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VICTORY

November 2011

Phil Driscoll

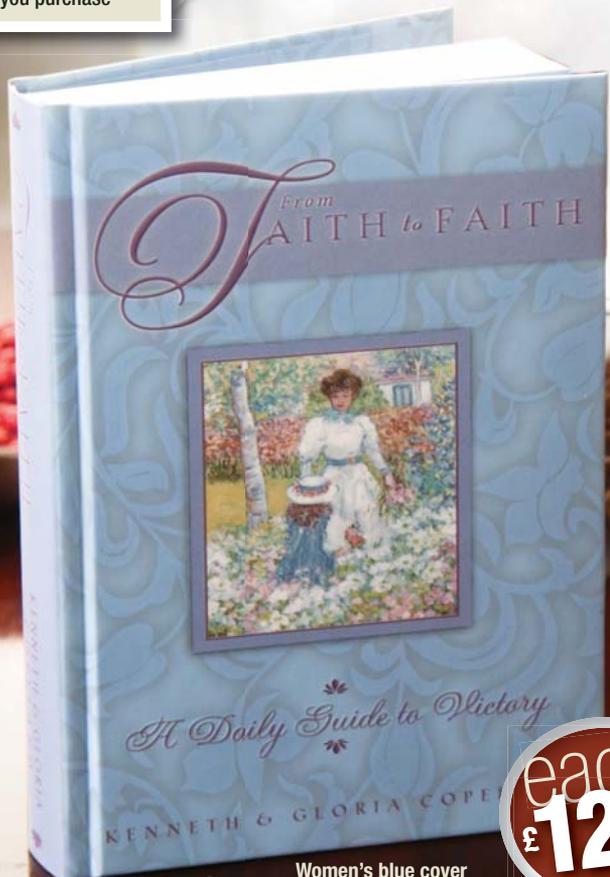
A HIGH NOTE

by Melanie Henry

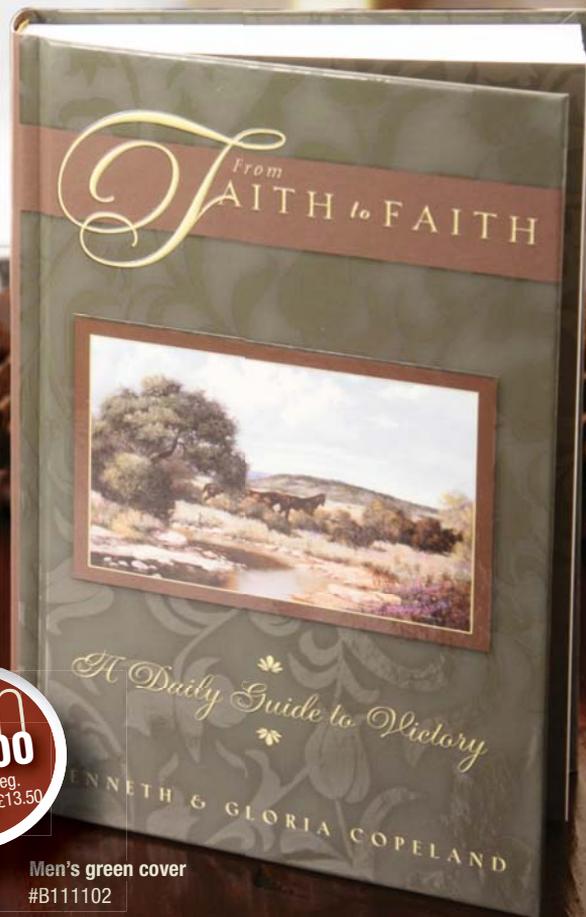
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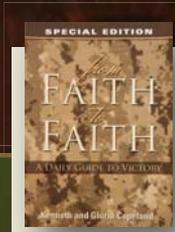
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He wants us to operate with the carefree confidence of beloved children who know their Father meant it when He said, "Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee" (Hebrews 6:14).



Born to Reign

If we truly understood who we are in Jesus and what He has done for us, Christians would be the most confident people on earth. ∴ Insecurity would be banished from our lives forever. We'd reign in life as kings. We'd walk around on this planet like we own it. ∴ Because, the fact is, we do. As joint heirs with Jesus, we are the seed of Abraham. We are inheritors of **THE BLESSING** that made the whole world his possession (Galatians 3:29, Romans 4:13). This earth belongs to us just as surely as the Promised Land belonged to Isaac back in the day when God said to him:

“Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father” (Genesis 26:3).

In the Hebrew language, *to sojourn* in a land literally means “to walk around and dwell in it.” He told Israel to go in and possess the land. That’s what God expected of Isaac and what He expects of us. He doesn’t want us tiptoeing around timidly, like trespassers, on this planet. He doesn’t want us limping along, hoping for a little bit of blessing now and then.

He wants us to sojourn with boldness, believing every day of our lives that He is performing for us the oath He made to Abraham. He wants us to act like what He told us in the New Testament is true: “All things are yours; and ye are Christ’s; and Christ is God’s” (1 Corinthians 3:21, 23). He wants us to operate with the carefree confidence of beloved children who know their Father meant it when He said, “Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee” (Hebrews 6:14).

Most people, however, can hardly imagine such a life. We’ve been too religiously brainwashed. We’ve been told too often that you can’t get God to do anything...that He doesn’t perform His oath anymore...that we have to live like beggars on this planet because “you just never know what God is going to do.”

As a result, we’ve related to Him much like the leper

in the New Testament. Have you ever read about him? The Bible says that when he saw Jesus, he “fell on his face, and besought him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean” (Luke 5:12). That man had no idea that, as a descendant of Abraham, healing and every other aspect of **THE BLESSING** already belonged to him. So he approached Jesus with an awful sense of insecurity.

Even though he knew Jesus was a prophet of God, even though he recognized the Anointing that was on Him and believed that Jesus *could* do what he was asking, he wasn’t sure if He *would*.

But, thank God, Jesus didn’t leave him wondering. He settled the issue—not just for the leper but for all of us—by saying, “I will!” When Jesus said those two words, He wasn’t just responding to one man’s need. He wasn’t saying, “Yes, in this particular case, it’s My will to heal.” He was saying, “I will perform the oath that My heavenly Father swore to Abraham.”

Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8). God never changes (Malachi 3:6). If it was His will to perform the oath of **BLESSING** a few thousand years ago, it’s still His will right now. If it was ever His will for His people to sojourn, it’s still His will today.

Equal Partners With Jesus and John

One New Testament believer who understood how to live like a sojourner was the Apostle John. Talk about a

confident man! He was so secure in his relationship with Jesus that he referred to himself in Scripture as *the disciple whom Jesus loved*. The Lord had such trust in him that when He was on the Cross, He assigned John the responsibility of watching out for His mother.

John walked in such dominion that, according to Christian historians, his persecutors found it impossible to kill him.

Since John was one of the original apostles and seemed to have such a unique role, we might be tempted to write him off as one of a kind, except for one thing. He told us that he wasn't. In the first few verses of 1 John, he said: "That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ" (1 John 1:3).

Do you know what the word translated *fellowship* means in the original language? It means "equal partnership." In other words, John said, "I am going to give you information that will bring you into a place of equal partnership with me in Christ Jesus."

I don't know about you, but I am intensely interested in any information that can put me on par with someone like John. So the next few verses carry a great deal of weight for me. Here's what they say: "This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (verses 5, 7).

After spending countless hours studying, meditating and praying about those verses, I've realized that in this passage John isn't just telling us that we can walk in equal partnership with him. He's saying we can enjoy equal partnership with Jesus. We can walk in the same light Jesus walks in. As equal partners with Him, we have everything it takes to walk with God, who is light, on the same level that He does. Through His blood, we can be as free from darkness as He is. We can live in the same sinless place before God that Jesus Himself enjoys.

If that's not reason for confidence, I don't know what is!

What If Sin Had Never Touched You?

"Oh, Brother Copeland," someone might say, "surely you're not suggesting we can live on this earth in a condition of sinless perfection!"

No, I'm not saying that at all. I am saying that because of the blood of Jesus, God can treat us like we're perfect even when we're not. He can do for us what He did for Abraham. The Bible says, "Abraham believed God, and

it was counted unto him for righteousness" (Romans 4:3). You could also put it this way: Abraham believed God, and God treated him like he had never sinned. He treated Abraham as if sin had never touched him.

No matter how you look at it, that's a sweet deal—and here, the Apostle John is telling us we have the same privilege. We can walk with God as if we'd never sinned! Whenever we do miss it and foul up, Jesus is right there to cleanse us, straighten us out, and get us on the right track again. He's there to help us get back to walking in the light with Him.

Exactly what does it mean to walk in the light?

It means believing and acting in accordance with The Word of God. It means keeping His command which, according to 1 John 3:23, is this: "That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another." When we doubt The Word of God or walk crosswise of love, we step back into darkness. When we live in faith and love, we're walking in the light.

Isn't that simple?

"I don't know, that kind of life sounds hard to me," you might say. "This old world is a dark, mean place. I just don't think I can live here in light and love."

Sure, you can! As a believer, it's what you were born to do. After all, you're born of God and "whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world" (1 John 5:4). Think of it this way and you'll see why that's true: God is light. Darkness never overcomes light. Light always displaces darkness. Since you're born of light, you have what it takes to get out there and sojourn through this dark world, overcoming everywhere you go.

"But what about the devil, Brother Copeland?"

What about him? He's no problem for you or me or any other believer because, according to verse 18, "He that is begotten of God (Love) keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not." As long as we keep ourselves in the love of God and walk in the light of it, the devil can't lay a hand on us!

No Secondhand Slice

To tell the truth, when we're walking in the light, the devil, the darkness and everything else in this world are as subject to you and me as they are to Jesus Himself. They bow to us just like they do to Him because we're in equal partnership with Him. We're walking side by side with Him. We operate in the same authority He has, because He's the One who gave it to us.

He didn't just give us a little secondhand slice off the backside of it, either. The very same measure of God's glory that raised Jesus from the dead was imparted into our

deadened spirit when we made Him Lord of our life. That glory brought into us the same resurrection power, faith and authority it brought into Him. It made us partakers of His divine nature (2 Peter 1:4). It made us one spirit with Him (1 Corinthians 6:17).

That's why it's not hard for us to walk in the light—because we *are* light just like He is. The Bible says it again and again in a variety of ways. It says:

- ✦ Before we were born again we were darkness, but now we are “light in the Lord.” (Ephesians 5:8)
- ✦ We are “the children of light.” (1 Thessalonians 5:5)
- ✦ In the same way God covers Himself “with light as with a garment,” “let us put on the armour of light.” (Psalm 104:2; Romans 13:12)
- ✦ “God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.” (2 Corinthians 4:6-7)

Look again at those last couple of verses. Notice, they refer to the time of Creation when God said, “Let there be light.” Most people assume that when God said those words He was creating the sun, but that assumption obscures what the Apostle Paul was saying to the Corinthians.

To get the full impact of Paul's words, let's go back and look again at Genesis 1:1-4, with a more careful eye: “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good.”

That's the scriptural description of the first day of Creation. Now, let's look at what happened on day four: “And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also” (verse 16).

Let me ask you something: If the sun wasn't created until the fourth day, what kind of light was released on day one when God commanded the light to shine in the darkness? If it wasn't sunlight, what was it?

I'll tell you what it was. It was the light of the glory of God!

When God said, *Light be!* (that's the literal Hebrew translation) on the initial day of Creation, He released a unique form of His own radiant power. He released a form of the glorious light that shines from the face

of Jesus and illuminates all of heaven. That radiance, that glory, that light, is the ultimate force behind and the source of all matter.

