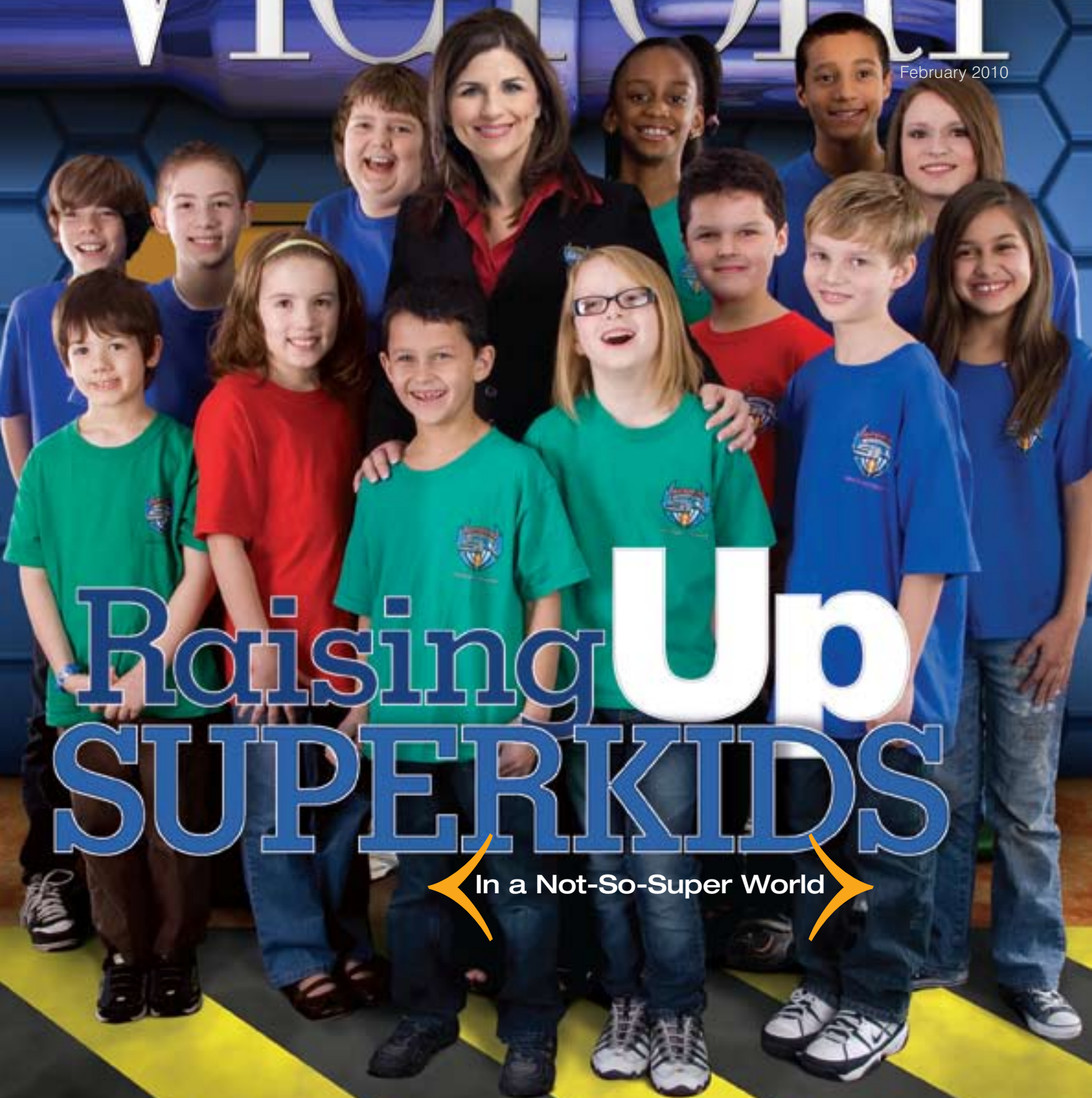


Believer's Voice of



VICTORY

February 2010



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When the Lord first spoke to us about starting the *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine, He said: *This is your seed. Give it to everyone who ever responds to your ministry, and don't ever allow anyone to pay for a subscription to it.* For 37 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

Kenneth Copeland Ministries

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9.00–16.30 Monday–Friday.

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Look into the mirror of the Word



THIS NATION IS HURTING.

PEOPLE ON BOTH SIDES OF THE POLITICAL AISLE AND THOSE IN BETWEEN ALL AGREE. THEY MAY NOT AGREE ON ANYTHING ELSE, BUT EVERYONE CAN SEE THAT THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—LIKE EVERY OTHER COUNTRY IN THE WORLD—NEEDS HEALING. IT IS GROANING UNDER THE STRAIN OF SIN WITH ALL ITS DEADLY EFFECTS. | THERE IS NO GOVERNMENT REMEDY! NO PROGRAM CAN NURSE THIS AILING WORLD BACK TO HEALTH, BECAUSE IT IS NOT HURTING FOR LACK OF PROGRAMS.

It is groaning and crying out for a manifestation of the sons of God. It is longing for THE BLESSING of the Lord to be released through God's people in great waves, bringing the peace, goodness, honesty, godliness and truth that will set the world free: "For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. Because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God"



(Romans 8:19, 21, *New King James Version*).

Without even knowing it, the whole world is waiting for us, as believers, to receive revelation from heaven that will make us more like Jesus every day. They are waiting for us to rise up and walk in THE BLESSING of Abraham that has come on us through Christ Jesus and to bless all the families of the earth (Genesis 12:3).

I know it's a tall order, but that's what we were born again to do. It's the destiny God planned for us before the foundation of the world. It's what He had in mind when "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures" (James 1:18).

The word *firstfruits* is a scriptural term for an offering that's closely akin to the tithe. So, by calling us His firstfruits, God is saying we are like His tithe to the earth. We are His offering of BLESSING to mankind.

Just the thought of that sends a thrill through my whole being!

THE POWER THAT SAVES YOUR SOUL

"But Brother Copeland, judging by the shape the world is in right now, we're not being much of a blessing."

I know—but we can change that, and James 1 tells us how: "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath. Lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls" (verses 19, 21).

Look again at that last phrase: *save your souls*. It's not talking about the new birth. It's not referring to the time when you received Jesus as your Savior because that experience did not save your soul.

The Bible teaches that man is a three-part being: We are a spirit; we have a soul; we live in a body.

When we were born again, our spirit was made new. It was instantly re-created in the perfect likeness of God. Our soul (our mind, will and emotions) was not. It is being changed through a process the Apostle Paul called "the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2). As we exercise our soul and train it to conform to His

way of doing things, it is transformed more and more into His image.

That's the ministry God has given Gloria and me. God has commissioned us, according to Hebrews 5:13-14, to bring people from religion to reality. He has called us to help believers renew their minds, taking them from the milk of the Word to the meat, so they can become skillful in righteousness and their flesh can discern the difference between good and evil.

How do we do that?

By preaching the uncompromised Word of God.

That engrafted Word is the only thing that can transform the soul of a believer. It alone contains the truth and the power to change our minds so we think, speak and act like God. As it says in 2 Corinthians 3:18: "We all, with unveiled face, beholding [in the Word of God] as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord" (*NKJV*).

The engrafted Word keeps the mind, will and especially the emotions of believers from controlling their lives. Christians whose emotions are full of God's Word are even-tempered and respond appropriately and compassionately, reflecting God's love and their trust in Him.

IT TAKES MORE THAN A GLANCE

The devil doesn't care whether you're born again or not. He could care less whether you go to heaven or hell, as long as you stay out of his way. That's why He works so hard to keep you away from the Word. He knows as long as you're ignorant of it, as long as your mind is unrenewed, you won't cause him any problems.

But if you ever find out who you are in Christ Jesus, if you ever discover the power and integrity of God's written Word, get in agreement with it, and start calling yourself BLESSED instead of cursed, you will mess up his deal. You'll put a stop to his plans and operations. You'll start controlling *his* affairs with the Word and the Name of Jesus!

A 4-year-old child who knows and believes God's Word can control hell. I've seen the devil run from my children when they were barely big enough to walk and talk. Because of the Word

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of God that was in them, they could pray in faith, bring God's power on the scene and change things. They were heard not because they were cute little children, they were heard because of the Word of God and their faith.

Every believer can do that, but we must pay attention to James 1:22-25:

Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Notice, James refers to the Word there as "the perfect law of liberty."

Why does he call it that?

Because faith comes by hearing God's Word and there's nothing in this world order that faith won't overcome. Faith will set you free from bondage. It will liberate you from oppression—spiritual, mental, emotional, physical, financial or social. As 1 John 5:4 says, "...this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."

Real, overcoming faith doesn't come from a casual glance at the Bible. It doesn't come by religiously reading a few scriptures now and then. It comes from looking into God's Word and *continuing* in it. It comes from using the Word like a mirror to find out what you look like and remembering what you see.

The problem is, most believers don't do that. Instead, they use the spiritual mirror of the Word like they use their natural mirror. They look into it so carelessly they walk away with only a vague idea of what they've seen.

When it comes to looking into the mirror of the Word, if you look into it on purpose, to learn the specifics of what God is saying to you and about you, it will have a lasting impact. If you continue looking into it, purposing to believe and act on what you see there, that Word will transform your soul.

On the other hand, you can read the Bible every day without doing those things and you won't get anything out of it. Your soul will remain as carnal as it ever was; and you'll end up saying things like, "Well, you never know what God is going to do."

"But Brother Copeland," someone might ask, "isn't that true? Aren't God's ways so mysterious that they are past finding out?"

No, they're not. God has clearly revealed His ways in His Word. It tells us specifically what He is going to do. But if we don't seek out those specifics and continue to meditate on them until they are engrafted into our soul, they won't have any impact on us. So we'll end up believing the devil when he comes along and says, "You're just an ugly, unworthy little worm. God won't do anything for you. He's not going to heal you. He's not going to prosper you. You don't deserve it."

