

## 1999 A HISTORIC MOMENT:



Kenneth Copeland addressing the Cherokee Nation, May 15, 1999 Joe Bird, then chief of the Cherokee Nation, welcomed Kenneth and Gloria. He said, "We wrote the letter. Within four days he responded. Mr. Copeland said that it was his lifelong dream to come and fellowship with the people." He went on to say, "When you have faith and you have so many people working together for a common cause, then

the world. And we give You the praise and the honor for it. And we pray for the Native American nations throughout this land, and in the Name of Jesus we boldly confess that Jesus is LORD to the glory of God the Father.

The night was filled with music as the choir sang hymns and led songs of praise. Kenneth preached about the covenant of blood God made with all the people of the earth through Jesus Christ, a message readily received by a people whose history is so deeply rooted in covenant. Nineteen people made Jesus Lord of their lives that evening, 32 prayed to receive the Baptism in the Holv Spirit, and many left refreshed and changed forever by the message they had heard.

Kenneth stood before his people and declared in prayer over the families, the chief, the council and the elders of the nation that the wisdom of God and the knowledge of God and all spiritual understanding would lead and guide the nation into its finest hour.

As the evening of his dreams drew to a close, Kenneth's final words summed up the day. "I'm leaving here better than I came. More blessed than I've ever been, to the glory of God, the Father! Shout amen, somebody!"

## I'M STANDING IN MY DREAM!

IN THEIR 50 YEARS OF MINISTRY, KENNETH AND GLORIA COPELAND HAVE NEVER ASKED ANYONE FOR A PLACE TO PREACH. THEY MADE THAT PROMISE TO THE LORD IN THE **BEGINNING AND HAVE** BEEN FAITHFUL TO IT EVER SINCE. // BUT THROUGHOUT THE YEARS, KENNETH, WHO IS HIMSELF PART CHEROKEE, HAS ALWAYS HELD THE DESIRE IN HIS **HEART TO SOMEDAY** PREACH TO HIS NATIVE PEOPLE. HIS HEART HAS **BEEN WITH THEM SINCE** HE WAS A BOY.

He often said, "Whenever it is my time, I'll go. I don't care what already may be arranged. I don't care where I am or what I'm doing. When that invitation comes from my people, I'll go."

That day finally came in 1999, when Kenneth received an envelope in the mail with the great seal of the Cherokee Nation in the top, left-hand corner. He didn't even open the letter—he just stood there and cried. In his heart he knew, This is it. Glory be to God!

Five months later, on Saturday, May 15, Kenneth and Gloria took the platform on a beautiful evening in Tahlequah, Okla., the government seat of the Cherokee Nation. Kenneth declared, "I'm standing in my dream!" everything is possible."

Kenneth was eager to start the evening, and prayed for the people of the Cherokee Nation:

Father, You have honored me by being my LORD and my Savior. You have honored Gloria and me by answering every prayer that we have prayed over the years. And tonight, You honor us by our being able to stand in this place. And we honor You. We uplift Your Name.... Tonight, in the Name of Jesus, for the first time, I'm able to publicly pray on this holy ground for the Cherokee Nation and its strength and its leadership and its place in God's plan for the redemption of mankind; and its influence and its strength and its power to influence people all over





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I'm about to make a statement you might find a bit startling—especially coming from a faith preacher like me. But I want it to mark your thinking, so I'm going to say it very bluntly: It takes more than just faith in your heart to bring The WORD of God to pass in your life. // Yes, you read that correctly.

As important as faith is, just because God said something and you believe it, does not guarantee it will become a

manifested reality for you.

ertainly, believing is essential. Hearing The WORD of God until faith comes is a vital first step. But if you really want to see all the provisions and promises of God fulfilled in your life, you can't stop with just believing them.

You have to turn your believing into speaking! You have to release the faith in your heart by saying words with your mouth. As Romans 10:10 says: "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

That's the way you receive everything from God—from the new birth to healing to financial prosperity. You believe His WORD with your heart AND confess it with your mouth.

Why is the confessing part so important?

Because we live in a word-created, word-dominated universe. It was brought forth by faith-filled words. It was designed by God to respond to them from the very beginning, and that's never going to change.

What can change, however, are the words under which you choose to live. You can either live under God's WORD or the devil's. You can either choose words of death and doubt; or you can choose words of life and be like the Apostle Paul who wrote: "We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak" (2 Corinthians 4:13).

"But Brother Copeland," you might argue, "I tried that 'saying' business and it didn't work for me!"

