



Believer's Voice of

VICTORY

July 2014

Natalie Hawkins: Olympic Mom

"I told myself that my daughter had an opportunity to make her dream come true. And in the midst of that she may very well make history, so it's a dream worth fighting for."

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Bring In the Harvest

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Living the Good Life

It's Simple!

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How we minister every day
with our Partners

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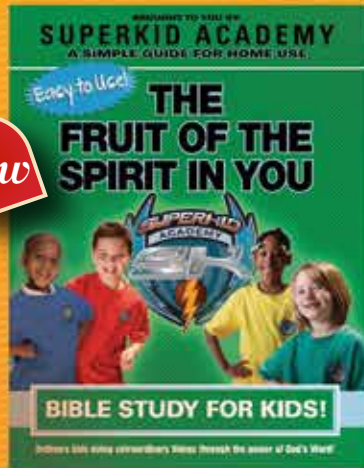
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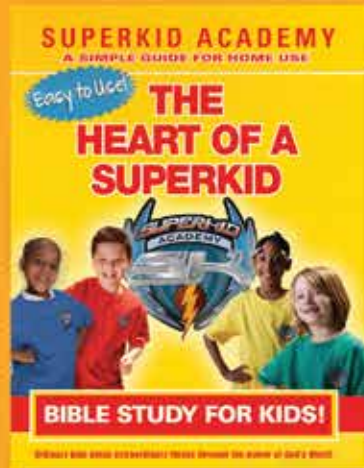
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by Kenneth Copeland

It's a Wonderful Life!

The Christian life is not hard.

I realize that might come as a shock to some people, but it's true nevertheless. When we live it the way God intended, the Christian life is wonderfully simple. It is, as Jesus said in Matthew 11:30, *easy and light*.

We don't have to exhaust ourselves figuring out solutions to the problems we're facing. We don't have to struggle to make ends meet. We don't have to wonder and worry about the future.

All we have to do is follow our Good Shepherd. All we have to do is go where He leads, say what He tells us to say, and do what He shows us to do, and He takes care of the rest. He makes us lie down in green pastures so we don't want for anything. He leads us beside still waters so we're constantly rested and refreshed. He keeps us on the right road so we're never lost, confused or afraid.

Does that sound to you like a hard life?

It certainly doesn't to me. What it sounds like is the kind of life described by the 23rd Psalm. A life so wonderful that every day our cup runneth over with the goodness and mercy of The LORD!

"Well, Brother Copeland," someone might say, "we have to have some wisdom about these things. We have to remember that Psalm 23 is talking about the life





we'll have after we leave this earth. It's talking about what we'll have someday in heaven."

No, it's not. If it were it wouldn't say things like, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil," and "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies" (verses 4-5).

Heaven doesn't have any shadowy valleys. Our enemies aren't up there hanging around God's tables. The shadows and enemies are here on earth.


That's the reason we need Jesus here with us. This world is a perilous place! We don't have what it takes to navigate it alone. We need Him to lead us through all the dangers, crises and shortages the devil creates so that we can come through them all abundantly BLESSED.

"Will Jesus really do that for us?" you ask.

Absolutely! He assured us of it time and again. As He said in John 10: "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep...and they shall hear my voice" (verses 10, 14-16).

Notice in those verses Jesus didn't say He'd be our Shepherd someday in the sweet by and by. He said, "I *am*" your Shepherd. Present tense. Right here and right now.

He also said He's a *good* Shepherd—a Shepherd who is so personally interested and involved with His flock that He "callesth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out" (verse 3). A Shepherd who "goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice"



God is raising up
more and more
very anointed,
very powerful young
men and women with
whom He is calling us
to become Partners.
There are not a
few RESOURCES.
Not a trickle. Not a
stream. Not a river.

But a Flood!

—Kenneth

(verse 4).

Sheep won't follow a mean shepherd. They can't be driven like a bunch of cattle. They have to be led by someone they're willing to follow—and, praise God!—that's the kind of Shepherd we have. He'll never try to drive us. He'll never force us to do anything.

He's very kind and gentle. He's full of love, mercy and grace. He's constantly calling out to us and saying, "Come on, Kenneth, come on, Susie, come on, precious ones, the green pastures are over here. Follow Me and I'll lead you into them."

Sadly, however, much of the time Jesus' sheep are too busy bleating about their troubles to hear Him. Every once in a while they might pay enough attention to think, *Is someone calling me?* But then they go right back to saying, "Baa! Baa! I'm so thirsty! I'm so hungry!"

I know because I did it myself. I wasted years of my life either ignoring, or flat out running away from, my Good Shepherd. As a result, I made life much harder than it needed to be.

But Jesus, in His great love and mercy, never gave up on me. He kept on speaking day after day. He kept on leading and encouraging me to follow until I finally committed my life to Him and said the words that changed everything: "Yes, LORD. I hear You and from this time forward I will obey Your voice. Whatever You say, I will do. I am Yours, Sir, to command."

Don't Try to Figure It Out

"Brother Copeland, I think it's great that you made such a quality commitment to The LORD. But to be honest, I'm afraid to do that. There's no telling what He might ask of me. He might send me someplace like China or Africa, and I don't want to go there. Even if I did, I don't know how I'd manage to do it."

That's the beauty of having The LORD as your Shepherd. You don't have to worry about those things. If He wants you to go to China, He'll lead you there by putting



God planned for Adam and Eve to subdue and rule this planet with ***His compassion*** until the whole place became a Garden of Eden.

within you a desire to go. "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure" (Philippians 2:13). He'll also supply you with all the power, wisdom and resources you need to make the trip. (See Matthew 6:33.)

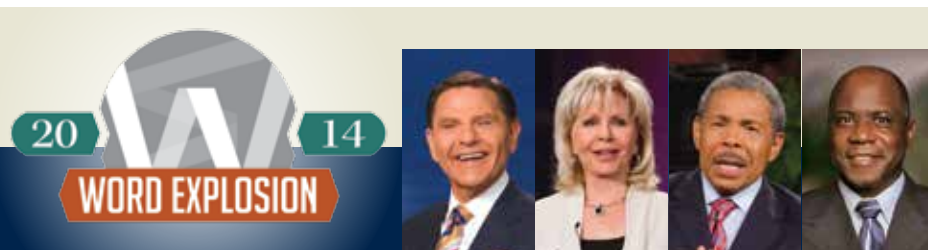
You don't have to figure out how everything is going to come together. Figuring things out is not your job. Your job is just to listen to Him and obey, trusting Him to go ahead of you and prepare the way.

That's what the Israelites should have done when God first tried to lead them into the Promised Land. They should have just listened to Him and trusted Him to take care of them. But, as you probably know from reading the story, they didn't. They decided instead to listen to the

doubters who said: "[This]...is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature. And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight" (Numbers 13:32-33).

When the Israelites heard those words, they panicked. They couldn't figure how grasshoppers could defeat giants. So instead of going into the land and enjoying the green pastures and still waters God had prepared for them there, they trudged around in the wilderness crying and weeping for 40 years.

Now that's what I call a hard life! And here's the kicker: It was totally based on a lie. As it turned out, the



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giants in the Promised Land didn't look at the Israelites like grasshoppers at all. On the contrary, they saw them as mighty conquerors with an invincible God, and they were desperately afraid of them.

The next generation of Israelites found this out. When they went into the Promised Land, one of the residents confided that the entire population of the place had been quaking with fear for the past four decades. "I know that the Lord hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us," she said, "and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you. For

we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites...whom ye utterly destroyed. And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you" (Joshua 2:9-11).

Can't you just imagine the Israelites slapping their foreheads and saying, "What a waste of 40 years! We could have come into this land as children if our parents had only known this. The giants would have surrendered to us immediately!"

The Tougher the Place, the Bigger the Miracles

It always pays to follow the Good Shepherd. It doesn't matter what the situation looks like. The best place to be is where He's leading you to go, because He's already gone before you and prepared things.

So don't pay any attention to the doubts and the lies of the devil. When he tells you about all the giants in your promised land, just shut him down. Say, "God has spoken to me and I'm on my way. The victory is already mine. God is already working for me over there. He's sent angels ahead of me. He's prepared the place. He's prepared abundant provision for me, and He's authorized and empowered me. I'm not expecting a hard time. I'm expecting the time of my life!"

Don't get me wrong here. I'm not suggesting you can just float through life without facing any challenges. I'm saying that if you follow the Good Shepherd and put your faith in Him, you don't have to worry about the challenges. You can conquer every one of them with gusto, because God will do through you, and for you, exceeding abundantly above what you can ask or think, according to the power that works in you (Ephesians 3:20).

"But don't we sometimes have to suffer for Jesus?" you might ask.

Yes, but to me that kind of suffering is like what I experienced as a high-school football player. When I got out on the field at game time I would play so hard I hurt all over. My head hurt. My hair hurt. My eyebrows hurt. But I enjoyed every minute of it.

