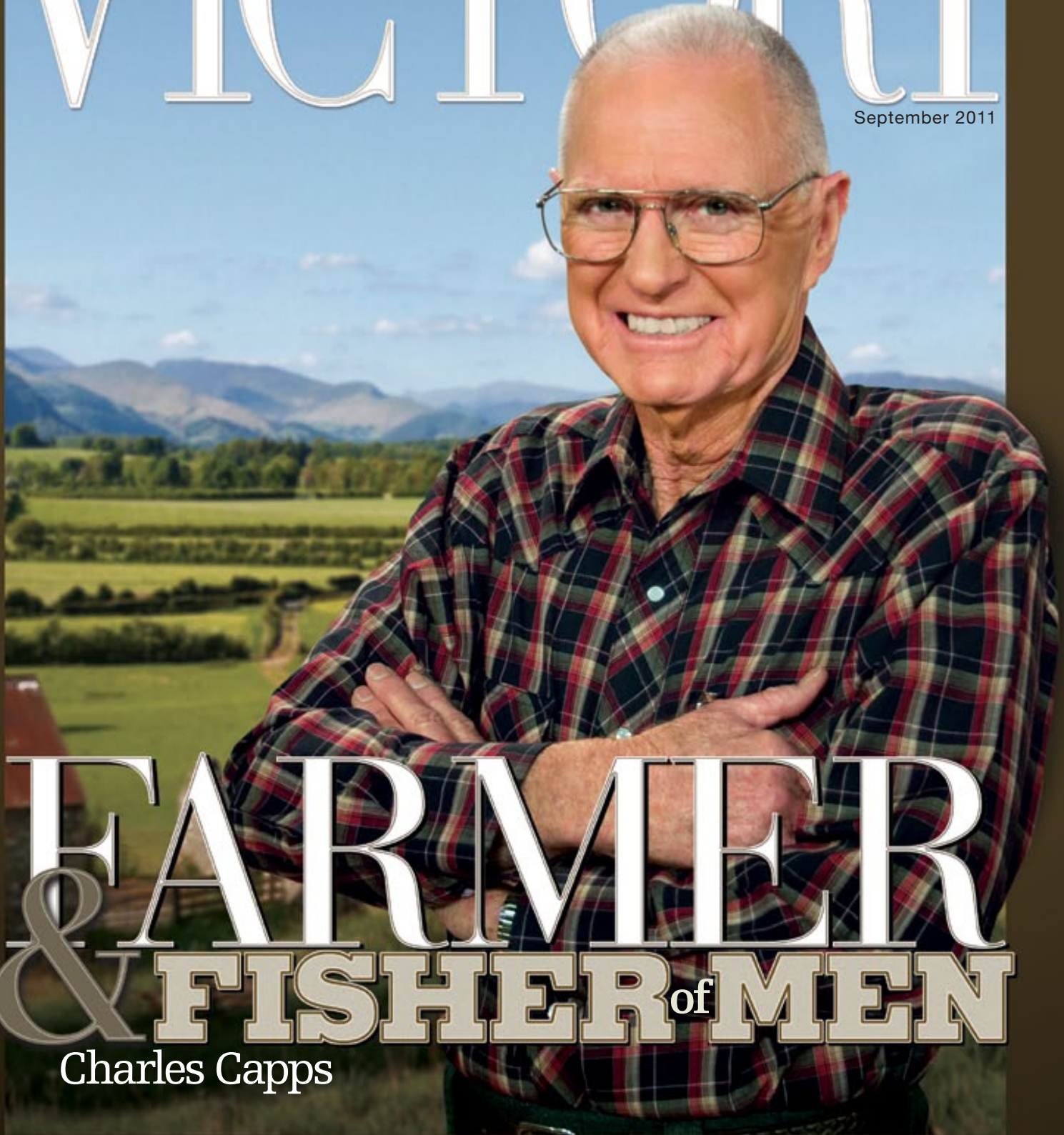




Believer's Voice of

VICTORY

September 2011



FARMER & FISHER of MEN

Charles Capps

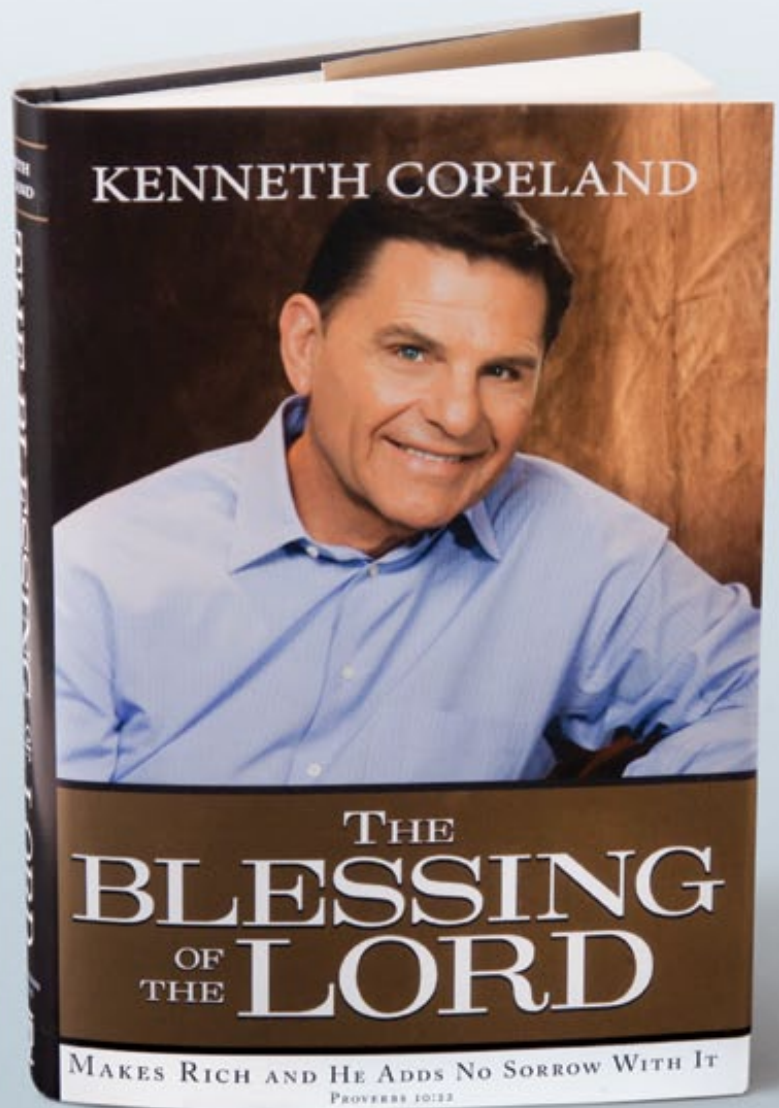
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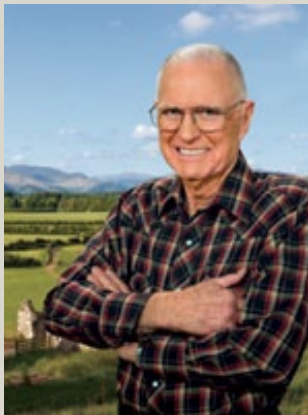
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contents September



4
**Project Eden:
 Filling the Earth
 With the Glory
 of God** by Kenneth Copeland
 God's plan was for Adam's family to spread Eden throughout the earth. Jesus reinstated that plan and the power to do it for all who believe in Him.



8
**Farmer and
 Fisher of Men** by Melanie Henry
 Charles Capps watched as his crops failed because he kept speaking failure over them. When God showed him the connection between his thinking and his doing, Capps started confessing God's Word until it changed what he saw.



12
**How to Walk
 in Love** by Billye Brim
 Christians are to be known by their love, but many don't always walk in love. Find out how to judge your own love walk and let the Lord work in you.



28
**A Supernatural
 Picture of Peace**
 by Gloria Copeland
 Jesus gave us His peace—God's peace. It's in His Word... read it, receive it and meditate on it until it crowds out doubt.



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

—Kenneth and Gloria Copeland

articles
 features

18 A Higher Form of Power
 by Kenneth Copeland
 The Bible commands us to pray for those in authority. When we do, God enables us to lead quiet and peaceable lives in godliness and honesty.

24 Our Mission in Dangerous Times
 by George Pearsons
 It's not enough to know God will protect and provide for us, our job is to reach out to the lost and bring them to Jesus—especially in dangerous times.

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

16 Good News Gazette
 Read about real-life faith triumphs from people just like you.

**22 KCM Europe: Reaching Milestones—
 Reaching More People in Europe**
 KCM is alive and well in Europe as the team there ministers to Partners and Friends throughout Europe, the Middle East, North Africa and beyond.

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BY KENNETH COPELAND


PROJECT EDEN

FILLING THE EARTH WITH THE GLORY OF GOD



The word *blessing* has been so stripped of its meaning that most people pay no attention to it anymore.

Even though it represents the most important concept in the Bible, and reveals God's will for all mankind, the world has trivialized it into little more than a courtesy comment made when someone sneezes. || "Ab-choo!" || "God bless you!" People say it all the time without any idea of what it means.



Even believers, who give the phrase more thought because of its scriptural nature, are often confused by it because it is thrown around in such casual and contradictory ways. On one hand, they hear things like sickness, poverty and calamity referred to as "blessings in disguise," while on the other hand, health, prosperity and protection are called blessings, too. It's no wonder that for all practical purposes, the real definition of the word *blessing*

has been lost. Religious double speak has turned it into a term that changes color according to the circumstances surrounding it, with no clear meaning of its own.

In reality, however, the word *blessing* has a definite and distinct identity. Its primary biblical meaning is “to say something good about.” In Hebrew, a *blessing* is the exact opposite of a *curse*, which means “to say something bad about.”

The Jews, who were the original readers of the Bible, completely understood that fact. They didn’t have the problem many Christians do. They never got blessings and curses mixed up. They knew: If it’s good, it’s a *BLESSING*. If it’s bad, it’s a *curse*. You could never convince a Jewish person who knew the Old Testament that things like poverty and sickness were *BLESSINGS*. If you said to him, “You’re going to be sick and broke for the rest of your life and God is going to use that illness and poverty to teach you something,” he wouldn’t think you had *BLESSED* him. He’d know you had cursed him.

Most Christians today have been robbed of such clarity. Their minds have been muddled by man-made doctrines so ridiculous they’d never believe them outside of church. Instead of having their minds washed with the water of The WORD, they’ve been brainwashed by tradition into believing God actually sends bad things into their lives to bless them.

“I lost my job and went broke,” they’ll say. “That was when the Holy Spirit was finally able to teach me to put God first in my life. That proves poverty can sometimes be a *BLESSING* of the LORD.”

Such statements may sound spiritual, but they’re just plain wrong. Going broke is never a *BLESSING*. It’s a curse.

Certainly, it’s great to learn lessons from God. It’s exciting to find out that if you seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, all these things shall be added unto you (Matthew 6:33). But poverty isn’t what teaches us that truth. If it did, every poor person in the world would be a spiritual giant. No, the good things God said in His WORD (specifically, verses like Matthew 6:33) are what teach us to put God first. When we read and obey these verses, we can learn that lesson without having to lose a dime—and *that’s* what the Bible calls *BLESSING*.

The Hebrew definition of the word *good* gives us further proof that a blessing is a purely positive thing. It includes: “beautiful, best, better, bountiful, joyful, kindly, loving, merry, pleasant, prosperity,

sweet, wealth and to be well.” Since that list does not include even one negative word, we can put behind us forever the idea that sorrowful, unpleasant, bitter things can be *BLESSINGS*. It is totally unscriptural.