Sure it did. You said it didn't work, and what you said came to pass. It didn't work.

I don't mean to sound hard-nosed

## POINTS TO GET YOUO THERE:

You have to release the faith in your heart by saying words with your mouth. Here are some points to get you there:

Everything you receive from God comes as a result of believing and speaking His WORD.

Romans 10:10

We live in a word-created, word-dominated universe. Hebrews 11:3

Words of faith activate spiritual laws that are as dependable as the law of gravity.

Romans 8:2

To operate in the God kind of faith you must have faith both in God's WORD and in your own words.

Mark 11:23

If you believe the truth and keep confessing it with your mouth it will change contrary facts. Joel 3:10

# YOU HAVE TO GET TO THE POINT WHERE YOU HAVE CONFIDENCE NOT JUST IN THE POWER OF GOD'S WORDS BUT IN THE POWER OF YOUR WORDS.

about it, but that's how it is. This is a spiritual law. Like "the law of faith" (Romans 3:27) and "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:2), believing and speaking works every time, all the time. It's as dependable as the law of gravity.

Have you ever heard of a gravity alert? Have you ever turned on the morning news and heard the newscaster say, "Due to a large gravity fluctuation, all children weighing less than 20 pounds will need to wear a weighted belt to keep them from floating away"?

Of course not! You never heard that and you never will because the law of gravity operates consistently. The very idea that it might do otherwise is silly.

By the same token, it's just as silly to think God's law of believing and speaking might not operate consistently. It's foolish to claim that sometimes that 'saying' stuff doesn't work.

God's system always works. He never misses it. So if you've endeavored to apply what the Bible teaches about speaking faith-filled words and you haven't gotten the expected results, don't blame the failure on Him. Say, "LORD,

help me with this because somewhere here I'm missing it."

## Don't Just Remember That Potato, Eat It!

I've said that to God many times and He's always responded. I remember one time in particular I was preaching a series of meetings in Louisiana. During the first few days of meetings I began to feel excruciating pain in my left leg. I was busy with my ministry schedule so I just quoted 1 Peter 2:24 and some other healing scriptures and declared, "I believe that by Jesus' stripes I am healed."

Instead of my leg getting better, however, it continued to get worse. By the time I finished preaching the last meeting, it was throbbing with such a vengeance I went back to my hotel room and stretched out across the bed. "LORD," I prayed, "this isn't right. Where's my disconnect? I know You paid for this victory and I want to know why I'm not getting hold of it."

As I lay there very quiet, listening down on the inside of me, I heard The LORD answer. Kenneth, you've been quoting healing scriptures but you haven't opened your Bible and read them. You

haven't looked at them. You've just been reciting them from memory. The memory of a potato won't feed you. You can remember how it tastes and smells and looks, but for it to nourish you and do you any good, you have to actually take a bite of it.

I saw instantly what He meant. His WORD is spiritual food. It's what feeds faith and makes it strong; and in this particular instance I hadn't properly fed myself. I hadn't really done what God says to do in Proverbs 4:20-22: "My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh."

Right away I made the correction. That afternoon I spent time in The WORD, looking at healing scriptures and feeding them into my spirit. By the time I got on the plane to fly home I had faith in my heart and I was saying with my mouth, "I am a healed man!"

Even so, when we landed in Dallas my leg was still hurting so badly I could hardly walk. As if to tempt me to abandon my confession, a man with a wheelchair met me at the gate. (To this day I don't know who he was or why he was there.) Although that wheelchair looked mighty good right then, I said, "Thank you anyway, but healed men don't need wheelchairs." Then I walked almost a mile to the car.

After leaving the airport, Gloria and I went to my parents' house and I fell asleep with my mother sitting by the bed praying for me. I suddenly woke up about 3 a.m. and sat straight up. Mother said, "That did it!" Glory to God: All the pain in my leg was gone!

God's system had done its job.

## Faith in God's Words AND in Your Own

"Brother Copeland, that's a great testimony but I haven't been able to get those kinds of results. Even though I spend time in The WORD and I believe it with all my heart, my words just don't seem to carry that kind of power."

Maybe it's because you don't really have confidence in them. Maybe you believe in God's words all right, but you don't believe in your own. When it comes to operating in the God kind of faith, that can be a real problem.

Look at Mark 11:23 and you'll see what I mean. There, Jesus said: "For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith."

