 22nd Anniversary Sept. 17: Amarillo, Texas pathpointfellowship.com

New Year's Eve Service Dec. 31 : Newark, Texas emic.org

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THE BLESSING
is having the grace
of God on you bigtime to do whatever
He's called you
to do."

Who does that BLESSING and promise belong to now?

They belong to us, as believers!

As Galatians 3:29 says, "If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." That means we, too, can live in the here and now in victory and dominion, as possessors of heaven and earth.

We've been raised up to sit with Jesus in the heavenly places far above all principalities and powers (Ephesians 2:6).

We've received abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness so that we can reign as kings in life (Romans 5:17).

All things are ours (1 Corinthians 3:21) because through Jesus we've inherited THE BLESSING of The LORD!

You Just Got Overtook

Deuteronomy 28 outlines exactly what we, as the BLESSED, should expect. It starts out with a reminder that we walk in THE BLESSING by hearkening diligently to and obeying the voice of The LORD. As we do that, "The LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee.... Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field.... Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out" (verses 1-3, 6).

In other words, you'll be BLESSED everywhere, all the time!

"Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine..." (verse 4).

Kine in Old Testament times were work animals. In our day kine would be whatever equipment is necessary to get a job done. It could mean cars, trucks, tractors, airplanes or whatever you need.

"The LORD shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways" (verse 7).

When, as the BLESSED, we resist the devil, he flees from us (James 4:7). That means he starts hunting in every direction for a door of escape!

I like the way John Osteen used to portray this. He'd say that when demons came down his street, if one who didn't know any better pointed to his house and wanted to go in, the other, more experienced demons would say, "No! Don't go in that house. Those people will hurt you!" John always preached that, as believers, we ought to cause the devil so much trouble that every morning when we open our eyes, he says, "Oh, no! They're up again!"

"The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee" (Deuteronomy 28:8).

Part of THE BLESSING is having the grace of God on you big-time to do whatever He's called you to do. If you're called to teach school, with THE BLESSING on you, you can revolutionize the school system. If you're called into business, even if you have to start out just sweeping the shop floor, THE BLESSING can turn you into such a problem-solver and an asset to the company that you wind up owning it.

Remember Joseph in the Old Testament? He started out as a slave in Potiphar's house and THE BLESSING made him so valuable that he ended up in charge of the man's entire estate. The same thing happened when he got thrown into prison. The jailers saw how capable he was and put him

over the whole place.

"The LORD shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in his ways. And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the LORD; and they shall be afraid of thee" (verses 9-10).

God's ways are the ways of love. When you walk in love and in THE BLESSING of God, people see there's something special about you. Everywhere you go you make that place better. If God calls you to move into some raggedy old neighborhood, where everyone's mean to you, you go there willingly and become God's agent of change. You bring God's love and BLESSING to those people, pray for them, and turn that neighborhood around.

That's what Isaac did in Genesis 26 when the famine hit Canaan. At God's direction, he stayed there and prospered in the midst of it. To get the water he needed for his crops, he'd dig a well and get it flowing, then his neighbors would steal it, so he'd dig another one. He kept digging wells until eventually the whole place was flourishing. Then everyone thought the famine was over, so they ran him out of town.

When they did, the famine hit again with a vengeance. So, they ran after him, begged him to come back, and asked him to make covenant with them. Why? Because of THE BLESSING of The LORD!

"And the LORD shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers to give thee" (verse 11).

Notice material possessions are "goods," not "bads," and as the BLESSED we're to have plenty of them to enjoy and to give. We're not supposed to get them by seeking after them though, like the world does. Instead, we seek God and His ways and the goods overtake us.

One time I got home from preaching out of town and found a little, yellow 500 Mercedes convertible sitting in my driveway. I called the office to see whose it was and found out one of my Partners had given it to me. I asked The LORD, "What's going on? I didn't believe for this. I've never even thought about wanting a car like this."

The LORD replied, You remember I said, 'All these blessings will come on you and overtake you?' "Yes, Sir." I answered.

Boy, you just got overtook! He said.

"The LORD shall open unto thee his good

treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow. And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath..." (verses 12-13).

This is who you are! You're the BLESSED. Renew your mind to it. Build these verses into you. Think them. Talk them. Practice seeing yourself in the light of them until the first thing you say every morning when you look in the mirror is, "Hello, BLESSED!"





A most powerful move of God will take place in the local church. The glory of God will fall in those churches that are preaching, teaching, healing and going strong in the Word of Faith.

2021 A Year of...

DIVINE HEALING DIVINE HEALTH DIVINE PROSPERITY DIVINE RECOVERY

"But this is a people robbed and plundered; all of them are snared in holes, and they are hidden in prison houses; they are for prey, and no one delivers; for plunder, and no one says, 'Restore!'" Isaiah 42:22 (NKJV)

JESUS IS SHOUTING, "RECOVER!"

Recovery of the Healing Ministry.

Recovery of Health.

Recovery of Prosperity.







Paul spoke to Timothy about these days, calling them "perilous times of great stress and trouble [hard to deal with and hard to bear]" (2 Timothy 3:1, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*). Although the times may be hard to bear, they are *not* impossible to bear—because with God, *nothing* is impossible! (Luke 1:37).

Pressure and persecution are nothing new to God or His people. When the kingdom of darkness applies pressure to believers, the outcome is deliverance and multiplication. The truth is, the kingdom of darkness is terrified of God's people.

For instance, when the inhabitants of Jericho heard of the works God had done for the Israelites, the report terrified them. Consider Rahab's words to the spies: "I know the LORD has given you this land," she told them. "We are all afraid of you. Everyone in the land is living in terror.... No wonder our hearts have melted in fear! No one has the courage to fight after hearing such things" (Joshua 2:9, 11, New Living Translation).

Then when God's people lived in Egypt, Pharaoh said, "The Israelites are too many and too mighty for us" (Exodus 1:9, AMPC). That statement is true of God's people today, although the media would like you to think that Christians are a minority. Pharaoh put pressure on Israel, but the more the Egyptians pressured them, the more they multiplied and spread. Then Pharaoh decided to slaughter babies to stop their growth. Does this sound familiar? But, as recorded in Exodus 1:20, NLT, they "continued to multiply, growing more and more powerful."

Pressure Results in Growth

Wherever Paul preached, the kingdom of darkness got stirred up—yet the Church

kept growing. After one preaching event, a mob formed and Paul and Silas were thrown into a dungeon and bound with chains (see Acts 16). But the two men didn't complain like many would; instead, they sang praises to God while the other inmates listened. And their singing resulted in an earthquake that shook the prison's foundation and caused the prison doors to fly open! The event was so supernatural that the jailer asked, "What must I do to be saved?" (verse 30). And that very night, he and his entire household were born again.