I wasn't suffering. I was playing a game.

I feel the same way about playing for Jesus. I love being on His team. I'm always inquiring of Him, asking, "Where do You want me to go, Sir? What do You want me to say? What do You want me to do? Here I am, send me!"

I'm not hoping He'll send me somewhere easy, either. I'm hoping He'll give me an assignment that

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takes some guts. Granted, I didn't develop that attitude overnight, and neither will you. But if you stick with Jesus and keep feeding on His WORD, there will come a time when you know that the tougher the place is where He sends you, the bigger the miracles will be when you get there.

Two Thumbs Up

Many years ago, one of our ministry Partners experienced this truth in a most remarkable way when she followed the Good Shepherd right into the toughest place you can imagine: in a face-to-face confrontation with a serial killer.

The day she crossed paths with him, he was running from the police and he needed a car. So he stole hers—with her in it. At the time, he'd already murdered 21 women and he didn't think killing her would be a problem for him. He figured if he wanted to he'd just do it.

He soon realized, however, this woman was unusual. She was no easy mark. She didn't cry and quiver with fear at his threats. Instead she looked him straight in the eye and said the words *The LORD* dropped in her heart: "You're not going to kill me because I love you."

He could hardly believe his ears. "Lady, shut up!" he said. "You don't know who I am."

"I don't care who you are," she replied. "I love you and I'm going to tell you about Jesus."

"I don't want to hear about Jesus. I just want you to be quiet!" he told her.

She agreed on one condition: She wanted to continue listening to the tape she'd been playing in the car that morning, which happened to be a recording of me preaching a message about the love of God. After the tape had played a while, he suddenly stopped the car and looked at her. "Who said that?" he asked. "Who

is in here with us?"

"There's no one here but you and me," she assured him.

"Yes, there is, because I just heard someone call me by name. I heard a man say, 'This is your last chance. I love you. You can receive Me today and be saved.'"

On the side of a country road, he accepted Jesus' invitation that day. He prayed the prayer of salvation with his heaven-sent hostage and was born again. Then he turned himself in to the police and she went home unharmed.

A week later, I got a call from the Bexar County Jail in San Antonio, Texas, asking if I would come and baptize him in water. I agreed with joy. When I arrived, I was escorted into a room full of policemen who watched the baptism with their hands on their guns.

In the months that followed, he was tried for his crimes, found guilty and sentenced to death. He refused any kind of appeal. Although some tried to talk him into it, he wasn't open to the idea. "No, I want to go home to be with Jesus," he said, "and I want to go the first chance I get."

I was there with him the day they carried out his sentence. He preached the gospel to everyone in the execution chamber. Just before they took him in, I asked him to give me a signal. "Right before they pull the switch, let me know if God's grace really is sufficient, OK?" A few minutes later, just before they pulled the switch, with a smile on his face that stretched from ear to ear, he put both thumbs up. More than enough!

Although he has been in heaven for many years now, if he were here he'd be the first to tell you, the Christian life isn't hard. What's hard is running away from the Shepherd who loves you. When you're following Jesus, wherever He leads you, His yoke is easy and His burden is light. 🍷



Mac Gober was founder and director of Canaan Land Ministries in Autaugaville, Ala., and originator and founder of the Elite CX Team at Kenneth Copeland Ministries. He fought a good fight, ran a good race, finished his course and went home to be with his Savior on May 5, 2014.

I can tell you, there's no question about the crown of glory and reward coming to this man of faith. I've known and ministered with Mac for many years. He and I prayed together, rode motorcycles together and won souls together.

At one time, while ministering with Mac, we saw over a thousand people come to the Lord in one service. As Mac gave his testimony, we saw thousands more come to the Lord in other services. Mac, Ben Priest, Jerry Savelle, Dennis Burke and I baptized over a thousand people in one day in Eagle Mountain Lake. It was magnificent! It was the most wonderful "tired" I have ever experienced.

There's just story after story after story about Mac's faith.

Mac and Sandra stood together in every kind of spiritual storm the devil was able to throw at them. We give the Lord praise and thanksgiving for his life, his testimony, his family and for the many, many, many people who Mac helped. People who everybody else had given up on. People who, in some cases, were literally found helpless, homeless and at death's door—literally in the street gutter. Mac and Sandra took them in.

In the early days, they took them into their home—and they only lived in a little place. In the nighttime, if you had to go to the bathroom, you had to get the guy out who was sleeping in the tub. But anybody who knows Mac knows heaven is his kind of place. Praise God! All of the people who have come into the kingdom of God through his and Sandra's ministry, what a time they are having there. What a rejoicing!

I want to remind you this is what we all live for, why we do what we do. This is our hope beyond the grave—our VICTORY OVER DEATH! What a rejoicing time it is.

Jesus has manifested Himself in Mac's life, and also in his departure. We give God the praise and glory for everything He's given to us through Mac and Sandra Gober.

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THERE IS A POWER SO STRONG IT MAKES THE RULERS OF THIS WORLD TREMBLE

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35 Years of HEALING SCHOOL

Early one summer morning in 1979, Gloria Copeland woke up and slipped out onto the back porch of the family's cabin in southwest Arkansas. While everyone else slept, she took the opportunity to pray.

It was in those quiet moments alone with God that Gloria remembered a prophecy she had recently received. She was told that she was about to hear from the Lord concerning something He wanted her to do. Thinking about that prophecy, she spoke from her heart and said, "Lord, You know I'll do anything You want me to do. Just tell me what it is."

When she finished praying, Gloria went inside to get ready for the day. A few moments later, God spoke to her and said, *I want you to start teaching on healing in all the meetings.*

In September 1979, three months after that encounter with God, Kenneth and Gloria Copeland obeyed God by adding a Healing School to each of the meetings they had scheduled for the rest

of that year—and Gloria began teaching on healing. It was during those meetings that the Lord also instructed her to begin laying hands on the sick and praying for them. So she did.

By the beginning of the next year, with a few meetings behind her, Gloria thought she was finished. She had obeyed God, and thought she could stop now. But then another prophecy came—this time through her husband—that made it clear to Gloria just when God intended for Healing School to end. The Lord said:


I want My people well. I have desired for My people to walk in health. I have desired for My people to know how to walk in health regardless of what ministry is in town. I want My people to know how to take My WORD, and stand on My WORD, and receive My healing power and know that I am The LORD. I want My people to walk with Me in health and life and know the good things that I have prepared for them. I have set a table before you in the presence of your enemies. You shall not be

an orphan group. You shall not be hungry. You shall not be in want, for I am the God-Provider. I am The LORD God that heals you.... I will have My people well, saith God. So My instruction to this ministry is: Continue this Healing School... until I return.

By that, it was clear to Gloria that the Lord not only wanted her to preach healing, but that He wanted her to preach it until Jesus returns.

This year marks the 35th anniversary of Healing School. Since it began in September 1979, every Believers' Convention and Victory Campaign held by Kenneth Copeland Ministries has given our Partners and Friends an opportunity to receive God's Word on divine healing and to apply it to their lives.

Gloria Copeland has taught Healing School around the world to countless numbers of people—boldly declaring that "Jesus always comes to Healing School!" And thousands of people have received God's Word on divine healing, applied it to their lives and seen the results.

To God be the glory! 

O'I've Raised an Olympian'

by Ronald C. Jordan

The atmosphere inside London's North Greenwich Arena was anything but hushed, as 16-year-old Gabby Douglas stepped up to perform the last of four routines as a member of the U.S. gymnastics team competing in the 2012 Olympics. Seated in the stands among a sea of cheering spectators, Natalie Hawkins breathed deeply—anticipating her daughter's next move.

For nearly 20 years, even before Gabrielle Douglas was born in Newport News, Va., life had been pretty much a day-to-day struggle for Natalie as she faced financial pressures and endured a strained marriage relationship, while raising four small children.

Her latest attempt at survival, filing for bankruptcy to save her home and keep a roof over her family's head, had threatened her last ounce of strength. Not to mention that just seven months before making the Olympic team, Gabby had announced to her family that she wanted to quit and come home. The stress of being away from her family had taken its toll on her.

Sitting there with her three children at her side, none of that seemed to matter to Natalie at the moment. What did matter was that her daughter was living out her lifelong dream of competing in the Olympics. And in the next few moments, Gabrielle Douglas could literally somersault her way into an Olympic title—and a gold medal!

"When the scores came up, and we realized she had won the gold, we were speechless," Natalie recalls of the excitement she, daughters Arielle and Joyelle, and son, Johnathan, felt. "It was as though God had restored everything

we had lost, and in one single moment, rewarded us for our faithfulness to keep trusting in Him through all the struggles and hardships."