That truth, by itself, will make us free. But there’s another meaning for the word *blessing* that’s even more exciting. It’s a definition that comes into play when God gets involved. When He is the One speaking, a *BLESSING* is defined as not only saying something good about someone, but as “a declaration which empowers them to prosper.” Because God’s words carry creative power (as seen throughout Genesis 1) His *BLESSING* does more than express a positive sentiment. It releases the power to bring that *BLESSING* to pass.

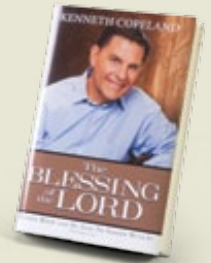
That’s the reason *THE BLESSING* God spoke over mankind in Genesis 1:28 is so significant. God’s declaration actually *empowered* man to prosper. It released the divine resources that would make *THE BLESSING* not just a spiritual reality, but a material reality as well. It endowed God’s family on earth with all the power they would ever need to: “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.”

‘Go and Finish What I Started!’

Contrary to popular belief, when God spoke those words of *BLESSING*, He wasn’t just commanding Adam and his wife to have babies to populate the earth. He was saying much more than that. In Hebrew, the phrase *be fruitful, and multiply* means “to increase and have abundance in every way.” *Replenish* means “to fill up, to perpetually renew, supply and keep full.” When God spoke those words, He endowed mankind with the divine power to increase and excel in everything good. He empowered them to fill the earth with that goodness.

Through *THE BLESSING*, He said: *Prosper and fill this planet with My glory! Finish what I’ve started here. Fill this place up with Me. Fill it up with compassion. Fill it up with love and life, faith and holiness, and everything good!*

“Wait a minute!” you might say. “I thought the earth



This article was adapted from Kenneth Copeland’s new book, *THE BLESSING of The LORD Makes Rich and He Adds No Sorrow With It Proverbs 10:22.*

God didn't create Adam to be a servant of the earth.
HE MADE HIM TO BE A LORD OVER IT.

was already finished when Adam and Eve were created. I thought God had done everything that needed to be done.”

That’s what I thought, too, until I studied what the Bible actually says about it. Like most believers, I assumed for years that God had so thoroughly completed the planet that all Adam and Eve had to do was pluck ripe fruit from the trees and enjoy themselves.

I figured that because the Garden of Eden was a perfect place, there must not have been much work for them to do.

That would have been true if the Garden had covered the whole earth. But it didn’t. Although it was a good-sized piece of property, according to the description given in Genesis, it was only about the size and in the general location of modern-day Iraq. The Bible tells us that God Himself planted it:

Eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads. The name of the first is Pison: that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold; and the gold of that land is good: there is bdellium and the onyx stone. And the name of the second river is Gihon: the same is it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia. And the name of the third river is Hiddekel: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates. And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it (Genesis 2:8-15).

By anyone’s standards, the Garden of Eden was massive, and it was, without a doubt, an exquisite place to live. Filled with gorgeous trees that provided food fit for a king, it had a river running through it to keep it lush and green, plenty of gold (*good gold*, the Bible says) and other precious stones. It was, indeed, a BLESSED

place—full of everything good and nothing bad.

The rest of the earth, however, was not in the same condition. God had created it with plenty of potential, but it had not yet been cultivated. It still needed to be developed and brought into line with God’s perfect will. That’s why He included in THE BLESSING, the power to *subdue* the earth and *have dominion* over it. The untamed earth needed supervision and direction. It wasn’t yet finished.

God could have done the job Himself. He could have turned the whole planet into a Garden of Eden in an hour, but He had something else in mind. He wanted it to be a “family project”—to watch His sons and daughters become His co-creators and finish out the planet. So He gave them the Garden of Eden as a pilot project to get them started. God’s plan was for them to expand it until the earth became the garden spot of the universe. Once earth was finished, they could go to work on the rest of the planets.

I’m convinced that’s why there are so many barren, empty planets out there. God made them to be future sites for His family to develop. No wonder human beings dream of exploring the galaxy! No wonder we figured out a way to go to the moon and send spaceships to Mars! We were created to take dominion over the universe and fill every square inch of it with the glory of God.

Not Just Weed-Pullers

Because God created mankind in His image, by His WORD of dominion, Adam sensed within himself the desire for dominion the moment he took his first breath. From the beginning, ruling and reigning was part of his DNA. He wasn’t “just a weed-puller in the Garden of Eden.” (Someone once said those very words to me, referring to Adam as “God’s weed-puller”! I had to exercise great restraint to keep from telling him what an ignorant statement that was.) In the first place, there were no weeds in the Garden of Eden. If there had been, God would have pulled them Himself before He put Adam there. In the second place—and this is much more important—God didn’t create Adam to be a servant of the earth. He made him to be a lord over it.

I realize that idea makes religious people nervous, but

I don't apologize for it. It upset people in Jesus' day too. The religious people wanted to kill Him for speaking and acting like He had dominion on the earth. When He called God His Father and operated in THE BLESSING by using the same authority the first Adam had before he fell, it aggravated the Pharisees to no end. But, He didn't back down to make them feel better. Instead, He said: "Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods? If he called them gods, unto whom The WORD of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken; say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?" (John 10:34-36).

Jesus left no doubt about man's authority over the earth. He said that when God spoke His WORD of dominion into mankind, He made us "gods" (little "g") over all that He had created. He gave us authority over everything that flies, walks, crawls, swims and creeps. (I'm especially grateful the creeps are included in that list because flu viruses and cold germs qualify as creeps, so when they try to get on me, I can use my God-given authority to get rid of them!)

"Well, I'm just not convinced I can operate in that kind of dominion, Brother Copeland. Most of the time, I feel more like a weed-puller than a lord." That may be true—but if you're honest, you'll admit that even while you're pulling weeds, you are longing for dominion. I know that's true because every human being on earth has that longing. Dominion is woven into our very nature. God breathed it into our spirits on day one. That's the reason human beings are always trying to exercise dominion over something. It's the reason why children invent games like "King of the Mountain." Even little children have an innate desire to reign.

To see how important it is to be equipped for dominion, consider how Jesus transferred His authority to His disciples after His death and resurrection. He did it in two parts. First, He gave them the Great Commission and told them what to do. He said: "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen" (Matthew 28:18-20).

That commission authorized the disciples to preach the gospel worldwide. It instilled in them the desire to do so. But that alone was not enough. They also needed to be empowered or equipped to walk in that authority. So, Jesus commanded them to wait in Jerusalem for part two: *the promise of the Father*. He said to them, "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

The fiery power that came on the disciples at Pentecost, the outpouring of power we call the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, is what equipped the disciples to fulfill the mission Jesus gave them. It empowered them to go into all the world, operate in dominion over all the works of the devil and advance the kingdom of God. It provided them with the same kind of power Adam received when God declared over him the words of Genesis 1:28. It released to them THE BLESSING. **VICTORY**

(For more information, or to order your copy of *THE BLESSING of The LORD Makes Rich and He Adds No Sorrow With It Proverbs 10:22*, see the ad on Page 2 of this magazine.)



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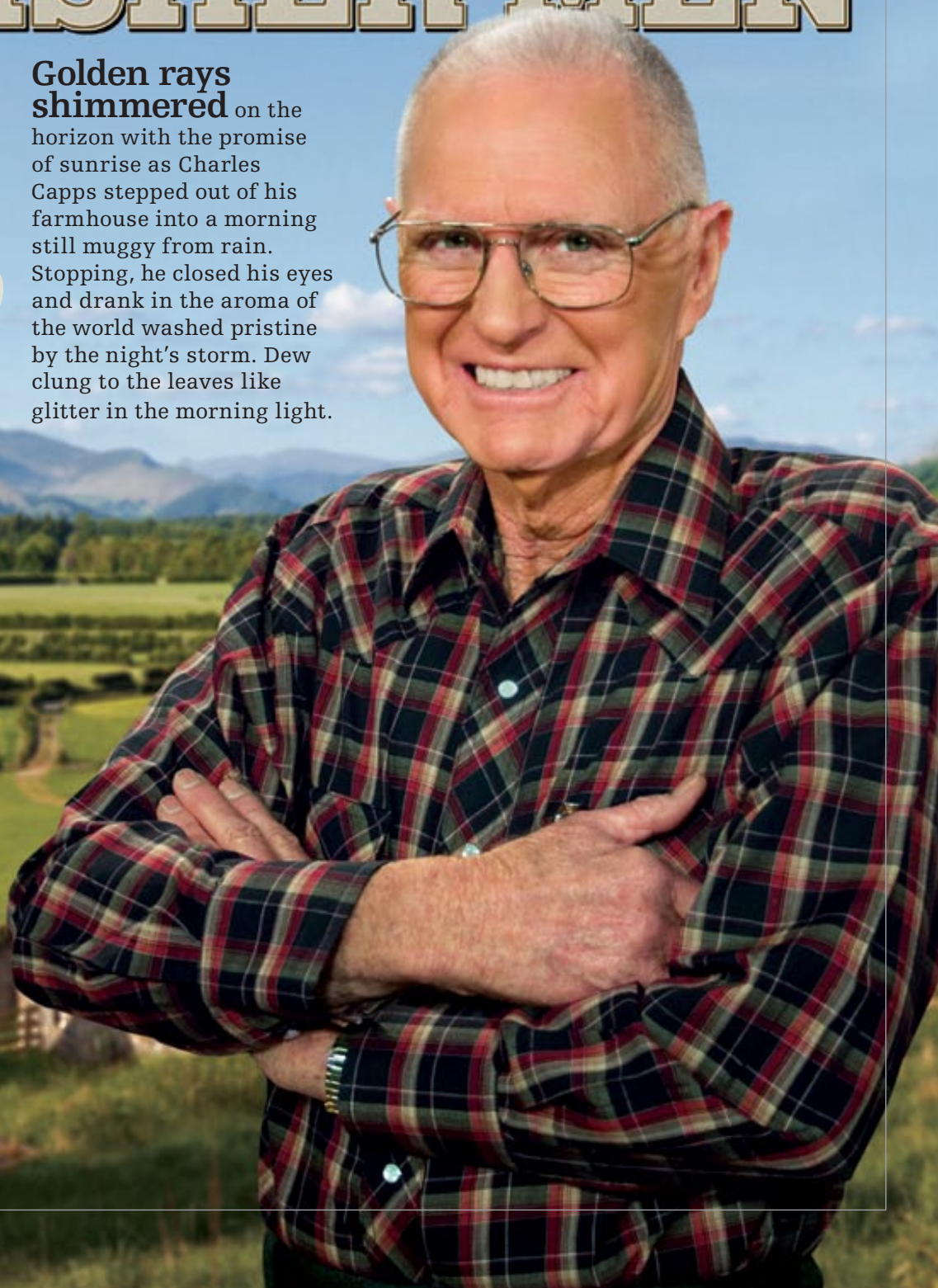
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FARMER & FISHER of MEN

“When I changed my confession, the image in my mind changed. When that happened, my crops flourished.”

Golden rays shimmered on the horizon with the promise of sunrise as Charles Capps stepped out of his farmhouse into a morning still muggy from rain. Stopping, he closed his eyes and drank in the aroma of the world washed pristine by the night's storm. Dew clung to the leaves like glitter in the morning light.