Science Is Catching Up

This isn't just my own spiritual theory. It's scientific fact. In recent years, scientists have determined that light is at the center of all material things. They're finally catching up with Genesis 1.

Now, keeping that in mind, look again at the first part of 2 Corinthians 4:6: “God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts...”

Do you see what that's saying?

It's saying the light that shined in you when you were born again—the light of God's glory that re-created you and made you light like Jesus is light—is the same light that created all material things. It's the light that brought forth the whole universe.

That means every aspect of Creation was designed to be obedient to you!

Because you have the same glory in you that created it, it will obey your faith the same way it obeyed God's faith and the same way it obeyed Jesus' faith.

Let this revelation get hold of you! You are born of the light of God's glory. You're born to reign in life—not just in heaven in the hereafter, but right here and now on earth—as a king in equal partnership with Jesus. You're born to walk this planet with the same kind of confidence that He has, the confidence that belongs to someone who has been made righteous and stands sinless before God.

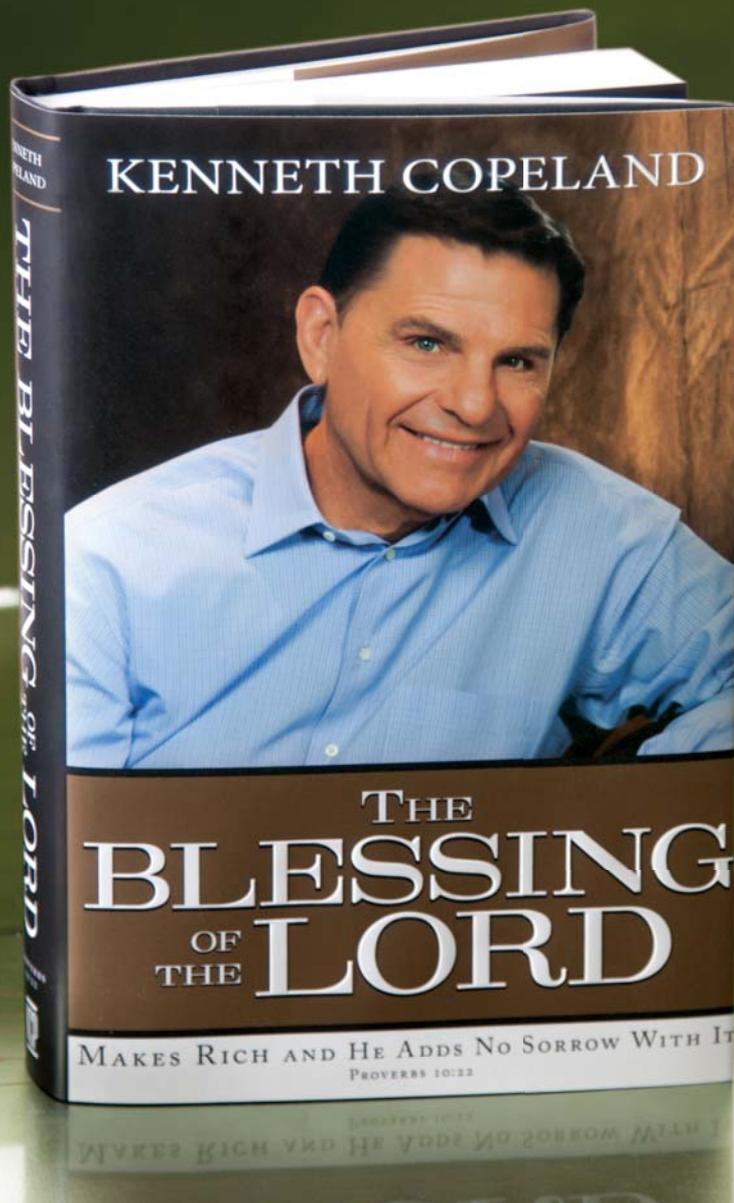
“But Brother Copeland, I don't know how to do that!”

Yes, you do. The second half of 2 Corinthians 4:6 proves it. It says that when the light of God shined in your heart at the new birth, God gave you “the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” In other words, God has given you a working knowledge of His glory. He's put within you the know-how you need to walk in that light.

So, go ahead and do it. Step out with boldness and do what you were born to do. Get up every day and walk in the light by believing on Jesus, acting on His Word and operating in love.

Live every day expecting God to fulfill *for you* the oath He swore to your forefather Abraham. Expect to be BLESSED and to be a blessing everywhere you go. Even though you look ordinary on the outside, inside that earthen vessel of flesh and blood you live in dwells the very power of Almighty God.

So, stop tiptoeing through the tulips. Sojourn on this earth like you own the place. Because as the seed of Abraham and an equal partner with Jesus, you do. **VICTORY**