It's been two years now since Gabby Douglas garnered triple honors in August 2012, making Olympic history by becoming the first African-American gymnast to become the individual all-around champion; the first American gymnast to win gold in both the individual all-around and team competitions at the same Olympics; and the only American all-around champion to win multiple gold medals. Natalie still gets emotional whenever she talks about her daughter's accomplishments and reflects on the struggles the family endured along the way.

Only the brightness of her beautiful smile overshadows the sadness her eyes sometimes reflect when she remembers those times—times where Natalie found herself on a perpetual roller coaster that, for years, brought more downs than ups.

No Reason to Be Ashamed

"Life was just incredibly difficult for us back then," Natalie says, responding in a tone that sometimes reflects both regret and sadness. But she won't dwell on either.

"I can't stay sad about anything that happened back then because, I know through every moment of it, God was right there," she says. "There were times I wanted to give up, and times that I actually did. But even when I gave up on Him, He never gave up on me!"





“My children know the Word of God, and I’m constantly blessed as I watch them put it into practice daily.”

“And I can’t be embarrassed or ashamed about any of it, either. There always seemed to be a roadblock. But despite those very difficult times, God protected us. It may not have seemed like He was there at times, but He was. He never left us!”

Difficult times!

It’s a polite way of describing what life was like for Natalie Hawkins after she married in 1991. A single mom with a 2-year-old daughter, Natalie had looked forward to a life of excitement, including the possibility of ministering alongside her new husband, Timothy Douglas, who was a Bible school graduate. Instead, Natalie found herself in a whirlwind relationship that lasted for years, bringing with it more hardship than what she had hoped her future would hold.

Many of those difficult times, Natalie says, are attributed to her having to take on the responsibility of supporting the family. After years of struggling, she and Tim divorced in 2002, remarried in 2005 and split for good six months later.

Careful not to speak disparagingly of her ex-husband, Natalie doesn’t shy away from the fact that “the periods of his unemployment had a negative impact on the relationship.” She also says Tim has not had a regular presence in the family’s life over the years, which has been somewhat difficult for their children.

Early Church Experience

Serving God was nothing new to Natalie when she and Tim first met. At age 5, she and her mom, who was on active duty in the Navy and stationed in Norfolk, Va., began attending a church in Virginia Beach, and Natalie was enrolled in the church’s private academy a couple of years later. Natalie strayed from church for a while during her high-school years, she said, but rededicated her life to the Lord in 1990.

“Tim and I met in church shortly after I had returned to the Lord in 1990,” she explains. “He introduced me to the teaching ministry of Kenneth and Gloria Copeland, and



Natalie called the ministry's prayer line and requested prayer for her daughter. It was no surprise that after all of the hard work... Gabby emerged as the overall winner.

Arielle, Joyelle,
Natalie & Gabby

other powerful preachers.”

Later in 1991, the two were married.

It wasn't long before problems began to surface, Natalie says. With Tim unemployed, Natalie worked to try to help make ends meet. But no matter how hard she tried there was never enough money to support the family. Not knowing what to do, she looked to God for comfort—and help.

The Need to Make a Move

“There was a book by Gloria Copeland titled *God's Will for Your Prosperity* that became my lifeline,” Natalie recalls. “In it, she talked about her and Brother Copeland's experiences of living in poverty and how, at one point, they even had to cook in a coffee pot. That story, and other things she described, sounded so much like what we were going through that it gave me the courage to step out and try to make something happen.”

In February 1996, Natalie and Tim moved the family to Tulsa, Okla., hoping things would change for the better. Sadly, it turned out just the opposite. In preparation for their move, Natalie found a place to live, phoned the owner, explained their financial situation and offered to send money for a deposit. To her surprise, the owner agreed to work out something with them.

“He told me not to worry and that he would hold the house until we got there,” Natalie said. “But when we arrived weeks later, he had already rented it to someone else.”

Now homeless and with no money to continue to live out of motels,

the family was forced to live in their vehicle until they found a place to stay. Adding to their problems, 2-month-old Gabrielle had suffered with a blood condition since birth and was also having respiratory issues, and there was no money to provide the medical care she needed.

“That was a really low point, because my baby needed help and we couldn't afford to take her to the doctor,” said Natalie.

Desperate for help, Natalie cried out to God, “Lord, if through my ignorance I have done something wrong then I receive my forgiveness. We're already in debt, and we have no money. Show me what to do for my child, and my family!”

“I consistently spoke God's Word over her then, the same way I did over her dream [to compete in the Olympics],” said Natalie. “Over the years, I told anyone who would listen that Gabrielle was going to be an Olympian in 2012. Many people told me later that they thought I was kind of crazy. However, now they want to know how we did it!”

Over time Gabrielle began to get better, and by the time she was a year old, every symptom was gone, says Natalie. She was still very small, but for the first time in her life she was healthy.

'We Need Jobs!'

That same year, Natalie and Tim attended a conference at Oral Roberts University, where Kenneth Copeland was one of the speakers. After one of the sessions, Natalie recalled, one of the speakers looked out into the

audience and said, “If you are believing God for something, if you're believing Him to move in your life, get down here right now.”

“I was out of my seat lickety-split!” Natalie recalled.

Standing in line for prayer, Natalie and Tim were surprised when Kenneth and Gloria Copeland walked up to them. Not giving them a chance to ask for their prayer request, Natalie blurted out, “We need God's help! We have been through so much! We need a miracle! We need something! Anything God can give us at this point I'm going to be happy for.”

“Then, I heard myself say, ‘We need jobs. You got any openings at KCM? We're willing to come. We'll clean your toilets. We'll clean your floors. We just need to take care of our family.’”

“I remember Brother Copeland looking at Tim, and then me. He pointed his finger at us and said, ‘Come.’ Then, he said, ‘Give me your name badges. We go a lot of places; I meet a lot of people.’”

A Fresh Start?

When Tim, Natalie and their four children arrived in Fort Worth, Texas, in the summer of 1996, they went straight to Kenneth Copeland Ministries where they were given an opportunity to apply for work at the ministry. Within a couple of weeks, Natalie had found work at a local financial institution.

The couple joined Eagle Mountain International Church, and got their children involved in Superkid Academy, KCM's children's ministry. Though Tim was not hired immediately, he eventually went to work in the ministry's security department. Suddenly, things were looking up.

Over the next four years, Natalie fed on the teachings of KCM and EMIC. She also enrolled for a short time at Jerry Saville Ministries International Bible School, and obtained an associate degree from a local community college, all while working full time. But despite her efforts, the roller coaster continued in a downward spiral. With Tim again out of work, the lack of finances continued to be a problem.

“By then our marriage was so splintered...” Natalie said. “Also, due to downsizing, the call center site where I worked was closed. Everyone was laid off. Now, I had no job. I started getting angry. I literally set my faith aside. I was mad at God, wondering where He was in all of this. In 2000, I had no choice but to move back in with my mom in Virginia and gratefully she took me and the kids in.”

Two months after returning to Virginia, Natalie was working full time and able to provide for her four children. Two years later, she bought her first home. That same year, she and Tim divorced.

Examining her life, Natalie knew something was missing.

“I had gotten away from God, and I missed my relationship with Him,” Natalie admits. “There was a tug on my heart, but I was still angry and bitter. One day my mom said to me, ‘You really need to let that go. I know how incredibly hard it is to forgive, but you have to.’”

“I was just disgruntled, and I knew it, but I also knew it’s a lot easier to love than it is to hate,” says Natalie.

Acting on her mother’s advice, Natalie chose to let love prevail. In 2005, she started going back to church. She also reconciled with Tim, and the two remarried. Sadly, the marriage lasted only about six months.

Over the next several years, Natalie struggled to keep the family together. Even when she suffered a negative reaction to prescription medication and was forced to leave her job in 2009, she managed to find a way to support her children.

The Road to Victory

In 2010, Natalie found herself faced with a challenge of a different kind when 14-year-old Gabrielle, who had been involved in gymnastics since age 6, decided she wanted to take her training to a higher level. By now, Gabby had become an accomplished gymnast, entering and winning a number of competitions. But with her sights set on competing in the Olympics, she needed advanced training.

When she learned of veteran

gymnastics coach Liang Chow, the man who coached 2007 World Champion and 2008 Summer Olympics Balance Beam gold medalist Shawn Johnson, Gabby pleaded with her mom to let her go to Des Moines, Iowa, to train. It took some persuading, but in time Natalie finally agreed. So, in 2010, Gabby moved to Iowa where, for the next two years, she lived with a host family and trained with Chow.

In June 2012, Gabby competed in the U.S. National Championships in St. Louis, Mo., where she won the gold medal in uneven bars, silver in the all-around and bronze in floor. In July, she competed at the 2012 Olympic Trials in San Jose, Calif., placing first in the all-around rankings, and securing the only guaranteed spot on the women’s Olympic gymnastics team.

Just seven months before the Olympic games, Gabby informed her mom that she was homesick and wanted to quit. Natalie was devastated, especially considering all the work that had gone in to her daughter’s training and getting this far.