When true believers are pressured, the Church grows!

Peter wasn't intimidated by pressure when 3,000 were saved after the first sermon he preached. In fact, so many were being converted that the city officials forbade Peter from preaching about Jesus. When they imprisoned him, he was guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. I guess the authorities didn't think that was secure enough because

they fastened chains between Peter and two soldiers. They were terrified Peter might escape. And what did Peter do while shackled and imprisoned? He slept. And just as the officials feared, an angel appeared to facilitate Peter's prison break. It's revealing that Peter slept so soundly, the angel had to strike him to awaken him. During great persecution, Peter didn't fear or complain—he slept like a baby!

All these events establish a pattern that shows us what God will do for those who put their trust in Him alone. The authorities cannot stop the gospel from multiplying, no matter how much pressure they apply. When a governor made it illegal to sing in church, believers took corporate worship outside the four walls of the church and into the streets.

That's exactly what we did during the Jesus movement of the '70s. We took the

"Can you see the good things God is doing, or are you too focused on the problems you're facing?" gospel outside the Church to reach the lost.

When the "shelter-in" order was first issued, I said to my husband, Dennis: "I've been 'sheltered in' the secret place of the Almighty for 50 years!" I thought it was great that the unbelieving world was using words the Church could agree with. Then I said, "This is our finest hour. When the world has gone completely crazy with fear, hopelessness and despair, we have the answer!"

It's Not a Cliché. It's the Truth!

It's not a cliché to say Jesus is The Answer to all the issues facing us today. It's absolutely the truth! But if we make a habit of listening to the world's voice, we won't see what God is doing.

One of my favorite scriptures, Jeremiah 17:5-6, makes this very point: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the LORD. For he shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when good comes, but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land which is not inhabited" (New King James Version).

You may say your heart hasn't departed from the Lord. But if you're looking and listening more to the world's report about current events than to what the Word of God has to say, this verse says you won't even see good when it comes! Good things are happening right now, during these times of unrest and uncertainty. Can you see the good things God is doing, or are you too focused on the problems you're facing?

In contrast, those who rely on God have quite a different outcome! The Bible goes on to say in verses 7-8, "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit."

Look at the results of those who put their hope in God. They flourish even in a drought! Rather than not seeing when good comes, they don't see when the heat comes. Instead of being like shrubs inhabiting parched places in the wilderness, they are like trees with deep roots planted near the river that never stop yielding fruit throughout times of heat and drought.

What a way to live!

If that's not what you're experiencing, it certainly can be. As Christians, we must not get caught up in what the current-day doomsayers are saying. We must recognize the unrest, hatred and antichrist spirit for what it is: a fearful response of the kingdom of darkness. This level of disturbance in the natural realm reflects the activity in the spirit realm, as Satan's forces seek to thwart the plan of God and disrupt the great, last days outpouring of the Spirit that looms on the horizon. When there is the level of unrest in the natural that's on full display in this present hour, you can be sure there is much activity in the spirit.

These times can be somewhat likened to the decade of the '60s. Up to that time, there had never been so much turmoil concentrated in one decade in the United States. It included:

- Four prominent assassinations: John Kennedy, Robert Kennedy, Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X
- · The Watts riots and looting
- The forming of the Black Panthers
- The Cuban missile crisis
- · Civil rights protests
- · Freedom Riders
- Drug and hippy movement
- Peaceful protests turned violent
- The Vietnam War—unlike any other war in history



Vikki Burke and her husband, Dennis Burke, are co-founders of Dennis Burke Ministries in Arlington, Texas. For information or ministry materials visit dennisburkeministries.org.



All that disturbance on the earth reflected the disturbance in the unseen realm. The kingdom of darkness was seeking unsuccessfully to prevent what was about to take place—a revival that would sweep the earth during the late '60s and into the '70s called the Jesus movement.

The current unrest mirrors that tumultuous period in the '60s. We are on the precipice of the greatest awakening the world has ever experienced. The media can't stop it, and it can't be legislated away. The more pressure that is applied, the greater the Body of Christ multiplies.

Don't be concerned or distracted by the opposition. Instead, stay focused on God's Word, and let Him deal with those who resist His plan. He promises that those who set traps for us will end up falling into those traps themselves.

"Let them all stumble into their own traps while I escape without a scratch!" (Psalm 141:10, The Passion Translation)

"Go ahead, set a trap for others—and then watch as it snaps back on you!" (Proverbs 26:27)

"He who digs a pit will fall into it, and whoever breaks through a wall will be bitten by a serpent." (Ecclesiastes 10:8, NKJV)

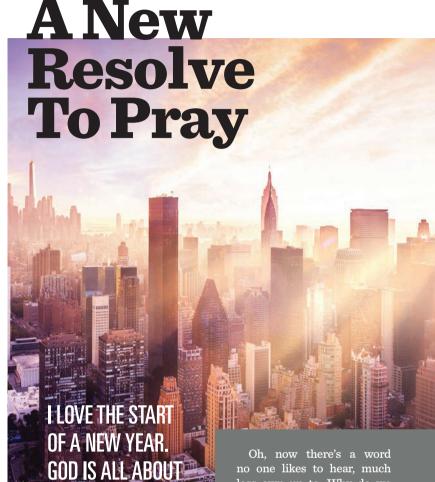
When our eyes are fixed on Jesus and His delivering power, the opposition can make attempts to thwart us, but we'll escape without a scratch!

Don't be among those who feed more on the world's report than on God's report. Those who do that are filled with fear and discouragement and trapped in a negative mindset that always finds something to complain about. Their discouragement is self-inflicted.

Let me ask you, "Whose report will you believe?" Will you join the fearful—the complainers who echo the world's doom and gloom? Or will you be like the believer who declares, "We are certainly not those who are held back by fear and perish; we are among those who have faith and experience true life!" (Hebrews 10:39, TPT)?



This article is adapted from Vikki's new book, Help! It's Dangerous Out Here-How To Walk In Supernatural Protection. For more information, go online to dennisburkeministries.org



His mercies are new every morning (Lamentations 3:22-23). Second Corinthians 5:17 says, "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

FRESH STARTS.

God is always looking forward. He is ready to assist us as we take on the challenges of a new day, a new year—a new start at anything. Unfortunately, too often we don't take advantage of all the help and support that is ready to flow to us from heaven. Either we press into the future on our own or we procrastinate.

less own up to. Why do we procrastinate?

Fear? In most cases, probably.

Depending on what we are putting off, it could be fear of failure, fear of something unpleasant or fear of the unknown. Or. it could be the fear of work (also known as being lazy!). Uh oh! I sense I hit a nerve on that one, too. Maybe not yours, but I sure felt it.