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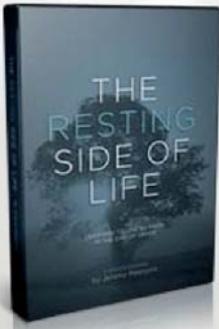
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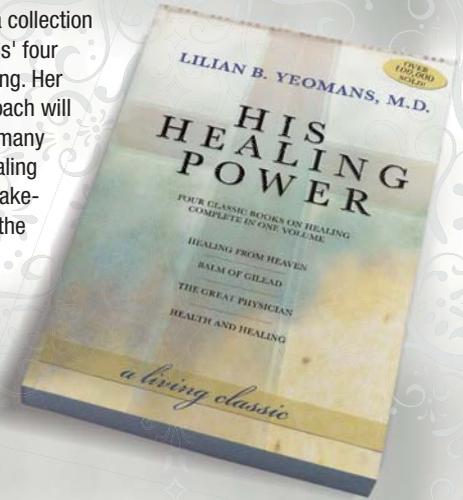
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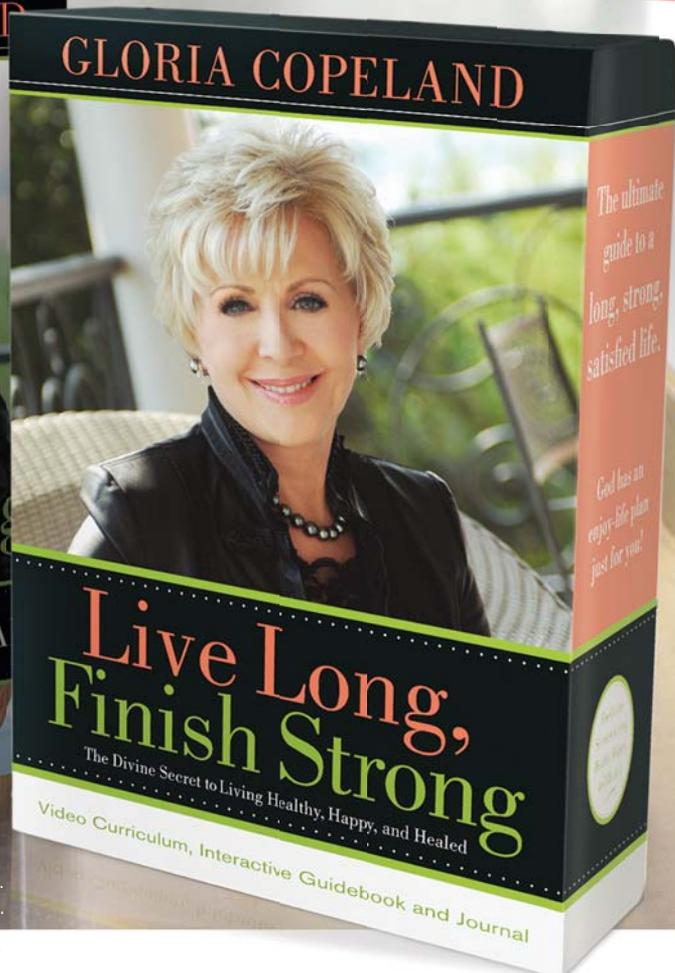
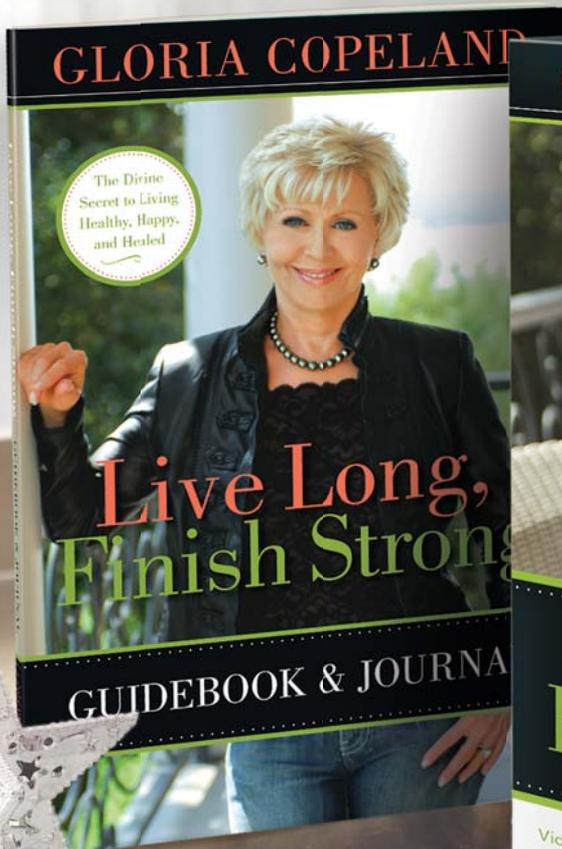
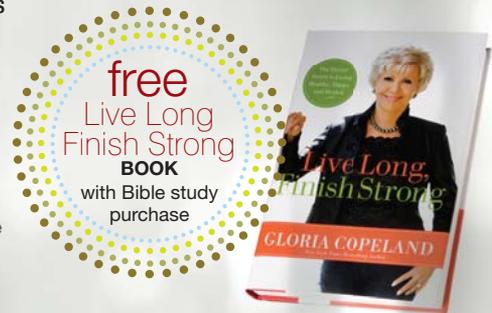
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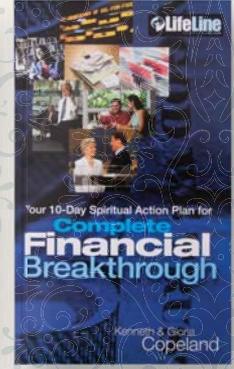
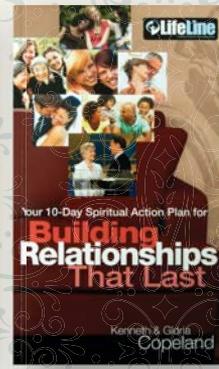
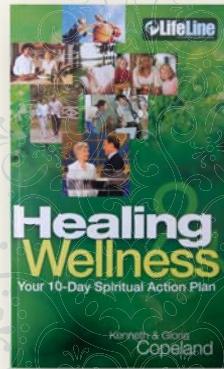
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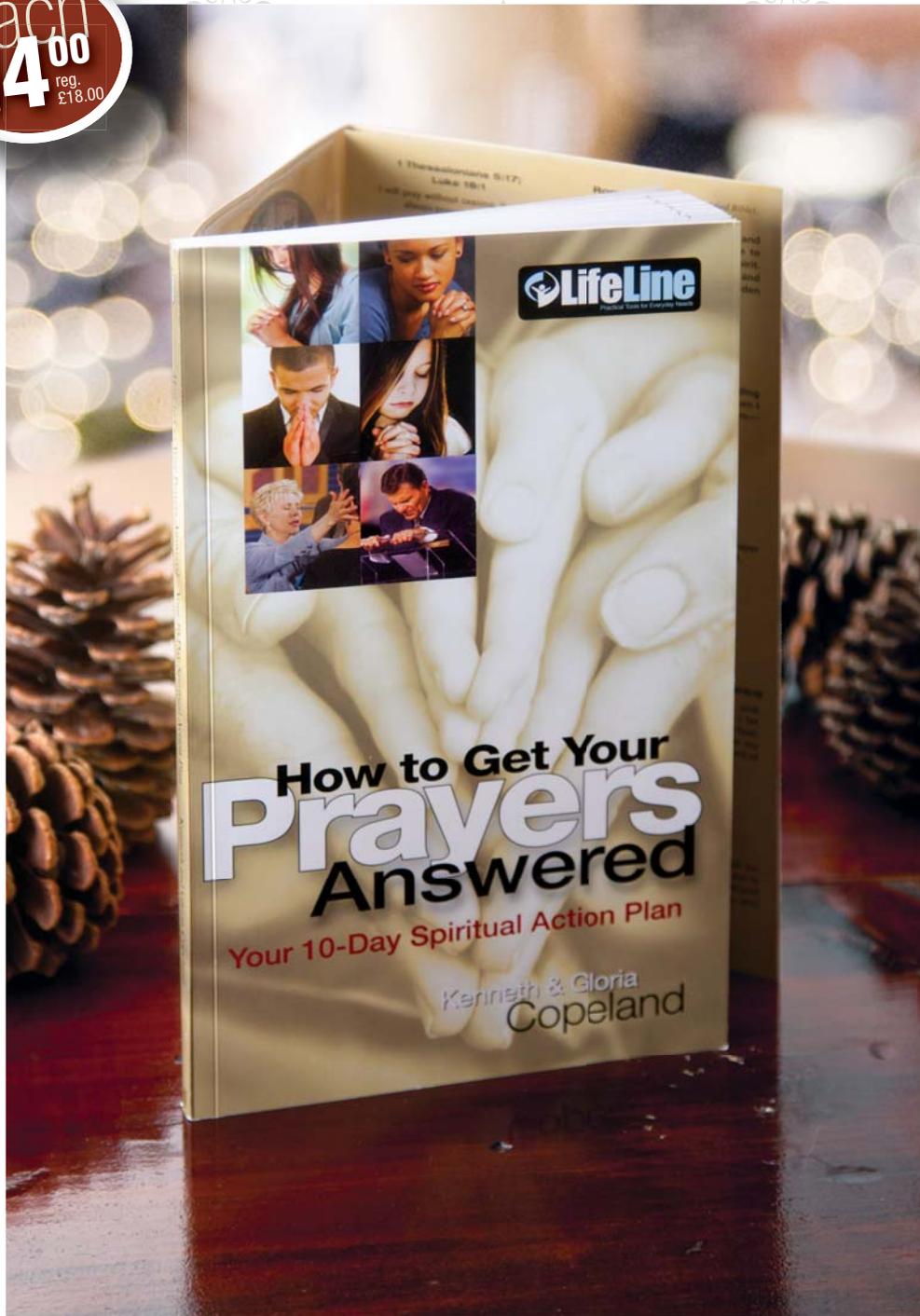
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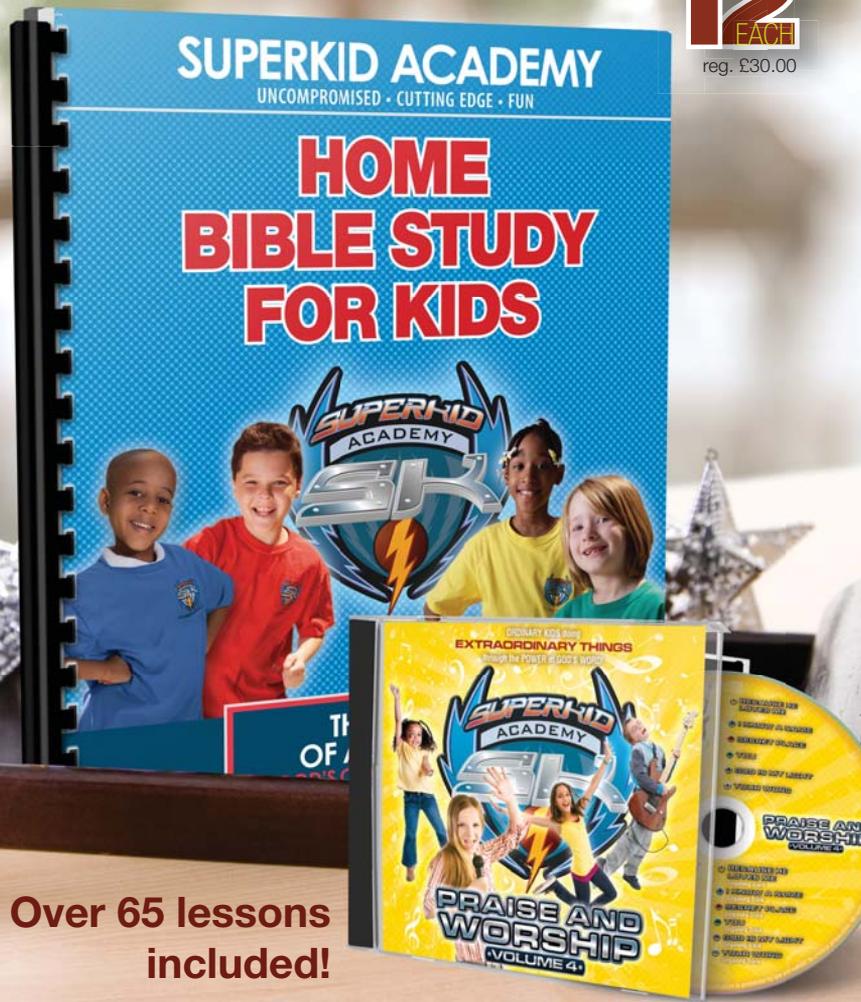
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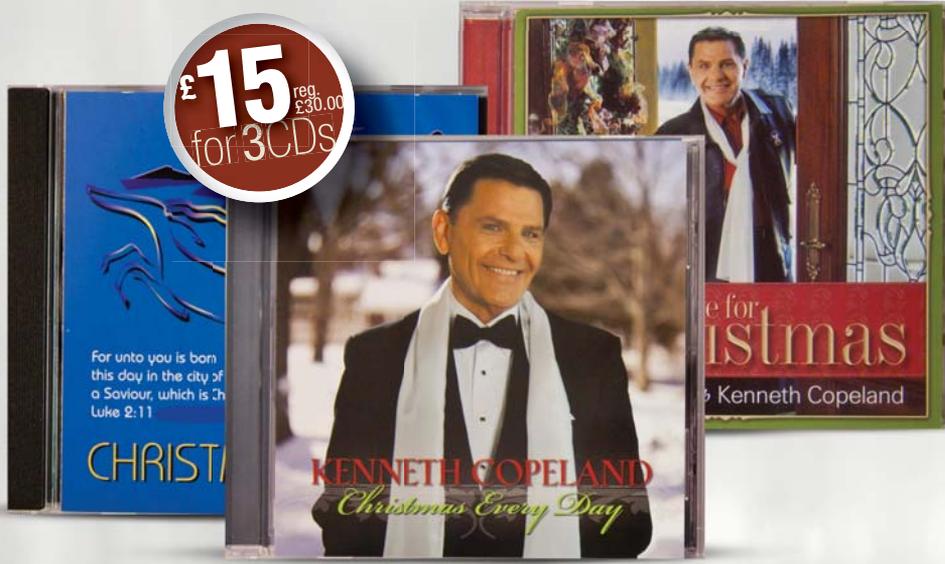
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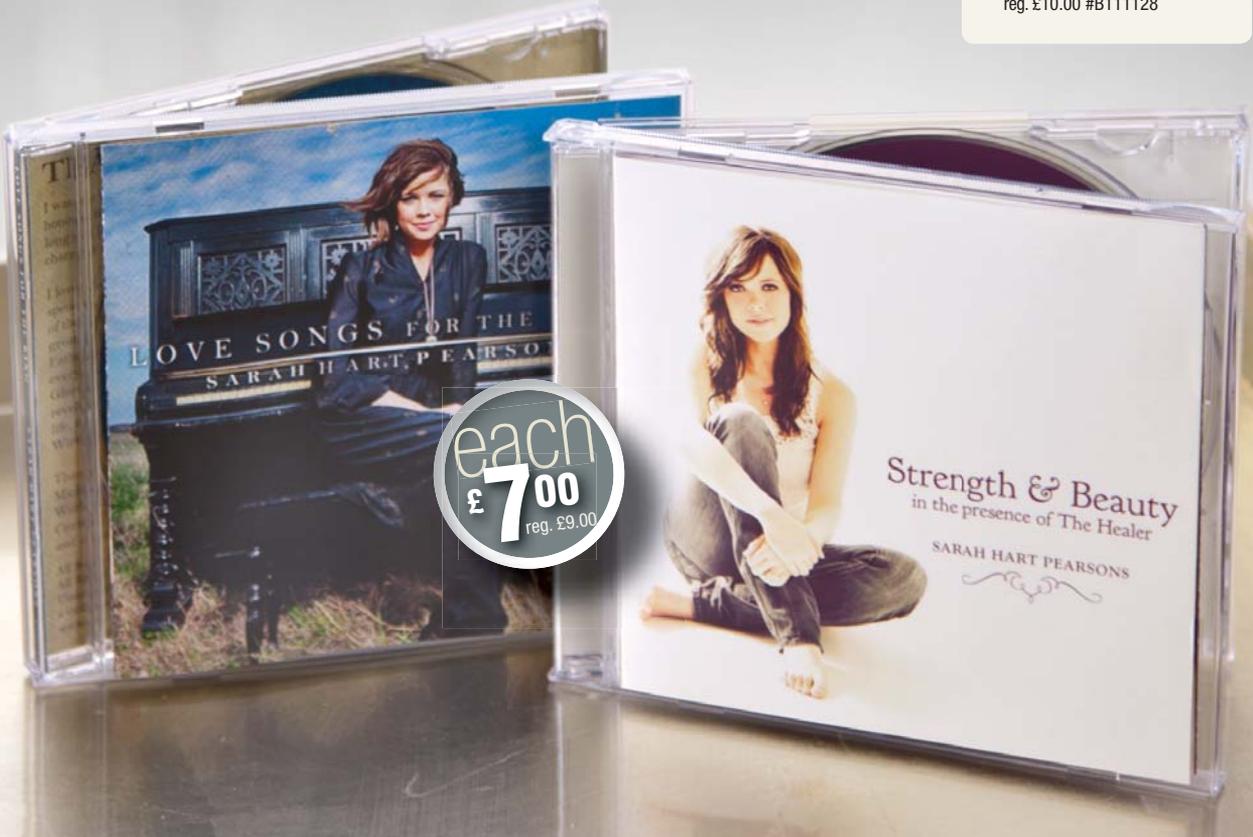
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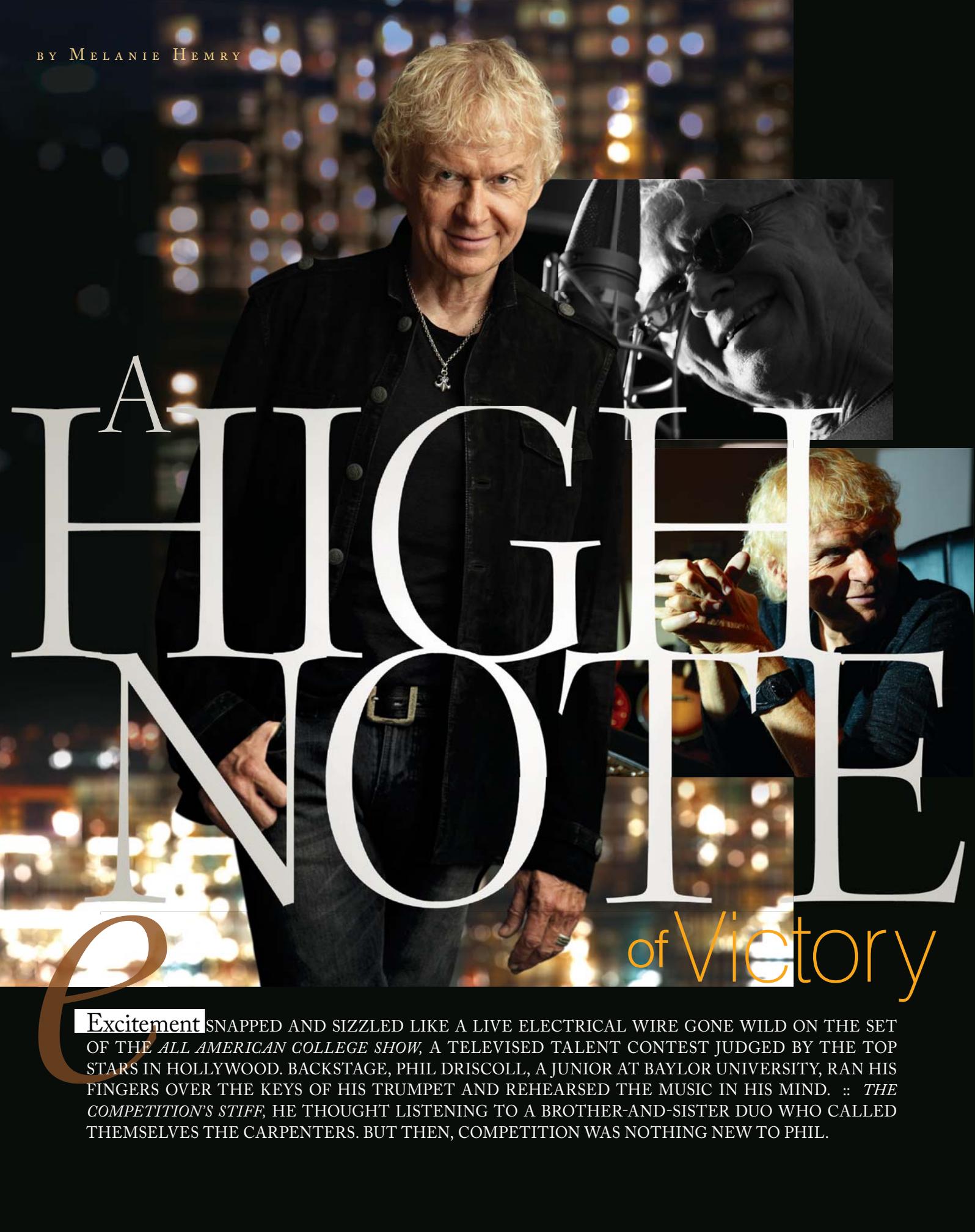
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BY MELANIE HENRY