BY MELANIE HENRY

Why anyone would choose to spend his life inside an office with recirculated air was beyond Charles. He loved smelling the rich earth and feeling the breeze on his face. While some people vied for the view from a corner office, Charles enjoyed a sweeping vista of fertile fields and lush green trees in his corner of the world.

God had created Charles Capps to be a farmer, of that he was certain.

From childhood he'd never wanted another life. In school, his eyes had looked with longing out the classroom window. He hadn't wanted to waste his time writing papers and learning literature—things he'd never use.

His classroom was the fields...his desk a tractor...his teacher the Lord.

The only thing that tugged his heart away from the fertile delta farmland near England, Ark., had been the smoky trail of a jet or the lazy loops of a crop-duster overhead. As a boy, every time he looked up to the sky and saw an airplane, he had said, "One day I'm going to fly."

Earth or sky, it didn't matter. So long as he logged the hours of his life outdoors he was a happy man.

Except when he saw sights like this.

Stepping into his cotton fields, Charles' happiness turned to despair as he scanned a failed harvest. He'd planted his cotton deep and the field stood in water. The crop had rotted.

"I *knew* it!" Charles said, kicking the toe of his boot in the soggy mess. "I *knew* that crop would rot in the field!"

The Power of Seeing

For two years in the late 1960s, the bad and the good ran side by side for Charles Capps, with losses on one hand and gains on the other.

"I farmed 800 acres of fertile land and didn't make enough money to renew my driver's license," he says. "I was so poor I couldn't pay attention! No matter how I planted my crop, I lost it.

"But I also traveled as a layman for the Assemblies of God Church and taught on personal evangelism. In the mid 1960s I worked with Loren Cunningham at Youth With A Mission. One summer I flew Loren to several islands in the Bahamas chain in my Twin Comanche to visit those who were witnessing for Christ and praying for the sick."

Working to expand the kingdom of God, Charles' spiritual life soared while his crops and his finances spiraled downward. He had no idea what to do about it until 1969 when someone gave him a copy of a book written by Kenneth E. Hagin titled *Right and Wrong Thinking*.

The book's straightforward practicality appealed to Charles, so he ordered a tape message by Brother Hagin. Impressed by what he heard, he attended one of Hagin's meetings in Shreveport, La.

Back home, Charles walked out to the hangar behind his house. His airplane sat tied down in front of it. Exercising, he walked from one end of the airstrip to the other. Then he circled the airplane from one side and walked around the other.

Why did you walk around that side of the plane? Charles heard the Lord ask.

The question stopped him in his tracks. He had no idea why he had walked that direction, but the answer must be important. Pondering the question, he realized he had done it that way because, in his mind's eye, he had *seen* himself do it that way.

In a flash he understood.

We do what we see ourselves doing.

The Power of Saying

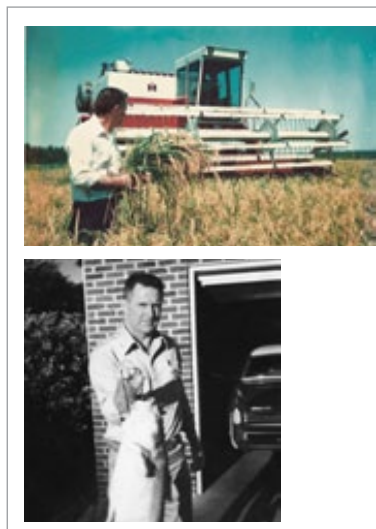
"I'd heard Brother Hagin teach on confessing the Word," Charles explains. "So I got a yellow sheet of paper and wrote my own confessions based on Scripture. Every day I walked around my land declaring, 'The Lord is my Shepherd and I shall not want. Christ has redeemed me from the curse of the law. For poverty He has given me wealth. For sickness He has given me health. It is true unto me according to the Word of God.'"

At first, the confessions seemed not only illogical but dishonest. He wrestled with the seeming contradiction. How could he truthfully confess abundance and no lack when he had no money? "Lord, these confessions seem like a lie," he said.

How can you lie saying what I say? God answered.

"That made sense to me so I went right on confessing the Word," Charles recalls. "I made those confessions for about a year before anything changed; and the first thing that changed wasn't my finances. It wasn't my crops. It was what I *saw* in my mind's eye. I saw myself rich. I was still broke, but I *felt* rich."

Charles always rented the land they farmed. Now, in the light of his new revelation—and in spite of his finances—Charles knew he needed to rent more. He prayed and released his faith, asking God for additional land.



One evening the woman who owned the property that Charles farmed called. “We’re going to sell our land,” she told him. “Do you want to buy it?”

Those 750 acres had been in the England estate for 100 years and Charles was surprised the family had agreed to sell it. He’d never considered owning his own land.

Hanging up the phone, he relayed the conversation to his wife, Peggy.

“What are you going to do?” Peggy asked.

“Buy the farm.”

“What are you going to use for money?”

The answer welled up in Charles’ spirit and out his mouth before his mind had a chance to stop it.

“Money is no problem.”

Charles offered \$478,000 for the land, delivering a certified check for earnest money. The sellers never cashed the check, explaining that someone else had offered more.

Praying in tongues, Charles heard the Lord say, *You know who the mountain is. Go talk to him. It will be removed.*

Charles found the man sitting on a fence where they were rounding up his cattle.

“You know we’re bidding on the same property?” Charles asked.

“Yes,” the man answered. “And I don’t like the way they’re handling this. If you really want the farm, I’ll withdraw my bid.”

Once the competition had been removed, the family agreed to sell the land to Charles. It took six months to process the title. During that time, Charles made a deal to sell a parcel of the land to the school system. “When we closed, I had \$50,000 equity in the land and hadn’t put a cent of my own money in it.”

Charles knew in advance he’d reap a good harvest on his newly purchased property. “I understood that I’d lost my crops in the past because I was a better prophet than I was a farmer. I *said* that my crops would rot. Don’t misunderstand; my words didn’t change the weather. My wrong words created a wrong image in my mind. I saw myself planting wrong and that’s what I did. My words created the image and the image sparked my behavior.

“When I changed my confession, the image in my mind changed. I saw and acted on the right image. When that happened, my crops flourished.”

Charles also learned the power of harnessing his words when it came to buying and selling land. Whenever he wanted to buy, he spoke to it and said, “When you sell, you will come to me. Jesus said I could have what I say. So you must obey.”

On one occasion, Charles had spoken to a piece of

property to come to him but another company got it under contract.

You made all those brags and someone else is going to buy the land! his natural mind taunted. *What are you going to do now?*

“Nothing!” Charles answered.

Refusing to be discouraged, he held on to his faith confession. Soon, the other company backed out of the contract, having found another property that suited them better.

Living by Faith

“I didn’t realize it at the time, but the power of my words had been in effect in a positive way as well as negative,” he explained. “Even as a small child, every time I saw an airplane overhead I said, ‘One day I’m going to fly.’

“When I was 17 years old, I went to Little Rock to take flying lessons. After I flew solo, my instructor offered to sell me his Luscombe Silver Air. I’d saved \$700. He wanted \$1400 for it and offered to finance the rest. I bought it, and from that day forward I always owned a plane. I had what I’d been saying all those years.”

Given his affection for airplanes and the uncompromising message of faith Charles started preaching in 1970 at the Lord’s direction, it’s no wonder that in 1971 friends began to ask Charles if he had heard of Kenneth Copeland.

“Who’s that?”

“Someone who teaches the same thing you teach!”

Before long, Charles met Jerry Savelle at a retreat and the connection with Brother Copeland was made.

“After Jerry told me about him, I attended one of Brother Copeland’s meetings in Oklahoma City so I could hear him for myself,” Charles remembers. “I met him later at a retreat and we got to fellowship.”

As the fellowship turned to friendship, Charles Capps and Kenneth Copeland quickly became hunting and fishing partners. Even more important, they became preaching buddies.

“Brother Hagin started asking both Brother Copeland and me to preach at some of his meetings. Then Brother Copeland invited me to speak at some of his. By 1977, I was traveling and speaking quite a bit, but farming was still my first love. I never considered giving it up. I planned to farm full time and preach part time. Then, in the last six months of 1978, the strangest thing happened. My desire to farm dissolved. It just faded away.

“God’s plan for the rest of my life was different than

mine. Out of the blue, my cousin asked if he could buy my equipment and lease my land to farm. I agreed.”

A New Thing

Transitioning into full-time ministry, Charles found himself busy traveling and speaking. In 1981, while ministering at the West Coast Believers’ Convention in Anaheim, Calif., his preaching turned to prophecy. In a moment many will always remember, Charles Capps, the man accustomed to scanning the horizon and seeing the future of a cotton crop, looked into the spirit realm and saw the future of electronic communications. At the time, fax machines were considered cutting-edge technology. But off in the distance, God showed Charles something new—a kind of network (an *internet*) that would connect people around the world.

“Inventions are coming...” Charles told the audience assembled in that meeting.

There are inventions coming in the area of communications that have not yet even been conceived in the minds of men.... And it will come. And it will come and it will go throughout the earth. And it will be so far beyond what men have known in the days past. There’ll be no conceivable way that men can block this communication system. It will reach all the areas of the earth and the Word of God shall be spread over it and there shall be, as it were, a “network”....

A farmer foreseeing the Internet.

It’s a surprising turn of events, for sure. But then, Charles Capps’ life has been full of surprises. The man who didn’t think he needed to write papers or learn literature, has now written 23 books, 12 of which have been translated into other languages. His first book, *God’s Creative Power*, emerged from the yellow tablet where he wrote the first Scripture confessions that changed his life.

The man who loved to be at home in England, Ark., walking alone in his fields, has traveled the world and preached the gospel to multitudes on television and on radio.

Having just celebrated 60 years of marriage this past June, today Charles and Peggy Capps are enjoying life with their two grown daughters, Annette and Beverly, along with three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

“There’s another one in the hangar,” Charles says, his eyes sparkling.

It’s been quite a journey thus far, spanning farmlands and mission fields. But looking back, it’s easy to see that Charles has always been well equipped for the call of God on his life. A natural fisherman and a farmer from the start, he is a fisher of men whose heart first led him to teach personal evangelism and cast his net in the Bahamas. As a farmer, he has planted the Word of God deep into the hearts of men, women, boys and girls around the world. He has watered, pruned and reaped a whole generation of people who live by faith.

Charles and Peggy, we, your family of faith, thank you. We bless you in the Name of the Lord Jesus for the seeds you have planted and cultivated in our lives. May your years be long upon the earth. May your voice of faith grow ever stronger. May your pilot’s eyes ever look to the horizon and see the future as God said it would be.

VICTORY

PARTNERSHIP SEEING Together!

God has big plans for all His children. And, just like Charles Capps, when we see His plan, nothing can keep us from it!

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- ▶ *The Anointing in Partnership* CD



How to Walk in Love

Most Christians know to walk in love. But they struggle with how to do it. || In the early 1970s I learned the *how to* of it. It came as a revelation. In one moment I realized I was not walking in love. At the same time, Kenneth E. Hagin showed me *how to do it*—and I did it. It saved my marriage, my ministry, my life. Now I can tell you how to do it, and it will do the same for you.

How It Happened

In 1967, a friend newly born again told me she was going to receive the Holy Spirit and speak with tongues.

“Oh, no you’re not,” I said. “That is of the devil.” I simply parroted a headline in our denominational magazine, “Speaking in Tongues Is of the Devil.”