Letting Things Slip

Fear and laziness have shot down many a New Year's resolution.

Are you thinking. New Year's resolution? What New A

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Year's resolution? Who does those anymore?

Well, if we don't stop at least some time *close* to January 1 and reassess our priorities, we are apt to let some very important things slip. Some objectives, though important, don't rate on the same level as others, especially natural things versus spiritual ones. For example, a new exercise program, though beneficial, can't compete with the importance of time with the Lord. "For physical training is of some value (useful for a little), but godliness (spiritual training) is useful and of value in everything and in every way, for it holds promise for the present life and also for the life which is to come" (1 Timothy 4:8, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*). (That doesn't mean we have a scriptural basis for throwing out the treadmill. Sorry.)

The reasons for spending time with the Lord on a daily basis are as vast as God Himself. *Everything* God is, He is for us. *Everything* God has, He has given to us. He has not withheld anything from His

Too often we don't take advantage of all the help and support that is ready to flow to us from heaven.

children: "Everything that the Father has is Mine. That is what I meant when I said that He [the Spirit] will take the things that are Mine and will reveal (declare, disclose, transmit) it to you" (John 16:15, *AMPC*). It is only in fellowship with Him through His Word and prayer that we can discover who He is and what He has given us.

According to Jesus, this discovery is the happy work of the Holy Spirit. He has a heavenly mission on an earthly assignment. It is His ministry to impart The Blessing to us: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ" (Ephesians 1:3). The *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*, says "every spiritual (given by the Holy Spirit) blessing in the heavenly realm!" This doesn't leave out the natural things we need. It simply points to the fact that God is the Source of ALL things and His resources begin in the realm of the spirit.

It is also the ministry of the Holy Spirit to be

our guide, both into Scripture (John 16:13) and in our daily lives (Romans 8:14). But He is also our constant companion in prayer (Did I just see you twitch a little?). For those Christians who still make New Year's resolutions, more time in prayer is a favorite addition to the list, but often, the least favorite to actually do. This is prayer procrastination!

Every reason we previously stated about procrastination sure applies here. Namely, fear. Another word for *fear* is *dread*. Why would someone dread praying? Perhaps they find it boring. Some run out of what to say or how to say it. Some don't want to pray because of a past experience when their prayers didn't seem to be answered.

One-on-One With God

Even though you may have never voiced them, you may have your own reasons for not spending much real time in prayer. I say "real" time because it is easy to "say a prayer" in the car on the way to work or maybe before you go to sleep at night. Those *are* prayers, and should happen dozens of times a day. But the kind of prayer I'm talking about is one-on-one with the Father. It's talking and listening. It's looking inside your own inner being by faith, and locating His presence. It is loving Him, and being loved by Him. It is discovering Him. And it is doing Kingdom business.

Think for a moment of all the wonderful things we have been privileged to learn from the Scripture about the Name of Jesus, the power of the Word and our authority as believers. Have you ever read in Ephesians 6 about the armor of God? We are told to put it on and take care of the devil's strategies. Yes, that's right! Us in God's armor! Each piece of armor has a great place in prayer. When you consider that any one of these "weapons of our warfare" is powerful "to the pulling down of strong holds" (2 Corinthians 10:4), how could prayer be anything but exciting? And what about praying in the spirit? Are you kidding me? How could praying with the "tongues of men and angels" (1 Corinthians 13:1) be boring? If prayer is boring, or goes unanswered, we aren't doing it right (James 4:3).

Simply put, it takes three things to develop a deep, satisfying prayer life: the Word of God, the Spirit of God and commitment on your part. The first two are gifts from God. They are His guarantee of our success in every aspect of our lives. But they are also the guarantee that we can know Him, commune with Him and work with Him

However, it's your commitment, the third ingredient, which really makes the difference. Without commitment it doesn't really matter what God has done or given. The treasures of the Kingdom are for those who ask, knock and seek. They aren't hidden *from us*, but *for us*. Still, they aren't laying out for the carnal-minded to use and abuse.

What do you do if you are committed to growing in your prayer life? Start by asking the Lord to lead you, and then, have faith that He will. Commit to set time aside specifically for prayer. Maybe you could start with 20 minutes. Even if it seems you can't do that every day, start with 20 minutes somewhere in your week!

Next, commit to staying focused. Romans 8:7 tells us the flesh is in opposition to God. Most of the time, our flesh is looking to sit down. It wants to find a reason to not do what it needs to do (yes, procrastination again). Sit down to pray and your flesh will suddenly think of a dozen things that need to be done. It will have the urge to jump up and get going right then! You must be on guard for such impulses and refuse to allow anything to distract you from your time with the Lord.

Remember, you asked the Lord for His help. So, watch for His leading. Maybe a song will come to mind. As long as it is one you can sing to Him, yield to it. If a scripture comes to mind, look it up and talk to Him about it. Tell the Lord what you are grateful for. Tell Him how impressed you are with all He can do. Look through the Psalms and find those you can base prayers on. Pray the prayers of the Apostle Paul, starting with Ephesians 1 and 3, and Colossians 1. And pray in tongues! Or as my grandmother, Vinita Copeland, used to say, "Hit it in tongues, honey!"

Commit to learn from others. Invest in teachings on prayer from like-minded ministers. Actually pray when someone asks you to, including when the pastor says from the platform, "Let's pray!" Join or start a prayer group—even if it's just with one other person. I've heard Kenneth E. Hagin, as well as others, say that some things about prayer are "better caught than taught." Praying with others is one of the best ways to "catch things" in the spirit.

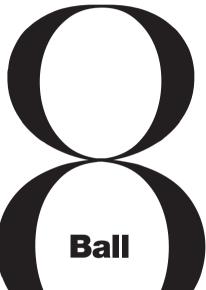
But nothing replaces having faith that the Spirit of God will do what He is assigned to do and lead you every step of the way.

There is more at stake here than just checking off a "New Year's Resolution" list. Our families need prayer. Our nations need prayer. And they need us to step up, without procrastination, without hesitation and with a Kingdom boldness that can only come from time spent with the Father.





No More Magic



The congregation

could almost hear sleigh bells ringing through the auditorium at Eagle Mountain International Church the morning of Dec. 16, 2018. A winter wonderland backdrop set the stage for the annual Christmas program.

David and Kristy Caudillo watched eagerly as a group of children walked onstage.

On the front row stood Gabriel, the second of their five children. His sweet face puckered in concentration as he sang, while his chocolate eyes sparked with excitement. At 7 years old, Gabriel was a mixture of a tender heart and a mischievous playmate to his siblings.

While all the Caudillo children wiggled with excitement over Christmas, Gabriel awaited his birthday with bated breath. In just three weeks he would turn 8, and his greatest desire would be fulfilled.