Notice that for faith to do what it's designed to do, you have to stay in The WORD until you believe in your heart that what you say is coming to pass. You have to get to the point where you have confidence not just in the power of God's words but in the power of your words.

How do you develop that kind of confidence?

The same way you develop faith for anything else. You feed on what the Bible says about the matter. You read and meditate on scriptures like these:

"But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." (Matthew 12:36-37)

"A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh." (Luke 6:45)

"A man shall eat good by the fruit of his mouth.... He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction." (Proverbs 13:2-3)

"A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit." (Proverbs 15:4)

"A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled. Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof." (Proverbs 18:20-21)

## COME & CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF MINISTRY!



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Peru May 26-27 **Victory Campaign** 

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Toronto, Ontario June 29-July 1 **Victory Campaign** 

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Columbia, S.C. Sept. 21-23 **Word Explosion** 

Venezuela Oct. 13-14 **Victory Campaign** 

Washington, D.C. Nov. 9-11 **Victory Campaign** 



Kenneth and/or Gloria

Ogun State, Nigeria: May 3-7

CanaanLand Faith Tabernacle davidoyedepoministries.org

Phoenix, Ariz.: May 4-5

Women on the Frontlines World Convention (registration fee required) xpministries.com/event/wofl-conv-2017

Southfield, Mich.: June 11 Word of Faith Int'l Christian Center woficc.com

Hidden Springs, Ariz.: Aug. 11

Healing of the Nations Motorcycle Rally cofaz.org

Brooklyn Park, Minn.: Aug. 24-25 2017 Upper Midwest Faith Explosion lwcc.org

Forest Park, III.: Sept. 11-12 2017 International Faith Conference billwinston.org or livingwd.org

Orlando, Fla.: Sept. 28-29 Jesus Conference 2017

(registration fee required) jesusconference.tv

Schedule is subject to change without notice. Contact the host church for details!



Kenneth

Copeland

Gloria

Copeland





Jeremy Pearsons

Sun., Apr. 2 **Faith Acts** Like God Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 3-7 Fit for the Fight of Faith Jeremy Pearsons

Sun., Apr. 9 **God Loves You** as Much as He **Loves Jesus** Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 10-14 Fit for the Master's Use Jeremy Pearsons

Sun., Apr. 16 The Name **Above Every** Name Kenneth Copeland Billve Brim

Sun., Apr. 23 God Is 100% on Your Side Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 24-28 **Preparing** for the **Supernatural** Move of God Gloria Copeland and Billye Brim

Sun., Apr. 30 The Holy Spirit: Gateway Into the **Supernatural** Kenneth Copeland

Apr. 17-21 The Coming Supernatural **Move of God** Gloria Copeland and

He is anointed with God's power. The word priest speaks of a minister or administrator, and the word confession means to "say the same thing." Put all those words together and you'll see that Jesus is anointed and sent by God to serve as the administrator over what you say. He's watching over your

words so that, when you say the same thing He says, He can get right in the middle of it and make sure your words come to pass. That's His job as Commander in

"Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers

of the heavenly calling, consider

the Apostle and High Priest of our

confession, Christ Jesus." (Hebrews 3:1)

The last verse in that list is a

particularly powerful faith builder. It

says that Jesus Christ is the Apostle

and High Priest over your confession.

The word apostle means "sent by God."

The word *Christ* refers to the fact that

Chief of the Body of Christ! He's the President of this whole operation. He's The LORD Director of the Church and He's taken personal responsibility for seeing to it that when your words line up with His words, they happen!

## The Truth Will Change the Facts

I do want to warn you, though, when you line up your words with what Jesus says, you're going to sound very different from the unbelievers of this world. Pretty much all they know how to do is talk about what they feel and see in this natural realm. If they feel weak, they say so. If they feel sick, they talk about how sick they are.

You, as a believer, are to do the opposite. You're to obey Joel 3:10 which says, "Let the weak say, I am strong."

"But Brother Copeland, isn't it lying for me to say I'm strong when I'm feeling so weak I can hardly stand up? Isn't it denying the truth for me to say I'm healed even when my eyes are swollen and my nose is running like a faucet?"

No, because those feelings of weakness and sickness aren't the truth. They're just physical facts. God's WORD is the truth (John 17:17), and if you believe the truth in your heart

and keep confessing it with your mouth it will change the facts! Jesus will back His WORD in your mouth. Weakness and sickness will bow its knee, and your words will come to pass.

Years ago, I read a book by John Osteen where he put it this way: "There's a miracle in your mouth!" The first time I read that phrase my spirit went off like a rocket. I got so excited I called Brother Osteen on the phone and said, "John, I wish I'd come up with that!"