The next week my friend and I were speaking with tongues. Someone took us

to a seminar where Kenneth E. Hagin was teaching on what the Bible says about the baptism with the Holy Spirit. He’d seen a vision of denominational people coming into the fullness of the Holy Spirit. And he was instructed to teach them.

In 1970 I became an editor for Brother Hagin. An early book I edited was *The Woman Question*. I’d known from childhood I was called to preach. But my

At the new birth, the God-kind of love is shed abroad in the newly created spirit by the Holy Spirit. It is not in the mind or the body.

denomination did not allow women to preach. Over the typewriter, I wept to the Lord, “You mean I can do what I’ve felt called to do and not get in trouble at the judgment seat of Christ?”

Yes. And one day you will leave here and preach around the world. But right now you don’t know much. This is your Bible school.

A Seminar on Love

I thought I knew more than I did. My Christian upbringing provided a good foundation. I felt qualified to bring my husband, Kent, into the paths of righteousness. Kent and his father were born again when Kent was 16. His family, a loving one, hadn’t regularly attended church. I pressured him into tithing and church attendance by begging, accompanied with tears.

And when Brother Hagin announced he was going to teach on *Walking in Love* and I was to put it into print, I felt qualified. Steno pad in hand, I came to the seminar with confidence.

To sum it up, Brother Hagin taught that the love we are to walk in is not natural human love. It is the God-kind of love. Natural human love is selfish. The God-kind of love is God Himself. For God is love (1 John 4:8).

At the new birth, the God-kind of love is shed abroad in the newly created spirit by the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5). It is not in the mind or the body. It is in the heart, the spirit. To walk in love, the spirit must dominate the flesh.

I remember what he taught as if there were steps.

- 1. Be born again.** Walking in the God-kind of love is possible only to children of God.
- 2. Know Romans 5:5.** “The love of God is shed abroad in *our* hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.” The love in our hearts is released by faith through words and deeds.
- 3. Know the definition of the love of God in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8.** *The Amplified Bible* has the fullest revelation of the Greek.
- 4. Judge yourself to see if you are walking in the God-kind of love.**

I can almost hear his voice as he taught from *The Amplified Bible* phrase by phrase. “Love endures long and is patient and kind (verse 4).” Some people endure long, but they’re not patient and kind while they’re enduring. A husband or wife may be putting up with a lot of

things, but they want everyone to know, including their spouse, what they’re suffering.”

His comments on every phrase were enlightening. You can read them in his book *Love: The Way to Victory*.

I felt pretty good about myself until He said, “Now this is the divine love gauge—love’s thermometer. ‘Love... is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong] (verse 5).’”

What! I thought. *My beloved grandmother is touchy; and she’s holiness. My mother is touchy. Sometimes one needs to notice what others do in order to get them to do right.* I’d practiced this, particularly with Kent.

For instance, Kent never remembered my birthday. Almost every year, beginning with our anniversary a short while before, which he also never remembered, I’d start building up steam. One Dec. 6 morning, I remember slamming his breakfast down on the table. He didn’t seem to notice. When he came home at noon, lunch was on the table, but I was in our bedroom with the door shut. That night, there was no supper. I was still in the darkened bedroom where I’d cried all day saying, “He doesn’t love me. If he did, he’d remember my birthday.”

Kent opened the door and said, “What’s wrong with you? Is it your birthday or something?” Then came the old excuse, “I thought it was December 8th.”

Space doesn’t permit me to tell other such incidents, or to say how loving, giving and faithful Kent was. But until I heard Brother Hagin comment on the love thermometer, I thought I was so right and Kent was so wrong. When the light dawned, I saw that I was wrong for noticing. My heart convicted me. I wanted to walk in love. I wanted my faith to work (Galatians 5:6). So I listened intently to what Brother Hagin said and I did it.

Victory

He said, “You will locate your problem area in one of these verses. When you do, write that verse on 3-by-5 index cards and put them in your places of attack.”

I wrote out several cards and strategically placed them. One I placed inside my kitchen-cabinet door.

Our old house had a big country kitchen where much of our family life took place. It was here that my love walk knew attack. I shall tell you about two attacks.

One evening when Kent came in the back door, a pot of vegetable soup was simmering on the stove. After sampling it, he wrinkled up his nose and asked, “What did you put in this soup, anyway?”

My flesh wanted to react, but I ruled over it. I opened the cabinet door and read silently, *Love is not touchy...it*

pays no attention to a suffered wrong. Then I answered him with a smile. Victory!

He took another bite and said, "I wish you'd call Mom and ask her what she puts in her soup." Counterattack! I opened the cabinet door, read the card again and assured him that I would do that. Victory!

I especially remember another attack that came on a cold wintry night. I'd made chili. Kent thought my chili was better than his mother's. I'd also made cornbread, pouring the batter into a hot iron skillet so the crust would be dark brown. I timed it to come out of the oven when Kent walked in the door.

"Oh good, chili!" he exclaimed. I was about to walk out the door to go teach a class at Victory Bible Institute, when Kent called after me, "Where are the

crackers?"

"We don't have crackers," I said nicely, "I made hot cornbread. You like that with chili."

"Somehow," he said, "I just don't feel like cornbread."

What! How could anyone not feel like cornbread? My flesh wanted to tell him he had two good legs and a new pickup. If he wanted crackers he could go get crackers. But I didn't. I ran to the cabinet door, opened it and silently read what I'd written there.

When I turned around toward Kent, something supernatural happened; *the Lord let me feel love*. From deep within, I felt love rise like hot lava in a volcano. It bubbled up from my spirit, and flowed through my flesh, out my arms, out my legs, out my eyes. As I looked at Kent, I was totally possessed with divine love

toward him. Overcome with desire to get that man crackers, I dramatically proclaimed, "I'll get you some crackers."

Oblivious to what was going on in me, he said, "Oh, by the way, we're out of coffee."

When I arrived at the store, I saw a butcher-paper sign taped in the window. Two items were offered as loss-leaders, advertised below cost to get you into the store. They were, crackers and coffee. A sign from God!

Life's Victories

I've put these simple steps into practice many, many times. Learning how to walk in love has blessed my family, saved my ministry, and helped me walk in health and strength. I'm not perfect at it, but I know how to do it. Thank God! **victory**

Love
The Way to Victory
Kenneth E. Hagin

Love
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KENNETH COPELAND

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single CD by Billye Brim

How to Walk in Love
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single CD by Billye Brim

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Billye Brim is president and founder of Billye Brim Ministries aka Prayer Mountain in the Ozarks. For ministry materials and information write the ministry at P.O. Box 40, Branson, MO 65615; or call 417-336-4877. In Canada, write to Billye Brim Ministries, P.O. Box 20085, Kelowna, BC V1Y 9H2; or call 877-868-8470. Visit her website at billyebrim.org.



FREE Admission

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Venezuela Victory Campaign: August 26-27

Sports Center "Pedro Elías Belisario Aponte"
Ave. 25 con Prolongación Circunvalación 2,
con Ave. 5 de Julio Maracaibo, Estado de Zulia,
Venezuela | kcm.org/es (in U.S.) | 261-786-4213
vicentemora.org (in Venezuela)

LIVE IT East Coast Faith Conference: September 16-17

Meadowlands Exposition Center
355 Plaza Drive | Secaucus, NJ 07094

Word Explosion: October 13-15

Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center
1101 Lincoln St. | Columbia, SC 29201

Washington, D.C. Victory Campaign: November 10-12

Hylton Memorial Chapel
14640 Potomac Mills Road
Woodbridge, VA 22192

Preregister today events.kcm.org : 800-600-7395

Unable to attend? Some KCM meetings are available for viewing via live streaming. Go online to **kcm.org** for more information. Meetings are subject to change without notice. For details and updated information, please log on to **events.kcm.org** or call the KCM office nearest you. Partners and Friends within the U.S. call **800-600-7395**.

2012 Branson Victory Campaign: March 8-10, 2012

Faith Life Church | 3701 W. Highway 76
Branson, MO 65616-3559

LIVE IT West Coast Faith Conference: April 13-14

Hilton Anaheim | 777 W. Convention Way
Anaheim, CA 92802

LIVE IT Pacific Rim Faith Conference: June 15-16

Word of Life Church | 544 Queen St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

LIVE IT East Coast Faith Conference: September 14-15

Hilton Orlando | 6001 Destination Parkway
Orlando, FL 32819

Southwest Believers' Convention: July 2-7, 2012

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

Word Explosion: October 11-13, 2012

(venue not confirmed) | Columbia, SC

Washington, D.C. Victory Campaign: November 8-10, 2012

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

Join Kenneth and/or Gloria at:

Word Explosion: August 21

Victory Christian Center | 7700 S. Lewis Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74136 | 918-491-7784 | victory.com

2011 Faith Conference: September 12

Living Word Christian Center | 7600 W. Roosevelt Road
Forest Park, IL 60130 | 708-697-5000 | livingwd.org

Annual Ladies Conference: September 17-18

Mountain Top Church | 1498 IH-20 | Cisco, TX 76437
Eva Vickers (contact) | 254-442-4479 | mymtc.org

The Faith Center Ministries: September 25

5555 NW 95th Ave. | Sunrise, FL 33351 | 954-742-7832

2011 Glorious! A Conference for Women: October 14-15

Jesse Duplantis Ministries International Headquarters
1973 Ormond Blvd. | Destrehan, LA 70141 | 985-764-2000 | jdm.org

7th Church Anniversary: October 22

World Changers—Manhattan Center New York
Madison Square Garden | Four Pennsylvania Plaza
New York, NY 10001 | 800-910-1681
worldchangerschurchnewyork.org

Prayer Mountain Annual Prayer Conference: October 27-31

Hilton Branson Convention Center | 200 Sycamore St.
Branson, MO 65616 | 417-336-4877 | billybrim.org

2012 World Conference: January 4

(Morris Cerullo World Evangelism) | Gaylord Opryland Resort
2800 Opryland Drive | Nashville, TN 37214 | 615-889-1000
mcwe.com

United Theological Seminary: January 23, 2012

University of Dayton Arena | 1801 S. Edwin Moses Blvd.
Dayton, OH 45408 | united.edu

Join Dr. Stephen and/or Kellie Swisher at:

United Theological Seminary: August 17

Dayton Marriott 1414 S. Patterson Blvd.
Dayton, OH 45409 Dr. Hudson (contact)
937-529-2275 | united.edu

Trinity Broadcasting Network LIVE Taping: August 23

TBN World Headquarters
Trinity Christian City International Center
3150 Bear St. | Costa Mesa, CA 92626
714-832-2950 | tbn.org

Trinity Church: September 9-10

701 E. Highland Drive | Jonesboro, AR 72401
870-935-7705 | trinity-church.com

New Life Fellowship: September 11-13

1211 N. 24th St. | Council Bluffs, IA 51501
712-322-1982 | gotnewlife.org

Ambassadors Christian Center: September 25

401 Western Lane, Suite H | Irmo, SC 29063
803-749-0829 | ambacc.org

Abundant Life Church: October 2

9365 Hooper Road | Athens, OH 45701
740-593-7500 | theabundantlifetoday.org

Grace Festival Crusade: October 26-30

Assam, India | Contact: World Impact Ministries
P.O. Box 968 | St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 6Z4
Canada | 905-346-4828 | peteryoungren.org

"Christmas in November"

Women's Luncheon: November 5

Redemption Church | 3550 Pleasant Ridge Road
Knoxville, TN 37921 | 865-521-7777 x229 (Katy Blackburn)
redemptionchurch.com