NOURISH YOUR FAITH

Believers who look into the mirror of the Word and believe what they see aren't deceived by such devilish lies. They don't look at themselves and say, "Oh, I'm so ugly. I'm so sick." No, they look in the mirror and say, "That's a healed man right there. I'm not moved by what my body says. I'm not moved by what I feel. I'm not moved by my circumstances. I'm moved by what I believe and I believe the Word that says, I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. I am healed by His stripes. He became poor so I could be made rich!" (See 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24; 2 Corinthians 8:9.)



Everything is richer with THE BLESSING

Ever feel like your day-to-day job, ministry and household are entrenched in the rat race of the world? Here's good news: As a believer, you don't have to live that way. Life can be a rich, rewarding and fulfilling experience...and it starts with THE BLESSING!

In this revealing teaching, Kenneth Copeland shows you:

- How to activate THE BLESSING
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- How to take hold of the wealthy inheritance God has promised you
- And much more

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The believer who looks steadily and specifically into the Word of God and renews his mind with it doesn't check his body to see how he feels, he tells his body how to feel. He tells himself how to think in line with the Word. By the power of that engrafted Word, he takes command of his soul and becomes a doer of it.

He opens his mouth by faith and takes command of his circumstances as Jesus taught in Mark 11:22-23: "Have faith in God. [Or, *Have the faith of God.*] For 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."

Those verses perfectly describe how we, as sons of God and the seed of Abraham, are called to live. We're called to live in and release THE BLESSING of God on this earth by faith.

"But Brother Copeland, I don't have any faith!"

Yes, you do: "God hath dealt to *every* man the measure of faith" (Romans 12:3). When you were born again, God's own faith was born into your spirit right along with His love, joy, goodness, meekness, kindness and temperance. But that faith will lie dormant if you don't feed it. It will remain unproductive until you start nourishing it with God's Word.

That Word is what causes your faith to bear fruit. It's what brings you to Jesus, who is the author and finisher of your faith (Hebrews 12:2). It's what connects you with the faith of God, and His faith will feed yours.

GET ALL THREE PARTS RUNNING TOGETHER

So make the connection today. Look with purpose into the mirror of the Word by saying, "Lord Jesus, I've seen in the perfect law of liberty that I am to have faith in God. So right now I release my faith in Him. I make a quality decision to trust His Word and act on it like I would the word of a doctor, lawyer or highly trusted friend."

If you're reluctant to make such a declaration because you don't feel like you have that kind of faith, let me remind you: Jesus didn't say to feel and see if you have faith. You won't find that anywhere in the New Testament. You may find it in some unbelieving churches where people say, "Oh, didn't we feel God this morning!" But truth

be told, most of those people are starving spiritually. They are fasting their spirits and feeding their feelings.

That's not going to work! You need to turn it the other way around. Feed your spirit and fast your body for a little while. Feed your spirit and bring your soul into subjection to it until all three parts of your being—spirit, soul and body (in that order)—are running together.

Gloria and I have been living this way for more than 42 years now. In that amount of time, we've learned some things. We've found out, for instance, that it helps to write down our declarations of faith. We've discovered it's a good thing to "write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it" (Habakkuk 2:2).

So get a piece of paper right now and write, "Today at (whatever time it is), acting on God's Word where Jesus said, 'Have faith in God,' I believe. I will. I take it. I have it. I thank You, Lord. And I forgive." (See Mark 11:25.)

If you'll do that, tomorrow when Satan comes to talk you out of whatever you're believing to receive, you can shut him down. When he says, "You're not going to get anything from God. You've been watching too much television. You haven't been going to church for visitation night. God isn't going to listen to anything you say," you can go get what you wrote down yesterday and say, "Do you see that, Satan? I don't know whether you can read or not but in case you can't, let me read it to you. It says...."

By the time you get that far, the devil will be gone. He doesn't want to hear your confession of faith—he'll high-tail it out of there!

So settle it today. Settle it in your heart and with your words. Settle it with pen and paper. Say, "This is God's Word. This is the perfect law of liberty. It is God speaking to me. I receive it. I believe it. I release my faith in it and my faith is the victory that overcomes everything in this world order! It empowers me to be a BLESSING to all the families of the earth!"

The moment you do that, you will become part of God's firstfruits offering to this hurting world. You'll be on your way to becoming what all creation is groaning to see—a born-again, manifested son of God. **VICTORY**

Salvation Prayer

If you do not know
Jesus
as your Saviour 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 #K0602, tick the circle on the order form that comes with this magazine or call +44 (0)1225 787310.



the Voice of God

Chuck Battaglia stepped onstage and into the spotlight before a cheering crowd. Drink glasses jangled, waitresses wove through the smoky semidarkness, and dollars changed hands at a healthy pace. The club bustled with business that the owners knew was due in no small part to Chuck's ability to draw crowds and hold them. ✱ He did it with his voice. When Chuck sang, he released a sound that left people hungry for more. At times, his voice surged like a wave of adrenaline through the soul. Other times it wrapped itself around weary hearts like a hug. Smooth as a home run, Chuck's voice touched all the bases of human emotion with a skill that made it seem effortless.



“Who you partner with is everything,” Chuck says. “This ministry teaches us to bring our voices into alignment with God’s voice in order to live victorious lives and advance the kingdom of God.”

It was no surprise that his crooning drew the predictable crowd—party animals who came to escape their own emptiness. But the curious thing was that Chuck also drew a faithful following of an unusual kind as well. Like the pastor from the church down the street who would slip in to hear him sing. For years, the pastor had urged Chuck, “Come sing in my church.”

Chuck laughed at the idea, never giving it a second thought. When it came to gospel music, he had been there, done that and left it behind.

When he was little more than a kid, and sang on *The Gene Carroll Show* in Cleveland, Ohio, his Catholic mother had sparked his interest in it for a short time. She’d started watching Oral Roberts on television and bought his book, *Seed Faith*. Knowing that gospel music was an important part of a singer’s repertoire, Chuck had read the book and written more than a dozen songs from its content.

Then life took an unexpected turn. At 14, Chuck’s family moved to Southern California where he soon forgot about gospel and found himself singing, playing piano and entertaining with celebrities like Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Buddy Holly, Little Richard and the Righteous Brothers.

At times his family’s seed-faith past still dogged him. Nights like tonight, for example. Stepping off the stage at the nightclub where he’d just finished singing, Chuck was confronted by several inebriated patrons. “There’s some strange women mumbling and acting weird in the hall,” they warned.

“Not again!” Chuck said, bolting for the hallway. Grinding his teeth in frustration, he turned a corner and found himself face to face with his sister, Mary Ann, and her friend.

“You’ve got to stop doing this.”

“We’re just praying,” Mary Ann said innocently.

Chuck lowered his voice to a whisper. “The last nine clubs you prayed in *closed!* I can’t afford any more of your help. People ask if my singing is so bad that the clubs where I work go out of business!”

Covenant Love

Even while Chuck struggled to ignore the spiritual fervor of his sister, there was another young woman he was paying plenty of attention to: a beautiful, blue-eyed, blonde cocktail waitress named Amy.

“She was working at the nightclub and we’d been dating for a while,” Chuck recalls. “When I asked her to marry me, she agreed, but with stipulations. Each of us had a child from a previous marriage and she wanted to build a stable foundation for them, so she insisted that if we married we would take my daughter, Alyssa, and her son, Sam, to church. I told her I knew a pastor who’d been coming to hear me sing for years and that we could attend his church.”

But Chuck also had stipulations.

He agreed to go to church as long as they left right after. No socializing. No cookies and punch. His sister had gotten saved years before and had him pegged in the center of her prayer sights. Chuck didn’t mind going to church, but he had no intention of getting saved.

“As soon as I started going to church the pastor asked me to sing and then to lead praise and worship. I sang songs like ‘Oh Happy Day,’ ‘My Sweet Lord’ and ‘Let It Be.’ Older people would come up to me after church and yell, ‘That’s not praise and worship!’ I was playing to a hard crowd, and I knew nothing about praise and worship.” As far as Chuck was concerned, he was performing at the club until 3 a.m. and then getting up to perform again at church.

In 1994, Chuck and Amy gave their hearts to Jesus and were born again. Afterward, Mary Ann told her brother the Lord said he had a call on his life and would do amazing things for Him. But the way Chuck saw it, being born again was enough. He had a career, and he had no intention of doing anything amazing for God.

A Seed of Faith

A year and a half later, Oral Roberts spoke at their church. Chuck thought about the songs he had written from Brother Roberts’ book, and wondered if some kind of seed of faith had been planted in his family’s life by

this man. During the service, Brother Roberts picked Chuck out of the crowd and prophesied, “You’re going to work and serve the Lord.” Then he laid hands on Chuck and prayed.

“I developed a hunger for the work of the Lord from that moment,” Chuck remembers.

Sometime later, their pastor announced his retirement and plans to close the church. While helping the pastor’s family pack, Amy noticed a box of books that were going to be thrown away.

“What are those?” she asked.

“Books by Kenneth Hagin,” she was told. “They’re too deep for you. Throw them away.”

Amy rescued the books, took them home and started leafing through them. “You’ve got to read these!” a surprised Amy told Chuck. As they read, they began to learn about faith, the authority of the believer and the power of the Word of God.

“We later attended Brother Hagin’s Campmeeting,” Chuck explains. “That was the first time I’d ever experienced true worship, and I just wept. I told the Lord I wanted to learn to do it right. I wanted to worship, not perform.”

When Brother Hagin went home to be with the Lord, Amy started reading magazine articles and books by Kenneth Copeland. She talked Chuck into going to the West Coast Believers’ Convention in Anaheim, in 2001.

“The moment Brother Copeland walked out on the stage, I recognized his anointing and we became Partners with Kenneth Copeland Ministries,” Chuck shared with a smile.