More than anything, Gabriel wanted to play in the water park at the Great Wolf Lodge in Grapevine, Texas. While shopping on Black Friday after Thanksgiving, his grandmother had found tickets on sale for the lodge, and had snapped up a family outing there for Gabriel's birthday. One of the conditions of the sale price had been that, once purchased, the dates couldn't be

changed. That was no problem. The date of Gabriel's birthday wouldn't change either.

Later that afternoon, Kristy let the four boys go outside to play on the trampoline while she fed her youngest child, Kathryn. At around 3:30, the peaceful afternoon was shattered by piercing cries.

David ran outside and found Gabriel lying face down on top of his elbow.

Birthday Bummer

"I carried him inside and put ice on his elbow while trying to figure out what had happened," David recalls. "The boys had been playing on the trampoline, which is surrounded by a net. Gabriel had kicked off his little brother Nathaniel's cap and laughed at him. Then he stepped outside the net to pick up the cap. That's when Nathaniel retaliated by knocking him off the trampoline.

"I left the other children home with Kristy and drove Gabriel to Urgent Care, talking to him on the way. We teach our kids not to bully others, and that includes their siblings. I told Gabriel that since I didn't see the accident, he would have to describe what happened to the doctor. He was very embarrassed, but he did it.

"After taking an X-ray, the doctor





READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

MARCH

Old New			ew
			stament
Mon	1	Lev. 16:1-18:18	Mark 14
Tue	2	Lev. 18:19-20:7	Mark 15
Wed	3	Lev. 20:8-22:25	Mark 16
Thu	4	Lev. 22:26-24:9	Luke 1
Fri	5	Lev. 24:10-25:46	Luke 2
Sat	6	Lev. 25:47-26:46	
Sun	7	Ps. 32-34;	
Ouri	,	Prov. 6:20-7:5	
Mon	8	Lev. 27-Num. 1:29	Luke 3
Tue	9	Num. 1:30-3:4	Luke 4
Wed	10	Num. 3:5-4:16	Luke 5
Thu	11	Num. 4:17-5:31	Luke 6
Fri	12	Num. 6:1-7:35	Luke 7
Sat	13	Num. 7:36-8:4	
Sun	14	Ps. 35-36;	
		Prov. 7:6-23	
Mon	15	Num. 8:5-10:13	Luke 8
Tue	16	Num. 10:14-11:35	Luke 9
Wed	17	Num. 12:1-14:10	Luke 10
Thu	18	Num. 14:11-15:31	Luke 11
Fri	19	Num. 15:32-16:50	Luke 12
Sat	20	Num. 17-19	
Sun	21	Ps. 37;	
		Prov. 7:24-8:11	
Mon	22	Num. 20-21	Luke 13
Tue	23	Num. 22:1-23:26	Luke 14
Wed	24	Num. 23:27-26:34	Luke 15
Thu	25	Num. 26:35-28:28	Luke 16
Fri	26	Num. 28:9-29:40	Luke 17
Sat	27	Num. 30:1-31:47	
Sun	28	Ps. 38-41; Prov. 8:12-36	
Mon	29	Num. 31:48-33:9	Luke 18
Tue	30	Num. 33:10-34:15	Luke 19
Wed	31	Num. 34:16-36:13	Luke 20

explained that Gabriel had a dislocated bone in his elbow and a broken bone. The next day, the whole family came along as he went to Children's Hospital for treatment."

Kristy and the other children stayed in the waiting area while David went with his son. After putting Gabriel to sleep, the doctor moved the dislocated bone back into place. Then, because of the fracture, a cast was put on his arm. Slits were sawed in the cast to allow for swelling.

Still groggy from the procedure, Gabriel looked at his cast and almost wept.

"I'm not going to be able to go to the Great Wolf Lodge and get in the water now," he said.

The Truth Revealed

There had been a time when Kristy wouldn't have known how to respond to that in faith. In 2013, however, a friend asked that she and David watch his house in Houston while he attended the Southwest Believers' Convention in Fort Worth.

"Watch it on television," he said, "maybe you'll see me."

David decided to do just that.

After watching the convention awhile he called to Kristy, telling her, "You've really got to listen to this!"

Kristy joined David to watch as Jesse Duplantis was speaking.

"Some of you think we're lying when we say that we've been healed although we still have symptoms," Jesse said.

"That's right," Kristy acknowledged.

"God's Word is Truth," Jesse continued. "That Truth trumps sickness. Therefore, we speak the Truth when we say that 'by Jesus' stripes we were healed.' We speak the Truth until circumstances line up with it."

For the first time, Kristy saw the truth of what he said.

"In our denomination, we were taught that God answers prayers with yes, no and not right now," Kristy said. "I struggled with that my whole life because I never knew what He was saying to me. When I was in middle school, I felt so desperate that I borrowed someone's magic eight ball.

"I said, 'God, I'll take the magic eight ball and flip it over. If it says, YES, DEFINITELY, I'll know Your answer is yes and I'll believe You.' I had no idea that God's will was spelled out for us in the Bible. We'd never been taught that!

"Years later, our eldest son, Matthew, asked questions about the Cross that I didn't

know how to answer, even though I'd been a Christian schoolteacher. I went into my room and shut the door. I said, 'Lord, I'll throw out everything I've ever known if You'll just teach me what happened at the Cross so that I'll know how to teach my kids.'

What Jesus Did on Calvary

"That was 2013, the year our friend introduced us to KCM. I wondered how Kenneth Copeland would answer my son's questions. In hopes of finding out, I started watching *Believer's Voice of Victory* on TV. They were offering a book called *He Did It All for You*.

"I ordered the book and read it cover to cover. I was amazed. I had no idea Jesus had done so much for us on Calvary. Soon afterward, Creflo Dollar taught about the differences between the first and second covenants. He taught how much God loves us and how our new covenant was established on better promises. I hadn't known any of that.

"We started listening to everyone the Copelands mentioned. We soaked up teachings by Kenneth Hagin and Charles Capps. We received revelation after revelation. Our faith grew, and we started teaching it to our children. It changed our lives.

"We were living in Houston at the time, but we were getting fed primarily through KCM and EMIC. We prayed, asking the Lord to make a way for us to move to the Dallas/Fort Worth area."

David worked as a construction administrator in the architectural business. In 2014, when they decided they wanted to move, all the big projects were in Houston. In addition, the industry had been hit hard by the earlier recession and was still recovering. David applied for work with architectural firms in Dallas, but they couldn't compete with what he made in Houston.

By faith, David and Kristy continued praying while they packed boxes. Standing on Scripture, they danced around their boxes, rejoicing in the fulfillment of God's plan for their lives.