“I understood how she was feeling, and I wanted to bring her home so badly,” said Natalie. “But I knew if we did, we would never be able to live with ourselves. I also knew this was *her* dream. I told her that if she quit now, she would never get this moment back again, that it would be gone forever.

“We prayed, and Gabrielle took some time to think about her situation. She called me later and said, ‘I’m going to give it everything I’ve got, Mom.’”

Thankful that her daughter was living out her dream, Natalie wanted as much support for Gabby as possible as she prepared to compete. Remembering her relationship with KCM, Natalie called the ministry’s prayer line and requested prayer for her daughter. It was no surprise that after all of the hard work, time and sacrifices, in addition to the prayers from believers across the country, when the final scores were tallied, Gabby emerged as the overall winner.

Asked during an interview how she stayed encouraged through the years

of adversity, and how she made the hard decisions as Gabby was pursuing her dream, Natalie said: “I told myself, my daughter had an opportunity to make her dream come true. And in the midst of that she may very well make history and inspire a nation, so it’s a dream worth fighting for. It’s a dream worth putting everything that I have into. That was my encouragement.”

As a mom who encouraged her children to pursue their dreams, Natalie is quick to point out how much her children continue to keep her encouraged.

“My children know the Word of God,” she says, “and I’m constantly blessed as I watch them put it into practice daily. We’ve embraced God’s commandment of walking in love, and the unity that we experience as a family is beautiful.”

Today, the roller-coaster ride for Natalie Hawkins has leveled out some, and the ups far outweigh the downs. Instead of fretting over bills, Natalie’s focus is on the future of her children. Earlier this year, the family moved to California—a move that made managing Gabby’s new career easier. It has also enabled daughters Arielle and Joyelle to pursue their dreams to become actors. The two are now taking acting classes.

And as he winds down his first year in college, son Johnathan, an accomplished sprinter, has his eye on joining his sister as a competitor in the 2016 Olympics in Brazil.

“It’s easy to get caught up in all the excitement of what’s happened over the last couple of years,” Natalie said during a recent visit to KCM. “But the truth is, none of this would have ever happened without God’s help. Even when I turned my back on Him, He never turned His back on me. We owe Him everything.”

Natalie is grateful for the teaching she received from Kenneth and Gloria Copeland, and at EMIC. As a Partner with the ministry, she continues to follow their teachings.

“I consider the Copelands my spiritual father and mother,” she says. “They have nourished me beyond what I can even put into words.”



YOUR VOICE. YOUR VICTORY. YOUR MINISTRY.

GoodNewsGazette

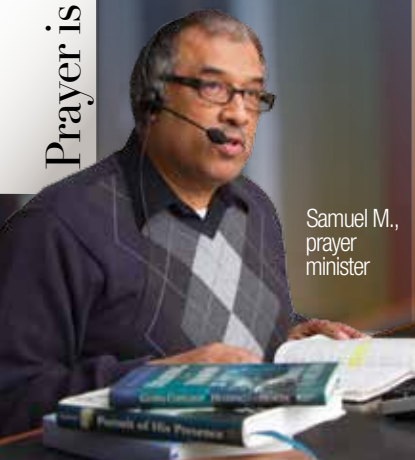
“Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou art my praise.” Jeremiah 17:14

God Told Us What to Pray
In June 2013, floodwaters came into Calgary and High River with such force they took out roads and bridges and caused massive flooding such as had never been experienced before. We sought God as to how to pray for Medicine Hat. We knew that all that water was headed that way, and a large part of the city was about to be flooded. He instructed us to pray that the two rivers that make up the South Saskatchewan River would not reach Medicine Hat at the same time. That is exactly what happened and thus a great amount of water came in much more slowly and the damage to area homes was much less, with far fewer homes affected. To God be the glory!

B.B. | Alberta, Canada

Leg Pain Gone
I want to thank you all for praying for my leg. After I asked for prayer the pain left almost immediately. Only a bit of numbness is left, praise God!

D.M. | Canada



Samuel M.,
prayer
minister

The Truth Is Making Me Free!

I first heard of you when I was in Augusta, Ga. You were on TV so I watched, and started tithing 50 cents a month. I signed up as a Covenant Partner in 1976. Through you, I learned much-needed truth!

God showed me all the religious things I had been taught, and it took about six months for Him to get me started in the truth. Thank you and praise God for you and Gloria, for standing, listening and being obedient. N.H. | Madison, Ind.

Surgery NOT Required

I had a very bad infection that required surgery. I phoned the prayer line and the next day it was gone. Thank you for your prayers.

H.G. | Canada

KCM USA
received
1.8 M
prayer
requests
in 2013

You Inspired Me to Succeed!

I would like to express my gratitude toward you for your email devotions. My dad had subscribed on my behalf but I never really read them. I felt I was too far from God and didn't think I would ever get back on track with Him. I had been struggling to complete my degree and was doing terribly at varsity. In January 2013, I received a letter from the university telling me that I had been kicked out due to slow academic progress (I commenced my degree in 2008). Upon receiving that letter I decided to give myself to God and accept Him as my Lord and Savior.

I took the letter and wrote

scriptures that went against everything it said. I declared it null and void, and then appealed to the admissions committee. My appeal was declined. I was devastated and I cried out to God. I decided to appeal to the dean of students, and by the power of our heavenly Father, I was granted a second chance. I decided to sow a seed into this ministry, asking God to grant me wisdom because I did not know how I was going to pass.

On 5 Sept. 2013, I graduated! It would not have happened if it weren't for the teachings I received from you. You taught me how to build a relationship with God.

N.M. | South Africa

A Lifestyle of Love Has Its Rewards

I have God's divine love within my heart and I am learning to live the lifestyle of love, as you have preached. I'm learning to have the joy of the Lord and share it with others. I do not totally understand why now, but I do understand the grace of our Father.

I was told to search online for a pastoral nursing school for my B.S.N. I found a school, requested information online and hit the submit button. As my finger left the computer keyboard, the phone rang—it was the school! I was amazed because no more than a second had passed between hitting the submit button and the phone ringing. My lifelong dream became a reality in a matter of days: I am going to Bible school to receive my B.S.N. My credits from my nursing degree transfer. My surprise was not only the phone call after I hit the submit button, but what should have taken three to four weeks to be enrolled—financially and all—took six working days to complete. I am still in awe. One of the students in admissions stated, “This is Jesus working in your life.”

At the age of 56, I can say our Father in heaven truly does love me. This is a lifelong dream come true and the doors blew open by the grace of our Father. Tears of joy are rolling down my cheeks as I type these words. I am so thankful that God loved us so much, He sent Jesus. Praise be and glory to God—Jesus is Lord! I love you all so much.

Jacquelyn M. | Green Bay, Wis.

An aerial photograph of Hong Kong at dusk. The city's dense skyline is visible, with numerous skyscrapers and buildings. The Victoria Harbour is in the foreground, reflecting the city lights. The background shows the surrounding mountains under a twilight sky with soft clouds. The overall color palette is dominated by blues, purples, and oranges from the setting sun.

Hong
Kong

The Seed of the Righteous Is Blessed

To GOD be all the glory! Thank you to KCM. Last May I asked you to pray for my son, who was taking his IB exam [pre-college]. The results just came and PRAISE GOD, he passed the exam. Thank you, KCM intercessors. Being a Partner with KCM is such a big blessing for us. Again, thank you and God bless you! N.T. | Hong Kong

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.

connect with us

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

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and ask for offer #K0602

phone

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mail

Tick the circle on the order form that comes with this magazine.



Kenneth's Partner Letter

“The LORD has blessed me with many good friends over the years, but the best friends I have are the people who have partnered with me in this ministry. ***Those are the people I write letters to every month.***”

And every month since penning his first Partner Letter in February 1986, Kenneth Copeland has faithfully fulfilled his commitment to write a letter and send it to all his Partners, year in and year out, without fail. It's timely, it's real and it's personal...because as far as Brother Copeland is concerned, he's writing to his closest friends.

A Lifelong Commitment

Kenneth Copeland learned the importance of letter writing from his spiritual father, Oral Roberts, years ago when the two met early one morning at Brother Roberts' request to have Kenneth “help him” write his own partner letter. Sitting across the desk, Brother Roberts held up his Bible and asked Kenneth a pointed question:

“What is this?”

“That's The WORD of God.”

“What *is* this?” Brother Roberts asked again.

Kenneth knew he hadn't given the right answer, and he tried again.

“Well, it's the Old Covenant and the New Covenant.”

“*What is this?*” Brother Roberts asked a third time.

“It's the Bible.”

Wham! Without warning, Brother Roberts “shovel-passed” the Bible across the desk and hit Kenneth right in the chest with it—nearly knocking him over in his chair.

“Those are letters!” he said, the anointing all over him. “And they're just as anointed today as they were the day they were written!”