The Jim Bakker Show: November 10

180 Grace Chapel Road | Blue Eye, MO 65611
417-779-9000 | jimbakkershow.com

Tony Orlando Salute to Veterans: November 11

The Welk Theatre | 1984 State Highway 165
Branson, MO 65616 | 800-808-9355
welkresortbranson.com

Word of Life Christian Center: November 19-20

3100 19th St. NW | Rochester, MN 55903
(held at the Rochester Athletic Club)
507-271-2328 | wolrochester.org

Grace Festival Crusade: February 15-18, 2012

Ambon, Indonesia | Contact: World Impact Ministries
P.O. Box 968 | St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 6Z4 Canada
905-346-4828 | peteryoungren.org

Victory Christian Center's Women's Conference: March 2-4, 2012

Victory Christian Center | 11520 Ellerslie Road SW
Edmonton, Alberta T6W 1A2 | Canada
(Please contact church to register.)
780-988-5433 | vcc.org

Kern Christian Center: March 24-25, 2012

4701 Gosford Road | Bakersfield, CA 93313
661-664-1000 | kernchristiancenter.org

New Life Family Church: April 1, 2012

202 S. Gilbert Road | Gilbert, AZ 85296
480-456-9200 | newlifeaz.cc

Living Word Bible Church: May 10, 2012

3520 E. Brown Road | Mesa, AZ 85213
480-964-4463 | livingwordonline.org

Word of His Power Faith Christian Centre: July 21-22, 2012

108-4053 Meadowbrook Drive
London, Ontario N6L 1E8 | Canada
519-709-2167 | whp.org

Hope and Healing Christian Church:

August 12, 2012 (Visit their website or call for details.)
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635 | 520-417-2468
hhconline.org

Tony Orlando Salute to Veterans: November 11, 2012

The Welk Theatre | 1984 State Highway 165
Branson, MO 65616 | 800-808-9355
welkresortbranson.com



Join Pastor George Pearsons and/or Terri Copeland Pearsons at:

Spirit-Led Prayer Live Online: August 30

spiritledprayer.com or
14355 Morris-Dido Road | (not a mailing address)
Newark, TX 76071

Changing the World Through Prayer: September 11-12

Agape Faith Church
2101 Lewisville-Clemmons Road
Clemmons, NC 27012 | 336-766-9188
agapefaith.com

Toronto Spirit-Led Prayer Conference: September 28-30

Canada Christian College
50 Gervais Drive | Toronto, Ontario M3C 1Z3
Canada | terricopelandpearsons.com
Preregistration is open—go to spiritledprayer.com!



REAL PEOPLE. REAL NEEDS. REAL VICTORIES.

GoodNews Gazette

Partnership Brings Blessings

I have a great praise report! My husband has found a full-time job for at least six months and there is a chance for him to stay there longer. This happened after we became Partners and after we sowed into your ministry, so this is *really* good soil.

Our business is growing, too. We've had some great orders, and customers have phoned us to place orders! We have never experienced anything like this. We have sown into other ministries before but never with this great result! So now we soon can pay our mortgages and other bills. God is good and Jesus is Lord!

Thank you for being there for us.

Mrs. Gudrun Ledin :: Sweden

“Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.” (Romans 8:37, *New King James Version*)

Prayer Hits the Target...Hospital Bill Reduced!

Thank you, KCM, for your precious prayer ministers. One of them called me one day when we were in the middle of a fierce battle over a huge hospital bill. I knew the minute she spoke and prayed that the prayer was hitting the target. Then, the next day, the bill was reduced by \$60,000! We had been trying to negotiate with the hospital for almost eight months, with no success. This was an on-time appointment from God for your ministry to call at this critical time in our lives. Thank you so much for being our partner through the years. God Bless. We love you!

S.P.

Empowered to Prosper in Any Economy

After beginning a real-estate career that quickly flourished, I opened my own firm in 2007. My husband got a license to help out because of the tremendous growth of the business. In July 2010, his employer downsized, so he began working full time in the firm. At the first of this year, we realized that 2010 was our best year to date in business. In the midst of a so-called down economy God caused us to excel. Thank you for your partnership and prayers. All glory to God.

Steven and Donna Osborne :: North Judson, Ind.

“2010 was our best year in business.”

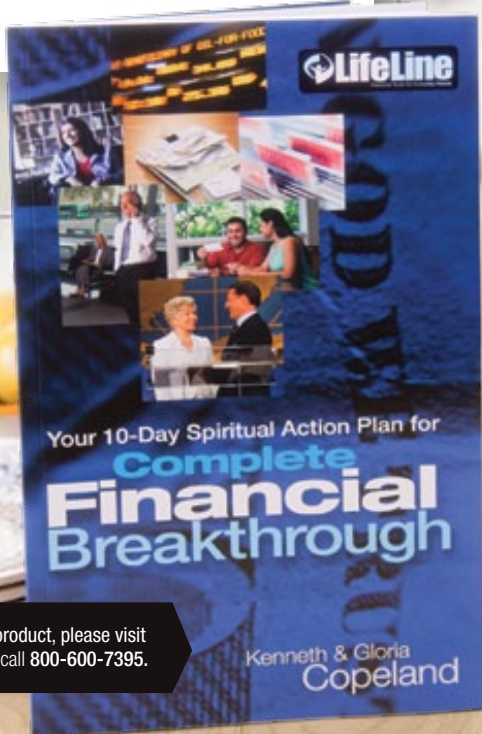
Financial Breakthrough With God's Plan

We received *Your 10-Day Spiritual Action Plan for Complete Financial Breakthrough* for Christmas from my parents (along with *Living Your Life Stress Free*). Thank you so much for both of these resources. We feel as though we are finally getting the understanding we need to live the life we were meant to live.

We agreed together for a sum of money to cover some immediate bills we couldn't pay. We needed \$3,000 plus tithe and thought this was pretty unrealistic, but agreed on this amount. Within two and a half weeks, we have now had \$3,480 given to us above our normal income. We were surprised at how quickly God met our need and so excited to see this situation solved. The bills then ended up being less than we had anticipated and we were able to give \$400 as well as the \$350 tithe.

We have also had a chance to encourage many of our Christian friends and discuss the need for Christians to live victoriously and be able to bless others. We are so happy to finally be living in the way we were meant to. We are able to cover all the expenses without stress or worry, and still have more to give. It is good to be giving from what we have received and being joyful and excited about it. Faith is the key that has opened the door to blessing for us. God is so good and it is exciting to be part of a system that *works!*

Danny and Lindy Anning :: Australia



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

Pastor Partners, Congregation Prospers

Two or three months ago I requested you to pray with me concerning finances of the church I am pastoring. In fact, early last year I was not a Partner and the church I am pastoring was struggling financially, so much that we would go for a month or two without receiving a salary. And that put a lot of pressure on my wife and our two little kids. Things have started to improve since I became a Partner and became more consistent in tithing and giving. This past Christmas the church was able to give me a bonus of R2500 on top of my salary, which I now receive regularly as the finances of our church have improved. This was the first time I received a bonus like this. Your teachings on faith and prosperity are changing lives.

God bless you.

T.P. :: South Africa

God Prepared a Job Just for Me!

I am a born-again believer, and ever since my friend told me, I am reading your *BVOV* magazine from 2009. It has been a great blessing in both finance and home situation. The most wonderful experience I recall with *BVOV* is when my company was laying off 30 percent of the staff. I kept reading the magazine first thing in the morning in the Montreal subway going to work. The only words are blessing and nothing else. This kept my faith high and I started believing and praying not for my job only, but for all the people in my department. What a miracle, none of the people in my department got laid off! I started believing that if we are children of God we have to be a blessing not only for ourselves but for others too. We are a channel God is using to fulfill His plan for the whole world.

Another miracle happened last month when I applied for a better position in another department. I was waiting for my second interview on a Friday. I was reading the magazine and suddenly my eyes started reading an article regarding promotion. This was from a portion of the book written by Kenneth Copeland and I started believing wholeheartedly as it ended with the sentence: God will exalt His people who are faithful in their jobs and fear not there is a new promotion waiting for you.

The same morning when I sat at my desk, Human Resources called—the higher manager wanted to talk to me personally to know how I felt about the new position. One week later they called and confirmed my promotion and the exact same salary that was revealed to me during a Sunday worship! I know this position was carefully chosen and created by God just for me!

Your magazine is truly a victory for those who believe in the Word of God!

R.M. :: Canada

God's Favor: Chosen Over the Highly Qualified

For many months I have been writing to you requesting prayers for a job. I must say that God is good, and I would like to thank Kenneth Copeland Ministries for all the prayers and support you have been giving me. Yesterday, Feb. 16, I went for an interview in a small company, I was sitting with highly qualified people (and

I'm not) but I managed to get the job...glory to God! Thank you so much. From now on I will be able to pay for my fees (tertiary), accommodation as well as help out at home and, most importantly, tithe. Thank you once again!

H.V. :: South Africa



Prayer Is Our Priority.

Call 817-852-6000 for prayer 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Family Is Being Restored

Thank you so much for your encouraging letter of Jan. 28, and for joining with me for my daughter and the unifying of my family. Your letter came the very moment she had planned to meet up and she brought my granddaughter, now a toddler! The meeting went well and they are coming again on Thursday, and my son has already agreed to come. Bless you all. I constantly praise God for KCM—your letters, magazines, booklets and words of encouragement always seem to come at a time I need them most.

Sheila Ford :: United Kingdom



BVOV Instead of Sleeping Pills

I thank God for Kenneth and Gloria Copeland. The *BVOV* magazine has brought me so much joy and peace and always makes my faith stronger. My doctors prescribed sleeping pills, but I don't need them! I read the *BVOV* magazine, especially the testimonies of my brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. After I read it, I just fall asleep without taking the sleeping pills. It's been more than five years.

I pray that Kenneth and Gloria will make the magazine thicker, full of God's victories for all who seek Him and believe in Jesus Christ.

Gloria Yanez :: Oregon

God Heals, Doctors Marvel

Thank you for standing with my husband and me for his full recovery. His echogram was a good result and he is very well now. We are a living testimony that God's Word works as we have seen the healing power of God confound the doctors. All glory and praise to our God and Lord and Savior.

B. and R.T. :: United Kingdom



THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR A NATION DOESN'T BELONG ONLY ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE POLITICIANS, BUT ON THE HEARTS OF BORN-AGAIN BELIEVERS IN PRAYER WHO'VE BEEN GIVEN...

A HIGHER FORM OF POWER

WHAT I HAVE TO SAY TO YOU TODAY IS SIMPLE. AND IT IS QUITE SERIOUS.

YOUR RESPONSE TO IT WILL NOT ONLY AFFECT YOUR LIFE AND MINE, BUT MANY THOUSANDS OF OTHERS. || IT IS A MESSAGE—NO, A COMMAND—ALL OF US HAVE NO DOUBT HEARD BEFORE. BUT, BY AND LARGE, WE HAVE IGNORED IT. WE HAVE THOUGHT SOMEHOW WE COULD GET BY WITHOUT IT, THAT WE COULD LET IT SLIP WITHOUT PAYING A PRICE. || BUT WE HAVE PAID. OUR WHOLE NATION HAS PAID. ONE LOOK AT ANY NEWSPAPER WILL GIVE YOU AN IDEA JUST HOW DEARLY.

The command I'm talking about is the one found in 1 Timothy 2:1-2. There the Apostle Paul says, "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty."

That verse is clear, isn't it? The instruction is plain. Yet even in these tumultuous days when our nation is so desperately in need of God's guidance, most of God's people don't do what that verse commands.