I still can't think of any way to improve on it. It's one of the most thrilling statements I've ever heard and it's as true today as it ever was: There's a miracle in your mouth! What you choose to do about that miracle is up to you. As God said in Deuteronomy 30:19, "I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life...."

How do you choose life?

By choosing life-filled words! By taking God's WORD, feeding it into your spirit, believing it, speaking it, and sticking with it no matter what! Jesus said, My words "are spirit, and they are life" (John 6:63).

That's God's BLESSING system and it works every time. So take advantage of it. Quit talking unbelieving words and confessing the curse over yourself. Quit saying stupid stuff like, "That thrilled me to death" and "I'm just so sick and tired."

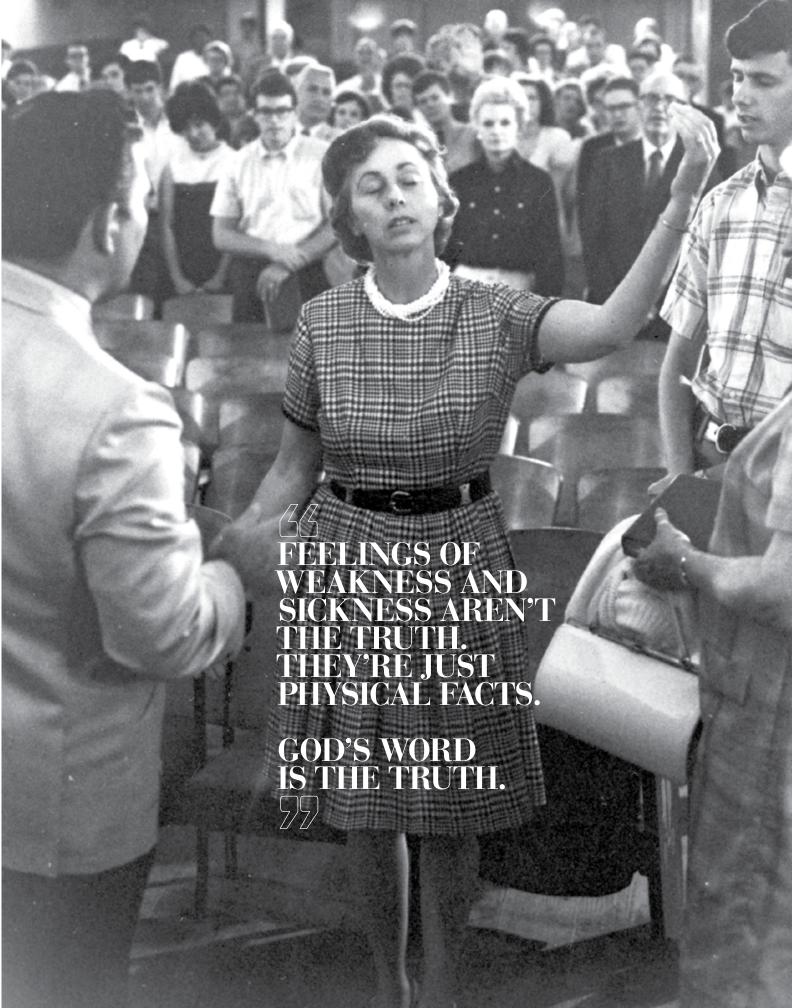
If you get up some morning and you're sneezing and aching, don't say, "Oh my, I believe I'm getting sick. The flu has been going around and I'm catching it just as sure as the world." No! Do what Proverbs 4:24 says and "put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee." Say, "I've been delivered from the curse. I've chosen life and His Name is Jesus! He's my LORD. He's my Savior. He's my Healer and the High Priest of my confession and I confess that I'm BLESSED in every way-spirit, soul and body!"

Believe that. Declare it and never back off.

Never change your confession and never ever forget: You have a miracle in your mouth!



- > vimeo.com/kennethcopelandeurope
- >BVOVN.com











Courtney Copeland gazed out the airplane window admiring the forests and sapphire-blue lakes that dotted the Uganda landscape below. Surrounded by her high school friends, Courtney thought, This trip is going to be just the getaway I need from the pressures of life right now, even if it is in a third world country. While most high schools offered a senior trip, few flew to Uganda.

Of course, their trip was also a ministry opportunity.