Letters!

The word reverberated to Kenneth's core. He thought, *The New Testament is mostly letters from the Apostle Paul to his partners in the churches at Ephesus, Philippi, Galatia, Corinth, Rome, Colossae and Thessalonica—letters written to encourage them and to help them overcome every obstacle!*

Then, Brother Roberts spoke again:

“I'm going to ask you to make one of the most serious commitments you've ever made in your life,” he told Kenneth. “I want you to commit to God that every 30 days, for the rest of your life, you will pray in the Holy Ghost until you have something anointed to write to your Partners, just the way Paul wrote to his.”

That day, Kenneth made a lifelong commitment. The LORD then led him to study Philippians—a letter from Paul to *his* ministry partners—as an example of how the Holy Spirit could use him to write his own letters.

MEN ARE SAVED
HEALED AND PROSPERED
BY HEARING AND
SPEAKING WORDS
WORDS OF FAITH!

Dear Partner

You're very strong on my heart
as I write this letter this
morning. I asked The Father
what I could ~~say~~ say to you
that would open ~~his~~ the
FLOOD GATES OF THE BLESSING OF THE
LORD

"From that time until now," says Kenneth, "I've written a letter every month to my friends who are in partnership with me. They aren't money-raising letters. I don't write them for that reason. God is my Source, and *He* meets all my needs. I write the letters because I want to bless my Partners. Since they are partakers of my grace (Philippians 1:7), I want to share with them the revelations God has given me."

And they aren't off-the-cuff revelations.

Each letter represents hours upon hours of prayer on Brother Copeland's part. Through them, he shares personally the things The LORD is teaching him with a desire that they will strengthen and encourage all who receive them.

"I agonize over those letters," says Kenneth. "I pray...and pray...and pray...and pray. Then I go back to prayer until I hear what's on God's heart. Sometimes it comes to me in the middle of the night. But one thing's for sure—I wait until I hear from heaven. I don't just sit down and put something on paper."

Perhaps no one knows better the time and commitment Kenneth spends each month writing his Partner Letter than members of his own family.

"Mother and Daddy have always been committed to our Partners," says daughter Kellie Copeland Swisher, who remembers growing up watching her dad handwrite the Partner Letter each month.

Kellie remembers how her dad routinely spends hours, with pen and legal pad at hand, "praying over the Partner Letter until he hears from the Lord."

"We would go on vacation, and if it was time for the

Partner Letter, Dad wouldn't do anything until it was written. He wouldn't ski. He wouldn't go to the lake. He wouldn't budge from his chair until it was finished. It was like the Partners were on vacation with us.

"And when he had finished writing, if he couldn't hold that letter up and say from his heart to the Lord, 'This is what You're saying to the people, and this is to get their needs met—not mine,' I don't care how great a letter it was, he would wad it up, throw it on the floor and start over again."

The Heartbeat of Ministry

Since its inception, Kenneth Copeland's Partner Letter has been not only an encouragement to Partners, but also a source of truth and victory. For instance, when a recession hit Canada several years ago, one Partner there remembered the instruction The LORD had given her through Brother Copeland's Partner Letter in February 1992: *Don't join the recession!* So she didn't. After heeding that word, the Holy Spirit instructed her to take it a step further and pray the recession would work *for* her and not *against* her.

Brother Copeland recounts, "The first thing that happened was, instead of being a victim of downsizing in her company as a result of the recession, she was promoted to a position in human resources." Soon after, she was given the opportunity to finish her education. "As the world around her was going through a recession, she chose to participate in THE BLESSING of provision and promotion in God!"

Moreover, Kenneth Copeland's

Partner Letters have become the heartbeat of the ministry itself. "I would estimate that 85-90 percent of what I preach in meetings...I receive the revelation of it while I'm writing that letter," Kenneth said. "I've been doing it for a number of years and it's a constant flow and a constant fountain of revelation for me."

Today the Partner Letter, which is mailed to nearly 300,000 people worldwide each month, is one of the most important ministry tools extending from Kenneth Copeland Ministries. It travels the world, from the top to the bottom and all the way around, providing strength and resulting in thousands of testimonies of salvation, healing, deliverance, restoration and increase.

Though most material by KCM takes several months to produce, the Partner Letter is considered top priority and takes only a matter of days from conception to completion.

"These letters have changed lives—my Partners' and mine," says Kenneth. "Thanks to God, and to the Holy Spirit working through the Apostle Paul and Brother Roberts, we have all been blessed!"

Throughout the years, we have seen that partnership is indeed dynamic. But partnership is not a one-sided relationship. By definition, *partnership* means "to take a part in." As the Apostle Paul said, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now...because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace" (Philippians 1:3, 5, 7). 🍷

The Partner Letter is mailed to nearly **300,000 people worldwide** each month.



***"One thing's for sure—I wait until I hear from heaven.
I don't just sit down and put something on paper."***

Ken



An Invitation to Partnership *from Kenneth Copeland*

Partnership with
Kenneth Copeland
Ministries does not
mean you sign up for
some *program*. It's a
spiritual connection
that touches every
part of your life.

Thank you for the opportunity you have given us to be part of your life! That's what it's all about for Gloria and me. We are here for you...to minister the uncompromised WORD of faith and victory in Jesus into your life.

We've dedicated our own lives to showing believers how to let their voices be heard, how to live in victory and how to see the value of their own ministry to the people in their everyday lives. I've said this before, and I'll repeat it: This ministry is not about us; it's about how we can come alongside you—encouraging you, strengthening you and sharing in His glory with you.

Our lives changed dramatically years ago because we made one important decision: We determined to walk in faith every day, believing EVERY WORD of God and receiving THE BLESSING He has so graciously given!

Since that day, we've never turned back. It's been thrilling to walk with God and watch Him work in the lives of believers who made the same decision.

Today, I want to urge you, if you are new to KCM, to get in on what God is accomplishing in people's lives around the world through this ministry.

If your heart's desire is for a deeper walk with God, if you're looking for fresh revelation from His WORD, and if you're ready to step up and fulfill God's plan for your life, Gloria and I would like to

enter into a spiritual covenant of partnership with you. We would be honored to have you come alongside us—believing together for God's best, praying together and experiencing together His favor and blessing on all our lives as we discover the wealth and the wisdom of His WORD.

That's how we minister every day with our Partners.

Partnership with Kenneth Copeland Ministries does not mean you sign up for some *program*. It's a *spiritual connection* that touches every part of your life. It's a union of hearts—ours and yours—believing together to see God's WORD lived out, not only in our lives, but also in the lives of people all over the world, as we declare in a strong, clear voice, "Jesus Is LORD!" from the top of the world to the bottom and all the way around!

More than ever, God is looking for those who will choose to believe Him, as did Abraham, the father of faith. He needs those who will not only believe Him wholeheartedly, but will earnestly expect THE BLESSING of Abraham to be manifest in their own lives, and to be poured out into their world and into the lives of the people with whom He connects them!

That's the desire we've seen grow in our Partners down through the years. Their passion for His WORD increases. They trust God for answers in life and know He has given them the victory because of all Jesus

When the Spirit of God leads you to connect with our ministry, then our ministry's anointing comes on you, and your anointing is joined with ours.

has done for this world. They share with us that no matter where they are in their walk of faith, The WORD comes alive in them like never before! And they are empowered to be the strong voice of victory others need to hear!

Our Partners go with us "into the world" to preach and teach God's WORD. And when we go, there's an anointing for ministry that flows from our partnership. We experience God's hand of protection and provision, and we see the enemy defeated time after time as The WORD of God is proclaimed.

Because of the covenant we share, this ministry is not just ours—our Partners share in every aspect of it. Consider what the Apostle Paul wrote in Philippians when thanking his partners for their support of his work. He prayed for them always, holding them dear in his heart and declaring God's completed work in their lives. And he encouraged them in the truth, that as they prayed for him and supported him in his calling, they became partakers of the grace on his life and ministry (Philippians 1:7; 1 Corinthians 15:10).

He was referring to the Anointing of God that was obvious in his life. He reminded them that they shared in his anointing that was often seen in his ministry with "signs following."

It's no different today. When the Spirit of God leads you to

connect with our ministry, then our ministry's anointing comes on you, and your anointing is joined with ours. When we are connected in the Spirit, we can accomplish greater things for the glory of God. The Bible tells us that one can put a thousand to flight, and two can put 10,000 to flight. (See Deuteronomy 32:30.)

Today, we would like to invite you to join us in covenant partnership. We are here for you and would be thrilled to have you as our Partner in ministry...believers joined in purpose and vision...ministering the gospel of Jesus and God's love to our world. Please prayerfully consider our invitation, and write or call to let us know that you have decided now is the time for you to join us! When we hear from you, we will immediately send you the New Partner Package.