A HIGH GHEE NO THE

of Victory

Excitement SNAPPED AND SIZZLED LIKE A LIVE ELECTRICAL WIRE GONE WILD ON THE SET OF THE *ALL AMERICAN COLLEGE SHOW*, A TELEVISED TALENT CONTEST JUDGED BY THE TOP STARS IN HOLLYWOOD. BACKSTAGE, PHIL DRISCOLL, A JUNIOR AT BAYLOR UNIVERSITY, RAN HIS FINGERS OVER THE KEYS OF HIS TRUMPET AND REHEARSED THE MUSIC IN HIS MIND. ∴ *THE COMPETITION'S STIFF*, HE THOUGHT LISTENING TO A BROTHER-AND-SISTER DUO WHO CALLED THEMSELVES THE CARPENTERS. BUT THEN, COMPETITION WAS NOTHING NEW TO PHIL.

Phil had one desire. He wanted to play the trumpet for God.

A musical prodigy, he'd picked up his first instrument—a steel guitar—at the tender age of 6. For the next five years, he'd won every talent contest he entered and brought home a staggering \$20,000 in awards. At age 11, he blew a trumpet for the first time. Once again, he caught on fast, playing as a sixth grader in the Lancaster, Texas, high school band.

Even back then Phil had known there was something divine about music. The son of a minister, he'd been in churches all his life. His father, James A. Driscoll, had planted 15 of them and worked with evangelist Amy Semple McPherson. When Phil wasn't playing the trumpet or competing in a talent contest, he spent many nights in tent meetings, listening to the gospel.

Meshing his two loves, Phil had one desire: He wanted to play the trumpet for God.

When his family moved to Tulsa, Okla., Phil entered the Youth for Christ Talent Contest. He was the only person to win the contest four years in a row. His senior year in high school, he competed in the World Music Festival in Amsterdam where his trumpet section won best in the world. When he graduated, Phil was offered 66 scholarships in music.

During his sophomore year at Baylor, Phil flew to Stockholm, Sweden, where he recorded his first Christian album for Word Records, *A Touch of Trumpet*, with the Stockholm Symphony.

Now he faced the stiffest competition of his life. Taking a deep breath, he walked onstage. Lifting the trumpet to his lips, he forgot the cameras and let his soul soar on the music. He hit notes so clear and pure that the audience wanted to weep.

“And the winner is...*Phil Driscoll!*”

In that moment, Phil Driscoll's life changed. The man who owned the show offered to manage him. People wanted him on television. Doors flew open for him to perform.

He couldn't finish the last 20 hours required to earn his college degree and perform at all those venues. Unsure what to do, Phil met with the school's president. Offering him a seat, the man shut the door to his office and listened to Phil's dilemma.

Then, looking deep into Phil's eyes, he spoke a single sentence that resolved Phil's issue with school: “Phil, no one will ever ask to see your degree.”

One Word From God

“I performed as a special guest artist on television for Steve Allen, Della Reese, Merv Griffin and had an unprecedented eight-minute spot on the Ed Sullivan Show,” Phil recalls. “I was honored to minister with Billy Graham in Europe, but here in the U.S., as my music became more contemporary, the Christian community blackballed me. At the time, there was a

common belief that if music *felt good*, it had to *be bad*. My music felt too good and I was shut out of many Christian circles.

“Young, and hurt by the rejection, I not only pulled away from church, I pulled away from God.”

In the '70s, Phil composed and toured with singer Joe Cocker and wrote music for Blood, Sweat & Tears. During that time CBS bought half of his publishing company.

“I hadn't darkened a church door in several years and my life was getting wilder,” Phil recalled. “I started using marijuana and then added hashish and cocaine. During all this time, my parents never pulled away from me. They kept on loving me, praying relentlessly that God would turn my life around. On Christmas Day, 1977, He did. My mom and dad knocked on my door about 9 a.m. with coffee asking if Lynne (then my girlfriend) and I would go to church with them.”

Wearing leathers and clogs with a wild mane of blond hair tumbling down his back, Phil stood in the packed sanctuary and felt a high sweeter than any drug could give. He felt something like warm oil pour over his head, melting away all the hurt and bitterness.

Following the service, a man walked up to him and said, “Within three weeks you'll go through the heaviest time of your life. God is bringing you back before this goes down so you'll know that He has a plan for your life.”

Humming in a steamy shower less than three weeks later, Phil saw a badge appear over the shower door.

“You're under arrest,” a voice said.

Nineteen federal agents surrounded his home as part of a sting operation stemming from a government wiretap.

“I was one of 99 people arrested, along with actress Linda Blair and two children of the governor,” Phil recalls. “Of those 99, I was the only person acquitted, on a technicality. God had confirmed that word. He had my undivided attention.”

Rooted and Grounded

In March 1978, Phil and Lynne were married.

“I was trying to get on track with God and I believed that meant I had to give up music,” Phil said. “I knew I needed to get under a good spiritual cover and get grounded in the Word. I decided to take a stand for God—no matter the cost. I walked away from my contract with CBS. I walked away from rock and roll and quit touring. We moved to Cleveland, Tenn., leased a house and joined a Word church. Less than a year later, Kenneth Copeland came to preach at a graduation for Norvel Hayes' Bible College and Norvel asked me to play.”

After the service, Kenneth walked up to Phil and asked, “What are you going to do?”

“Serve God.”



Lynne Driscoll

Nodding to the trumpet, Kenneth said, “Are you going to play?”

“Yes.” The answer rose from Phil’s heart. He was born to play. He was created to worship God. He would do both. And this time when resistance

came, he would use his faith to overcome it.

“God used Kenneth Copeland to launch my career,” Phil says. “In 1982, he invited me to play at his meeting in Charlotte, N.C. And for the next several years I went wherever he went.”

Friends in High Places

Over the next 23 years, God opened so many doors Phil could not have maintained the schedule had he not owned a plane. Thrilled to be ministering in the Christian arena, he was surprised when the Lord opened doors for him in the political arena as well.

Invited to the White House on numerous occasions, Phil played for Presidents Reagan, Carter, George Bush, Sr., George Bush, Jr., and Clinton. He has also played at the Democratic National Convention, as well as for many national Republican gatherings. One of the highlights of his career was being asked by Secretary of Defense William Cohen, to perform for the Congressional Medal of Honor award winners where he was accompanied by the United States Marine Band.

Naïve to the ulterior motives so common among the politically and financially well-connected, Phil had no idea others might want to use him as a steppingstone to the nation’s leaders with whom he had become friends.

“I’d never had any big partners with my ministry,” he explained, “but in 1998 a man named David started giving us a lot of money. He flew in for a tour, and got a call that he needed to go to Memphis. There were no commercial flights available so I flew him in my plane. I’d sold our Conquest II and was flying a little 421.”

“Why are you flying this plane?” David asked.

“I sold my Conquest and I’m believing God for a Citation II.”

“Why don’t you buy one?”

“As of today the money hasn’t come into my hand.”

“Well it has now. Go get the airplane,” David said, “I’ll pay for it.”

“After David had paid for our airplane, I was reading a magazine and saw a picture of him in the Cayman Islands with a caption that said, ‘Would you trust this man with your money?’” Phil recalled. “I felt alarms go off and wondered if he had an ulterior motive for investing so much money into my ministry.

A Fiery Trial

David got in trouble with the law and eventually turned himself in to the Securities and Exchange Commission, Phil said. Soon, after that, Phil learned that if someone who’s

done something illegal has given more than 15 percent of their income into a 501(c)(3), the government has the right to demand all the money back.

“The biggest gift he’d given our ministry was the airplane, which cost \$2.2 million,” Phil said. “I offered the Internal Revenue Service \$2.2 million in restitution, but they refused it.”

“I have a warrant for the arrest of your airplane,” an FBI agent said on the phone a few days later.

“What?” Phil asked, incredulous.

After rejecting his offer, the government took the Citation II and held it for three years before selling it for \$800,000.

“The day after the plane was seized, the IRS read me my rights at the front door,” Phil recalls. “David had fabricated a note and said I signed it. That wasn’t true but, even so, the media had a feeding frenzy. David’s contributions caused a number of ministries to go bankrupt and we were no exception. I filed for Chapter 11 and then reaffirmed every note except for the SEC. I sold our home of 20 years, my studio, my office—everything we owned—paid off all our debts and moved to Georgia.”

Next, the IRS brought a criminal action against Phil alleging he claimed a tax deduction for a second home, which the IRS claimed was unlawful. He was also charged with using ministry funds to bury his mother who was a longtime intercessor for the ministry.

After a long and grueling trial, the jury foreman read the verdict.

“Guilty!”