Courtney respected the fact that ministry to the world was the call of God to the Church. As the third-generation offspring of Kenneth and Gloria Copeland, she loved her family, adored her grandparents and admired the way they gave their lives to the work of the ministry.

But that wasn't exactly what she wanted to do with her life.

Courtney thought of her dad, John Copeland. She loved watching him work as CEO of Kenneth Copeland Ministries and knew she'd inherited his business

DNA. The difference was she didn't want to run a ministry. Her dream was to work in the business world, perhaps in New York or Los Angeles—some place big and exciting.

As Courtney entered her high school years, she was exposed to a world that was devoid of the faith and trust in God that she'd grown up in. She allowed herself to be pulled in a direction she should have never gone. Dabbling

in the world's system began creating a void that soon could not be ignored.

## A Divine Connection With an African Pastor

The plane banked, making its final descent into Uganda. For Courtney, this was just going to be a senior trip. She didn't have an expectation of anything more than a fun excursion where she would enjoy her friends away from the pressures of school and ministry. No one understood the unspoken pressure she felt being a thirdgeneration Copeland.



Stepping off the plane into sweltering heat, Courtney felt a rush of relief. At least here, no one other than her classmates knew her name. She could disappear into the crowd and become anonymous. At least that's what she thought.

Stepping off the bus that took them to God Cares High School, Courtney stood in the middle of a crowd of her classmates as they were introduced to Pastor Bethuel Dongo. His dark brown eyes scanned the group, then focused on Courtney like a laser.

"I know you," Pastor Dongo said. "I know you by your eyes. I know you by your grandfather."

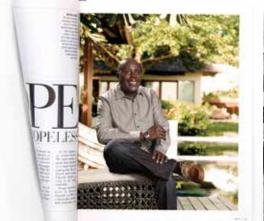
The man can't know me, Courtney thought. He must be confused.

With that, he walked away.

"I'd known for a long time that God had called me to ministry, but I didn't want to do it," Courtney admits. "I was in Uganda for two weeks, and during that time I realized what God had done. He'd pulled me out of my natural habitat and used Pastor Dongo to get my attention. He'd taken me all the way to Africa so that I would connect with him.

"We took long walks together and

Through him, I began to grasp the responsibility I had to my grandfather's anointing.



talked, and the more I got to know Pastor Dongo, the more I respected him," says Courtney.

As a child, Pastor Dongo had grown up under the rule of Idi Amin Dada who had overthrown the government, closed all churches and performed mass executions of thousands of innocent people. Later, Pastor Dongo had survived the Lord's Resistance Army, a rebel cult operating out of northern Uganda, South Sudan, the Central African Republic and the Congo. He'd been shot, lost two fingers, and survived. After becoming a Christian, he preached the gospel as his country was torn apart by war and AIDS, leaving 2.5 million children orphaned.

Pastor Dongo and his wife, Florence, started schools, feeding programs and orphanages. They also adopted 14 children in addition to their four birth children. In a country torn apart by war, starvation and poverty, they raised 18 children.

"Pastor Dongo and I connected on a deep level," said Courtney. "He saved my life, just like he'd saved the lives of countless Ugandan children. Over those two weeks, he described life in Uganda and how much they'd needed the strength and encouragement of my grandfather's teachings. How desperate they'd been to learn how to live by faith. Through him, I began to grasp the responsibility I had to my grandfather's anointing."

## The Lord Casts the Vision

Courtney had always excelled at



Read Pastor Dongo's story in our January 2016 digital issue. Click on the archived issues folder at kcm.org.uk/magazine

sports, and playing basketball with the kids in Uganda turned out to be spectacular fun. Although they'd never had the opportunity to be coached or to play on a team, they were agile and athletic, mimicking every play they saw.

"Wow! That was great!" the kids shouted when Courtney made a jump shot. "Show us how!"

She watched their eyes sparkle with excitement. Their faces radiated joy. Here on the court, they were like sponges, open and ready to learn. She thought back to all the years she'd attended summer camp and how much she'd loved it. The sports and other activities had been so much fun that they'd caused the kids to be open and receptive to the Lord.

Courtney dribbled the ball, ducking and blocking her opponents before making another hoop. As she did, she had a thought: What if we brought that concept here? Coached the kids in sports and other fun activities while teaching them to worship and become spiritual leaders?

Long after she'd returned home and graduated from high school, the vision of those camps in Uganda stayed strong for Courtney. She enrolled in business economics at the University of Arkansas and pulled a straight 4.0 GPA. But the vision she had for the children in Uganda persisted.