Death Came Calling

Chuck and Amy’s life together was a happy one and they were thrilled when she became pregnant. She had no complications, and although she’d had a cesarean section with Sam, she opted to deliver this baby through natural childbirth. Toward the end of her labor, however, Amy realized something was wrong.

While her doctor was on his way to the hospital, Amy had been prepared for delivery with an epidural, but she was in extreme pain. Then, without warning, the fetal monitor went flat. Amy’s uterus had ruptured. Realizing both Amy and the baby could die, the nurse called a Code Blue and rushed her to surgery.

“All I could see were the ceiling tiles flashing past,” Amy remembers, “and yet I experienced no fear. I had a supernatural peace and knew God would protect us.”

Chuck heard someone on the medical team say, “It looks like we lost the baby, now we’re losing the wife.” The words flashed him back to his own childhood, and the stories he’d heard about his own birth. His dad had been in the

waiting room when a doctor asked him to make a tough choice: “Sign this paper and tell us which one you want us to try and save—your wife or your child.” Chuck’s dad had signed the paper authorizing them to save his wife’s life. All Chuck’s life he’d heard, “You died at birth.”

A few minutes later a nurse handed Chuck a paper to sign. They wanted to know which one they should try to save—Amy or the baby. Chuck had learned some things about God—how He created the world through His voice, and how Christians, through their own words, can release the voice of God on the earth. Chuck could sense a cloud of witnesses waiting to see what he would say.

He handed the paper back to the nurse. “I’m not losing either one of them. Please leave. I’ve got to pray.”

A few minutes later Chuck heard frantic words, “The baby’s gone! The baby’s gone!” Chuck prayed, releasing life to his wife and child. Rushing to open the baby’s neck for a tracheotomy, the staff was stunned when he gasped...and then wailed.

Sweat pouring down his face, the doctor appeared a few minutes later and said, “We’ve stopped the bleeding. Your wife’s going to be OK. Would you like to hold your son?” Nothing had ever sounded better.

“They told me Charlie had gone without oxygen for so long that he would be slow and probably have learning disabilities. They also said he would remain that bluish color and not be able to eat,” Chuck remembers. “I told them those things wouldn’t happen, and then I prayed the opposite of everything they predicted. His color turned pink, and by the next day he was eating well.”

The doctors told Amy not to have any more children. To her surprise, she conceived again when Charlie was only 9 months old. “God told us this child was a gift with no strings attached,” Amy explains. Mia, a blue-eyed blonde like her mother, was born with no complications.

Then There Were Three

The enemy had tried to kill both Chuck and Charlie at birth, but no one expected him to try to take out the only other male in the family—Sam. At 18, Sam was an expert skateboarder. In April 2009, Sam and some friends were skateboarding in the deep end of an empty swimming pool when one slip caused Sam to hurl head-first onto the concrete.

It was a beautiful spring afternoon when Amy answered the phone only to hear that her son had been rushed to the hospital. Knowing that panic has a way of squeezing wrong words out of people’s mouths, Amy listened to the report and refused to speak anything except God’s Word over the situation. She commanded fear to leave and spoke the life of God into her son.



I had learned a great deal from reading Kellie Copeland Swisher's book, *Protecting Your Family in Dangerous Times*.

I refused to say anything except what God said.



At the hospital, Amy used her faith like a tether to hold her emotions in place when she saw Sam. Tubes crossed his body like railroad tracks. Blood ran from both ears and his nose. He was incoherent. His words were slurred. When she looked into her son's brown eyes, no one looked back.

"The doctors said his brain had swollen and he would have to have surgery," Amy recalls. "I had learned a great deal from reading Kellie Copeland Swisher's book, *Protecting Your Family in Dangerous Times*. I refused to say anything except what God said. I understood that fear is a spirit so I took authority over fear and panic. I didn't agree that Sam would need surgery."

Amy understood that what she spoke over the situation was more important than what the doctors said. She was the voice of God on the earth where her son was concerned. The doctors may have known all the technical details, and the facts about brain injuries, but Amy had authority over life and death.

Sam was moved to intensive care awaiting surgery. But he never went to surgery. Instead, the following day he was discharged from the hospital—completely recovered.

New Life

"Who you partner with is everything," Chuck says. "Partnership means we enjoy the Copelands' anointings, integrity, prosperity and blessings. There is a voice of victory speaking to us through KCM every day. It speaks through Partner Letters. It speaks through books and CDs. It speaks through the magazine, and it speaks through the broadcast. This ministry teaches us to bring our voices into alignment with God's voice in order to live victorious lives and advance the kingdom of God."

Today, the Battaglia family is filled with life, laughter and the busy bustle of a growing family. Alyssa is 21 and works in the church as her father's assistant. Sam is 18 and learning to live the Word of God. Charlie is 11 and Mia, 10—the two are inseparable. Charlie, whom the doctors predicted would be slow and suffer from learning disabilities, has made straight A's all his life. He downloads Kenneth Copeland's messages onto his iPod, and late at night when the family is trying to sleep, Charlie is still listening to the Word of God, shouting, "THE BLESSING is working! THE BLESSING is working!"

Without a doubt, THE BLESSING of God *is* working in the Battaglia family. In 2001, Chuck and Amy started Brand New Life Church where both Mary Ann and her friend serve as ordained ministers. Together, they teach others how to hear the voice of God and speak the Word. It is His voice, now, that draws people into the church, His voice that touches their hearts and transforms their lives. **VICTORY**

partnership A Place of Victory!

Part of Kenneth Copeland Ministries' mission is to preach "Jesus Is Lord!" on every available voice: television, magazines, books, letters, Internet, audio/video media and meetings. The entire Battaglia family has connected with victory in Jesus through their partnership with us.

Everything we do here at KCM is to help you grow in faith and bring the victory God has planned for you right into your life every day!

Today may be the day the Lord directs you to become our Partner. Please take a moment and ask Him if now is the time for you to connect with KCM—a place of victory!

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After each day of Creation, God would step back and examine all He had done, and all He could say was, "It is *good*." And when He was done with all His good Creation, He rested from all His work.



You are a Good Work in progress

There is such love reflected in that simple word *good*. As I have studied the plan of God, I have come to realize how meaningful to God *good* really is. Just any old plan and just any old thing is not good enough for His children. Because of His great love for us and His desire that we have an amazing life here on earth, He gives us only His *good* stuff.

As we look into His Word for evidence of His great plan for us, we should always keep these things in mind. God is never random, and He is never off course. He has a very pleasing, precise plan for our lives. Actually, that plan was developed before the foundation of the world. He planned your life before you were ever born, a plan that spans from start to finish just for you—the plan that He calls *good*.

Ephesians 2:10 makes it clear, "We are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), re-created in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those *good* works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which

He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the *good* life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live]" (*The Amplified Bible*).

What a statement. The Creator of the universe has declared us to be His masterpiece. When artists begin to paint, they don't just start slapping paint on the canvas. They plan. What is the background going to look like? What will be the focal point? What details will be in the painting? A masterpiece is painted by an artist who is an expert, highly skilled visionary.

You—A Masterpiece!

Well, *you* are a masterpiece, born into the good life God planned for you long ago. Just look at Psalm 139 (*New Living Translation*) and you'll see just how skillfully and expertly you have been made. See for yourself how God has truly planned your life as carefully as He planned the universe.

Verse 13 says, “You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother’s womb.” And in verses 15-16 we read, “You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.”

Verse 15 in *The Amplified Bible* says it’s as if He embroidered us with various colors.

When I was a kid, I always wanted craft things for Christmas. I loved to start projects, although I don’t think I finished many of them. In the 1970s embroidery was very popular, so, of course, I had to try it! My mother bought me a hoop, needle, thread, iron-on transfers and a denim shirt to try my new skills. I learned how different stitches, widths and colors of thread completed each unique part of the pattern. In the same way, when each of us was in our mother’s womb, God was embroidering all the different things that we were going to be—that He *designed* us to be.

Everything you need, to be what He designed *you* to be, is already inside you. That’s why it’s very difficult to fit yourself into the mold of someone else. Satan tries to convince people to want to be something they weren’t designed to be. They look at someone else, thinking, *They’re so talented. They’re so smart. I want to be this or I want to be that.*

Wanting to be something God hasn’t called you to be is an expression of a spirit of covetousness. He didn’t put things in you to make you like someone else; He put them in you to make you into His one-of-a-kind masterpiece. But unlike my unfinished creative projects, He will stick with you until you look like His original design. I’m so glad God won’t quit on us!

We must grasp the truth in Psalm 139:16 and keep it in our thinking. It should shape and mold our choices in life. God didn’t only plan our general future, but He wrote every moment of every day for our entire life...before we were born! That is life-changing!

A Good Plan for a Good Life

Before a single day had passed, He looked at that plan and said, “This is good.” Look at Ephesians 2:10 again. God planned ahead that

we would not only do *good* works, but that He would lay out a *good* path for us to walk out. Remember that word *good* in Genesis 1? I have given much thought to His reasons for such an elaborate Creation. Why did He check His work so closely? Why did it have to be “*good*”? Why such attention to detail, and why so many different varieties of mammals, birds and fish?

How many fish do you imagine are so deep in the ocean that mankind will never see them all without God’s help? How many species of dogs are there? How many kinds of birds do you think are in the world? What could God’s purpose be?

One Christmas, I put a puppy in a box and gave him to my son, Max. He was a big, happy, wrestling retriever named Duke. Boys seem to prefer dogs you can roll around with. Most girls want something they can carry around. One type of dog wouldn’t do the job, so what did God do? He made different kinds and sizes.

Why make flowers? Why make them beautiful? I can see only one reason for all of it—just because He loves you—because He wanted you to enjoy it all. That’s the reason He took the time to step back and check His work. He created it all for the pleasure of His ultimate creation—you and me! It had to be *good*.