A New Level of Faith

On March 13, 2007, Phil Driscoll was booked into prison in Atlanta. It was one thing to use his faith to become one of the top musicians in the world. It required a whole new level of faith to trust God when he’d lost everything and a prison door had just been slammed shut behind him. In 23-hour lockdown for almost two weeks, Phil was allowed no contact with his family. He shared a cell with a violent, angry man. There he had to believe God just to stay alive.

Living in a dangerous, racially charged atmosphere, loneliness dogged him. Many pastors and close personal friends walked away. Kenneth Copeland wasn’t among them. Brother Copeland flew to Atlanta and spent an entire day with Phil, encouraging him in the Lord. Another pastor friend, Mark Barclay, also spent time with Phil and gave him a special word from God: *“Though things feel and look dead to you, I am busying Myself setting up the future ministry plan. It is an accelerated plan. Wait till you see all I have in store for you!”* says the Lord of Phil Driscoll.”

The Blessing

Still, the days dragged by and many lonely nights loomed before Phil. Lying on his bunk, Phil did the only thing he

could do. He remembered his blessings. He remembered his godly parents, who instilled the Word of God in him and never ceased to pray. He remembered friends and family, the musical gift God had given him and how that gift had made room for him. He remembered God's promise to vindicate him and the Word of God that assured, "No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue that shall rise against you in judgment you shall show to be in the wrong," (Isaiah 54:17, *The Amplified Bible*).

How could God possibly turn things around?

Phil had no idea, but he believed God would do it. So he rejoiced. He sang and worshipped God in prison, just like he had worshipped Him in the grandest venues. He reminded himself that he trusted the same God who delivered Daniel from the lions' den, opened prison doors for Peter, and brought Joseph out of prison with honor and favor. He might be down, but he wasn't out. Everything in his life may have changed, but one thing would never change: God wouldn't, He *couldn't* lie.

Picking Up the Pieces

On Dec. 23, 2007, Phil was released from prison. When he stepped outside, Kenneth Copeland was there waiting for him. It was no surprise, really. He had continued to stand by Phil, both publicly and in private, throughout his ordeal. During a KCM Believers' Convention, Kenneth had made a bold declaration concerning Phil's case saying, "What he did wasn't even illegal!"

Free to begin picking up the pieces of his life, Phil and Lynne took each day one at a time. They had lost everything financially and now faced mounting legal fees. What Phil had not lost was his faith. He hadn't lost his joy or his music. If anything, the sound was sweeter, the anointing stronger.

In December 2010, Phil awaited the verdict of the civil suit stemming from his conviction, which had lumbered on for three years. It had been a long battle, one no one expected him to win. When the verdict was read, Phil heard a symphony explode in his heart.

Turning the Tables

In an unprecedented landmark case, the Tax Court ruled against the IRS, finding them in the wrong. Not only did the judges rule in Phil's favor, they chastised the IRS saying they had no business interpreting the law any way they wished. The ruling went further, noting that if the legislature wanted parsonage and housing allowances to apply to only one house, it would have said so.

Kenneth Copeland said it long before the court ruled: Phil Driscoll hadn't done anything illegal.

In one fell swoop, God not only vindicated Phil, He clarified a law that would benefit tens of thousands of ministries. The IRS has appealed the decision.

Today, in addition to writing and composing, Phil has obeyed God's admonition to paint pictures with sound and is producing a movie, *Symphony of the Universe*. The story of Phil's life, *A Long Journey Home*, is also in production along with a 3-D Blu-ray DVD, *Phil Driscoll Live at Angola Prison*.

Phil and Lynne Driscoll are convinced that Jesus never *almost* healed anyone. He never *almost* restores what is lost to those who walk in faith. He always does things right. So, true to form, He's vindicated them in court and restored everything they lost 10 times over.

Phil Driscoll stills plays notes so pure it makes his audience weep with joy. His story is far from over, but his life is punctuated with a sound that echoes throughout eternity. It is the high, sweet note of victory. **VICTORY**

Editor's Note: Phil's lead counsel, Brooke Asiatico, has formed the "Faith & Freedom Fund," which is a tax-exempt legal defense fund which will be used in defending this and other similar court cases.



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When Phil Driscoll found himself in the middle of his life's biggest trial, Kenneth Copeland was right beside him, encouraging him and assuring him of victory.

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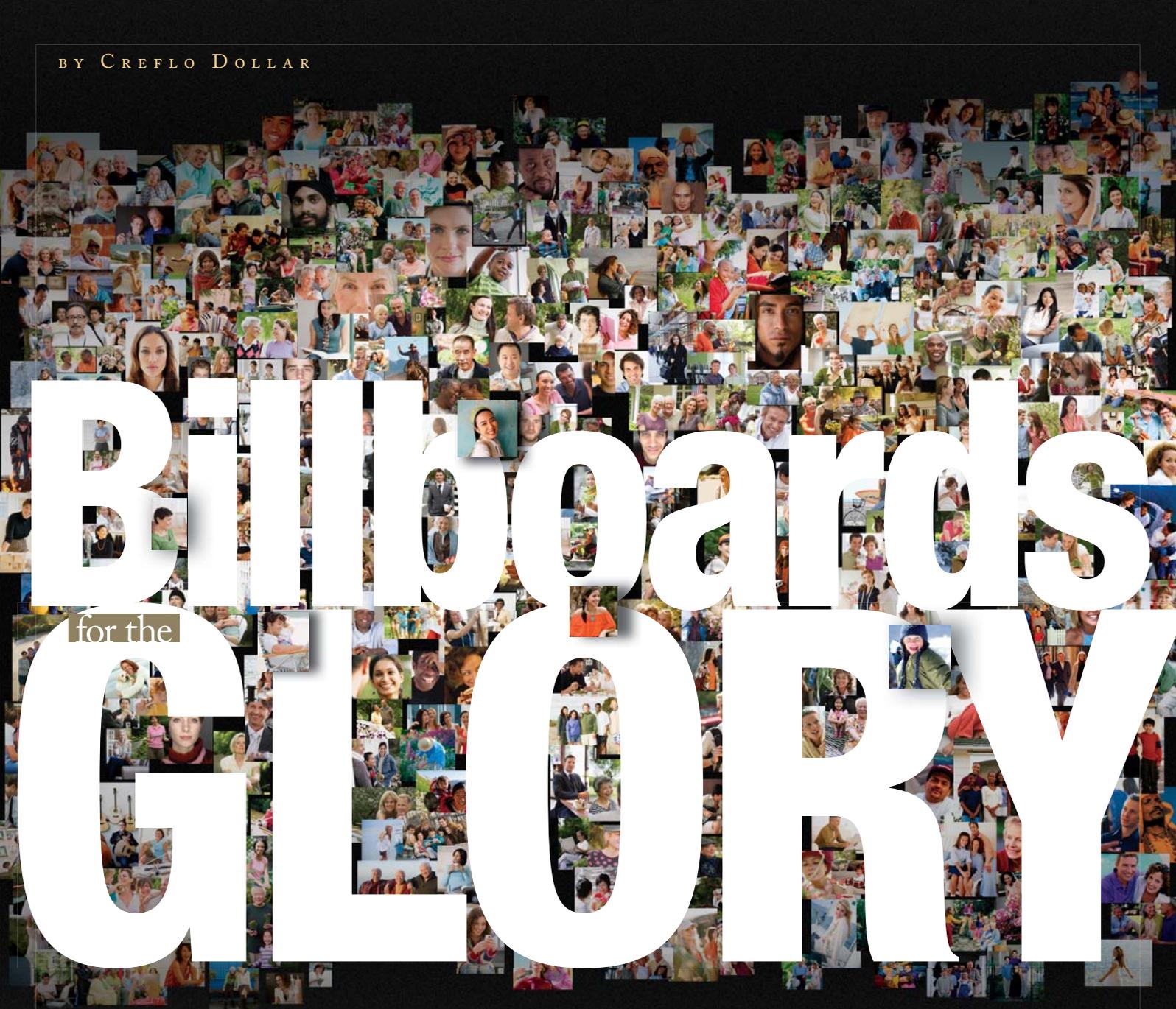
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Billions and Billions for the GLORY

You may have heard a lot about God's blessing and how it has flowed into the lives of believers. >> I'm not talking about a new car, a house or even increase. Those are the *results* of the blessing. The blessing is an *empowerment* for you to have success in *every* area of your life. For instance, when you don't have the ability to accomplish something, the blessing is what shows up in your life and enables you to do it.



In Genesis 26:12, Isaac received the blessing from Abraham. It says Isaac sowed in a land of famine and drought, "and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the Lord blessed him."

If you are familiar with seedtime and harvest, you know that in normal circumstances, famine and drought won't yield a harvest. But when the blessing is operating in your life, natural conditions cannot stop it.

In Genesis 26:13-14, you'll see even more results of the blessing. "And [Isaac] waxed great, and went forward, and grew until he became very great: For he had possession of flocks, and possession of herds, and great store of servants..." Notice that the blessing also causes you to increase in material goods. In fact, Isaac prospered so much the Philistines envied him.

Friend, when you yield completely to the blessing in your life, the Philistines of this day will envy you, too. Imagine them saying, "They're happy. They're peaceful. They have the joy of the Lord. They're prosperous. They've got their family together." It happens when the blessing is operating in your life!

The Glory Shall Be Seen

When the blessing is on your life, others will take notice. That's exactly what happened to Joseph when he was working for Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh.

"The Lord was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. And his master saw that the Lord was with him..." (Genesis 39:2-3).

Now, how did Potiphar know the Lord was with Joseph? Because verse 3 says "...the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand." He saw that everything Joseph put his hands on prospered. Potiphar saw the result of the blessing and he couldn't help but acknowledge it.

When you operate in the blessing, people will see the results in your life, too. Isaiah 40:5 says, "The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it..." The glory is the result of the blessing. When people see the glory manifest as healing, financial increase and material things in your life, they are a witness that the Lord's presence is operating.

The fact is, *you* are God's advertising tool. Much like a billboard that proclaims His glory! God can use your life to demonstrate the results of His blessings. Others will notice the difference in your life. Now is the time for you to show others that the Lord is with you; that you are prosperous and everything your hands touch prospers!

Prosperity as Evidence

Isaiah 61:9 is a powerful verse that emphasizes how prosperity is evidence of the blessing. Referring to God's people, it says, "All who see them [in their prosperity] will recognize and acknowledge that they are the people whom the Lord has blessed" (*The Amplified Bible*).

In this passage, it is evident *why* the devil wants to talk you out of your prosperity. He doesn't want you to be a billboard for the glory of God. The world has seen Christians in poverty, in sickness and in defeat. They've seen us at our lowest point. But they can now see us in our prosperity! They will recognize and acknowledge that we are the people whom the Lord has blessed!

God says prosperity is going to be the manifestation of the glory and He wants the world to see you prosperous and whole. He says it's important for the world to see those manifestations; the blessings flowing in and through your life. Don't concern yourself about what others think when God prospers you. God desires for you to excel!

Blessed by Association

The blessing doesn't affect only you. It also affects those around you. For example, in Genesis 30:27 Jacob is getting ready to leave his father-in-law, Laban. "And Laban said unto him, I pray thee, if I have found favour in thine eyes, tarry: for I have learned by experience that the Lord hath blessed me for thy sake." In other words, Laban said, "You can't go! I know the only reason things are working for me is because of the blessing that's on *your* life."

This should be the testimony of all those around you. Every time you go on vacation, your employer and co-workers should notice! And when you're there, the blessing should be evident. Imagine employers calling local churches saying, "Send us more blessed people to work

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).