Finally, she decided to present the idea to her grandfather.

## The Prayer of Petition

"Papa, I want to tell you something. I feel called to Uganda." Courtney spilled her story and Kenneth Copeland perceived that it was from the Lord. He anointed her with oil and prayed for her.

"Now," he said, "let's write a prayer of petition." Together they wrote, prayed and signed their prayer of petition.

"The name Reaction Tour dropped into my heart," Courtney recalls. "I didn't like it but the Lord insisted that was the name. I asked a friend to design a logo based on it. When I saw his logo, I knew the name was right.

"He designed the logo as a circle representing the earth. Inside was the chemistry symbol for reaction. When I saw it, I thought of Newton's third law: For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction. We were believing that the children would have a powerful reaction to the gospel. That they would take the message home and their families would have a powerful reaction to it as well—a chain reaction.

"In 2012, while I was still in college and pursuing a business degree, we did our first Reaction Tour to Uganda. Pastor Dongo was thrilled for us to come, but I knew they didn't have the resources to provide what we needed. We provided everything, from sports equipment to food and drinks. Morning and evening we taught and led worship. During the day, we offered electives like worship classes, leadership classes and beauty classes.

"In beauty class, the girls painted their nails while we discussed how God sees beauty, and the importance of inner beauty. We accepted 400 kids that first year because that's how many we could handle. Hundreds more wanted to come but had to be turned away.

"One of the children who stood out to me was a young boy named Conquest. He didn't have a father, but his mother took care of him and two younger children. He loved the experience and his big smile and sparkling eyes let us know he would be back the following year. The impact on their lives was more than I had imagined."

## The Power of Obedience

As much as Courtney had enjoyed the experience, she had some decisions to make. She still wanted to work in business outside the world of ministry. What she could no longer ignore, though, was the fact that business wasn't God's plan for her life. How could she set aside every natural desire and step into a life she hadn't planned?

By faith.

One step of obedience at a time.

Saying yes to God's plan was a huge step. When she took it, she dropped out of college, shutting the door behind her. She told her parents that she wanted to go into ministry leading Reaction Tours.

"If you're going into ministry," John Copeland told his daughter, "you'll do it my way."

He gave her a job at Kenneth Copeland Ministries, assigning her to work in the mailroom.

Sorting mail.

Stacks of mail. Mountains of mail.

Tedious, mind-numbing mail.

Her second day in the mailroom felt twice as long as the first—until she heard some of the mailroom staff talking about the mail and what was inside each envelope.

Suddenly, it seemed as if a veil parted and Courtney saw what she'd been missing.

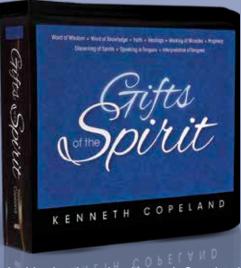
Every envelope represented someone like Pastor Dongo, whose life had been transformed by the teachings of KCM. These weren't just pieces of paper. Each one represented a person. They were stories of lives changed. Broken families reunited. Marriages healed. People who'd grasped the message of faith and climbed out of deathbeds to live. Infertile couples who had given birth. Debts wiped out. Homes brought back from the brink of foreclosure. People saved, and their names written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Courtney looked at thousands of pieces of mail. But now they weren't just pieces of mail. They represented lives. At that moment, she understood her resistance to ministry. Somehow, sometime, probably as a child, she'd resented the ministry because of how much time it required of her father. It had been buried so deep, it hadn't been a conscious thought.

Looking at that mountain of mail—those mountains of changed lives—she felt overwhelmed with joy that her father, her family, had had a part in it. She felt *honored* and *humbled* to be a part of it.

That was why her grandparents still flew around the world preaching the gospel. That was why her father gave so much of his life to the work of the ministry. It was why people chose to work in the mailroom, in publications, in television, in customer service—in housekeeping.

## What are the gifts of the spirit, and how do they work?



In this classic series, Kenneth Copeland unlocks the mysteries surrounding the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit and their purpose for the Church. Step by step, he examines each of the gifts and explains how they:

Can work through believers in everyday situations

Do not convert unbelievers, but act as God's advertising tools

Cooperate to benefit the entire Body of Christ

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It was for the people.

For souls.

For countless thousands of lives changed every day—all over the world.

For Courtney Copeland, the mailroom had become the place where she'd grasped a revelation of her grandfather's legacy. She loved walking into the mailroom the next morning, rolling up her sleeves and going to work.