As our Partner, know that Gloria and I pray these scriptures over you every day: Psalm 23, Psalm 91, Psalm 103, Psalm 112; Isaiah 54; Ephesians 1:16-23, Ephesians 3:14-20; Colossians 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Romans 15:29, Romans 15:13; and Zechariah 9:11-12. I encourage you to look up these scriptures so you can see firsthand what we join our faith about and believe God for every day of your life.

In addition to praying for you, I've committed my life to seeking God and receiving revelation from Him that I will share with you in a special

Partner Letter teaching each month.

Gloria and I would be honored to have you as a Partner with Kenneth Copeland Ministries and to be part of your walk of faith in these exciting days in which we live—the greatest days in God's plan for our world!

Please continue to watch our daily broadcast, *Believer's Voice of Victory*, as we provide you with the meat of God's WORD. You will be empowered to let your voice be heard as you discover and declare the great things God has in store for you—a master plan that leads to your life of faith...to your victory.

You were redeemed for His purposes, and He has anointed you for ministry. As Covenant Partners, I believe we will see that anointing grow and His purposes fulfilled in your life as we continue proclaiming together that...*"Jesus Is LORD!"* 🙏

***As our Partner,
know that Gloria
and I pray these
scriptures over
you every day:***

Psalm 23

Psalm 91

Psalm 103

Psalm 112

Isaiah 54

Ephesians 1:16-23

Ephesians 3:14-20

Colossians 1:9-11

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Romans 15:29

Romans 15:13

Zechariah 9:11-12

Partner with KCM today!



kcm.org/partner +44 (0)1225 787310

by Pastor George Pearsons



It was a word I was not expecting.

The date was Sept. 28, 1999, and Brother Keith Moore was our guest speaker at church. He stepped up to the podium and began to declare a word from the Lord for our congregation.

At first, I was stunned. Through Brother Keith, the Lord let us know He was blessed by our giving, but He was grieved and bothered that we weren't reaping. Ouch!

How to Reap Your Harvest

Through Brother Keith, the Lord informed us that some were disillusioned and aggravated with Him, and asking, "How much more can I give?"

But here was the clincher. The Lord said, *You think you are waiting on Me. You think reaping is automatic. You think that once you put the money in, it's all up to Me. That is ignorance and confusion. I challenge you to hear the word of the Lord and make up your mind and say, "I am not just a good giver. I am a good reaper. And I am going to get real good at reaping!"*

That night, I took His challenge seriously.

I determined that we were going to get "real good" at reaping.

The first thing I did was to order a teaching series by Brother Moore, titled

Rules of Reaping. I listened to those messages over and over. I took copious notes and looked up every scripture. Within one month, I taught a three-day seminar based on his messages.

From that moment on, my life and the life of our church began to change. This word revolutionized our thinking. Reaping our harvest was the missing link—a major key that unlocked the door to increase. Every time we received the offering, we would call in our harvest. We were determined to get *real good* at reaping.

Reaping Is Not Automatic

Consider the farmer who invests time and money planting a crop. Then, at harvest time, he simply sits on the

Don't ever forget our purpose for reaping: Our motivation for accumulation is distribution.

porch and watches it rot in the field. Our response would be, "That's crazy!" Unfortunately, that is the way some Christians think. Too many are sleeping through their harvest. Proverbs 10:5, *New Living Translation* says, "A wise youth harvests in the summer, but one who sleeps during harvest is a disgrace." Many sow their seed and then just wait for God to reap the harvest. That is not the way it works. A natural harvest doesn't just jump from the field into the barn. Someone must go out and reap it. And that someone is us!

Mark 4:26-29 confirms that reaping is our responsibility. Jesus said, "So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; and should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come."

I know you weren't expecting it, but here's a pop quiz on what you just read. And so you'll pass with flying colors, I'm giving you the answers.

1. Who did the sowing? (Man)
2. Who did the growing? (God)
3. Who reaped the harvest? (Man)

In the July 9 installment of Kenneth and Gloria Copeland's daily devotional, *From Faith to Faith*, Brother Copland writes, "Jesus compared the kingdom of God with the planting of seed and reaping the harvest. It's a simple concept. One all of

us understand. Why, then, aren't all of us producing bumper crops every season? Because we are sitting around waiting for God to do all the work."

We Were Created to Reap

Earlier this year, Gloria Copeland and I spent two weeks on the *Believer's Voice of Victory* broadcast teaching on the topic *How to Reap Your Harvest*. If you missed any of those teachings from last May, I encourage you to visit the KCM website, find those 10 days of broadcasts in the archives section and watch them. They will help renew your mind to the importance of reaping your harvest.

During the taping, Gloria and I were discussing the fact that God created Adam to harvest. Genesis 2:15 says, "And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it." That definitely included sowing and reaping. We read Genesis 8:22, and determined that sowing and reaping have not passed away. "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

Then, Gloria said something I had never heard before.

She declared, "We *still* have a 'harvest gene.' It's in our DNA."

God created us to harvest. That is what THE BLESSING has empowered us to do. We still have what it takes to reap the harvest from every good seed we sow.

Here is another example. Look at Matthew 6:26. "Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?"

While meditating on this scripture, I asked the Lord why we were better than birds. Without hesitation, He answered. *Because you were created to sow and reap and they weren't.* Think of it! You and I were created by God to sow our seed, reap our harvest and gather it into barns. But, don't ever forget our purpose for reaping: Our motivation for

Learn How to Reap Your Harvest!

So many are frustrated with their giving. "I have given and given, but am not seeing the results. I guess it's just not working for me."

I felt the same way until I discovered the missing link. We can't just be good sowers. We must be good harvesters as well. According to Scripture, harvesting is our responsibility—not God's.

Join Gloria Copeland and me in this 10-part series. Our topics include:

- ▶ The Missing Link
- ▶ Rules of Reaping
- ▶ Harvest Essentials
- ▶ And more!

Determine today that you are not just a good giver. You are going to become a good reaper, as well.

Now—get up, get into the field and start reaping your harvest!

—Pastor George



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accumulation is distribution.

How to Reap Your Harvest

I once heard about a preacher who was struggling financially. Physically, he was well and strong. He experienced powerful demonstrations of the spirit in his meetings, and his ministry was growing rapidly. The only area of trouble was in the financial realm. Even though he was a tither and a sower, he was not seeing the financial results he desired and needed. He decided to fast and pray. He sought the Lord to find out why he was having such financial difficulty. As a result of his time of separation, the Lord told him he had to receive his finances the same way he received his healing—by faith. In other words, He told him to “call in the harvest.”

How do we do that? We call in the harvest with our words of faith.

Isaiah 41:15 says, “I will make thee a new sharp threshing instrument having teeth.” The word *teeth* in the Hebrew is the word *mouths*. Our

mouths are designed by God to be mighty combines—huge threshing machines that go into the field and bring in the harvest.

Gloria said something else during the broadcast concerning the difference between a natural harvest and a spiritual harvest. She said that a natural harvest is seasonal. It all depends on the weather cycle. A spiritual harvest, on the other hand, is continual. A spiritual harvest does not depend on the weather or the economy. It's year-round!

The kingdom of God is always on the increase in spite of contrary conditions. Read Jeremiah 17:7-8. “Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, *neither shall cease from yielding fruit.*”

We can actually come to a place in our lives where we are reaping all

the time. “‘The time will come,’ says the Lord, ‘when the grain and grapes will grow faster than they can be harvested’” (Amos 9:13, *New Living Translation*).

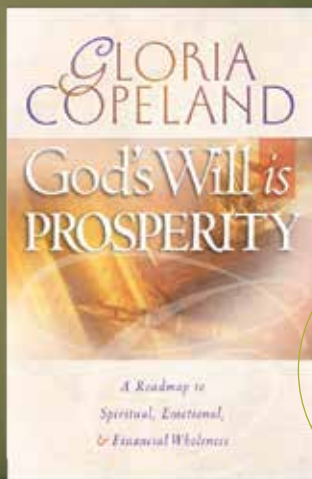
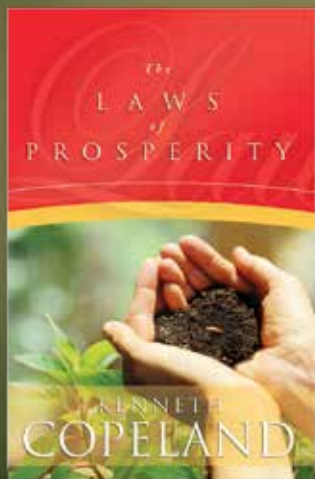
Think Harvest!

Consider what Brother Copeland said several years ago in an article he wrote, titled “Get Your Mind on the Harvest.” He said, “If you haven't thought of yourself as a harvester before now, start thinking of yourself that way. Renew your mind to the truth of God's WORD. Dare to believe The LORD of the Harvest is calling you—yes, *you*—to help Him bring in His end time crops. He's speaking to you and saying, ‘Until now, you've known Me as The LORD over your seed. You've known Me as your bread provider. But, I want you to know Me now as LORD and Minister of the Harvest.’”