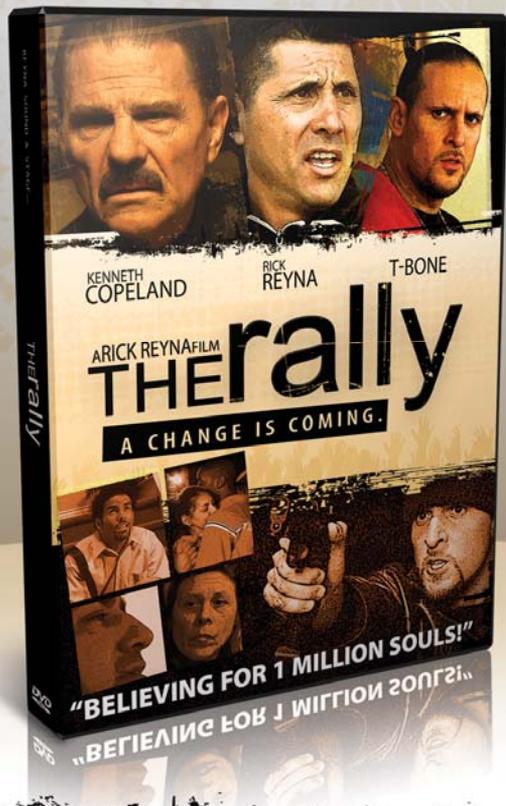
I take You at Your Word. I confess that Jesus is Lord. And I believe in my heart that You raised Him from the dead. Thank You for coming into my heart, for giving me Your Holy Spirit as You have promised, and for being Lord over my life. Amen.

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**.

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Already Blessed

How do you access this *blessing*? I've got news for you: *You've already got it!* Abraham had it, he passed it to Isaac, Isaac passed it to Jacob, and down the line to Jesus.

Galatians 3:13-14 says, "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."

Jesus knew exactly why He had to go to the cross; so the blessing could pass on to the Gentiles and all who made Jesus Lord of their lives!

Ephesians 1:3 clearly explains this: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."

The Word says "who hath"—past tense—"blessed us." In other words, He has already done it. If He has already blessed us, then we are *already* blessed!

The Result Is Coming

Having the blessing is your right as an heir of Abraham (Galatians 3:29). You may be waiting for the result of the blessing to show up in your life, but don't give up!

Remember Joseph in the Old Testament? "He was there in the prison. But the Lord was with Joseph..." (Genesis 39:20-21). Pharaoh had a dream and Joseph interpreted it. Because of this, Joseph became the second-most powerful man in Egypt.

After everything Joseph had gone through, he had no idea he was only 30 days away from becoming the Prime Minister of Egypt. He probably didn't know the blessing was just around the corner. After all he had faced, even being one day away from such a powerful position, he didn't quit. When he was just on the other side of the blessing, he could have walked away. But he didn't.

I don't know how far you are from receiving your breakthrough, but I do know that you must not give up! Keep believing, sowing and doing what God has purposed for you to do until the manifestation comes. The blessing will work things out. If you don't give up you will walk in the result of *your* blessing!

When it comes, others will see—a mighty billboard of the glory—and know that you are blessed! Their lives will be richer, because of the blessing working in you. **VICTORY**

Creflo Dollar is the founder and senior pastor of World Changers Church International in College Park, Ga.; World Changers Church-New York; and several satellite churches across the USA. For more information, visit creflodollarministries.org.

Who Cut Off THE Power?

Power. As a born-again child of God, that's something you have plenty of. >> You have the divine right to ask for what you desire and receive it from the hand of God. You have the faith to blow away every obstacle that stands between you and success. You've been made "more than a conqueror" through Him who loves you. >> "Then how come it seems like I just go from one failure to another?" you may ask. "Who cut off the power?"

Let's go to Mark 11:23-26 and read what Jesus said about it: "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. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."

Now, look. Right in the middle of this description of the power that's available to every believer, Jesus says this: "And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses."

Faith-power and forgiveness. Jesus linked them together.

Now look at Matthew 18. There we find Jesus teaching us what to do when we're in disharmony with someone, specifically when that someone has treated us wrongly. He says: "If thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he

neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen..." (verses 15-17).

Now why would anyone want to go through all that? I'd much rather go talk ugly about the guy, wouldn't you? After all, *he's* the one in the wrong. Wouldn't it be easier just to get mad and talk about him than to take the time to go sit down with him and try to work things out? Besides, it's extremely awkward to do that. So why is Jesus so set on us doing it?

It's very simple. He knows something about spiritual power that most of us haven't learned yet.

Spiritual Power Requires Harmony

Jesus said, "If two of you shall agree [or harmonize together] on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven" (verse 19).

That's why it's urgent that you get the discord out of your life. Disharmony blocks spiritual power. In fact, James 3:16 says, "Where envying and strife is, there is confusion and *every evil work.*"

Think about that. Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). But when two or three are in discord, the *evil* spirit is in the midst of them!

In one of his letters to Timothy, the Apostle Paul urged him to stay out of strife and to pray for those involved in it because Satan takes them captive at his will (2 Timothy 2:26).

Now, that's a tough statement. But it shows clearly just how helpless we are when we're in strife. If we get ourselves in a position where Satan is taking us captive at his will, it won't do us any good to stand up and shout and holler in the Name of Jesus. It's like waving an empty gun at a thief. Satan will just laugh at us.

This is very, very dangerous. We're dealing with spiritual power here. Explosive, supernatural power. When it works, it blows mountains out of the way. When it's blocked, you become the devil's patsy. I'm telling you, it's serious.

Jesus shows us more about just how serious it is in Matthew 18:23-35. There He says:

The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. [Now, that's a bunch of money. When *The Amplified Bible* was translated, it was equal to about \$10 million.] But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, "Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all." Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii [worth about \$20 or less today] and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, "Pay me what you owe!" So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you all." And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, "You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?" And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of

you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses (*New King James Version*).

I was studying one night when a question came up in my mind that had bothered me for a long time. So I just asked the Lord about it. I said, "Sometimes I know I'm walking in faith, believing You for something. I've changed the way I'm operating to fit with what Your Word tells me to do, and I think everything is on track. Then suddenly, wham! Satan comes storming in and tears up everything.

"Now I'm smart enough to know that You're God, You can't mess up—and I know the devil never has more power than You do. So I must be missing it someplace. I must have let him in somewhere. How'd I do it?"

Unforgiveness and Strife Block God's Power

Immediately, God led me to this story about the unforgiving servant. I read it over and over again. Then He said, *Do you remember that I said, "Faith works by love"?*

"Yes, sir," I answered.

Then He showed me that the reverse is also true. Faith is blocked by discord. He told me that unforgiveness and strife will *totally* cut off the victorious flow of power that belongs to the Body of Christ.

That shocked me.

It's not the big trespasses you don't forgive that are the real problem either, He added. It's the little nickel-and-dime stuff you won't let go of.

Then He showed me a vision of a great big pipe. Gushing into the top of the pipe was an enormous flood of water. But at the other end where it should be gushing out was a little fine mist of a spray coming out of a tiny hole in the center.

I am pouring out My power through the pipe of your reborn spirit, the Lord told me. But over a period of time, you've let these little grains, little 15-cent debts of unforgiveness, build up. Just a little grain of discord here. A little grain there.

It's built up because you haven't been smart enough to stop and get it out. So you've clogged up that pipe until My power doesn't have the freedom to flow through you.

When I saw that, I said, "Lord, what should I do?"

He said, *Purge the pipe. Clean that mess out and you won't have any trouble having the power of God flow through your life.*

Something happened to me the night God showed me that. I knew as soon as I saw it that I'd gotten hold of something strong. So I started exercising it right then. I purged that pipe. I got all that unforgiveness out of me. Just moved it out!

I remembered 2 Corinthians 7:1 that says, "Let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness." Unforgiveness is spiritual

filthiness. It works in a wound in the human heart just like it does in the wound of a physical body.

You make a cut in the body and then put filth in it and it will fester. It won't heal up. You make a wound in the human heart and then feed that unforgiveness in there—and it won't heal up either. I don't care how many years you forget about it. That filth is still there until it's removed by a higher law. That higher law is faith. It has to be removed by faith.

Well, I purged out the pipe that night. I got Gloria in on it and we did it together. You know what? Everywhere I turned after that—the power of God was ready. It was right on hand. I began to move in the power of faith like I'd never seen before.

So now, if things start fouling up, the first thing I go looking for is where I've been operating in unforgiveness and not ministering the grace and the love of God.

If you haven't been experiencing the power of God in your life lately, maybe it's time for you to purge the pipe. However, before you do, you need to realize one thing.

True Forgiveness Is Supernatural

If you're going to forgive as God forgives, it's going to take a supernatural act. You can't cleanse your own consciousness of something someone else did any more than you can heal your own body. You receive the ability to forgive the same way you receive any supernatural act of God—and that's by faith.

First, you must decide to do it. You have to say, "As an act of my will, I forgive so-and-so." Then you say, "Father, in the Name of Jesus, I believe that I now receive Your supernatural act of power to cleanse my consciousness of that. From this moment on, I'm going to treat that person as if it never happened."

Then you trust God to do it. You don't touch that trespass with your thought life, and you treat the person as if nothing bad had ever happened between you. That may not be easy because they may not be treating you that way in return. But it doesn't matter. You do it anyway. As you do, God will bring you to a place of victory because love never fails.

One thing that will help you stick by your decision to forgive is to make a habit of correcting yourself in front of people. When you catch yourself talking negatively about someone, just stop and say, "Wait a minute. I'm not going to talk about that brother like that. God, forgive me of that mess right now!" It won't be long before you'll stop talking strife and unforgiveness altogether.

I know of one dear woman who was married to a man so crooked and so mean that he spent the majority of their married life locked up in one penitentiary after another. But that woman wouldn't let go of her love for him. She just kept

on forgiving and she refused to talk bad about him.

When someone would ask her about him, she would just say, "Well, praise God, he's going to be all right."

Finally when that man was 56 years old, he was released from San Quentin, got in a prayer meeting, ended up born again, filled with the Holy Spirit, and set free from the drug addiction that had driven him for so long. At the last report I received, he was preaching the gospel all over the country. All because that woman wouldn't quit loving and forgiving. She just wouldn't quit.

So, let's go over again, very simply, the steps involved in purging the pipe:

1. Confess the sin of unforgiveness (1 John 1:9).
2. Forgive, as an act of your will (Matthew 6:14).
3. Believe you receive your forgiveness (Matthew 6:14).
4. Begin to praise and thank God.

On the day the Lord showed me this in His Word, He said to me, *I'm showing you right now the function that will elevate the Body of Christ in these last days above the storms of life. It will cause her to ride the crest into the Resurrection and right into the portals of glory.*

This is no small thing. Neither is it a passive, "excuse me, please" kind of mentality. It is the most powerful force you will ever come in contact with. It is the calling card of Jesus.

Remember what Jesus said on the cross? "Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they're doing." Jesus released the force of forgiveness just before He died. Then He reaped the benefit of that force and death could not hold Him.

What about Stephen? He did the same thing. They didn't kill Stephen. They tried to, but while they were stoning him, he was having a vision of Jesus and the glory world. Jesus stood up and received him. Stephen released the force of forgiveness. He said, "Father, lay not this sin to their charge," and then out of there he went—*right after* he said that.

I'm telling you, we have no idea of the power that's wrapped up in this. There's more power in it than the world can stand; more power in it than Satan can stand; and more power in it to give life than death can overcome.

The force of forgiveness: The force that will lift and exalt the Body of Christ in these last days above the storms of life. The very thing that will capture death itself and render it helpless in our midst.

Forgiveness. It's time to purge the pipe and let that supernatural power flow. The flood of the Spirit is ready. Are you? **VICTORY**



REAL PEOPLE. REAL NEEDS. REAL VICTORIES.