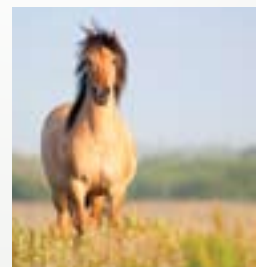
Do you see in Ephesians how He described the plan He had for you? He planned you with the same intensity He used to plan all of creation—with the same attention to detail. He made sure it was *good*. You are a masterpiece...you are His pleasure...painted by God Himself. And when you made Jesus the Lord of your life, you were born into the ultimate fulfillment of His great plan.

Ecclesiastes 3:11, *AMP*, tells us: “He has made everything beautiful in its time. He also has planted eternity in men’s hearts and minds [a divinely implanted sense of a purpose working through the ages which nothing under the sun but God alone can satisfy]....”

That sounds like Psalm 139 to me. He has planted these things inside of us. The only satisfaction we can find is to live out the plan as He designed it, to be the masterpiece that He has painted for us to be.

Verse 15 goes on to say, “That which is now already has been, and that which is to be already has been; and God seeks that which has passed

He took the time to step back and check His work. He created it all for the pleasure of His ultimate creation—you and me! It had to be good.



by [so that history repeats itself].” In other words, God has already seen your life from beginning to end. His work now is to help you live the life He has planned out and finished—to help you do those *good* works which He predestined (planned beforehand) for you.

The Finished Work

We are His masterpiece...a painting that He has already painted, but hasn't been painted yet. Confusing? Not really. Think about it like a paint-by-number set. Remember those? What is always on the box lid? A picture of the finished painting.

Before you were ever born, God painted a picture of your life, like that box top. Your life is like the canvas, and He put inside you all the colors needed, along with His instructions—His Word. He knows every step it will take for you to be all He planned. He knows the end from the beginning. He's already thought your life through and to Him, it's already happened.

Once you leave your mother's womb He is there, helping you walk through each stage to bring you to that place He's already painted for you. It is just like a paint-by-number picture...He created the painting but He's given you the brush. You always hold the brush.

You can mess up your painting any number of ways. You mess it up with disobedience, foolishness, pride...doing things your own way. You may try to talk God into something He didn't have in mind for you...you get off the plan. Or, you can take your brush in hand and follow the outline God has given you.

He sees His masterpiece as complete, just the way He planned it. His design may include a career, spouse, family, home—everything that will give you the *good* life He has in store for you.

Now, I'm here to tell you, you aren't going to convince Him that you know more than He does, so why bother trying? Just take the brush and paint by His perfectly designed plan—the plan He laid out for you before the foundation of the world.

You will not and you cannot come up with anything better. It's not possible. The devil may tell you, “There's something better than this plan. You need to go for that. God is keeping something from you.”

That's exactly what he did in the Garden of Eden, and he's been doing it ever since. And if you're foolish enough to listen to that, you're going to mess up just like Eve did. I define foolishness as turning your back on wisdom from God's Word, from the Holy Spirit, from the people He has put in your life to help you. You're foolish if you turn your back on the plan, thinking you know better. But you don't have to be foolish!

You can be sure of one thing: Everything God tells you to do corresponds to creating your masterpiece—your *good* life. Everything!

Let Him Complete You!

Proverbs 20:24 tells us the Lord directs our steps, so why try to understand everything along the way? He's got our path lined out for us. His goal is to complete the masterpiece of you!

He's taken care of everything. In the garden He provided Adam and Eve's food, clothing, their spouse and even their occupation. He gave them THE BLESSING. He gave them seed because He had already planted everything and made it to grow. He did all the work. They didn't have to toil at all. They just had to do what He said and THE BLESSING would make it all work. All Adam and Eve had to do, and all we have to do, is “keep it.” Keep THE BLESSING. Keep the promise. Keep the plan. Philippians 2:12-13 makes it clear: “...Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him” (NLT).

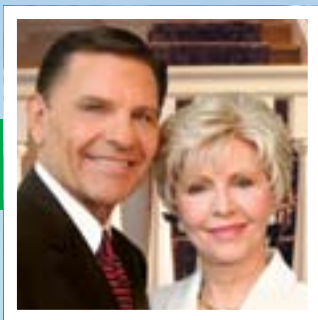
God is watching over that plan He designed. He's working in you, giving you the desire and the power to paint the picture—to do what pleases Him. And what pleases Him is for you to be what He designed you to be and do.

He has provided every tool we will ever need to paint our lives according to His plan. He's given us His Word...the complete and true picture of each of us. He has given us His Spirit...not just our step-by-step instructor, but our moment-by-moment power source. He has given us Jesus—our example of what living the good life God planned is all about. He has given us the Body of Christ—the ones who encourage us that we can and will be all He has designed us to be.

You are not out there alone, trying to accomplish a near-impossible task. God loves you so much, He has master-planned your good life and totally supplied every good thing you need to pick up that brush and see your life turn out just as He desires it to be. You are God's masterpiece. You are His *good* work in progress!

VICTORY

Kellie Copeland Swisher is an executive at Kenneth Copeland Ministries where she supervises several departments alongside her husband, Dr. Stephen Lowell Swisher. Through their ministry, Kellie and Steve fulfill the mission of drawing people of all ages into a personal, growing and powerful relationship with Jesus Christ. Doctor and Mrs. Swisher have four children and reside in Fort Worth, Texas.



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REAL PEOPLE. REAL NEEDS. REAL VICTORIES.

GoodNewsGazette

“He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.” (Psalm 91:1)

The Gift of Salvation

When my aunt passed away recently, my uncle began asking me questions about God. He was going to have a medium come to the house and try to contact my aunt, but I told him that was wrong and, thanks to prayer, he didn't do it.

I was watching the *BVOV* broadcast and it was the salvation package offer and I emailed you about sending it to me so I could give it to him. I sent him the book and after reading it he gave his heart to the Lord and asked God to put His Holy Spirit in his heart! I thought you would like to know that God used your book to bring my uncle to salvation and I wanted to say a very big, “Thank you.”

C.H. :: United Kingdom

Faithful Prayers

Thank you for your faithfulness! In previous years your ministry team has prayed with me for the following: my peace before a master's degree exam, for which I obtained a first-class distinction; and for my brother, who was lying in a local ICU with multiple organ failure after contracting an unknown virus in Angola. He was in ICU for four days. Two weeks later there was no sign or evidence of a heart attack or virus in his body. He recovered completely. Praise God!

S.O. :: South Africa

Walking by Faith

Praise the Lord! A miracle has happened! My son and I received our green cards. It has been a faith walk together with our Lord for the past year. There are so many examples of how the Lord helped me in so many areas for this green card. I was ready to give up, but then I always heard the Holy Spirit say, *Don't give up*, and a strong anointing fell over me. During the past year I have listened to KCM teachings about faith and they have helped me a lot. I am happy to be a Partner with you. Just to know you are there means so much to me.

A.M.H. :: Sweden

Fire Extinguished

My husband has been following your ministry for years. We have been extremely blessed by the teachings you give, inspired by the Holy Spirit.

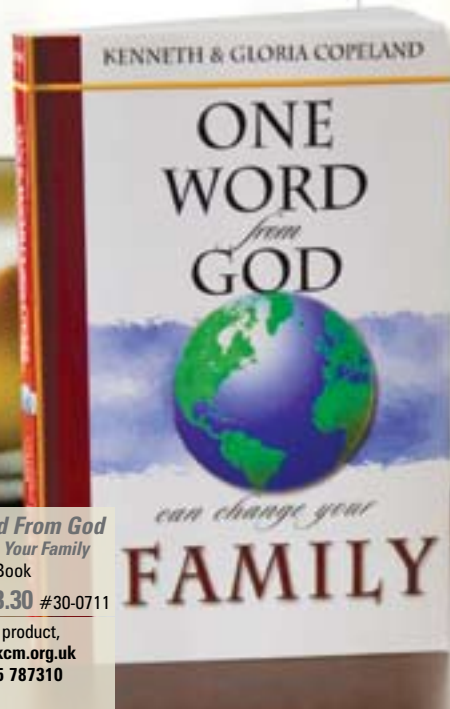
One day I started my husband's custom Yamaha 1700 to keep the battery charged while he was out of town. I came back into the house, as I have done many other times. About 15 minutes later as I was getting ready to go into the garage and turn it off, I heard frantic banging on the front door. I went to see who it was and the woman at the door told me the garage was on fire. As I ran to the garage, the motorcycle was on fire.

The motorcycle was still on and I had a decision to make. I reached in to turn it off, yet I suffered no burns to my arm—not even the hairs were touched! The scripture that came to my heart was Isaiah 43:2: “When thou passest through the waters, I *will be* with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.”

Two young men on their way to work stopped and came to help put the fire out. By the time the fire department came, the fire was out. Glory to God! There was a scooter, half-full gas can, the gas line and my SUV right next to the burning bike. We saw the hand of God in preserving us and everything else.

I left and came home later that afternoon. I had a message from one of your staff, thanking us for our partnership and asking if we needed prayer. What a timely call that was. Thank you for your obedience to God. We love you and pray for you and the ministry.

Sandra Pillows :: Florida



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Miraculous Freedom

While incarcerated I was blessed to have the privilege of watching TBN. This is how I came in contact with Kenneth Copeland Ministries. KCM was very instrumental in my miraculous release from prison. In 1996, while I was incarcerated, God gave me a dream and told me that I was going to get out of prison early. Being a new believer in Christ, it was important that I learned the principles of faith and how to believe God when every-



thing surrounding me contradicted His Word.

This was a struggle, but the *BVOV* broadcast taught me how to live by faith. KCM laid my foundation on faith which ultimately led to my release from prison and this has empowered me to remain free for nearly 10 years and counting! I just published my first book, *I'm Free! Now What?* and filmed my first documentary, entitled *Against All Odds*. Both are designed by God to help ex-offenders remain free once they are released. God bless you and keep up the good work!