Harvester, don't wait one more minute. Open your mouth—your spiritual combine—and call in your harvest. As Joel 3:13 says, “Swing the sickle—the harvest is ready” (*The Message*).

“Father, I commit to be a good sower and a good reaper. I see in Your Word that harvesting is my responsibility. By my words of faith, I *will* reap my full harvest from the seed I have sown. Harvest, I command you to come to me. I refuse to back off and get discouraged. I will stay strong in faith. I take my hundredfold return harvest. Satan, take your hands off my harvest. Angels, go get it and bring it to me in Jesus' Name!”

Praise God! We are not just good givers. We are good reapers. And, together, we are getting *real good* at reaping! 🌾



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George Pearsons is senior pastor of Eagle Mountain International Church, located on the grounds of Kenneth Copeland Ministries. For more information or ministry materials write to KCM, PO. Box 15, BATH, BA1 3XN, UK.



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Nothing *to* fear

Not long after the terrorist attack on America, Sept. 11, 2001, Ken and I traveled to Europe to preach. While we were there I picked up an English newspaper and saw a most peculiar article. At first glance I couldn't figure out why on earth they'd printed it.

The article was all about plagues! It talked about the bubonic plague, and all kinds of other plagues that had stricken mankind over the centuries. It explained how many people died, how long a person could live after first being exposed, and what the symptoms were. The gruesome details filled an entire half page of the paper.

By the time I finished the article I was disgusted and perplexed. *What*

good could such information do for anyone? I wondered.

A few days later, the answer dawned on me. The article was intended to prepare people for the possibility of biological warfare. It was a shocking realization. Who would have thought, even 30 or 40 years ago, that we'd ever have to face such a threat? Who could have anticipated—much less prepared for—the day when

Think of it!.... You have angels...escorting you everywhere you go. If they need help to keep you safe, God will send in reinforcements because He personally made this promise to every person who loves Him.



by Gloria
Copeland

diseases would be used as weapons of mass destruction?

I'll tell you who: our wonderful, Almighty God! He not only knew in advance that things like biological warfare would become a threat, He prepared the antidote for them.

God gave us a Bible full of promises so powerful they can protect us from every danger that will ever exist. He provided a refuge for us that is greater

than any weapon of mass destruction the devil can devise.

When we're in that refuge, we're completely safe. Nothing harmful can touch us. Psalm 91 assures us of this. It says: "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty [Whose power no foe can withstand]. I will say of the Lord, He is my Refuge and my Fortress, my God; on Him I lean and rely, and in Him I [confidently] trust! For [then] He will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence" (verses 1-3, *The Amplified Bible*).

In my Bible, next to the words "deadly pestilence" I wrote the words "biological warfare" to remind myself that God is well able to deliver us from diseases of every kind—even those that come out of a test tube. In fact, God is so great that ungodly human beings cannot come up with a danger He can't handle. In the face of the worst they can do, "His truth and His faithfulness are a shield and a buckler" for those of us who trust in Him (verse 4, *AMP*).

Talk about comprehensive protection! God's shield and buckler are better than any insurance policy on earth. According to Hebrew scholars, the shield offers three-sided protection, in front and on both sides, while the *buckler*, which is described by a Hebrew word that means "circle," wraps all the way around. That means when you're wearing God's armor, you're completely surrounded by His mighty power. You're living inside a supernatural circle of protection.

No wonder Psalm 91:5-12, *New King James Version* says:

You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day, nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you. Only with your eyes shall you look, and see the reward of the wicked. Because you have made the Lord, who is my

refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place, no evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; for He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

Think of it! When you're in the refuge of God, you have security guards with you all the time. You have angels, the Most High's best troops, escorting you everywhere you go. If they need help to keep you safe, God will send in reinforcements because He personally made this promise to every person who loves Him.

"I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him, and show him My salvation" (Psalm 91:15-16, *NKJV*).

Don't Go to Heaven Too Soon

Praise God, this wonderful divine protection is ours simply because we're in Christ Jesus! It belongs to us because He paid for it with His precious blood. But it's important for us to remember: It doesn't fall on us automatically just because we're born again. Like every other benefit of salvation, if we're going to experience it we must reach out and receive it by faith.

We must be like David who wrote in Psalm 144:1-2 (*AMP*): "Blessed be the Lord, my Rock and my keen and firm Strength...my Steadfast Love and my Fortress, my High Tower and my Deliverer, my Shield and He in Whom I trust and take refuge."

Notice, David didn't just quietly agree with God's Psalm 91 promises. He didn't just read them and hope everything was going to be all right. He boldly said, "I *take* refuge in God."

That's what we must do, too—and we must do it by faith! If we don't, we will be like everyone else in this world. We'll be subject to the same dangers as unbelievers. Although we'll still go to heaven when we die, we're likely to go there sooner than we intended.

I don't want that to happen to me, do you?

Of course, you don't. You want to enjoy a long, satisfying life. You want to live out the full number of your days in the circle of God's protection.

"But Gloria," you might say, "how can I make sure I'm living in that circle? How can I know that I've taken refuge in God by faith?"

Look again at the verses we've read from Psalm 91 and you'll see there are three primary elements involved.

First, you must be like the person in verse 1 "who dwells in the secret place of the Most High" (*AMP*). This is not a description of someone who got born again five years ago and has never been to church or done anything else to seek God since. It's not a picture of someone who's out there disobeying God and chasing after the world.

No, this is a person who has purposely placed himself under God's authority. It's someone who walks in all the light he has and continually seeks out more light. The secret-place dweller is the Christian who finds out what God's Word says, believes it and obeys it.

If that's not how you've been living, make a change. Repent and receive God's forgiveness for the things you've done wrong. Make a commitment to obey Him and read your Bible every day to find out what He wants you to do. As the light of the Word reveals things in your life that aren't pleasing to Him, make the necessary adjustments.

Even though I've been walking with God for a half century now, I still have to do this. I still have to let the Word correct me. That's why I'm so diligent

about reading my Bible. It keeps me on the right road. It tells me how to live. It helps me avoid unpleasant, and even dangerous, situations and it will do the same for you. The Word of God in your heart and in your mouth brings you security in every situation.

Your Deliverance and Your Words Are Connected

The second element involved in receiving God's protection is found in verse 2: "I will say of the Lord, He is my Refuge and my Fortress, my God; on Him I lean and rely, and in Him I [confidently] trust!" (*AMP*).

According to this verse, it's not just what you believe that matters, it's what you say. When you speak words of faith about God being your Refuge, "[then] He will deliver you" (verse 3, *AMP*).

Why are your words and your deliverance from danger so closely connected? Because, as Proverbs 18:21 puts it, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue...." You get what you say!

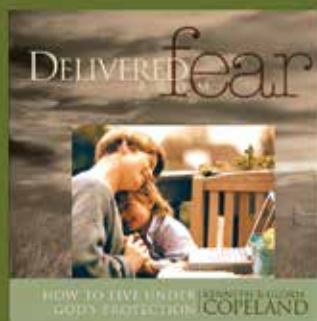
In Mark 11:23, Jesus put it this way: "Whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith."

I'll never forget the first time the truth of that scripture really got through to me. It was years ago when Ken had just begun to minister. I was listening to a tape by Kenneth E. Hagin titled, "You Can Have What You Say," and suddenly, the Lord spoke to my spirit.

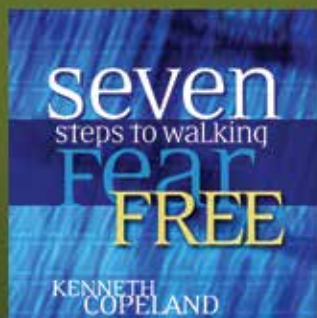
In consistency lies the power, He said.

That's when the revelation hit me: If I want to see God's promises manifest in my life, I can't just speak His Word when I pray, I must talk faith all the time! I must say **only** what I want to come to pass!

That realization changed my life. Until then I'd always operated like most other people. When I got in trouble, I talked about the trouble. I talked about how bad things were. But faith cannot do that. It cannot talk the problem.