GoodNewsGazette

“The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.” (Romans 8:2)

From Poor House to More House

I was living in the apartment of a crack house, and was praying and asking the Lord to help me. Interestingly, KCM called me with a recorded prayer by Kenneth every day for nine days. Soon after, I moved in to a two-bedroom apartment, and now my son lives with me, and I am engaged to be married.

I send my thanks to Kenneth for his faithfulness to obey God, and to the ministers at KCM for all they do. Through the power of prayer I went from the poor house to the more house. The Bible says that when one rejoices, all rejoice, so I am calling to share my testimony with you so you can rejoice with me in my victory. Thank you for all you do, and for praying for me.

S.R. :: North Carolina

The Anointing Prevails

Last time I wrote, I requested urgent prayer for my wife who had been diagnosed with a malignant tumor. We are rejoicing today after several extensive tests and a CT scan show that there are now no cancer cells in her body, for which we give God all the glory. I would like to testify to the goodness of God in *my* life during these months.

Through the faithful ministry of Kenneth and Gloria Copeland and other word of faith preachers, I was able to receive what could have been devastating news, without the fear I would have experienced a few years ago. I have spent a lot of time reading books by Charles Capps, Joyce Meyer, Fred Price, etc. and I can testify that God has enabled me to go through the last four months without once putting a negative word in my mouth. Satan tried hard to fill my mind with fear, but thanks be to God, He always causes us to triumph in Christ and His Anointing.

Right from the start the Lord gave me a special word for my wife from Isaiah 58:8: “Your healing shall spring forth speedily” (*New King James Version*). And I have literally witnessed that taking place before my eyes. What a mighty God we serve!

Thank you so much for your faithful prayer ministry and support. We have felt the benefit of your prayers and appreciate the faithful ministry of Brother Kenneth and his guests on *BVOV*, which continues to bless, excite and empower us day by day. We are standing with your ministry, we take your prophetic words very seriously and shape our lives and conduct upon them. D.W. :: United Kingdom

Miraculous Protection During Tornado

I recently called for prayer for my daughter and her two boys, ages 5 and 7, who were in a tornado. Their house for the most part collapsed, but God kept a little piece of ceiling from falling in and crushing them. I went to see my daughter and her family and saw the house. It was a miracle she and her boys walked out alive. After I called KCM, her husband prayed with her for the first time. And God answered immediately while they were praying.

Diana Hogan :: Edgewood, Md.

Calm and at Peace

This is a thank-you letter. I phoned you yesterday concerning my little 3-year-old nephew and the problem the family had at their house. You prayed with me. My deepest thanks for the fact that, last night when I went to their house, all felt calm and we were all at peace. The whole family had a peaceful night's sleep.

Thank you for returning her phone call and for bringing light back into their lives. God is a good God for He put you in a place where your help to your fellow man will always be appreciated and blessed. All praises to God.

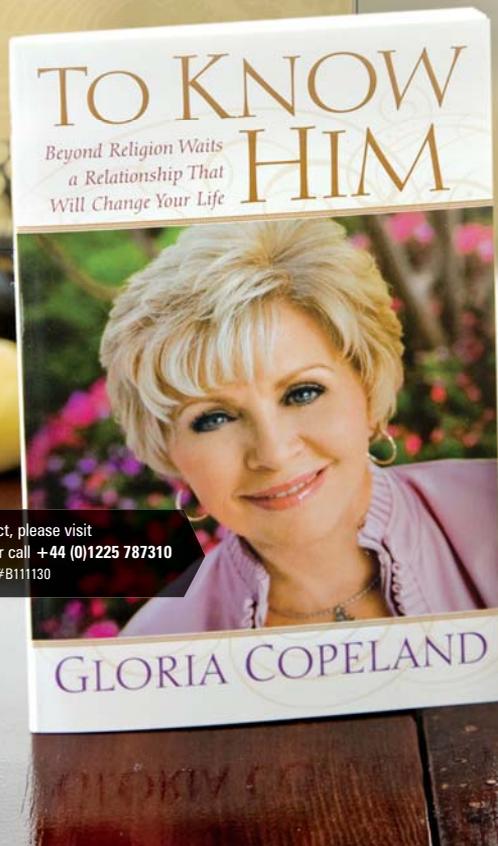
R.P. :: South Africa



God Is Helping Us Get Out of Debt

Since we became Partners in November 2010, and started tithing, God has helped us pay off two credit cards. We are working on our car payment now, and then our house payments. Soon we will be debt free. Thanks to KCM for your teaching.

Wanda Walden
Bronston, Ky.



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An Unseen Wall Between Their Home and the Fire

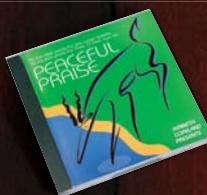
I should have sent this in before now, but in December '09, a lightning strike began a bushfire on our property. The fire burned for close to a week. On the fourth day of the fire our home was threatened. At no time did we feel the need to evacuate. Instead, we had a reassurance within our spirits to stand and fight this natural force spiritually. My daughters and I stood on our house verandah rebuking the fire in Jesus' Name. We were reminded of when Jesus calmed the stormy waters, and knew we have that same power available to us because of His Name and His blood. Even the fire trucks raced to our home and waited for several hours as the fire sat on the mountaintop right before our home. Eventually they moved to another part of the property as the out-of-control fire just sat unmoving. It was as if an unseen wall was between our home and the fire. We give thanks to God for our home being saved and no injuries to the fire crews fighting the fires over that week. Our thanks also go to the staff at KCM for standing with us in prayer during that time.

Lorna Skewes :: New South Wales, Australia

She Took the Word Like Medicine

For over three months I had great difficulty breathing and an ongoing cough. I am a fitness instructor and the breathing difficulties got so bad I couldn't work for two weeks, and when I did work, I was constantly coughing and having to stop exercising with clients because I couldn't breathe. It was also affecting my sleep. All in all I was in a bad way! I went to hospital—doctors, surgery, walk-in surgery and saw numerous doctors. Every doctor diagnosed something different. I had X-rays and was told there was nothing wrong with me. I was given steroids, inhalers and antibiotics, none of which worked. I felt God saying, *You haven't come to Me with this*. I began to saturate myself in Him and His Word, writing out healing scriptures, listening to Gloria and Kenneth Copeland every day and confessing and praying scriptures. God told me to take the Word like medicine three times a day. He gave me eight scriptures and I would take a couple of minutes three times a day to pray them and thank God for them. I asked Him to protect me from getting into any unhelpful conversations and speaking words contrary to the Word. My health began to improve—I got better and better every day. It was hard at first. The symptoms were still raging, the devil was shouting at me, but God was watching over His Word, and it did not return void. There is no asthma, no allergy, no swine flu, no breathing difficulties. I can work, sleep and breathe. Praise God!

N.J. :: United Kingdom



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Comforted by Peaceful Praise CD

I'm praising God for the *Peaceful Praise* CD. God has used it to bring me so much peace and to help me feel like I'm not alone. I know there is someone agreeing with me. I wanted to say thank you. You just don't know how much this CD has blessed me. It has changed my life.

L.G. :: Arkansas

He Stood on the Word for His Family's Salvation

Thank you so much, Brother Kenneth and Sister Gloria Copeland, for your teachings in your monthly magazines. I received Jesus Christ as my personal savior through your *Believer's Voice of Victory* magazine four years back, and one year later I became a Partner. When I began to receive your magazines on my own, I came across a testimony about a certain family being saved through someone who had been standing on the Word of God, according to Acts 16:31. I took my stand since it was my desire for my family to be saved. Last week I phoned them. Praise God they told me they are now saved and the hand of God is moving mightily. Thank You, God, and thank you, KCM and staff.

J.D. :: South Africa

Prayer Is Our Priority Call +44 (0)1225 787310 for prayer :: 9.00–16.20 UK time

Thank You

I'm a Partner and wanted you to know that my son is no longer depressed or drinking. He has a job. I want to thank KCM for all your prayers.

B.P. :: United States

Healed!

I want to thank God. Monday last week I was diagnosed with pityriasis rosea and the doctor said it would start to heal in four weeks. I phoned for prayer on Tuesday and by Thursday I was completely healed—the rash has disappeared. I really thank God for healing.

S.B. :: South Africa

Job Appointment Confirmed!

Some months ago, I requested you pray for me regarding my confirmation of appointment in my place of work which has been long overdue. I am glad to inform you that my appointment has now been confirmed and my salary increased by about 65 percent, with other benefits attached. I give God all the glory and I appreciate your continuous prayer. Thank you and God bless your ministry.

J.O. :: Nigeria

NOVEMBER

Broadcast Calendar



Kenneth Copeland



Gloria Copeland



George Pearsons



Terri Copeland Pearsons



David Barton



Billy Rash

Who **YOU** Really Are...
in **HIM** The *BVOV*

broadcast is available all over the world! It features great teaching from the Word of God by Kenneth and Gloria Copeland and other anointed ministers, including Jerry Savelle, Jesse Duplantis, Creflo Dollar, Billye Brim, Keith Moore and Bill Winston. Check our listings for details!

Oct. 31-Nov. 4

Renew Your Mind With The Word of God

Kenneth Copeland and David Barton

Sunday, Nov. 6
God's Benefit Package
Kenneth Copeland

Nov. 7-11

The Way of Cain, Part 1: Self-Deception—The Devil's Subtle Weapon

Kenneth Copeland and Billy Rash

Sunday, Nov. 13
Rejoice in the Plan God Has for You
Kenneth Copeland

Nov. 14-18

The Way of Cain, Part 2: Self-Deception—The Devil's Subtle Weapon

Kenneth Copeland and Billy Rash

Sunday, Nov. 20
Give Thanks and Renew Your Mind
Kenneth Copeland

Nov. 21-25

Be Fruitful and Multiply A *BVOV* Thanksgiving Week Special

Kenneth and Gloria Copeland

Sunday, Nov. 27
Faith Is Active When You Walk in Love
Gloria Copeland

Nov. 28-Dec. 2

10 Days of Healing, Part 1

George and Terri Pearsons

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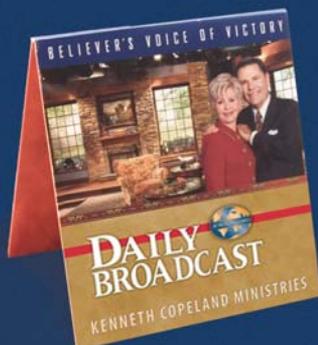
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ONLINE



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“Christmas in November”

Women’s Luncheon: November 5

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

The Jim Bakker Show: November 10

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

Tony Orlando Salute to Veterans: November 11

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

Word of Life Christian Center: November 19-20

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

Covenant Connections Church: December 3-4

5818 Atlanta Highway | Flowery Branch, GA 30542
770-965-6055 | covenantconnectionschurch.com

Grace Festival Crusade: February 15-18, 2012

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

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

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

Kern Christian Center: March 24-25, 2012

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

New Life Family Church: April 1, 2012

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

Glory House of Prayer: April 21-22, 2012

1869 Central Ave. | Albany, NY 12205
518-986-6755 | gloryhouseofprayer.org

Living Word Bible Church: May 9-10, 2012

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

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

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

Hope and Healing Christian Church: August 12, 2012 (Visit their website or call for details.)