Karlton S. Harris :: Illinois

The Word Works

What you live and preach truly works. Every summer we believe God for enough work to be contracted for us to get through the summer financially. During the summer of 2008, as the world's recession hit, the Lord provided over and above enough for us to be able to purchase a new vehicle that was greatly needed. When circumstances said there was no way this could happen, God made a way.

This past summer, as the world again lived in crisis over the recession, we claimed with KCM that in the kingdom of God there is *no* recession. We are blessed to report that at the beginning of July 2009, the Lord brought us over \$15,000 and another \$8,000 at the end of July.

We thank you for your willingness to teach the uncompromised Word of God. Because of your teachings we have been able to gain an understanding of tithing and the principle of sowing and reaping—allowing God to bless us exceedingly and abundantly more than we could even think. God is truly our source and it is a privilege to be partnered with KCM.

Michael and Sandra Bartlett :: Wisconsin

Attacks Hindered Through Prayer

I requested prayer for my sister. Because of you covering her with prayer, two break-ins at her house were unsuccessful, nothing was taken in the last one, and a man who came in wielding a knife at them was caught and arrested within minutes. No weapon formed against them prospered. Thank You to God!

S.D. :: South Africa

My Life Has Changed

So much is going on inside me. I can't explain it all, but it's all God. My eyes have been opened to so much and I have changed overnight. My son, Matthew, believed right along with me that Jesus is Lord and He died for our sins. He told me, "Mom, you believe, so do I." And now we pray together!

He is 16 years old and such a good child. Through God, plus you, me, my son and my other children, one life touches another through God. That's why I want to thank you. I know God put you on TV for us.

S.N. :: Michigan

God Always Provides

Thank you for the Partner Letter and the *BVOV* magazine you graciously send me every month. I am so thankful for this magazine that it not only sustains me, but also helps me to share the good news to other people of non-Christian faith.

One time I had a colleague from a non-Christian background and she had a domestic problem. I counseled her and even offered to fast with her, asking God to give her the strength she needed. And she didn't even mind me praying in the Name of our Lord Jesus.

At the end of our fast I just wanted her to read Psalm 91, but I could not give her a Bible to read. Guess what? In one of the magazines there was the whole chapter of Psalm 91. I praise God because He provided.

T.N. :: United Arab Emirates

No More Nicotine

I sent in a prayer request to please be in agreement with me to be delivered from nicotine (smoking). I have smoked for 29 years. I just want to say thank you and glory to God, because I am free! Praise God.

J.B. :: Georgia

God Delivers What He Promised

God still answers prayer. I would like to thank you and the other Partners for praying with us and believing God for a home for my family. After praying for so long, God provided a home for us. It seemed like a long time, but we thank God that He gave us what He promised. God bless.

H.I. :: South Africa

Unexpected Blessings

While the world went into panic over the "credit crunch," in one month I was given an unexpected pay raise and free travel to work! Praise God, there is no recession in His kingdom.

I.D. :: England

Prayer Is
Our Priority

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2010
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new

Behind the Mission Weekends:

February 19-20 : Scottsdale, Ariz.
Doubletree Paradise Valley Resort
5401 N. Scottsdale Road | Scottsdale, AZ 85250

April 16-17 : Atlanta, Ga.
Grand Hyatt Atlanta | 3300 Peachtree Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30305

June 25-26 : Chicago, Ill.
The Westin Lombard Yorktown Center
70 Yorktown Shopping Center | Lombard, IL 60148

September 24-25 : Orlando, Fla.
Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek
14100 Bonnet Creek Resort Lane | Orlando, FL 32831

Long Beach Copeland Family Meeting

July 8-10
Long Beach Convention Center
300 E. Ocean Blvd. | Long Beach, CA 90802

Join Kenneth and/or Gloria at: Women's Conference 2010 Rome: April 9-11

International Church of Italy
Via Giuseppe Chiovenda, 57 | Rome, Italy

Word of Faith Conference: June 18

Word of Faith International Christian Center
20000 W. Nine Mile Road | Southfield, MI 48075
248-353-3476 | woficc.com

Join Terri Copeland Pearsons at: Inside Out Women's Conference 2010: March 26-27

Stone Castle Hotel and Conference Center
3050 Green Mountain Drive | Branson, MO 65616
417-239-3920 | millerhopecenter.org/InsideOut2010.htm
(Registration required)

Join Dr. Stephen and/or Kellie Swisher at:

Living Word Bible Church: February 17
3520 E. Brown Road | Mesa, AZ 85213
480-964-4463 | livingwordonline.org

25th Anniversary Celebration: March 19-21

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

Spring Men's Advance: April 16-17

Burchfield Ministries | 1423 County Road 101
Columbus, TX 78934 | 979-732-9200
burchfield.org

Breath of Fresh Air

Women's Conference: April 22-24
Family Worship Center | 3649 Frontage Road
Port Orchard, WA 98367 | 360-874-0903 | skfwc.com

Embracing His Grace: May 2

1001 Airport Freeway | Bedford, TX 76021
817-280-0302 | ehgchurch.org

Father 2 Daughter Women's Conference: October 8

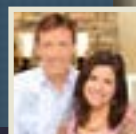
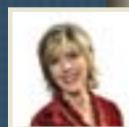
Pneuma Christian Center | 7345 Old Cleveland Pike
Chattanooga, TN 37421 | 423-855-8226
pneuma.org

2010 Tony Orlando

Salute to Veterans Events: November 11
Welk Resort Branson (Theater)
1984 State Highway 165 | Branson, MO 65616
800-734-5515 | welkresortbranson.com

Join Jeremy and/or Sarah Pearsons at:

Living Word River Valley: February 21
4510 Highway 71 N. | Alma, AR 72921
479-632-2340 | lwrv.org



Join us at these events

Enter into these meetings as a place of rest,
laying aside your own works and expecting
THE BLESSING to meet every need in your life.

—Kenneth Copeland

Branson Victory Campaign March 4-6

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

Homecoming 2010 August 2-7

(Southwest Believers' Convention)
Fort Worth Convention Center | 1201 Houston St.
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Washington, D.C. Victory Campaign November 11-13

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

Admission is Free. Preregister today!



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 Europe call +44 (0)1225 787310.

Our Great Salvation

“Are you saved?” Ask a believer that question and he’ll answer with a quick, “Yes!” But ask him if he knows exactly what he’s been saved from and you may run into some confusion.

Most of us realize that we’ve been saved from spiritual death, snatched from a hell-bound train. We know our salvation has changed our final destination. But what many of us don’t realize is that we don’t have to simply sit around until then, spiritual suitcases in hand, waiting to die and go to glory.

God intended for us to begin our trip to heaven the moment we were born again. And sin should be the first territory we leave behind. That’s because God has given us His very own righteousness and authority. It is part of our great salvation.

Christians are discovering that we have authority in the Name of Jesus to resist sickness, disease, poverty, demons and fear. The Scripture says, “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7). But before we can effectively resist the devil, we must first submit to God and obey Him.

Dead to Sin

Jesus has already paid the price to free us from the dominion of sin. When we believe Jesus is the Son of God, that He was raised from the dead, and we confess Him as Lord, we are saved according to Romans 10:9-10.

Colossians 1:13 tells us that at the moment of our salvation, we are delivered out of the kingdom of darkness and translated into the kingdom of God’s dear Son. This is not something that happens when we die. We live in that kingdom now.

When you are born again, the old sin nature that used to be on the inside of you dies. A new nature created in righteousness and true holiness is born. “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

The very life of God Himself is the substance of that new man. Righteousness—being in right-standing with God—not sin, is now your nature. That righteousness is imparted to you by the Holy Spirit through the new birth.

Your spirit is instantly changed when you are born again, but your mind and your body are not. It’s your responsibility to fulfill the righteousness that is imparted to you. You do this by renewing your mind (Romans 12:2)—this change of thinking reveals what God says in His Word. It transforms your entire life as you believe and obey. It enables you to walk out the will of God and walk in His blessing.

Romans 6:6 says it’s in knowing this that we will no longer serve sin. Our spirit is already dead to sin and re-created in righteousness. That inner righteousness becomes outwardly apparent when we renew our minds to this fact and act accordingly.

The moment you are born again, sin loses its hold on you.

Just as death lost its dominion over Jesus when He was raised from the dead, so sin loses its dominion over you.

No sin is so powerful that it can dominate the person who knows he is dead to sin. Drug addiction, alcoholism, sex sins, evil habits—all lose their power to control those who consider themselves dead to sin.

“Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God” (Romans 6:11-13).

Alive to God

It’s not enough to consider yourself dead to sin. You must reckon yourself alive to God. That means when sin calls, you don’t answer. You answer when God calls! You are motivated by the new man on the inside of you, not by the old man you once were!

You can have so much of the life of God flowing out of you that when you walk into a place, the demons there shudder and tremble in fear at your very presence! That’s what the Bible says about Jesus. It says, “God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him” (Acts 10:38).

One translation says Jesus went about healing those who were overpowered by the devil. You are *not* overpowered by the devil! You have power *over* the devil.

But if you get your attention on other things, you will let the Word slip and sin will dominate you. Hebrews 2:1, 3 says, “Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him.”

The Word in our hearts causes us to walk after God instead of after the world. We’ve got to give the more earnest heed to the things we learn in the Word of God and not let them slip.

We cannot escape sin and the effects of sin if we neglect the great salvation the blood of Jesus has provided us. Sin and its consequences will continue to have dominion over us. But if we will continue with the Lord, our great salvation will bring us into a state of soundness—spirit, soul and body!

And God wants you to walk in the fullness of your salvation. He wants you to be whole and sound in every area of your life. But you cannot enjoy that salvation now without renewing your mind to the fact that you are dead to sin.