Why not?

Is it because we don't care? Is it because we're unwilling to invest a few minutes of prayer in the future of our nation each day?

No.

I believe it's because most of us are overwhelmed by the problems we see around us. *How could my prayers make a dent in the national debt?* we think. *How could my faith affect foreign policy?*

In other words, we fail to pray because we fail to realize

just how powerfully our prayers can affect this country.

So today I want us to look at some scriptures and find out what The Word of God has to say about the subject.

First, let's look at Romans 13:1. There, the Apostle Paul writes, "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God."

It amazes me how little attention is paid to this very important scripture. In fact, when you get right down to it, most Christians don't even believe it! You can tell just by the disrespectful way they talk about our leaders.

"Well, if those leaders are ordained of God," you may say, "why don't they act like it?"

Because the believers they govern aren't praying for them!

You see, if by prayer we will invite God into our governments, He'll take control of those who've been put in positions of authority. As Proverbs 21:1 says, "The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will."

Think about that for a moment! God has reserved the right to override the will of a nation's leader, if need be,

to see that His people are governed according to His will.

What's more, God will hear the prayer of any government leader. Even if he's the worst reprobate in the whole world. He heard the prayer of old King Nebuchadnezzar. And, believe me, that means He'll listen to any leader!

When you have time, I'd encourage you to go to Daniel 4 and read the account of Nebuchadnezzar because it's a powerful example of what we're talking about here.

You see, Nebuchadnezzar was king of Babylon. He was an ungodly ruler of an ungodly nation. He'd taken captives, however, from the land of Judah. He had some of God's people under his authority. So, God began to deal with him.

Again and again, God warned him, *Nebuchadnezzar, you're going to lose your mind if you don't straighten up.* But Nebuchadnezzar refused to listen. And, sure enough, he went just as crazy as could be.

He stayed that way for years, too. Ran up and down through the woods like a wild man. Then one day he cried out to God and God heard him.

Despite his status as a heathen king of a heathen nation, God intervened repeatedly in Nebuchadnezzar's life and heard him when he finally cried out for help. Why? Because he had God's people under his control!

If We'll Pray for Them...

That same principle still holds true today. If we'll open the way through prayer, God will deal with our leaders! He'll turn the hearts of everyone from the White House on down to make sure His children are governed justly. In fact, if we'd just be obedient to 1 Timothy 2:1-2, there's no council of any kind on earth—no king, no president, no congress—not anyone who could overthrow God's purpose for His people.

The Constitution of the United States is a tremendous document, a Holy Ghost-anointed document in its original form. But, I'm telling you, it doesn't hold a candle to The Word of God. The Bible is heaven's constitution! And if we'll start believing it, praying it and acting on it where this nation is concerned, its power will whip this country back into line with the will of God. And there won't be anything or anyone on earth that can stop it.

But if we're ever going to see that happen, we're going to have to take The Word of God and go to war in prayer and in faithful intercession. And, unfortunately, most of us don't know the first thing about fighting such a war. For, as Ephesians 6:10-12 says, it's not a battle of flesh and blood, but of the spirit. In fact, let's look at those verses and see exactly what they say about this fight.

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

Read that last verse again.

Most believers are so earthly minded (or carnally minded) they never even realize where the enemy's attacks are actually coming from. They blame circumstances and people, and they waste their energy fighting natural conditions instead of supernatural causes.

We need to wake up to the warfare that's going on in the heavenly realm!

We can get a glimpse of it in Daniel 10:12. There, we find Daniel had been fasting and praying for 21 days, awaiting a word from the Lord. Then, an angel appeared to him and said, "Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words."

This angel had left heaven with the answer to Daniel's prayer on the first day he prayed. But he didn't arrive for 21 days. What took him so long?

Look at verse 13. "But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia."

Then later in verse 20 he says, "And now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come."

These scriptures are clear examples of the activity and warfare going on in the heavens.

Warfare in the Heavens

Sometimes when I talk about the warfare that takes place in the heavens, people get confused.

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KCM
ONLINE

THE VOTE IS A GOD-GIVEN PRIVILEGE,

a gift the Lord has given us. Don't throw it in His face by failing to take advantage of it!

"Heaven?" they say. "I thought the devil was thrown out of heaven."

What they don't realize is this. Throughout the Bible, we are taught there are three different areas called heaven:

The heaven where God resides.

The stellar heavens (what we call "outer space").

The heavens around this earth (the atmosphere surrounding this planet).

This last heaven is where spiritual war takes place. (That's why Ephesians 2:2 calls Satan *the prince of the power of the air*.) It is where wicked spirits such as the prince of Persia operate. From there, they attempt to rule the nations to which they've been assigned.

And rule them they will unless the prayers of God's people keep them from it.

Do you remember what Jesus said in Matthew 18:18? " whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

The heaven Jesus was talking about there isn't the heaven where God resides. Nothing needs to be bound there. He was talking about the battle zone, about the heaven where Satan's forces are operating.

He was telling us we have been given the authority to pull down the strongholds of Satan (2 Corinthians 10:4). He was telling us God has given us power to bind the wicked spirits in heavenly places and to loose the angelic powers of God to work in our behalf.

Jesus told Peter in Matthew 16:19, "I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt

loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

The Greek text of that scripture would literally read, "I give you the keys of the kingdom. Whatever you declare locked on earth is locked in heaven and whatever you declare unlocked on earth is unlocked in the heavenlies."

Daniel couldn't do that. He didn't have the authority of the Name of Jesus. All he could do was hang on for 21 long, hard days until the angel of God could get through to him.

But praise God, you and I, as believers and as children of the Most High God, don't have to wait 21 days. We don't even have to wait 21 seconds for the angels to begin their work in our behalf!

Philippians 2:9-10 says we have been given a Name which is above every name, and at the Name of Jesus *every* knee shall bow in heaven, in earth and under the earth. That covers it all!

As believers, we have total authority over the powers of Satan. We can take authority over the evil spirits that are trying to destroy this nation. We can take authority over them in the Name of Jesus and pull down their strongholds.

It is time we began to realize how important we are to world affairs. Since the day Jesus gave us the Great Commission, the life or death of the world has been in the hands of the Church. We are the ones who have the mighty Name of Jesus and the awesome strength of the gospel to bring life and abundance to every creature. We are the ones whose prayers can change every office of authority in this land.

Vote God's Way on Election Day

Very soon our national elections

Salvation Prayer

If you do not know

Jesus

as your Savior and Lord, simply pray the following prayer in faith, and Jesus will be your Lord!

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

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

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

Free Salvation Package

will take place, and if we want a nation of “godliness and honesty,” it’s up to us to begin to intercede right now and use the power God has given us.

Right now, you need to be praying for all of the candidates. You need to find out who they are and then go to the Lord and ask which ones He’s chosen. Don’t just make your decisions by what the media says. Go to God. He knows the heart of each man and woman who’s running for office. He’ll give you supernatural guidance.

Be willing to set aside old ideas and past prejudices. I don’t care if everyone in your family has voted Democrat ever since the Depression. I don’t care if you’ve always voted a straight Republican ticket. Vote Holy Ghost this time, OK? Vote however *He* says.

Did you notice what I just said? I said, VOTE.

The vote is a God-given privilege, a gift the Lord has given us. Don’t throw it in His face by failing to take advantage of it!

In the last presidential election there were millions of born-again, Holy Ghost-baptized, professing, believing Christians who weren’t even registered to vote. Just think what a mighty army for God we would be if we all went to the polls this year. We could determine the outcome of elections with our votes if we only would.

God has called us to intercede. He has commanded us to pray for those in authority. He has given us His Word, His power, His Name, His authority and His faith. We have all the tools necessary to pray effectively for our government and its leaders.

Let’s band together as never before in intercession for this country and for all the nations of the world. We are God’s people, called by His Name, and we can stand in faith before God for the healing of our land.

Again, I urge you. If you haven’t already registered to vote, do it today, right now. It is your responsibility as a believer to get involved in the affairs of your country. God wants this great land of ours, and the only way He’s going to get it is through His ambassadors, you and me.

If you’ve already registered, then come Election Day, make sure you go to the polls!

Don’t let the affairs of your life sway you from the voting booth. And don’t let anyone but the Holy Spirit tell you who you’re to vote for. Start preparing yourself now by praying about the candidates and listening for the voice of the Lord.

God has an army marching in this land. If we band together, we can prevent the wickedness in high places from ruling our nation. The time has come for us, as believers, to be counted both in prayer and at the polls. So, let your voice be heard!

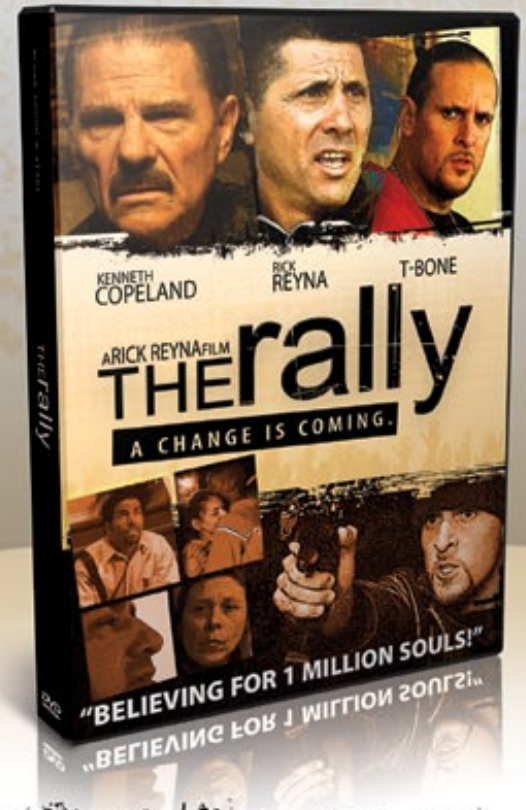
For those of you reading this article outside the U.S., the same applies to you. If you will humble yourselves in unity and pray, God can change the injustice and corruption that may exist in your country. The key is prayer and involvement.

We may all come from different lands with different backgrounds, but we all have one thing in common—Jesus Christ is our Lord. And that alone is enough to alter the spiritual complexion of this earth. **VICTORY**

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REACHING MILESTONES— Reaching More People in EUROPE

Jesus ist Herr! >> That's German for *Jesus is Lord*. And it's the strapline for the next milestone KCM Europe has set to accomplish in its outreach to the people of Europe through the airing of the *Believer's Voice of Victory* television broadcast in the German language. >> KCM Europe Executive Director Martin Hawkins and his ministry team have taken major steps in 2011 toward that goal.

On May 7, *BVOV* made its English language debut on the German television station Das Vierte. The program airs weekly on Saturday and is repeated on Sunday. KCM Europe staff has worked alongside headquarters television production staff to supply content that will bring the life-changing message of Christ to the German language airways.

Ultimately, the goal is that the broadcast be aired not only in Germany, but also wider afield in the German language.

Hawkins says, "We are grateful to God for this new outreach opportunity and give glory to the Name of Jesus that KCM has begun a new phase of ministry to German-speaking people. Thanks to all our KCM worldwide Partners and Friends for standing with us as we complete what God has called us to do to reach this milestone."

KCM Europe's first step in reaching German-speaking people has been mailing *BVOV* magazines in the German

language—bimonthly since 2002, and monthly since February 2006. Over 70 KCM titles have also been translated into German and a new website launched—kcm.org.uk/de—where everyone can access the basic elements of KCM's ministry, the *BVOV* magazine in both German and English, and partnership information.