Then, in October 2015, David was interviewed by three different architectural firms in the DFW area. Two of them wanted him and kept increasing their offers. He was hired by a firm that gave him a good salary and a \$1,000 moving package.

They moved to the Fort Worth area, and soon after joined EMIC. They plugged into the

church, taking opportunities to serve. Their faith grew faster than their children.

Perfecting That Which Concerns Us

Now, when Gabriel realized his cast would keep him from playing at the water park, Kristy knew how to answer him.

"Gabriel, Psalm 138:8 says that He will perfect that which concerns you. Are you concerned that you won't be able to enjoy the Great Wolf Lodge?"

"Yes."

"That verse means that God loves you so much that He will make it perfect for you."

"How?"

"Well, one way might be for Him to give us such favor with the lodge that they change their policy and let us change the date. Another way is that God could accelerate how fast your arm heals. Which one do you want to believe for?"

"I want my elbow healed fast!" Kristy gathered the family.

"Gabriel wants to believe God to heal his elbow so fast that he'll be able to enjoy the water park on his birthday," she said. "Before we pray, we've got to make sure our hearts are repentant and that we've learned our lesson. We don't want any of that unresolved when we pray."

The boys each repented for their part in the accident, confessed their sins and forgave one another. Then they released their faith, asking God to accelerate Gabriel's healing process.

They called Commander Jennifer Hooley at KCM's Superkid Academy, and told her about Gabriel's accident and his faith stand. Jennifer also prayed in agreement for accelerated healing. The next day she sent Gabriel a bouquet of cookies and little cars representing his speedy recovery.

There were a few times when Gabriel was tempted to get upset and have an attitude about his situation. When that happened, David and Kristy reminded him that the joy of the Lord is our strength. "You have to be happy and joyful to get that strength," Kristy said. "Be happy because you know God loves you and is faithful."

Truth Trumps Circumstances

Ten days after the accident, Gabriel went for a follow-up visit with the doctor.

"Today, we're going to X-ray his arm to make sure everything looks good," the nurse

explained, "and to see how loose his cast is now that the swelling has gone down. We'll put on a new cast that's tighter so his arm will heal better."

She handed Gabriel a ring of swatches so he could pick the color of his next cast.

After a bit, the nurse returned. Looking perplexed, she said: "The doctor wants another set of X-rays. The healing looks significantly further along than we expected. This time, she wants X-rays

without the cast, in case the cast is keeping us from seeing something."

The cast was removed and a second set of X-rays was taken. It confirmed that the bones were in perfect alignment and the fracture was completely filled in!

It appeared to be completely healed, but since it was only 10 days post injury, the doctor wanted to make sure Gabriel didn't reinjure his elbow, so they used the bottom part of his cast as a splint for his arm. At his next appointment one week later, another set of X-rays verified once again that this arm was indeed healed. The doctor approved removing the splint. The Caudillos had been told to expect six to eight weeks for his arm to be healed, and God did it in less than 18 days!

"Gabriel, look," Kristy said as they left without his arm in a splint, "God loves you so much that He even cares about your birthday."

The family arrived at the Great Wolf Lodge on the appointed day. Without cast or sling, Gabriel used his healed elbow to swim, to splash and to slide. He celebrated his birthday with the unabashed joy of someone who knows that he is beloved by God.

David and Kristy Caudillo have been Partners with KCM for seven years.

"What we've learned through them has changed our lives," David says. "We know that we're never alone. We are connected to a ministry of believers who pray and stand with us." \mathbb{N}

Nathaniel and Gabriel



JOIN DAVID & KRISTY IN TEACHING BELIEVERS

HOW TO USE THEIR FAITH.

KCM.ORG/PARTNERNOW



'A Major Praise Report'

I wanted to share with you a major praise report. Last month my husband was hospitalized for pancreatitis (lipase normally is in the 100 range; his was at 6,000). He is fine now. Praise God. After 40 years of praying for him, he is no longer drinking, going from 60+beers a week down to zero! He has quit smoking cigarettes too. Thank You, Jesus! I've been believing and confessing for over a year for marvels, wonders and extraordinary manifestations of the goodness of God. I am seeing it.

Thank you for standing with me all these years. I see God continue the good work that He has started with my family. Our God is good, and His mercies endure forever.

A.M. | Indiana

Grateful

I love reading what you and Gloria write. I listen to the CDs in the Overcoming Stress, Anxiety and Depression LifeLine Kit. Thank you for that and for one of your books you mailed. I read every word and know when God is talking to us. I have so much to praise Him for. You and Gloria are two special, born-again people and know how to direct and pull us in closer to our Lord. You are so down-to-earth but knowledgeable of God. I have felt so much closer to our Lord since I have known you. Satan used to fight me, wanting me to doubt my salvation. That is history. God bless you both.

D.T.R. | Michigan

'God Paid My Rent'

I had prayed with one of the prayer partners for my rent to be taken care of. I just want to let you know God said, *I got you*. And from the prayer partner praying with me, God paid my rent hallelujah! I am so wonderfully blessed by God.

L.N. | New York

Blessed and at Peace

I owed the IRS over \$15,000. I paid \$120 and owe nothing now—zero! Also, Gloria, you sent me a peace scripture and I have so much PEACE. Praise God, no man can understand it. I am very successful at workmeaning everything my hands do prospers. It's a process I've learned through all the men Kenneth has at the convention...I received "owe no man anything but to love."

G.J. | Washington

"The choice is ours. It's up to us whether
we're BLESSED or cursed in life. We
can't blame it on anyone else—
especially God."

-Kenneth
Copeland





Years ago, I was a Partner, and your teaching prepared me for ministry. It also was foundational for healing from Lyme disease that had gone into my brain. Thank God, I never claimed it, but stood. I took Communion often, as well

as medication. My vision returned to 20/20 after the corneas had been scarred (a 5-year battle).

It has been quite the journey, not all the Father's best, due to my decisions! But I'm once again tuning in to the broadcast and seeking "good days." Thank you for the early Word recordings, the meetings in Washington, D.C., your magazine and your lives of giving. I'm grateful.

V.B. | Virginia



Applying 100% Faith

Last March when lockdown came, I did not receive any income and my health was not good, but God healed and restored me to complete wholeness. I decided to apply for a new job with a specific title, salary, benefits and location.