And deliverance from sin is the very beginning of our great salvation. **VICTORY**



"It is not my heavenly Father's will that even one of these little ones should perish."
—Matthew 18:14, New Living Translation



Raising Up **SUPERKIDS**

(In a Not-So-Super World)

"There is no price too big, no effort too great, no job too hard for our God to reach our children. Whatever we must do, we are going to reach our kids."

—Kenneth Copeland

In a 2007 national survey, 18 percent of children in the U.S., from birth to 17, lived in poverty. Forty-eight percent of high-school students admitted to being sexually active, and one out of 12 eighth graders said they had used drugs. The same number admitted to recent heavy drinking.

The statistics are grim for America's children in this not-so-super world. And some say it's only getting worse. The truth is, the enemy would love nothing more than to derail tomorrow's leaders while they're still young.

But God has a different plan for our children.

He sees our children as *His* children. He sees them as leaders, as world-changers, as the next generation of those who will give glory to Him. It's for this reason that, at Kenneth Copeland Ministries, we have ministered to children in many different ways for the past 20 years. From audio adventures to action movies, from children's novels to an award-winning magazine, and from coloring books to live meetings, all our efforts have had the same heartbeat: *Whatever we must do, we are going to reach our kids.* We refuse to lose one child to the enemy!

Taking Up the Cause

Twenty years ago, *Commander Kellie and the Superkids*SM was born. The characters first appeared in audiobook adventure format. But after three albums, listeners wanted more. By 1992 the first Superkid movie, *The Intruder*, was released. That same year, Wichita Slim—with Kenneth Copeland as the title character—rode on-screen in *The Gunslinger*.

“We set out to do full-length motion pictures, and in those motion pictures, train and teach the power of the Word of God,” Brother Copeland said.

Great success, coupled with the delight of both parents and children, resulted in three more Superkid movies—*Armor of Light*, *The Sword and Judgment: The Trial of Commander Kellie*—and two additional Wichita Slim movies—*Covenant Rider* and *The Treasure of Eagle Mountain*. But that’s not all.

In April 1993, the first children’s activity page appeared in the monthly *Believer’s Voice of Victory* magazine. A year later, in May 1994, *Shout! The Voice of Victory for Kids* magazine debuted, growing from 5,000 subscriptions to more than 150,000 when its last issue was distributed in 2006. For more than a decade, *Shout!* not only won awards, it also brought the Word of God to tens of thousands of children on a regular basis. When its run was complete, funds for *Shout!* were funneled to other children’s ministry projects.

“God has great things for this generation to do, but it takes a lot of time, effort, resources and finances to outweigh the barrage of worldly input that kids are faced with every day,” said Kellie Copeland Swisher, who spearheads KCM’s children’s ministry. “We’re committed to this cause, and I know the KCM Partners are too.”

Other faith-filled KCM materials for children over the years have included *Baby Praise* videos and books for newborns, 11 *Superkid Adventure* novels, activity books, coloring books, comic books, and the *Over the Edge* and *Load Up* devotionals for teens. In partnership with Dana Johnson Ministries, Superkid Academy has been part of major KCM meetings for years, and has become a regular fixture at Eagle Mountain International Church.

For all these efforts, what has been the result?

“Years ago when we started this Superkid Academy theme, it was just an idea,” said Kellie. “But what has happened is that we now have real Superkids who know the Word and really have it down in their hearts; they know how to use their faith and what to do when things are hard or when they need something. They know to go to God, because God is their source.”

Partnering With You

On a consistent basis, with the latest technology and developments, we need to prepare our children for what’s out there—prepare them to take a stand against the kingdom of darkness so they don’t become another tragic statistic.

“By arming young people with the Word and helping to strengthen their spirits...it helps them make right decisions and live anointed lives.”

That’s why KCM is excited about our most recent children’s ministry effort: The NEW Superkid Academy Curriculum, designed to provide one-on-one interaction and faith training for kids—all in partnership with churches around the globe.

“It has been a dream of Kellie’s for literally 15 years,” said Stephen Swisher, “to put together a Superkid curriculum that could be sent to churches so they could replicate their own Superkid Academy.”

From day one, KCM has believed partnership makes the difference in everything we do. When we partner together, we share one another’s anointings and giftings for the furtherance of His kingdom. And now, for the first time ever, through partnering with the Superkid Academy Curriculum, teachers will have everything they need to teach the uncompromised Word of God—real faith—to the children in their churches.

“It is finally here!” Kellie exclaimed. “A fast-paced, interactive curriculum with DVDs, object lessons, offering lessons, outlines for messages—all the things your kids have experienced in Superkid Academy at our conventions, or at EMIC.”

With this curriculum, Superkid Academy will appear in churches around the globe and our young people will be raised up as Superkids with a strong foundation: *knowing* they can make a difference, *knowing* what it means to live by faith and *knowing* who they are in Christ.

“By arming young people with the Word and helping to strengthen their spirits,” said Kellie, “it helps them make right decisions and live anointed lives.”

It’s just one more way KCM is reaching out to children, fulfilling those prophetic words: “Whatever we must do, we *are* going to reach our kids.” VICTORY



For more information visit
superkidacademy.com/bvov

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Ad on
Page 2



were here for Our Military!



S

tanding guard at the checkpoint, a soldier adjusted his uniform. He was still getting used to the desert heat. As the noonday sun rose high in the sky, scorching everything in its path, the soldier felt the heat try to take its toll. But he knew he could never give in to exhaustion. He had to stay alert—his life, and the lives of others, depended on it.



With each vehicle that approached, he was aware that danger lurked. He had witnessed the aftermath of roadside bombs that destroyed everything around them. Yet, in the midst of the danger, he knew he was safe. His life was not his own. It had been bought with a very precious price. Even as the heat beat down, he lifted up a Psalm 91 prayer:

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.... Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.... Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long

life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.

Every day, he clung to those powerful words—words he first heard when Kenneth Copeland spoke to his company prior to deployment. They were the verses his family back home now proclaimed over him, and they were the promises that would bring him home safely at the end of his tour.

It was God's Word, and it was more than enough.

A Spirit-Inspired Relationship

Since May 2000, with the help of our Partners, Kenneth Copeland Ministries has been ministering to enlisted servicemen and women and their families. In the midst of deployments and separation from family and loved ones, Kenneth and Gloria Copeland have taught our soldiers to stand strong in faith and trust in God's infallible Word.

Meetings like the three-day Word Explosion at Fort Bragg in Fayetteville, N.C., have allowed KCM to connect and support our military in ways far beyond what we could ever ask. In fact, that first meeting with the

military, held at Fort Drum, New York, was a dream come true and an answer to prayer—for both Brother Copeland and Major Al Downing, the chaplain who first invited Brother Copeland to speak.

When the invitation to speak to the troops first came, Brother Copeland's response was a determined, "Let's make this happen."

In that initial meeting, Brother Copeland spoke on *Preparing Your Spirit for Combat and the Storms of Life*. It was a chance for the soldiers to learn about the power of God's protection and Psalm 91. It not only encouraged the soldiers, but it also began a Spirit-inspired relationship between KCM and our military. Since then, Brother Copeland has had the opportunity to hold more meetings at Fort Drum, as well as Fort Bragg and the well-known military academy, West Point.

"When you look at Brother Copeland, what do you see?" asked Colonel Emory Helton during one of those meetings. "You see a man who loves the Lord and is as enthusiastic about serving the living God today as probably the day he became a believer. He is on fire about souls. He's charged up all the time about ministering to believers and strengthening them and encouraging them."

A Holy Mandate

KCM also supports our military and their families through prayer and teaching materials such as CDs, DVDs and books.

"When we receive offerings [at these meetings], we match every offering so that we are sowing along with them, believing God with them for the same protection," Brother Copeland said.

And KCM isn't alone in its mission to minister to soldiers and their families. Eagle Mountain International Church also offers support. "The Lord has given KCM and EMIC a mandate," says Pastor George Pearsons. "It's one of intensifying prayer over the troops in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the world. We are to stand together in faith for an end to the killing, destruction and confusion. We are to pray now just as we prayed while they were in the heat of battle."

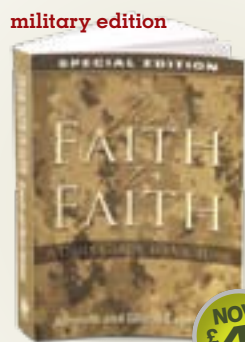
Thank You, Partners

KCM and EMIC, along with KCM's Partners and Friends, continue to uphold the brave men and women who sacrifice

so much to protect our nation. Of course, you—our Partners and Friends—are part of every message Brother Copeland teaches and every resource we deliver.

"Who is the most important," asked Brother Copeland, "the man who preached the message, or the guy who paid for the fuel to get him there? There is no difference. The same reward that comes from preaching goes to the Partner who sowed the seed, paid for the gas, paid for the clothes or paid for the hotel room."

So thank you, Partners and Friends. Together, we're able to say loud and clear: "We're Here for You, Soldiers!" Now that's real victory. **VICTORY**



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A genetically altered gospel means

it has been distorted, polluted, perverted and changed—altered from its origin or purity.

GENETICALLY ALTERED

Christianity

“You never know what God’s gonna do, because He’s sovereign.”

“I know the Bible says that, but....”

“If it be His will.”

“God’s trying to teach you something.”

These religious-sounding statements

stem from philosophy and doctrine based on experience and sense knowledge rather than the pure Word of God. At best they’re religious sayings based on the opinions of men who “tried it and it didn’t work,” so they altered the Word of God to conform to their beliefs. At worst, they’re false doctrine dressed up in “religious” speech taught from a genetically altered gospel.

What do I mean by “genetically altered”? The word *genetic* comes from the root *genesis*, meaning “origins,” or “beginnings.” A genetically altered gospel means it has been distorted, polluted, perverted and changed—*altered* from its origin or purity. God Himself said in Psalm 89:34, “My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.”

When it comes to God’s Word, I just accept what He says. There are serious dangers associated with creating a

genetically altered gospel, based on philosophy that tries to make the Bible accommodate rather than challenge man. And the Apostle Paul strongly warned against it!