We declare again, "*Jesus ist Herr!*"

Many Milestones Along the Way

In 2012, KCM Europe will celebrate 30 years of ministry to the many nations of Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. A Victory Campaign in London in May 2012 is being planned to mark this event.

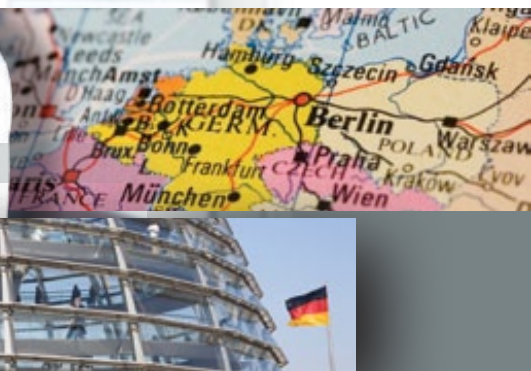
Throughout the years, step by step, the ministry team has reached one milestone after another in connecting Partners and Friends with the good news that *Jesus is Lord* over every situation in their lives.

In 2004, this office was the first KCM worldwide ministry outreach to launch its own website. Since that time they have seen nothing but increase in connections with people

Martin Hawkins
KCM Europe Executive Director

Europe, North Africa
& the Middle East

7,000
partners



in every nation they serve. From day one until now, visits to kcm.org.uk have increased 22-fold. In the same time period, *BVOV* magazine distribution has increased 13 percent with a distribution of over 21,000 to people in more than 50 countries. And partnership is up 7.5 percent as well. Today we have more than 7,000 Partners, 1,000 of whom are prisoners.

Meanwhile television outreach across Europe reaches a potential audience of over 78 million through God Channel, TBN Europe and Daystar.

Taking advantage of the great opportunities technology offers, Partners and Friends can sign up for bimonthly email updates via the website, as a great way of keeping in touch with the latest events and offers. And KCM Europe has also launched Regional Partner Meetings in 2011 with the goal of connecting Partners with Partners *and* with KCM Europe staff as they meet and receive teaching.

KCM Europe sees every day how God's Word reaches across cultures and languages, and a major milestone is reached each time another book by Kenneth or Gloria Copeland is translated into a new language. So far materials have been translated into Arabic, Armenian, Czech, Dutch, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese and Urdu, with the devotional *From Faith to Faith* available in many of these languages. And we regularly receive requests for more titles to be translated.

Through the years, Kenneth and Gloria have traveled thousands of miles to meet with their European region Partners and Friends many times. Most recently, in 2005 they ministered in Victory Campaigns in Brighton, England; Belfast, Northern Ireland; and Frankfurt, Germany. Then, in 2008, they joined overflow crowds for Victory Campaigns in Bournemouth, England and Basel, Switzerland. Pastors George and Terri Pearsons also ministered in a spring tour in 2006, visiting Ballymena, Northern Ireland; Bridgend, Wales; and Manchester, England. Partners and Friends have also had additional opportunities to be with the Copelands and the Pearsons when they have been guests of other Christian ministries across the continent in recent years.

Lives Changed by Connection With the Lord Jesus—Through KCM!

The people of Europe, the Middle East, North Africa and beyond are receiving the ministry of Kenneth Copeland Ministries—the ministry of Jesus—with open arms and open hearts. Every milestone accomplished has been for one purpose only...to see lives changed wherever and however they connect with Him through KCM.

Reports like these are received every day from Partners and Friends who write, email and contact

KCM Europe through prayer phone lines:

The '99 percent chance' of our baby having Down syndrome was proved totally wrong!

My dying alcoholic father in a coma met Jesus, came out of the coma and has been delivered of alcoholism!

God protected us from catastrophe when we discovered on the motorway that our car tire was being held on with only one screw.

Although I was diagnosed with terminal leukemia, I did not die but disproved doctors' assertions that after four miscarriages and chemotherapy, I would not be able to conceive a child. My healthy daughter is now 2 years old and I am expecting another child!

And KCM Europe often hears from Partners in ministry who are supported through the ministry of Twice-Sown Seed—the tithe of every donation that comes in. Here are a few reports from such ministries:

Sporting Marvels places sports coaches in schools in the deprived Rhondda Valleys, Wales, as role models to inspire the youngsters to develop self-esteem and come to know Jesus as their best friend. Some of these young people, originally reached through the initiatives, have chosen to become coaches themselves—real, tangible fruit of ministry!

Jutvari Churches continue to plant churches among the gypsy population in Bulgaria and have a thriving football team made up of youngsters who would otherwise have no direction in life.

Through our connection with Great Joy in the City Ministries we have distributed practical aid and encouragement to people in Pakistan suffering from devastating weather catastrophes.

These kinds of testimonies are what KCM Europe and the ministry team love to hear. Stories of salvations, healing, deliverance, financial provision and all kinds of miracles—this is why they do what they do!

Hawkins clearly states KCM Europe's purpose: "to bless as many people as we can reach by enabling them to come to know Jesus and get established in the life-changing truths of His Word.

"And that is exactly what has been happening. People are taking hold of the Word of God and connecting with KCM Europe to receive all God has promised and prepared for them. Through every available voice and in every possible way, KCM Europe is definitely reaching major milestones as we reach out to the people we serve—seeing lives changed!" **VICTORY**

BY PASTOR GEORGE PEARSONS

Our Mission in Dangerous Times



“The world is in serious trouble.”

That is the first sentence from a very significant prophetic word delivered by Brother Copeland during Homecoming 2010 (the 2010 Southwest Believers' Convention). :: The sobering message

continued. :: “Some very hard things are coming in different places around the world. Very difficult times in a lot of places. They are that way now but they will not get better. They will continue to get worse and worse and worse. It is on a downhill run that the world cannot stop.”

We have all witnessed a number of very serious world events since that word was delivered.

“These are dangerous times. They are dangerous times financially. They are dangerous times in the earth because the earth is weighted under a gross weight of sin. There

are things and places and situations underneath the earth, in the oceans, in the heavens. Things are being rattled and shaken. The earth is trying to break in different places.”

There is no doubt that this is exactly what has been taking place.

Our mission is to rescue those who are caught in the devil's reign of terror and pull them into the household of faith.

But here is the good news.

You and I do not live under the dominion, rule or control of the curse. We have been redeemed from devastation and destruction. We are not subject to the times. Psalm 31:15 says, “My times are in Your hand” (*New King James Version*). Jesus paid the full price for our protection in times like these.

Look at 2 Peter 1:4, “Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” The *Basic English Translation* says we have been “made free from the destruction which is in the world.” Galatians 1:4 reveals that it is God’s will for us to be delivered “from this present evil world.”

Jesus prayed for our protection in John 17:15-17 (*NKJV*): “I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.” Through God’s Word, Jesus has separated us from the collateral damage of the curse. He made a way for us to live in this world, but remain totally and completely untouched by its effects.

You could say we are “The Untouchables!”

Proverbs 19:23 (*New International Version*) says, “The fear of the Lord leads to life; then one rests content, untouched by trouble.” First John 5:18 tells us, “We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.” Psalm 91:7-10 assures us, “A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.” I often declare this scripture as a confession of faith, based on the *King James Version* and *The Amplified Bible* of verse 10: “There shall no evil or calamity come near my dwelling!”

There is a “dwelling”—a place of protection where you and I can live untouched by any attack of the

enemy. In Psalm 91:1, it is called “the secret place of the most High.” In Psalm 32:7, it’s called the “hiding place.” And in Psalm 27:5, “For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.”

In this prophetic word from the Lord, “Everything is going to be all right in the household of faith!” it is called “the household of faith.”

That word has been such an encouragement to Terri and me. We have been standing on that phrase ever since it was uttered the evening of Aug. 6, 2010. Whenever we have faced tough times, we would just look at each other and simply say, “Everything is going to be all right in the household of faith.” It would cause such faith to rise up in our hearts. I even found a scripture that perfectly corresponds with this statement. *The Message* translation of Jude 1:1-2 says, “I, Jude, am a slave to Jesus Christ and a brother to James, writing to those loved by God the Father, called and kept safe by Jesus Christ. Relax, everything’s going to be all right; rest, everything’s coming together; open your hearts, love is on the way!”

“The household of faith” is our untouchable place of protection from any attack of any kind. It is the place where everything is going to be all right. The way to stay in that “untouchable place” is made clear in our word from the Lord. Thank God for His instructions—His “how to’s” for walking out this victory. The Lord said, *You will have to make a stand. You will have to fight the good fight of faith. Stand on My Word and it will not come near you. Praise and worship and preach the Word. Don’t feed fear and trouble into your life and into your mouth. Feed on My Word and not on the bread of sorrow. Fear not!*

When we stand on God’s Word, we become rooted and grounded in something that is unshakable and unmovable. We are surrounding ourselves with God’s impenetrable shield. Psalm 91:4 (*NKJV*) tells us, “He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth (His Word) shall be your shield and buckler.” The Hebrew translation of this verse actually says He is our “circle of protection.”

As long as we stand on the Word, stay out of fear,

walk by faith and exercise our authority, we will remain completely protected in the household of faith.

Our End Time Mission

We are not protected just to be protected. First Peter 1:9, *New Living Translation*, reveals that the goal of our faith is the salvation of souls. The Body of Christ has an important end time mission to the people who have and will experience the ravages of the world's evil.

When trouble comes, we don't just "head to the hills and hide out in the household of faith" until the storm passes over. We walk right into the midst of trouble, being totally insulated by our circle of protection. Our mission is to rescue those who are

caught in the devil's reign of terror and pull them into the household of faith. We are protected so we can get people to the place in their lives where everything is going to be all right.

If the word of the Lord is telling us conditions are going to get worse, and that hard things are coming, then we need to be ready to help.

That is why we are here.

It's who we are, and it's what we do.

That is our mission in these dangerous times.

Romans 15:1 (*NKJV*) tells us, "We then who are strong ought to bear the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves." *The Message* translation of verses 1-4 is amazing!



The graphic features a night view of the Toronto skyline with the CN Tower. A large red maple leaf is on the left, with the word "Toronto" in white and "Spirit-Led" in a cursive font over it. Below that, "PRAYER CONFERENCE" is written in white. Two portrait photos of women are shown: Patsy Cameneti on the left and Terri Copeland Pearsons on the right. A quote from Terri Copeland Pearsons is placed to the right of her photo. At the bottom, there is a call to action in large yellow and white text, the dates "Sept. 28-30" and "Canada Christian College", and a large "Register Today" in white. At the very bottom, the website "spiritedprayer.com" and phone number "800-600-7395" are listed.

Toronto
Spirit-Led
PRAYER CONFERENCE

Patsy Cameneti

Terri Copeland Pearsons

"Something happens when people who know how to use their faith gather to pray. Call them to Toronto."
—Terri Copeland Pearsons

Join the Call to Toronto!

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Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status. Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, "How can I help?" That's exactly what Jesus did. He didn't make it easy for himself by avoiding people's troubles, but waded right in and helped out. "I took on the troubles of the troubled," is the way Scripture puts it. Even if it was written in Scripture long ago, you can be sure it's written for us.

Our end time mission is to help clothe, feed and teach others the Word of God in their times of desperation. The end result is that they grow up in the Word and become so established they are able to reach out and clothe, feed and teach others in their time of need.