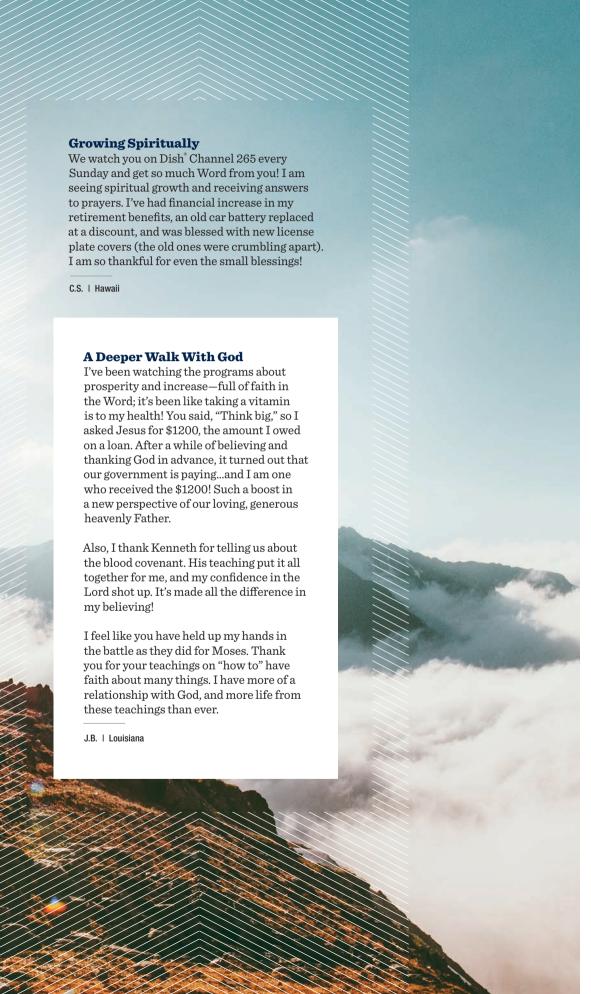
To God's glory, He did exactly that in July. The journey was tough, but I was determined to apply 100% faith throughout the process. I studied Faith That Can Move Mountains LifeLine Kit and other messages on faith by Brother Kenneth and Sister Gloria Copeland-my faith moved from one glory to another. I am forever grateful that in August. I started my new job. Thank you for agreeing with me in the prayer of faith.

K. | South Africa

Blessed Givers

After we gave to the plane ministry, God blessed us with a muchneeded minivan within two weeks!

M. & L.R. | Michigan



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 savs. "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 Holv Spirit giving me new birth by coming to live in me (John 3:5-6, 15-16: Romans 8:9-11) and that if I would ask, You would fill me with Your Spirit and give me the ability to speak with other tongues (Luke 11:13; Acts 2:4).

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

connect with us

If you have just prayed this prayer, please let us know of your decision. We have a Free Gift to help you begin your new life in Jesus! kcm.org/salvation

PRAYER IS OUR PRIORITY.

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Nohemi R., prayer minister Hablamos Español

Bringing Hope to Juárez

Kenneth Copeland
Ministries has partnered
with Alvarado Ministries
International to build a soup
kitchen, church and orphanage
in the city of Ciudad Juárez, Mexico,
one of the poorest parts of that country.





The project was launched in October 2019 when AMI began construction of a two-story, cinder block church building in that impoverished area.

Last October, KCM held the Juárez Victory Campaign in the city. The event was to celebrate the progress of the future church and ministry center, which will be called *Centro de Fe Vida Abundante* (Faith Center Abundant Life). Hosted by AMI and its founder, Sergio Alvarado, the event brought the Word of God, as well as food and provisions, to hundreds of local children and their families.

Though construction of the center is still underway, that didn't stop the hands-on ministry from taking place. Sixteen people, including several pastors, traveled to Juárez from the U.S., and another 10 volunteers from the area came to love on the children and their families. In addition to being ministered to through the Word of God, more than 1400 people received nourishing meals, over 500 adults and children were given new shoes, and volunteers handed out more than 600 toys to children.

"The city of Juárez is considered one of the most









dangerous cities on earth," Alvarado said when first announcing plans to build a church facility in 2019. As a child growing up in the heart of drug-infested Juárez, Alvarado watched helplessly as his alcoholic father abandoned the family when he was 2, and his drug-addicted mother turned to prostitution—lifestyles that eventually led to early deaths for both. Like almost everyone born into that culture, Alvarado never saw himself living any way other than in poverty—surrounded by drugs and early death.

"We lived in an area called 'Heroin Alley,'" Alvarado recalls of his plight in a book he released in 2019, called *Prophet of My Own Life.* "Hundreds of people routinely crossed the Mexican border almost daily from the U.S. to buy heroin in Heroin Alley. The entire area was, and still is to this day, drug infested—littered with bars and brothels, and crawling with prostitutes. On any day, people could be seen sitting in public—smoking dope, shooting up with needles and syringes, or cooking crack cocaine in spoons over open flames. As a child growing up in Juárez, this is what I saw every day. By the time I was 6, I understood what poverty was. I also realized that we were steeped in it."

Poverty a Real Concern

This area in Mexico is prime for the message of the gospel and move of God, says Alvarado. Juárez is

the largest city in the Mexican state of Chihuahua and sits right across the U.S.-Mexico border from El Paso, Texas. Over 1.5 million residents live in and around Juárez. Along with El Paso, it is the second largest dual-national metroplex on the U.S. southern border, just behind San Diego-Tijuana.

Poverty is a very real concern for those living in Juárez, as 70% of its population lives below the poverty line, says Alvarado. As one who grew up in Juárez, he knows firsthand the devastation of the impoverished area and the difference a relationship with God can make.

Alvarado credits God for delivering him from extreme poverty and a life of drugs, and enabling him to return to Juárez to share the love of God with the city, and especially its children.

"Many of its children are still trapped in a vicious cycle surrounded by drugs with no way out," Alvarado explained. "God has called me to help, and one of the ways He is helping me do that is by building a church right here in Juárez—a place where young children can find hope through God's Word."

When completed, the two-story facility will house a soup kitchen that can serve up to 160 people at a time, as well as a 300-seat sanctuary.

Watch more.



kcm.org/HopeforJuarez

The facility will also include an orphanage and educational areas for Bible classes, services for kids, dormitories and more. Plans for the area surrounding the center include building educational workshops where young people will learn skills like woodworking, sewing and welding, which will allow them to provide for their own families in the future, according to Alvarado.

Alvarado and his staff continue to stand in faith for the remainder of the finances to come in to finish the ministry center debt free.

He is quick to point out that the center will not be a feeding program. Instead, it will be a place of transformation where children and their families will receive a fresh start-spiritually, emotionally and physically.

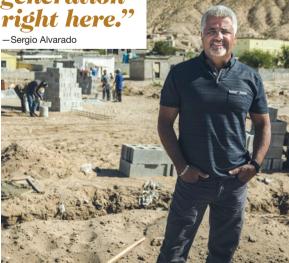
"This is where lives are going to be transformed," says Alvarado. "It's all about the kids because we want to reach this generation right here."