Beware!

Colossians 2:4-7 warns that Gnosticism, or philosophy, is trying to infiltrate the Church. “And this I say, lest any man should beguile you with enticing words.... As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so

walk ye in him: rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.” Paul is telling them to be rooted and established in their faith in Christ (the Anointed One), because deception is coming.

Verse 8 says, “Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.”

Paul said, *Beware*, meaning “to be on guard against; be cautious of...” “lest any man spoil you...” *Spoil* means “to strip, rob, damage severely, render unfit for use.” Paul warned against four deceptions that threatened to rob the Church of their faith in God—philosophy, vain deceit, the tradition of men and the rudiments of the world.

The Gnostics were a sect who thought they had secret superior knowledge of spiritual matters, spawning false doctrine and spiritualism. The philosophers were heady and high-minded intellectualists who examined the Word through critical analysis and rational investigation. They were both prideful and puffed up with what I call “lofty intellectualism”—too much thinking and reasoning outside the Word of God. It will darken your understanding, pollute your conscience, weaken your will and rob you of your faith! First John 5:4 tells us our faith is the victory that overcomes the world. No wonder the devil’s after it!

Paul goes on to say in Colossians 2:9-10, “For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power.” Here they had Jesus Christ the Anointed One living inside them, and the devil was creeping in to move them off the truth.

In Galatians 1:7-8 Paul said, “...there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.” Then he warns that “though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed...”

Why is Paul so concerned about the gospel being weakened? Because it’s being challenged by *religion*, that’s why. Religion comes from a genetically altered Bible governed by the mind of the flesh instead of the inspiration of the Spirit.

Too Much Thinking

You cannot “figure out” the Word of God through sense knowledge. Second Timothy 3:16-17 says, “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” The Word of God is received through revelation, and it equips and empowers us to do good works.

The devil is out to steal your power—the faith in your

heart that comes out your mouth. Genetically altered religion weakens faith and wanders in a diseased delirium. It causes loss of Christian liberties, joys of salvation, good seed sown into good ground, and the divine rays of God’s light from warming your heart. It generates confusion and brings division to the Body of Christ, and nobody knows what to believe. That’s why the Body of Christ has so many denominations—every one of them believing something different.

And what is its source? Intellectual activity. It’s anti-Christ. Anti-anointing. Anti-power. It’s an alternate way of thinking. Philosophical thinking will get you so far off course you’ll begin to believe there are many pathways to God.

Jesus said in John 14:6, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” When we’ve got Jesus, we’ve got the whole package. Jesus *is* the Way, so we can’t get lost; He *is* the Truth, so we can’t be deceived; and He *is* the Life, so the devil can’t kill us—as long as we stay on the pure Word.

And to stay on the pure Word, we have to know what God said—and be persuaded of what He meant! As one minister puts it, “The Bible is so simple you need help to misunderstand it.” Well, we know *who* that help comes from! That’s why the devil’s been misquoting the Word and questioning what God said since the serpent asked Eve in the garden, “Hath God said?”

If God Said It—Believe It!

Psalms 119:89 says the Word is forever settled in heaven. That’s good enough for me. If God said it, I believe it! Yet, I hear people say all the time, “Well, I prayed but I didn’t receive.” So? Does that change the Word? Romans 3:3-4 says, “For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar...” We may fall short of receiving the benefits of the Word, but the Bible does not fall short. Our lack of experience does not change the Word of God.

“But Brother Jesse, we tried that and it didn’t work.” You don’t *try* the Word. You believe it and *do* it. If you’re having a hard time believing and receiving, don’t question the integrity of the Word.

You need to renew your mind to the Word, not to the opinions of men. The gospel will prove itself. “Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God” (Romans 12:2). Religion never transforms, it only conforms.

Look again at some of those religious statements I mentioned earlier, and a few others:

- “You never know what God’s gonna do.” Well, just read His Book and you’ll find out.
- “Well, if it be His will.” But you can *know* His will. Ephesians 5:17 says, “Be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.”
- “He’s sovereign.” Yes! But He does not go against His Word.
- “Now don’t get your hopes up.” You’d better get your hopes up! Hebrews 11:1 says, “Faith is the substance of things *hoped* for....”

A man once criticized me for preaching prosperity. He said, “I don’t believe in prosperity.” I told him, “Well, you must really be enjoying the recession.” Then I said to him, “That’s a nice truck you have.”

“Well, yeah.”

“You have a nice house?”

He said, “Uh, yeah.”

Then I asked, “Why? You’re criticizing me because I’m practicing what I believe, but you’re not practicing what you believe. You need to get rid of that truck and go live under a bridge since you believe in poverty.”

He was shocked.

People like that look at you as if you’re crazy when you stand on the Word and believe God. God has become an opinion to them instead of a reality.

I grew up under the doctrine of suffering and poverty. We lived in an 8-foot by 32-foot trailer. But it had its advantages—when a hurricane came, we took our house with us! We never lost our house; we’d just come back, put it on blocks and start

again. I know that sounds funny, but that’s the way we lived. We were suffering for Jesus.

A genetically altered gospel says we must suffer with sickness, when the Word says in 1 Peter 2:24, “By [His] stripes ye were healed.”

“But I’m sick, Brother Jesse.” I understand that, but I’m trying to get you to focus on “ye were healed” instead of what you’re experiencing. You have to fight back with the Word of God instead of agreeing with circumstances.

Here are a few more:

- “You’re bearing this for the sake of the Cross.” Jesus took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses!
- “God’s trying to teach you something.” Well, learn it and move on.
- “Well, when the Lord gets ready, He’ll do something.” Faith is *now*. Aren’t you tired of waiting? When are you going to get healed? When is your family going to get saved? Why keep pushing your blessing to the future when you can bring it into the right-now by believing and speaking faith-filled words, instead of making religious excuses for it not working in your life?
- “That’s not for today.” Well, how did I get it? And why don’t you want it?

I could go on addressing religious-sounding statements, but the point is, if the Word says it, believe it. Don’t ever change the Word to fit a situation! Let the Word transform you through the renewing of your mind.

Philosophical thinkers are “ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth” (2 Timothy 3:7). Philosophy never comes to an answer. Jesus *is* the Answer.

Christianity is a personal relationship with the living God. When you “trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding” (Proverbs 3:5), you can stand on the Word of God and boldly proclaim, “I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day” (2 Timothy 1:12). **VICTORY**

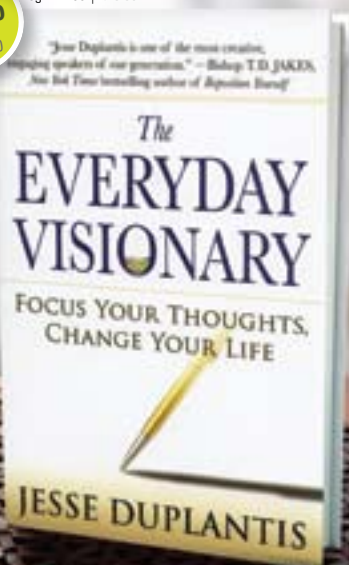
Jesse Duplantis is the president and founder of Jesse Duplantis Ministries, with international headquarters in Louisiana and additional offices in the U.K. and Australia. He is a best-selling author and hosts a weekly television program. For ministry materials and information, write to Jesse Duplantis Ministries, P.O. Box 2141, BATH, United Kingdom BA1 2ZA; call +44 (0)1225 471111; or visit www.jdm.org.

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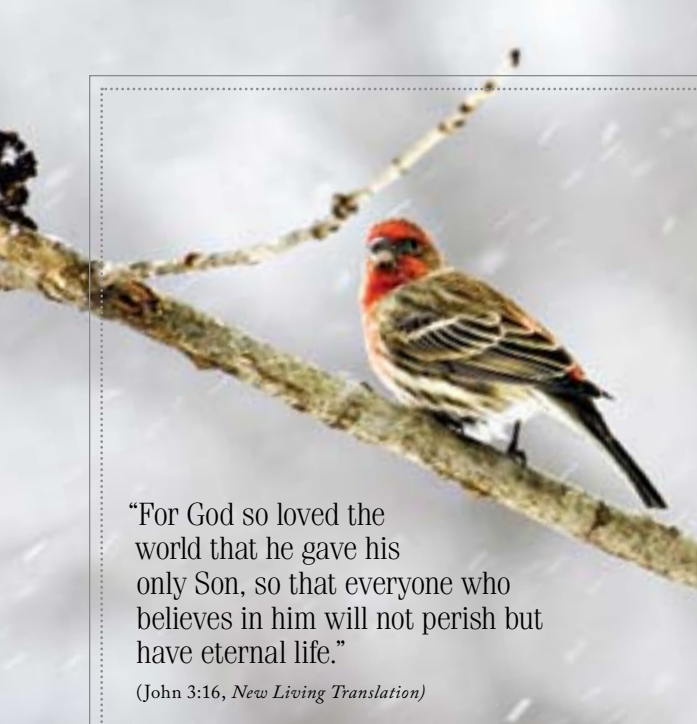
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"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life."

(John 3:16, *New Living Translation*)



Love Covers Everything!

GOD LOVES US! | THAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT, LIFE-CHANGING TRUTH YOU AND I COULD EVER KNOW! BELIEVE IT! GOD'S LOVE COVERS EVERYTHING IN OUR LIVES. HIS LOVE IS THE POWER BEHIND OUR FAITH (GALATIANS 5:6). | LOVE IS HIS MOTIVATION FOR EVERYTHING HE HAS DONE THROUGH JESUS TO MAKE ALL THINGS POSSIBLE FOR US. HIS LOVE IS CONTAINED IN EVERY WORD HE HAS EVER SPOKEN. AND HIS LOVE FOR US IS THE REASON JESUS CAME TO OPEN THE WAY FOR OUR HEALTHY LIVES, OUR OVERFLOWING FINANCES AND OUR COMPLETE DELIVERANCE FROM THE POWER OF THE DEVIL.