"Father, thank You for protecting us in these dangerous times. But we realize this protection is not just for us. Our mission is clear. We will reach out to the destitute and the hopeless and lead them into the household of faith—where everything is going to be all right!" **VICTORY**

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

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BY GLORIA COPELAND

A SUPERNATURAL PICTURE OF

PEACE

It's not just what you know that brings you victory; it's what you do.

You don't have to be a financial genius to see that right now the world's economy is under assault. With people talking about recession, depression and inflation everywhere you turn, it's easy to get the picture—and it's not very pretty. In fact, it's downright dark. || But, thank God, if you're a believer that picture doesn't include you. The Bible assures you of it. It says to those who have been born again:



If you want to revolutionize your personal economy,

you'll have to get a grip on your words. You'll have to learn to use them like God does.

You aren't in the dark...dear brothers and sisters.... For you are all children of the light and of the day; we don't belong to darkness and night. So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded. Night is the time when people sleep.... But let us who live in the light be clearheaded, protected by the [body] armor of faith and love... (1 Thessalonians 5:4-8, *New Living Translation*).

Isn't it wonderful to know that even in the midst of an embattled economy, we can live in peace? We can strap on our faith/love body armor and prosper—no matter what's happening around us. We can be like the soldiers we see on television who wear their protective gear and stay safe right in the middle of a combat zone.

It may sound like a dramatic analogy but it's absolutely true. According to Ephesians 6, faith works as a kind of spiritual armor. It's a shield we can use to "quench all the fiery darts of the wicked" (verse 16).

Faith has the divine power to defeat whatever comes against us—including financial tests and trials. It can stop every assault of the devil. It is the victory that overcomes the world!

To operate properly, of course, faith and love must go together. Faith works by love, so if we don't walk in love, our faith won't function. On the other hand, if we develop our love walk and drop our shield of faith we won't enjoy the full benefit of God's promises.

Ken and I found out years ago just how vital faith is to our success in life. We discovered that if we'd believe what God's Word says, regardless of what we see with our eyes or hear with our ears, we could have anything the Bible promises. We learned from the Bible and from experience that faith is what gets us born again and filled with the Holy Spirit. It's what makes us prosperous. It's faith that moves the mountains in our lives.

That's why we never got tired of hearing about it.

Back in the early days of our ministry, we'd go to Kenneth E. Hagin's meetings several times a year. Almost every time we went, he'd minister on faith. He'd read Mark 11:22-24 and remind us of what Jesus taught about believing, saying and receiving.

Had we ever heard that before?

Yes, many times. But we needed to hear it again

because we were always fighting the good fight of faith in our lives and ministry. More often than not, the biggest challenges we faced were in the area of finances. It seemed we were always believing God for something that took a lot of money. If the money didn't come as soon as we wanted it to we'd get spiritually tired. We'd start letting our faith actions slip.

It's not just what you know that brings you victory; it's what you do. So when our doing slowed down, Ken and I went to Brother Hagin's meetings to get a Word injection that would strengthen our faith.

Fresh Lessons From the Fig Tree

These days most every believer I know could benefit from that kind of Word injection. With all the bad economic news that's been flying around, we all need a little recharging. So let's do what Brother Hagin used to do. Let's look again at Mark 11, and let the lesson Jesus taught at the fig tree refresh our faith.

That lesson began one day when Jesus and His disciples were on their way to Jerusalem: "And seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came, if haply he might find any thing thereon: and when he came to it, he found nothing but leaves; for the time of figs was not yet. And Jesus answered and said unto it, No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And his disciples heard it" (verses 13-14).

Although the Bible doesn't mention it, I expect the disciples must have stared hard at that fig tree. They must have been eager to see what was going to happen to it. But you know what? It looked as though nothing did. Initially, Jesus' words appeared to have no effect at all. There was no visible change when He said them.

That encourages me because all of us who endeavor to live by faith know what it's like. We've all had the experience of declaring God's Word over a situation and seeing no immediate results. The case of the fig tree reveals the reason. It's because faith goes to the heart of the matter. Faith deals with problems at their core.

That's why it wasn't until the next morning when Jesus and His disciples passed by again that "they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots" (verse 20). The roots of the tree were underground, out of sight, so for a while it looked like Jesus' faith wasn't working. But in reality, the tree responded right away to His command. The very source of its life withered and by the next morning, the whole tree was dead.

We should keep that in mind when we're standing in faith, waiting for the manifestation of what we've believed for. We should remember that the effects of faith are often invisible at first. But that doesn't mean it's not working.

"Well, that was true for Jesus," someone might say, "but things are different for us. We can't do what He did."

Yes, we can. He said so. In fact, He used the example of the fig tree to teach us how. When Peter exclaimed in astonishment over its withered condition, the first thing Jesus did was turn to His disciples and say, "Have faith in God" (verse 22). Or, as it says in the cross-reference of my Bible, "Have the faith of God."

What exactly did Jesus mean by that?

He meant that, as children of God, we should operate in faith like He does.

God speaks when He wants something to happen. In Genesis 1, when He wanted light instead of darkness, He said, "Light be!" He called those things which were not as though they were (Romans 4:17). That's God's M.O., and according to Jesus it should be ours as well. He made that clear in Mark 11:23 when, standing in front of the dead fig tree with His disciples, He declared: "Verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto 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."

By using the word "whosoever," Jesus let us know that this principle of speaking things into being doesn't just work for God. It doesn't just work for preachers. It works for everyone. It can work *for* us or it can work *against* us. But one way or another, it's going to work.

If you want to revolutionize your personal economy, you'll have to get a grip on your words. You'll have to learn to use them like God does and say only the things you want to come to pass in your life. Although it sounds simple enough, it's not easy to do. When the pressure is on and the bills are piling up, our natural tendency is to focus on the problem instead of the answer. Our flesh—goaded on by the devil—is always pushing us to talk about how bad the situation is.

That's the reason we need to continually feed on the Word of God. The Bible says that whatever is in our heart in abundance will come out of our mouth. Since faith comes by hearing the Word, if we fill ourselves with the Word we'll be able to say the right thing even under pressure. We'll be able to continually speak to our finances like Jesus spoke to the fig tree.

When Ken and I first began to do that some 40-plus years ago, lack had been the norm for us all our married life. We lived in a little rent house furnished with a coffee table Ken made in high-school shop class, a broken television and a roll-away bed we rented for \$7.50 a month. We

were so deep in debt we couldn't see any natural way out.

After we got born again, however, and started learning about faith, we began believing what Jesus said and we acted on it. We prayed over our bills and asked Him to take care of them. We started calling them paid every day.

Eleven months later, those debts were gone.

We're like everyone else; there were times during those 11 months when we were tempted to doubt. But we discovered that doubt goes out when the Word comes in, so we followed the instructions in Proverbs 4:21-23. We kept God's Word before our eyes and in our ears until it got down in our hearts and began to talk to us.

If you're having financial problems, you ought to do the same thing. Every single day you should read and meditate on financial blessing scriptures. The Bible is full of them. If you'll put them in your heart, they'll crowd doubt out. They'll renew your mind so you think and talk in terms of abundance instead of lack.

"But Gloria, I'm too busy earning a living. I don't have time for the Word."

Try explaining that to the devil when he comes to steal that money you've been working so hard for. Try saying, "Devil, I've been too busy to build my faith. Will you please give me a break?"

You know as well as I do, that won't work. When the devil attacks, your faith shield has to be ready. You have to have the Word implanted in your heart so you can speak boldly to your enemy and say, "Be removed from me, Satan. Take your hands off my finances. The Word says my needs are met. The Word says my bills are paid. So pack up your poverty and get away from me!"

No Limits

Most believers don't have enough confidence to say such things because they're not sure God wants to take care of them financially. They've been religiously taught that it's sometimes His will for us to live in lack. So they pray timid prayers like, "Lord, whether it's poverty or plenty, just give me whatever You think is best."

That might sound spiritual but it's not what Jesus told us to do. He said: "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:24).

Notice, He didn't put limits on what we could ask. He said that whatever we desire when we're in fellowship with Him—whether it's healing, the salvation of our children, clothes, a new car, a home or other material blessings—can be ours on one condition: We must believe we receive it when we ask for it.

The Greek word translated *receive* has a more aggressive

meaning than most people realize. It doesn't refer to passively waiting on God to drop something in your lap. It's an action word. It refers to reaching out and taking hold of something, seizing it and claiming possession of it.

This is where a lot of people get tangled up in their faith walk. They go to God in prayer and make a request. They say, for instance, "Lord, I ask You for a new car. My old one is breaking down. I need a car that's nice and dependable, so I ask You to give me one, in Jesus' Name." But then they keep on talking the same old way. They keep talking the problem. "I sure do need a better car. If I don't get it, I don't know what I'm going to do."

The next day, they pray and ask the Lord for the car again. Afterward, they worry aloud some more about what might happen if it doesn't come.

Such believers obviously haven't believed they received. They haven't reached out with the hand of faith and taken what God promised. If they had, they wouldn't be saying such things. They wouldn't be making the same request over and over.

Instead, they'd be praising God. They'd be saying, "Lord, thank You for giving me the car I asked for. I believe I receive it and I have it!" Knowing that their request was based on God's Word, they'd settle this fact in their heart: *After I pray this prayer, the car I asked for is mine. I've taken it and from now on I have it. I'll not tolerate doubt. I'll not speak doubt. From this time forward, I'll only speak faith.*

"But Gloria, what if I do that and the answer doesn't come?"

Stick with your confession of faith. Don't ever let go of it. Jesus said we can have whatsoever we say. So keep saying what you want to have. Not just in church. Not just when you're in prayer. All the time!

Ken and I can vouch for the fact that the process sometimes takes a little longer than we expect. But if we'll remember the lesson of the fig tree, if we'll continue to believe God's Word,

say it and act on it, that Word will become our reality. It will lift us above the dark conditions in the world around us.

It will empower us to live in confidence knowing that no matter how dangerous things become in this combat zone—economically or any other way—we can enjoy divine protection and provision. We can strap on our faith/love body armor and, in the midst of it all, be a picture of supernatural peace. **VICTORY**

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- Make prayer a lifetime priority
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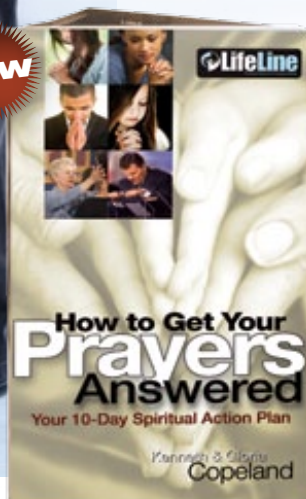
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SEPTEMBER

Broadcast Calendar

Aug. 29-Sept. 2

Living the Abundant Life—Week 2

Kenneth Copeland and Jeremy Pearsons

Sunday, Sept. 4
God's Word + Faith = THE BLESSING
Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 5-9

Living in the Kingdom of God

Kenneth Copeland

Sunday, Sept. 11
Living Life in the Faith Lane
Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 12-16

The Established Heart

Kenneth Copeland

Sunday, Sept. 18
Empowering You to Prosper
A KCM PARTNERSHIP SPECIAL
Kenneth and Gloria Copeland

Sept. 19-23

Activating God's Power Supply in You

A KCM PARTNERSHIP SPECIAL

Kenneth and Gloria Copeland

Sunday, Sept. 25
It's God's Will for You to Be Healed
Gloria Copeland

Sept. 26-30

The End of All Things Is at Hand

Gloria Copeland and Billye Brim