Speaking to the children during the first day of the Victory Campaign, Alvarado told them: "Your life is about to be transformed. Things will never be the same. It's only through faith in God. You look like God because He is your Father, and He loves you."

Thank you, KCM Partners and Friends, for helping

"It's all about the kids because we want to reach this generation





demonstrate that ministry matters by supporting the work being done to take the gospel all around the world, including Juárez. Through your prayers and faithful giving, you are helping Alvarado Ministries International make a difference in Juárez. 🚺







by Gloria Copeland

They Shall

Sometimes we, as believers, make sharing Jesus with people too complicated. We get the idea that before we can tell them about Him, we must become theological experts who can answer all their questions. We think they won't listen to us unless we come up with some clever way to get them interested in Him.

Recover

I don't know where we got such ideas. But they're absolutely untrue!

I received a letter some years ago that proved it.

One of my favorite testimony letters of all time, it was written by a woman in Ukraine who had recently tuned in to our Russian TV broadcast of *Believer's Voice of Victory*.

She began the letter by explaining she'd only seen the broadcast once. Her husband liked to watch a soap opera called *Wild Rose* that aired at the same time on another channel. So, she wasn't usually able to tune in to our broadcast. But the one time she saw it, the broadcast changed her life. She didn't say exactly what message she heard, but it was clear from what she wrote that through it she'd learned three basic truths about Jesus.

No. 1: As the Son of God, He died for our sins so that by faith in Him we can receive forgiveness and have peace with God (Acts 10:36).

No. 2: He "went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil" (Acts 10:38).

No. 3: He said, "These signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues...[and] they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover" (Mark 16:17-18).

In her letter, the woman indicated that some time during the broadcast I led people in a prayer to receive healing.

"My leg was hurting badly," she wrote. "I was not able to straighten it fully, so after the preaching I went to the bedroom, laid on the bed and started to repeat what Gloria taught and—miracle!—I started experiencing this all for myself. My leg got straightened and was not hurting anymore. I jumped up and started running around. My husband was suspiciously looking at me. He was thinking I had lost my mind....

"My husband had high blood pressure, and I laid hands on him and said, 'By the Name of Jesus, Satan, leave my husband! You don't have any right to bother him,' and commanded the sickness to leave. And, you know, a miracle happened! Satan left him."

Remember, she had just heard for the first time a few minutes earlier that believers can cast out demons and lay hands on the sick. So, she was hardly an expert on the subject. She got results, though!

"Now it is like my husband and I are on a honeymoon again!" she wrote. "We live in love and without quarrels. My quick-tempered husband is changed. I don't recognize him. It is amazing."

That wasn't the end of the story either. She also wrote about going to pray for her aunt, who lives in Russia.

"She was paralyzed and had a hemorrhage in her head. When I went to visit her, it was a terrible picture. Her left side was paralyzed. She didn't feel it. She could barely speak. I asked her if she would like to be healed, and she said, 'Yes.' Then I told her to renounce Satan's lordship and receive Jesus as Lord, and she did it."

I carried that letter around in my notebook for years because it ministered to me. It reminded me of how easy it is for us to be the hand of God in someone's life. Of how quickly we can believe and lay hands on the sick and see them recover.

Think of it, all this woman knew about the gospel is what she was able to learn in a single television broadcast. But she didn't let that disqualify her from sharing Jesus. She just acted on the little bit she had learned about Him. She just believed what He said

HE MAKES IT
SIMPLE FOR US TO
MINISTER HEALING
TO OTHERS.

"He never told them they had to stay sick so God could teach them something."

and immediately began to do it.

What would happen if all believers everywhere followed her example?

We'd probably be amazed at how many lives would be changed and how many people would get healed.

A Powerful Marketing Strategy

"But Gloria," you might say, "I just don't feel ready to lay hands on the sick."

So?

Initially, Jesus' 12 disciples probably didn't feel ready either. When He first sent them out "to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick" (Luke 9:2), they'd never done that before. They'd seen Jesus do it, but personally they were complete novices. Yet they

stepped out by faith and did what Jesus said.

So did the believers in the book of Acts. They didn't have any seminaries in those days where they could go learn all about ministering to people and sharing the gospel. They didn't have years and years to get ready to heal the sick. They just had the new birth, the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, and the fact that Jesus promised:

When the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you will receive power and will tell people about me everywhere. (Acts 1:8. New Living Translation)

"[You] shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." (Mark 16:18)

"He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do." (John 14:12)

Believers in the early Church took those promises seriously! They didn't just underline them in their Bibles, like Christians do today. They believed them and behaved accordingly.

Take Stephen and Phillip, for example. They weren't professional preachers. They weren't numbered among the apostles. They were simply deacons. (Today we'd call them *laymen.*) Yet they boldly shared the good news about Jesus and "did great wonders and miracles among the people" (Acts 6:8), so that "unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed" (Acts 8:7).

Talk about a powerful marketing strategy!

That's the strategy Jesus used during His earthly ministry. It's the one He taught His first disciples to use, and He never changed it. When He went back to heaven and delegated His ministry to the Church, He told us to follow the same plan.

Why?

Because it works!

The book of Acts confirms this time and again. As long as the early Christians kept doing what Jesus did to build the kingdom of God, they saw marvelous results. The Body of Christ kept growing, and as we see in scripture after scripture:

"The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." (Acts 2:47)

"Many of them which heard the word believed." (Acts 4:4)

"And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women." (Acts 5:14)

"And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord." (Acts 11:21)

"Yes," someone might say, "but a lot has changed since those verses were written. Things are different these days."

That's true. Things are different. But Jesus isn't. He never changes. He's "the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8). So, if He drew people to Himself by healing the sick 2,000 years ago, He's still doing it today. Only now, He's doing it through us.

As I've already said, though, sometimes we complicate it. Jesus never did. He always made it easy for people to receive healing. He never told them they had to stay sick so God could teach them something. He never said to anyone, as religious tradition does today, "Sometimes God heals and sometimes He doesn't. You just never know what He's going to do."

On the contrary! Jesus healed everyone who came to $\operatorname{Him}.$

Think about the people whose healings were recorded just in Mark 5, for instance. The first one was a demon-possessed man who came to meet Jesus in the country of the Gadarenes. He was so sick in his mind that he lived in the cemetery and refused to wear clothes. He was so violent, people in the community chained him up, but he kept breaking the chains.

He didn't even have the wherewithal to ask Jesus to heal him. All he could do is run to Him and fall at His feet. But that's all it took. Jesus cast out the demons that had possessed that man and delivered

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him completely. He left him "sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind" (verse 15).

The man was so grateful that before Jesus left, he asked if he could go with Him. But Jesus told him that wasn't the plan. "Go home to your friends," He said, "and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you" (verse 19. New King James Version).