Sierra Vista, AZ 85635 | 520-417-2468
hhconline.org

Tony Orlando Salute to Veterans: November 11, 2012

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

Branson Victory Campaign: March 8-10

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

FREE Admission

Living Victory West Coast Faith Encounter: April 13-14

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

Europe Victory Campaign: May 10-12

Excel Arena | One Western Gateway | Royal Victoria Dock | London E16 1XL

Living Victory Pacific Rim Faith Encounter: June 15-16

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

Southwest Believers’ Convention: July 2-7

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

Great Lakes Victory Campaign: August 9-11

U.S. Cellular Arena | 400 W. Kilbourn Ave. | Milwaukee, WI 53203

Living Victory East Coast Faith Encounter: September 14-15

Hilton Orlando | 6001 Destination Parkway | Orlando, FL 32819

Word Explosion: October 11-13

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

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

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

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events.kcm.org



Join Gloria Copeland for Healing School

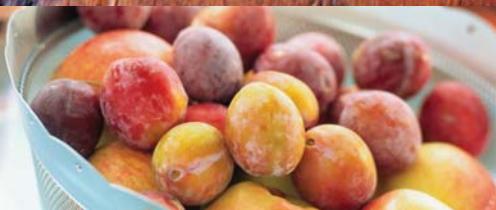
Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. at Conventions and Victory Campaigns.

BY GLORIA COPELAND

SPIRITUAL ANTIOXIDANTS

the
rejuvenating
POWER
of the fruit of the spirit

Antioxidants. Over the past few years, they've caused quite a buzz in nutritional circles. Researchers say that in the right quantities they combat everything from cancer to wrinkles. They are valiant defenders that come to us through fruits and vegetables. They help protect us from the toxic world around us by working inside our bodies to neutralize its damaging effects.



many Christians live anemic existences.
When the devil comes to damage or cut short their lives, they fall prey to his devices.



This is an excerpt from *LIVE LONG, FINISH STRONG: The Divine Secret to Living Healthy, Happy, and Healed* by Gloria Copeland.

I'm in favor of antioxidants. They're great. But do you know what's even greater? The protective power of the fruit of the spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Although many Christians don't realize it, those qualities are much more than pleasant character traits. They are spiritual forces that work much like antioxidants. When released in our lives, the fruit of the spirit renews our youth. It protects us from the effects of this fallen world. It defends us from the attacks of the devil and keeps us from dying before our time.

Unlike natural antioxidants, the fruit of the spirit doesn't come to us from the outside. It bubbles up within us from the wellspring of our spirits. It flows like a river from our inner man.

"I don't know about that," you might say. "I haven't noticed much patience and self-control bubbling up in me lately."

That may be true but the fruit of the spirit is inside you, nonetheless. All of us who've been born again have that fruit within us because of our union with Jesus. Forces like love, joy and peace are the supernatural byproducts of His divine life within us. They are part of the *zoe*, God-kind of life.

Whether we realize it or not, we, as believers, are actually the most alive people on earth. We have residing inside us the very Author and Source of life. Think of it! The Lord Jesus Christ, who is the embodiment of Life, has moved into our re-created spirits. He has released within us a fountain of divine life that will never run dry. During His ministry on earth, Jesus confirmed it again and again. He said:

❖ "Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting *life*" (John 4:14, *New King James Version*).

❖ "I am the bread of *life*: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst" (John 6:35).

❖ "I am the *living* bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will *live* forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the *life* of the world. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal *life*..." (John 6:51, 54, *NKJV*).

❖ "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me" (John 15:4).

❖ "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7).

According to those scriptures, wherever Jesus is, there is life, *life*, *LIFE!* And since we, as believers, have been made one spirit with Him, the same can be said of us. We have within us His own unquenchable, eternal, overcoming life. The New Testament leaves no doubt about it. Verse after verse declares that:

❖ "The law of the Spirit of *life* in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death" (Romans 8:2).

❖ We are equipped to "reign in *life* by one, Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:17).

❖ We are called to "walk in newness of *life*" and hold forth to a sin-deadened world, the "word of *life*" (Romans 6:4; Philippians 2:16).

❖ We are given a "crown of *life*" (James 1:12).

❖ "We have passed from death unto *life*" (1 John 3:14).

❖ "He that hath the Son hath *life*" (1 John 5:12).

❖ We have the "right to the tree of *life*" and the opportunity to "take the water of *life* freely" (Revelation 22:14, 17).

That's a lot of life! It's more than enough to keep us full of youthful vigor and health for at least 120 years, wouldn't you say? In fact, with that much divine life in our spirits, the devil shouldn't be able to kill us at any age. We all ought to be able to live like Moses, in full strength until the Lord Himself tells us we've finished our course and calls us to heaven.

Most believers today, however, don't do that. They don't live like they have a wellspring of eternal life springing up within them. They don't throw off the toxic effects of sin, sickness and defeat the way people who have been supercharged with an endless supply of divine life ought to do. On the contrary, many Christians live anemic existences. When the devil comes to damage or cut short their lives, they fall prey to his devices. They don't have the knowledge or the strength to fight him off.

Why is that?

They don't have enough revelation of the Word working, and they're running short of spiritual antioxidants. They don't have enough of the fruit of the spirit abounding in their lives. They've been weakened by a lack of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. All of these are mighty and powerful, overcoming forces. The Greek word for *faithfulness* is also translated *faith*.

Even More Crucial Than a Healthy Diet

If you think I'm overemphasizing the healthy effects of the fruit of the spirit, think again. Not only does the truth of the Bible back it up, I've found scientific evidence, as well. Consider, for example, the recent study which revealed that people who do volunteer work had a 19-percent reduction in mortality risk compared to nonvolunteers. It's easy to figure out that people who volunteer to help others have qualities like love, kindness, goodness, patience and faithfulness operating in their lives. They are clearly fruit-of-the-spirit kind of people and, according to this study, they live longer than those who aren't.

Dr. Gary Small, author of *The Longevity Bible* and director of the UCLA Center on Aging, also gives evidence of the healthy impact of the fruit of the spirit—especially the forces of joy and peace. “Scientific evidence...shows that keeping a positive outlook helps us live longer and healthier,” he says. “In a recent study, positive and satisfied middle-aged people were twice as likely to survive over 20 years compared to more negative individuals. Optimists have fewer physical and emotional difficulties, experience less pain, enjoy higher energy levels and are generally happier and calmer. Positive thinking has been found to boost the body's immune system so we can better fight infection.”

Not only does the presence of the fruit of the spirit lengthen life, medical researchers have also discovered that the absence of it can cut it short. One study of more than 21,000 nurses concluded that on-the-job stress (which indicates a lack of peace and joy) weakens a woman's health as much as smoking or a sedentary lifestyle.

Those, and other longevity statistics I've read are enough to convince me that the fruit of the spirit is even more important to living long and strong than a healthy diet and a rigorous exercise program. I am fully persuaded that walking in love will do even more to protect our bodies from sickness and disease than a basketful of vegetables. A lifestyle of joy will do more to reverse the effects of aging than an aerobics class—although I wholeheartedly support both.

Remember Mrs. Dias, the centenarian from Florida I wrote about in Chapter 3? She rolled and smoked her own cigars for years but lived to 114 anyway. She reportedly loved everyone she met. The fruit of the spirit must have counteracted the hazards of the tobacco!

Another man named Jackson John Pollock did the same thing. He lived to be 128 and confounded conventional wisdom by smoking Prince Albert tobacco all the way through his old age. When asked what he attributed his longevity to, he answered, “Trust in God and He'll pull you through.” Whether Mr. Pollock knew it or not, his smoking wasn't doing him any good; but the peace he experienced because of his faith in God was apparently enough to overcome it. (Think how long he might have lived if he'd given up Prince Albert!)

A friend told me of his relative who lived to be 100, despite eating lard every day. According to medical science, that lard should have killed him at a much younger age, but it didn't. The reason? My friend said he was the kindest, gentlest, most loving person you would ever meet.

The lives of people like Mrs. Dias, Mr. Pollock and my friend's lard-eating relative absolutely thrill me because they demonstrate just how effective our spiritual antioxidants can be. They show us that while we should do all we can to be good stewards of our physical bodies, even if we can't eat a nutritionally perfect diet, and even if we can't get to the gym every single day, we can still join the ranks of the centenarians if we'll maintain our supply of the fruit of the spirit.

There are more than just a few isolated studies and a handful of anecdotal evidence to support that statement. Today, ever-increasing numbers of medical doctors are validating it. They are realizing that a positive mindset (the fruit of the spirit) can be as vital to a person's physical body as nutritious food. They are discovering that attitudes and emotions can make—or break—a person's health. Dr. Don Colbert in his eye-opening book, *Deadly Emotions*, makes the straightforward assertion that how you feel emotionally can determine how you feel physically. He says:

Certain emotions release hormones into the physical body that, in turn, can trigger the development of a host of diseases. Researchers have directly and scientifically linked emotions to hypertension, cardiovascular disease, and diseases related to the immune system.... Specifically, research has linked emotions such as depression to an increased risk of developing cancer and heart disease. Emotions such as anxiety and fear have

shown a direct tie to heart palpitations, mitral valve prolapse, irritable bowel syndrome, and tension headaches, as well as other diseases.

According to Dr. Colbert, depression, anxiety and fear aren't the only deadly emotions. Others such as rage, hostility, bitterness, resentment, unforgiveness and stress can also do damage to our bodies and open the door to premature aging, disease and early death.

The link between negative emotions and disease might be surprising news to modern scientists, but God has known it all along. Jesus warned us more than 2,000 years ago about the deadly effect that fear, for instance, can have on the heart. Describing the terrible things that would take place on the earth at the end of the age, He said there would be “distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; *men's hearts failing them from fear* and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken” (Luke 21:25-26, *NKJV*). Long before Jesus issued that warning, the Old Testament declared both the positive and negative physical effects of emotions.

The Bible and medical science agree that it's good for your health to be merry, relaxed, cheerful and optimistic. It's bad for your health to be angry, sorrowful, anxious, envious and pessimistic.

Stay Connected to the Vine

“But Gloria,” you might say, “how can we possibly stay free of deadly emotions in this dangerous, high-pressure age? How can we maintain positive attitudes when negative experiences and circumstances surround us?”

The answer is simple, but demanding. We do it by maintaining our fellowship with Jesus. When we cultivate and strengthen our union with Him, by spending time with God in His Word, doing what it says and fellowshiping with Him in prayer, the positive forces of the fruit of the spirit will abound in our lives. That's not just my opinion. It's what Jesus taught.

Just as natural antioxidants and other valuable nutrients are most potent when they come from fresh foods that have been recently connected to the plant on which they grew, the divine life within us is most potent when we're connected to our spiritual Vine. Our fruit is most robust when our fellowship with Jesus is fresh and we are staying in contact with Him.

When we don't stay in contact with Him, we're

like a vine that's been broken off the branch. What happens to such a vine? It withers. It just can't live without the sap and life of the vine coming into it. Even if you put that branch really close to the vine, if it's not connected, if it's not in living contact, it won't be able to bear fruit.

That's why we must be so diligent to maintain our fellowship with the Lord. That connection enables us to live from the inside out. It empowers us to walk in the spirit, bear the fruit of the spirit, and conquer the deadly emotions and activities of the flesh. Galatians 5:16-23 puts it this way:

Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.... Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control (*NKJV*).

If you look at the nine words used to describe the fruit of the spirit, then compare them to the nine deadly emotions we listed earlier (rage, grief, hostility, stress, fear, anxiety, bitterness, resentment and unforgiveness) you'll notice something interesting. The two lists are exact opposites of one another. It's no wonder when we allow the fruit to flourish in our lives, it counteracts the toxic effects of the deadly emotions. The fruit is divinely designed to protect us from the emotional harm this fallen world inflicts on us. If we will cultivate it, if we will yield to its influence, that fruit will keep us healthy inside and out. It will literally add years to our lives. **vICTORY**

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Speaker Schedule*

Thursday
7:00 pm | Kenneth Copeland

Friday
9:00 am | Kenneth Copeland
2:00 pm | Gloria Copeland
7:00 pm | Kenneth Copeland

Saturday
9:30 am | Gloria Copeland
Healing School
6:30 pm | Kenneth Copeland

* Schedule is subject to change