## One Step at a Time

"For the next year and a half, Dad only let me work on Reaction Tour one day a week," Courtney remembers. "The rest of the time, I learned about KCM from the ground up. I worked in customer service, and I shadowed someone in marketing. In the process of learning how the ministry worked, I learned how to make Reaction Tour work and grow.

"During that time, I took two Reaction Tours to Uganda and one to India. Each time we went back to the same location, we got to see the harvest from the seeds we'd planted. The kids had all grown physically as well as spiritually. My only disappointment was that we didn't see Conquest. I couldn't imagine what had happened to him and wondered what was going on in his life. Many of the children were orphans. Some had been abandoned by their parents, left to fend for themselves.

"In Africa, you don't have to believe in Jesus to believe in spiritual warfare. The parents of many of the children were deeply involved in witchcraft. Some were witch doctors. There were spiritual manifestations that we don't see here. Since we're a short-term mission program, we had the kids register through a local church so they would have follow-up.

"After that year and a half, I was given my own office at KCM—a tiny cubicle off the television studio. Reaction Tour was now an official outreach through KCM. However, like the ministry's disaster relief program, we weren't funded by the ministry. I manned tables at events sharing sponsorship information and bringing awareness

to our outreach. Last year, we raised money by sponsoring a 5K run."

## **Another Divine Connection**

In September 2014, Courtney was in her cubicle in the television building when a young actor arrived. Her heart skittered at the sight of the dark-eyed, dark-haired, handsome young man who had been cast in one of the Commander Kellie and the Superkids<sub>TM</sub> films.

Grey Acuña had been a professional soccer player in Mexico before a knee injury ended his career. He started a second career as an actor and had a lot of movies to his credit. From the moment they met, Courtney and Grey sensed a divine connection. Two years later, on Nov. 20, 2016, Kenneth Copeland married the couple in a stunning outdoor ceremony. Putting his professional sports experience to use, Grey traveled with Reaction Tour the next month as a soccer coach.

While planning the 2016 Reaction Tour to Uganda, the Lord impressed Courtney to center the teaching on knowing the love of the Father. As hundreds of children registered, Courtney jumped for joy when she saw Conquest. Then she realized something was wrong. Conquest's beautiful smile was gone. His eyes were red-rimmed and swollen. He looked sad beyond belief.

"Yesterday," Conquest said, "my mother died."

At 14, he was the only one left to raise his little brother and sister.

It seemed as though the entire message had been designed for him. By the end of the camp, Conquest's smile had returned.

"I have a Father!" he said. "And He will take care of us!"

## To Be ONE

Courtney's heart had been touched when in 2014, at the Pope's request, Kenneth Copeland and James and Betty Robison flew to Rome to meet with him at the Vatican. Brother Copeland had based his response on John 17:20-23:

Neither for these alone do I pray [it is not for their sake only that I make this request], but also for all those who will ever come to believe in (trust in, cling to, rely on) Me through their word and teaching, That they all may be one, [just] as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be one in Us, so that the world may believe and be convinced that You have sent Me. I have given to them the glory and honor which You have given Me, that they may be one [even] as We are one: I in them and You in Me, in order that they may become one and perfectly united, that the world may know and [definitely] recognize that You sent Me and that You have loved them [even] as You have loved Me (The Amplified Bible, Classic Edition).

God's desire that all Christians might become one took root within Courtney.

"The meeting between my grandfather and the Pope reminded me of the importance of remembering that we're all on the same side," Courtney says. "That despite our divisions, we're actually one community in the Body of Christ. One version of the Bible says that on the day of Pentecost, they were in one place, in one accord, and heaven filled their home.

"That verse in Acts 2 reminded me that being together in one accord was so powerful that it changed the atmosphere and brought heaven to earth. As I pondered that, I realized that one way we can get our hearts in one accord is through worship.

"Last year, the Lord reminded me that there are still people right here at home who need to hear the gospel. In response, I formed a new ministry called ONE. ONE exists to celebrate unity in the Body of Christ and create opportunities to develop relationship through missions and presence-driven worship experiences.

"We are passionate about bringing the uncompromised truth of God's Word to all people through every available voice. We produced a worship album called ONE//WORSHIP, which reached No. 7 on the iTunes Christian/Gospel charts. During the Southwest Believers'

Convention last year, we led an evening of worship. In addition, Reaction Tour made two trips to India and one to Uganda last year as well."