That's what I'm saying to you today. Go tell people what Jesus has done for you. Tell them how He has set you free and then offer to pray for them. They need to know He cares for them. They need to experience His love and power, so they too can be set free.

Jesus Kept It Simple

Watch the Spanish broadca<u>st</u>

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The second man we read about in Mark 5 is Jairus, the ruler of the synagogue in Capernaum. He, too, came and fell at Jesus' feet.

"My little daughter lieth at the point of death," he told Jesus. "I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live.

> And Jesus went with him" (verses 23-24). Don't you love that? Jesus was so easy! He didn't even hesitate in that situation. When Jairus told Him what he wanted, Jesus

simply headed for his house. Of course, as you know if you've read the story, it took a while for them to get there because on the way they ran into someone else who needed healing. A woman who'd been suffering with an issue of blood for 12 years. She'd spent all her money on doctors and had just gotten worse. Jesus was her only hope. So, she had pushed her way through the

"If I may touch but his clothes," she said, "I shall be whole" (verse 28).

crowd and come up behind Him.

Jesus didn't even know that woman was there when she touched Him! Yet the moment she did, the healing power of God that was in Him flowed into her: "And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague" (verse 29).

Afterward, Jesus stopped to talk to her. But while Jairus was waiting for her to finish her story, a messenger came to tell him his daughter was dead. Jesus heard and said to Jairus, "Be not afraid, only believe" (verse 36). Then He went on to Jairus' house and did exactly what Jairus had asked Him to do. He took that little girl by the hand, raised her up, and she was healed and lived.

Although blind Bartimaeus isn't in Mark 5, his

story is another wonderful example of how simple Jesus made it for people to receive healing. When he cried out to Jesus for mercy, Jesus just said, "What do you want Me to do for you?"

"I want to see," he replied.

"Then Jesus said to him, 'Go your way; your faith has made you well.' And immediately he received his sight" (Mark 10:52, NKJV).

Jesus still operates the same way today! He makes it simple for us to receive healing from Him ourselves, and as we go out and tell people about Him, He makes it simple for us to minister healing to others.

"But what if I'm not in any condition to minister to anyone else?" you might ask. "What if I still have aches and pains in my own body, or I'm feeling depressed?"

Then, other than feeding on God's Word, going out and ministering to someone is the best thing you can do!

Staying focused on yourself and the problems you're facing won't help you at all. It will just make you more depressed. You'll wind up throwing yourself a pity party and thinking dumb stuff like: Nobody loves me. Nobody cares for me. God doesn't even love me.

That's not what the Bible says! It says God loves you as much as He loves Jesus. It calls you His dearly beloved child and tells you in Psalm 103, to "forget not all His benefits: who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from destruction, who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies" (verses 2-4, NKJV).

Focus on what God says about you, not on temporary symptoms and circumstances. See yourself as He sees you-crowned with lovingkindness and tender mercies. See yourself with the Greater One living in you. As the temple of the Holy Spirit. As a joint heir with Jesus who has called and empowered you to be a light in a dark world (1 John 4:4; 1 Corinthians 3:16; Romans 8:17; Ephesians 5:8).

Then go out and be that light! Get yourself off your mind and say, "Father, what do You want me to do? I will do it. If You want me to go pray for the sick, I'll go pray for the sick."

If you don't know how to tell people yet that Jesus saves and heals, take them books about Him. Share good, anointed messages with them, or watch Believer's Voice of Victory with them. Then ask, "Would you like me to pray for you?" and open the door for Jesus to work.

He is the same yesterday, today and forever. You'll be amazed at what He can do!



SUPERKID, THIS YEAR I ENCOURAGE YOU TO LIVE FROM THE INSIDE OUT. STOP PICTURING YOUR GUTS ON THE OUTSIDE OF YOUR BODY. OK. PICTURE IT JUST FOR A MINUTE BECAUSE THAT'S A FUNNY THOUGHT....

Now let's talk about what is on the inside of your born-again spirit. Or I should say, WHO is on the inside of your spirit! Say His Name with me. JESUS! That's right! We all know He is in there, but I want to explore what that means, in real life. If we don't know the power and help that is available to us and how to live our lives differently, we will not live in the victory He gave us when He died on the Cross. As believers in Jesus. Superkids all over the world can be GREAT not average, STRONG not weak and WIN not lose. Psalm 18:35 (The Passion Translation) says, "You empower me for victory with your wrap-around presence. Your power within makes me strong to subdue, and by stooping down in gentleness you strengthened me and made me great!"

This is what Jesus gives us when He comes to live in our hearts. His wraparound presence wraps us from the inside out and gives us a supernatural power to win. Jesus makes us strong and He makes us great. I like how the Bible says He stoops down in gentleness. Have you ever seen someone stoop down to help a child do something they were not big enough to do? Have you seen a mom or dad reach down to comfort a crying child? Jesus stooped down from heaven in gentleness to give us His strength. What a wonderful picture! He literally caused heaven's best to be poured out in the earth so we could be just like Him. The powers Jesus poured into us are seen in the fruit of the spirit! You have probably learned about the fruit of the spirit in Galatians 5:22-23, (New Living Translation): "But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,

goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!"

He wraps us in His arms with these FRUIT. I'm not talking apples and oranges here. The word *fruit* means, "anything produced. a product, result." The Spirit of the Lord inside us shows up on the outside as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Sometimes it is hard to love people, but because Jesus put His love inside us, we can be as full of love as He is. (Remember that, when your brother or sister makes you mad!) Since love is listed first in these verses. let's start with this fruit! Romans 5:5, "Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us" (New King James Version).

Our hearts are FULL of the love of God! So when it's hard to love or we run into problems. His love will not disappoint us if we choose to love with His love instead of getting upset, hurt or angry. If someone is mean to us, we can either get mad and be upset, or we can stop for a second and listen for the love of God to give us the words to say, or the courage to walk away. This will become easier every time we choose love.

Superkid, we are so full of the love of God that as we practice letting it show, it will become more and more natural to us. It will become our first reaction toward others, even when they are not loving to us.

Every time you say, "I love you," do it on purpose! Think about where that love is

Spirit is packed into those three little words.

You've probably seen movies about true love. Well, you and I already have it! The love of God IS true love! 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NLT) says, "Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance."

Verses 7 and 8 in the Amplified Bible, Classic Edition say: "Its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening]. Love never fails [never fades out or becomes obsolete or comes to an end]."

Love never fails! You walk around every day with this amazing hope and power on the inside. You are a POWERHOUSE, Superkid. filled with TRUE LOVE from heaven. I am excited about this year. I believe we will see more of Jesus as every day goes by!

I LOVE YOU! And I really, really mean it!

Commander Kellie





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