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JULY

		Old Testament	New Testament
Tue	1	2 Chr. 14-15	Heb. 4
Wed	2	2 Chr. 16-18	Heb. 5-6
Thu	3	2 Chr. 19-20	Heb. 7
Fri	4	2 Chr. 21-22	Heb. 8
Sat	5	2 Chr. 23-24	Heb. 9
Sun	6	2 Chr. 25-26	Heb. 10
Mon	7	2 Chr. 27-28	Heb. 11
Tue	8	2 Chr. 29-30	Heb. 12
Wed	9	2 Chr. 31-33	Heb. 13; Jas. 1
Thu	10	2 Chr. 34-35	Jas. 2
Fri	11	2 Chr. 36; Ezr. 1	Jas. 3
Sat	12	Ezr. 2-3	Jas. 4
Sun	13	Ezr. 4-5	Jas. 5
Mon	14	Ezr. 6-7	1 Pet. 1
Tue	15	Ezr. 8-9	1 Pet. 2
Wed	16	Ezr. 10; Neh. 1-2	1 Pet. 3-4
Thu	17	Neh. 3-4	1 Pet. 5
Fri	18	Neh. 5-6	2 Pet. 1
Sat	19	Neh. 7-8	2 Pet. 2
Sun	20	Neh. 9-10	2 Pet. 3
Mon	21	Neh. 11-12	1 Jn. 1
Tue	22	Neh. 13; Est. 1	1 Jn. 2
Wed	23	Est. 2-4	1 Jn. 3-4
Thu	24	Est. 5-6	1 Jn. 5
Fri	25	Est. 7-8	2 Jn.
Sat	26	Est. 9-10	3 Jn.
Sun	27	Job 1-2	Jude
Mon	28	Job 3-4	Rev. 1
Tue	29	Job 5-6	Rev. 2
Wed	30	Job 7-9	Rev. 3
Thu	31	Job 10-11	Rev. 4

Faith speaks the answer.

You can't talk fear and be in faith at the same time.

When you're walking in faith for protection, you don't go around saying, "I'm afraid of a terrorist attack. I'm afraid I'm going to die young. I'm afraid I'm going to get cancer...." You say what you want to come to pass. You say things like, "God will deliver me from every danger. He is my Refuge and my Fortress. No evil will befall me and no plague or calamity will come near my family."

If you accidentally slip and let unbelieving words come out your mouth, you rebuke them. You call them back and say, "I render those words helpless. They're not what I believe. I believe my family and I are surrounded by God's armor. We're safe, in Jesus' Name!"

Personally, I make such declarations of faith every day. Each morning when I pray, I speak the circle of God's BLESSING and protection around myself and Ken, our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. I'd encourage you to do the same because there's a lot of evil in the world. Crazy people are out there on the loose killing, stealing and destroying. It's dangerous if you're not armored up in God! So start your day off by praying faith-filled words like those in the 91st Psalm.

Grab Your Faith Gun and Shoot!

When you abide in the secret place of the Most High and continually speak words of faith about His protection, the third element listed in Psalm 91 will fall into place:

"You shall not be afraid" (verse 5, *AMP*).

Of anything.

Why is it important for you not to be afraid? Because faith and fear do not work together. You either have one or the other. If you allow fear into your life, it will open the door to the devil the same way faith opens the door to God. It will rob you of your supernatural security. So make up your mind not to give fear

any place in your life. Determine to stomp out any trace of it before it can get a foothold in your mouth or in your heart.

This may sound funny, but personally, I treat fear the same way I treat the pesky armadillos that try to sneak into the yard outside the cabin Ken and I have in Arkansas. Those armadillos are little devils! They try to tear up my gardens and scatter my beautiful flowers and shrubs all over the ground. So I'm at war with them.

If I wake up in the middle of the night and I think I hear one outside digging and scratching, I don't just lie there and listen. I get out of bed and tiptoe to the door to see what's going on. Once I've verified that it's an armadillo, I wake up Ken.

"Get your gun!" I'll say.

Ken doesn't care about armadillos—or flowers and shrubs either, for that matter—but he does care about me, so he'll get his gun and go out to the porch in his pajamas with me trailing after him in my nightgown. We look like Granny and Jed Clampett out there, but we get the job done. We get rid of the armadillos.

You can do the same thing where fear is concerned. The next time it raises its ugly head in your life, treat fear like the spiritual varmint it is. Instead of just sitting there while it digs and scratches around in your faith garden, get aggressive and go after it.

Load up your spiritual gun with the Word of God. Look up scriptures about divine protection and go over them every day until you can shoot down anything from the swine flu to the bubonic plague to biological warfare. Get Psalm 91 down in your heart until you know, beyond any shadow of doubt, that no matter what happens in this crazy world, you're completely safe.

If you do those things, there's no harm that can touch you. You'll be surrounded by God's impenetrable circle of supernatural protection. You will truly have nothing to fear. ⑦

BOLD, Unashamed & Still Different



When Jade Haney fell victim to bullying as a third-grader, two things gave her the courage to stand: The encouraging prayers of her parents, and the Word of God she learned by watching Superkid videos. Today, at 23, Jade is still standing as she ministers the love of God both at home and abroad. And she credits much of her work to what she learned through Superkid Academy. Jade shares part of her story in the following letter:

I remember at a very young age feeling that I was different.

I grew up in a loving Christian home and gave my life to Jesus when I was 5 years old. In our home, talking about Jesus and singing praise-and-worship songs was considered normal. It was normal for my friends and me to take turns pretending we were preachers—praying for each other, falling down and covering each other up with blankets.

I remember once, when I was about 6, my family ordered pizza. After my mom had answered the door and gone to get money to pay for the pizza, I saw the delivery man standing in our doorway alone as a divine opportunity for evangelism! You laugh, but I'm not kidding. I looked up at the man in the doorway and point-blank asked him, "Are you a Christian?"

"Well, I try to be," he nervously replied.

"You can't try to be a Christian," I responded. "You either are or you aren't."

Upon my parents' realization that I was interrogating the pizza man, they speedily paid him, letting him off the hook.

Looking back, I now know that God had called me and that I was a good kind of different. But, as an elementary school student, being different didn't always seem good.

In third grade, my life was made miserable by a group of four fourth-grade girls. I attended a private Christian school, but there was nothing Christian about how I was treated by my peers. Since the school was small, the third- and fourth-grade classes were combined. One girl in particular encouraged the others to pick on me, because I was the only third-grader in our class.

These girls would look for the pettiest reasons to laugh at my expense.

One day, for instance, as we were all running out to the playground, the ringleader shoved me onto the pavement and I skinned my knee pretty badly. She looked back at me with no remorse, completely apathetic. Thinking back, I believe the poor girl must have gone through something traumatic to make her as cold as she was at that young age.

A couple of years before this incident, when I was 6, my grandma bought a movie for my cousins and me to watch called *The Intruder*. From that point on, I started keeping up with the Superkid movies. For my eighth birthday, my mom's friend gave me a copy of the Superkid Trilogy, which included *The Intruder*, *Armor of Light* and *The Sword*, all on VHS! This gift couldn't have come at a better time...it was the summer before I was to encounter the horrible year of bullying.

I would watch those movies over and over, day after day. Eventually, I knew every song and every scripture in each movie, by heart. The two things that gave me courage to face those girls, and not believe the horrible things being spoken over me, were the encouraging prayers of my parents, and the Word of God that was packaged in the message of Superkid Academy and those movies.

I remember singing "Know Who You Are in Jesus," and getting a deep revelation of who I really was in Him. When I began to really know Jesus, and believe I was who He said I was, I started seeing through the shallowness of my bullies' insults. The presence of God was very tangible in those moments, and He began to stir up a fiery faith inside me. Every time I watched *Armor of Light* or *The Sword*, the Holy Spirit was doing something great in me. The depth of God's love overwhelmed me, and I knew that I was His!

Today, I am 23 years old. I serve on several worship teams at my church for our regular weekend services, as well as for our Restore ministry, Elevate student ministry and our young-adult ministry, and I love writing songs. I am passionate about following God with my whole heart, and I want to take the gospel all over the world. I have gone on mission trips to Mexico, Guatemala, Singapore and Honduras, and next year I am going to India.

I am telling you this, not to lift myself up, but to give glory to God. If He can take a child who felt as insecure and odd as I did, and transform her into a bold and unashamed evangelist, nothing is too difficult for Him.

Every Believers' Convention, every church service, every ounce of time, money, effort and creativity that was poured into making those films was well worth it! God used all of you to give me hope for my future.

Thank you for reaching out and teaching me about my identity in Jesus Christ! 🙏

» You can read Jade's entire testimony in the DIGITAL VERSION of the BVoV. Just go to magazine.kcm.org

JULY

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Heaven's Gift Released to You

Kenneth and Gloria Copeland

Sun., July 6

Living Out Love's Plan

Kenneth Copeland

July 7-11

Be Filled With All Knowledge and Wisdom

Kenneth and Gloria Copeland

Sun., July 13

Jesus Wants to Manifest Himself to You

Kenneth Copeland

July 14-18

The Reality of the Name of Jesus

Kenneth Copeland

Sun., July 20

Forgive, Revive and Stay Strong in the Spirit

Kenneth Copeland

July 21-25

The Blessing of Abraham—Part 1

Gloria Copeland and George Pearsons

Sun., July 27

God's Kindness to the Rejected

Kenneth Copeland

July 28-Aug. 1

The Blessing of Abraham—Part 2

Gloria Copeland and George Pearsons



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