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on the characteristics of heaven. A life yielded to the love of God truly becomes heaven on earth...a life that loves as it has been loved.

Because He loves us, He has made the way for us to be able to love Him. Not



BY GLORIA COPELAND

“Your faith
in His unconditional love can’t
help but grow as you spend
time with Him in His Word.”



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only that, when we begin to see ourselves through His eyes of love, we can actually begin to love ourselves. And to top it all off, He has given us the desire and the power to love every person He brings into our lives.

We can fully accept ourselves and others, when we get a clear picture that Christ gave His life for all. That's the essence of love!

Love Is a Wonderful Thing

It's a wonderful thing to live in the unshakable confidence of God's love! That kind of confidence comes only when you stay in the Word until you're totally convinced that God loves and cares for you, and then continue to stay in the Word!

Your faith in His unconditional love can't help but grow as you spend time with Him in His Word. When you get a firm grip on God's all-encompassing love for you, receiving it fully and relying on it to empower your faith, your life will never be the same!

Knowing we have that unconditional love and care of the heavenly Father brings out something in us that we may never have experienced before. His love for us draws out our love for Him. First John 4:19 becomes clear to us: "We love Him because He first loved us" (*New King James Version*).

Our relationship with our heavenly Father takes on new levels of understanding and freedom. We begin to see we can walk free of fear. We don't have to be afraid of God anymore, and we don't have anything to fear from the world or the devil. When we know He loves us, we can believe Him...we can take Him at His word.

We can know that because He loves us, He will keep us moving in the right direction and on the right path—the path He had planned for us all along! And we can know, beyond any doubt, that the unconditional love of God provides for every need or desire we may have in our hearts.

So, today I encourage you to sit down with God's Word and spend time discovering and receiving all the great things His love holds for you. First John 4 is a good place to start, because it shows us clearly how God manifested His love, and how we are to respond to that love.

He Started It!

First John 4:9-10, *NLT*, tells us: "God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love. It is not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins."

God's love is all wrapped up in Jesus! We see that in verse 10—*this is real love*—He loved us first! God starts the journey of every man, woman and child who receives the word of His love. Think about how you started on your own

journey with God. Maybe you were on an intense search for God. Or maybe you were just going along minding your own business. But one day you heard about how God loved you and gave His Son for you! And everything changed!

I will always remember the testimony I heard about a prison inmate who was about 70 years old. He was watching TV one day and just “happened” to catch the closing of one of our *Believer’s Voice of Victory* broadcasts. All he heard was Ken saying, “God loves you, even you.” This was a man who had been in prison for years and years. Everyone hated him, he hated himself and was disgusted with life.

Well, he prayed for salvation with Ken that day, and he heard and received Jesus into his life. He received God’s love. At 70, God started his life all over again. He became a Partner with us and began to grow in the Word and in God’s love. He had become a free man right in the middle of prison because he learned that nothing could keep God’s love from him...or keep him from God’s love. Miraculously, within months his sentence was commuted and he walked out of prison a changed man—a man with a fresh start because he heard and received God’s love from Him!

For that man, and for all of us, life takes on new meaning and purpose when we get ahold of the truth that God loves us. Through His Word, He reveals to us who we really are. We can see ourselves as accepted and valued and, to our heavenly Father, worth the highest price He could ever pay. We get on the road to actually loving ourselves because He loves us so much.

Ken and I have discovered through the years that God’s love is the starting place—the fuel—of faith! When we began our walk of faith in God’s Word, our lives were revolutionized. We took hold of the Word and we have never let go. And we have learned that it was God’s love that led us right into this life of faith.

Through His Word, we realized that faith starts with God’s love *for* us—that our faith grows by the Word because of His love *in* us. And we now know that the ultimate purpose of our faith is His love flowing *through* us...right into the lives of the people in our lives! What a great plan for love!

Now It’s Our Turn

Let’s read some more from 1 John 4:

Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love has been brought to full expression through us. And God has given us his Spirit as proof that we live in him and he in us. We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in him. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them. And

as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we are like Christ here in this world. Such love has no fear because perfect love expels all fear... We love each other as a result of his loving us first. If someone says, “I love God,” but hates a Christian brother or sister, that person is a liar; for if we don’t love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we have not seen? And God himself has commanded that we must love not only him but our Christian brothers and sisters, too (verses 11-13, 16-21, *NLT*).

In these verses—actually in the whole book of 1 John—the apostle is bringing more light to Jesus’ great command when he said: Love the Lord, love your neighbors as you love yourself (Matthew 22:37-40). Love is what God has always been all about!

And once He is in us by the Spirit (1 John 4:13), His love is in us, and it’s our turn to love. Look at verse 12 again... when we love each other His love is fully expressed.

He loves—we love! We have received His nature of love. Verse 17 in the *King James Version* ends by saying, “as he is, so are we in this world.” What He is, we are! He is love in this whole world, and we are love in our world.

By God’s Spirit who lives in you, you have everything right inside you to be love to the people in your life, expressing His love right in the face of every challenge of their lives. And as you express His love, you actually give them a connection to Him and the path to resolution to their challenges.

The day Ken expressed the love of God on that TV broadcast, that 70-year-old man in prison who needed love was connected to God, and his life changed! We get testimonies every day from people all over the world who have the same need to be loved, and who have made the same connection to God when they discovered He loves them. And when they did, their lives began to change!

So, how do we get there? How do we arrive at that place where *we are as He is in this world*? Look at 1 John 4:13 again—God has given us His Spirit!

The Spirit of Love Himself lives in us. The Spirit is in us to keep us aware of and in tune with God’s love for us—when we realized our need for Him, He was right there with His love. And the Spirit in us keeps us aware of the need for love every person has. He gives us every opportunity to express God’s love to them—to connect them to His love. What a privilege!

As He Is, So Are We

When we go through the door of love that Jesus opened

for us, we begin to walk out the life of love. The walk is an amazing one, filled with opportunities to be the full expression of God's love in our world. We become living proof of God's love!

As He is, so are we!

What does His love in me look like, exactly? Paul answers the question in 1 Corinthians 13. Here's his snapshot of love

in action—what a life walking in love looks like from verses 4-8, *The Amplified Bible*:

Love endures long and is patient and kind; love never is envious nor boils over with jealousy, is not boastful or vainglorious, does not display itself haughtily. It is not conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); it is not rude (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love (God's love in us) does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking; it 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]. It does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness, but rejoices when right and truth prevail. Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening]. Love never fails [never fades out or becomes obsolete or comes to an end].

Do you get the picture? Do you believe it? Go ahead and believe it! It's a picture of who you really are in the Spirit! When we look at that picture of love, we need to see ourselves in it. First, we need to see that God has poured out His love on us in every aspect of this picture. Once we see that picture, we should see the Spirit of God in us, throughout those verses. We should see ourselves as kindness, patience, bearing up under anything, never failing—and everything else love is!

Start speaking the truth that's in the picture over yourself! Keep the picture in front of you. Keep saying it over yourself, and you will find yourself walking out the love that's in you!

The love in you will forgive people just like God forgave us in Jesus (Ephesians 4:32). This love of God in you will cover them—the multitude of their sin and failure. The love will begin to see through their actions to the hurts and failures in their lives. You will find yourself having compassion on them rather than judging them. The love will become an intercessor

You Have *hope!* BY KENNETH COPELAND

You may be in the deepest hole of your life. But if the Word says you have hope, then, glory to God, you have hope!

You may think your circumstances are tearing you apart, but I have news for you. Your circumstances are not the problem! All circumstances, I don't care what they are, must bow their knees and submit to the Name of Jesus and the Word of God when faith, hope and love are brought to bear on them.

When circumstances are very bad, get your Bible and some teaching tapes and go off by yourself until you stop negative thoughts from bombarding your mind. Gloria and I have done that many, many times. Years ago, we did that where our children were concerned. It was obvious from the circumstances that the devil was after them and the pressure was getting worse and worse.

Finally, we decided to deal with the situation head-on. We spent time piled up in the middle of the bed with our Bibles and our notebooks, looking up every scripture we could find about children. We wrote them all down, prayed over them and made an irrevocable declaration.

We said, "On the basis of the promises of God and by the blood

of Jesus, our children are not going to hell. The Word of God says our children are taught of the Lord and great is their peace, and that settles it forever."

Then, no matter what happened, we stood our ground in the Name of Jesus. To keep from wavering, we had to cast down imaginations and every high thing that exalted itself against the Word of God about our children. We had to bring *all* our thoughts into captivity and into obedience to the Word. *All* our thoughts!

"Well, I try to do that, but sometimes I just can't help what I think."

You most certainly can. God's Word says you can (Philippians 4:8). God's Word tells you to choose what you think, and cast down what you shouldn't think. When you do that, hope will have a place to work. In fact, if you'll guard your mind, there will come a moment when hope suddenly rises up. Add to that hope, faith and the love of God, and complete the transaction in the realm of the spirit. Suddenly, that hole you are in won't be deep at all. You can walk right out.

When that happens, you'll suddenly know that what you're hoping for is yours. It's yours and all the demons of hell can't keep you from receiving it. You'll find yourself saying, "It's done! It's mine, glory to God!" VICTORY

for the people you encounter. The love will make you a channel of the blessing of God; when He speaks to you to help someone, the love will always be ready to bless!

You see, God's love truly covers everything and everyone. Through you and me—each of us a unique expression of His love in this world...each of us cooperating with Him by the Spirit—God is connecting to the

hurting, helpless, hopeless people in His world.

I am glad to be as He is in this world, aren't you? In Jesus, God covered everything and everyone in the world with His complete and all-encompassing love. And through you and me, He makes sure His love covers things in our little corner of the world!

Let's get out there and find someone to love! **VICTORY**

February

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