Courtney Copeland Acuña has taken Reaction Tour back to Uganda at least once a year since the first time she landed there hoping to remain anonymous. It was there, in Africa, that her connection with Pastor Dongo sparked such a strong reaction that it forever changed her life. She has continued to steward that spark, just like she stewards the anointing of her grandparents, releasing it to thousands of children in Uganda and India, and creating a chain reaction that is changing the world.  $\P$ 

## Reaction Tour exists to empower kids

around the world, through the display of God's love, using the avenues of sports, discipleship, dance and music.

See how you can sponsor a child to go to camp.



## REACTIONTOUR.COM





## Join Us & Celebrate







Kenneth Copeland



Gloria Copeland



Jerry Savelle



Jesse Duplantis



Creflo Dollar



Keith Moore



Bill Winston

RSVP kcm.org/swbc // #SWBC17



## When the family of God unites, anything is possible!

This is not just another event, it is a power-packed, family of faith reunion.

## WE'VE GOT SOMETHING PLANNED FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

7 days of dynamic teaching from some of the world's most trusted ministers



→ Weeklong faith camps for children ages 6-12 and teens



+ Healing School



+ Pre-Service
Prayer with
Terri Copeland
Pearsons



+ ONE: Night of Worship, Sunday, 7 p.m.



Southwest Believers' Convention

July 30-Aug. 5

Fort Worth
Convention Center
Texas

# a year of Fabricus Outpourings from heaven

This coming year is not going to be anything like anybody has thought up to now. Believers will lay hands on the sick and notable miracles will be done. Not only ministers in the fivefold ministry, but just among the people. Watch for the children coming forth with miracle-working power manifest around them. Many things are going to be happening in the kingdom of God in 2017. And it won't be anything like you thought. It'll be grander and greater, an outpouring such as has never been seen before, saith the Spirit of Grace.

Prophecy Delivered by Kenneth Copeland Friday, Sept. 30, 2016

## WE'RE EXPECTING GRANDER & GREATER!

Grander and greater revelation and outpourings from the Holy Spirit await you at the Southwest Believers' Convention!

We'll be celebrating 50 years of ministry and expecting outpourings from the Spirit like never seen before. Don't miss this powerful event...make plans to join us today!

REGISTER TODAY KCM.ORG/SWBC // #SWBC17



chapters a day.)

## Prepare to receive OUTPOURINGS FROM HEAVEN WITH THIS BIBLE STUDY:

|   | OUT OURINGS PROMITICAVEN WITH THIS BIBLE STODI.  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | The wisdom of God is the source for outpourings. Read Proverbs 3:1-10 from several translations. How can you start pursuing the wisdom of God?   |   |
| 2 | Where do you need to see a miracle in your life or in the lives of those around you?   |   |
| 3 | Do you have a spirit of expectancy to receive and witness notable miracles? How can you prepare your heart to experience these things?   |   |
| 4 | To press in is to allow the Word to dominate your thinking and the Holy Spirit to have control over your thoughts. When you draw in to a more intimate relationship with your heavenly Father, you will see more glorious outpourings of God than you can imagine.  How can you press in and prepare for outpourings in the weeks ahead? |   |
| 5 | Was 2016 a rough year? Maybe it left behind hurt and disappointment. To receive what God has for you in the future, you've got to look forward. Philippians 3:14, New International Version, says, "I press on toward the goal to win the prize"  What do you need to leave behind from last year to raise your expectations in 2017?    | YOU<br>WON'T  |
|   |  | BE THE SAME! Read the four gospels and the book of          |
|   | Note: Please do not send these completed worksheets to KCM.  They are for your personal use and edification.   | Acts three times in 30 days.  (That works out to reading 12 |

by Kenneth Copeland

## BE A BLESSING

IF TRADITIONAL
RELIGION HAS
TAUGHT YOU
THAT GOD WANTS
YOU POOR AND
OPPRESSED, I have
good news for
you today. The
Bible says, "[God]
takes pleasure" in
your prosperity.
God wants you to
prosper!

Not just in the financial realm but in every area of your life...spirit, soul and body.

No matter where you are or who you are, God wants to see you delivered from every adverse situation.

Why? Because He loves you and has a job for you to do. He wants you to help meet the needs of mankind and He's smart enough to know that you can't give away what you don't have. You can't give to spread the gospel or buy food for the hungry when you're broke. You can't go out laying hands on the sick when you're lying in a hospital bed. You can't minister joy to others when you're being held captive by depression. No!

You have to be blessed to be a blessing.

If you really want to tap in to the riches of God today, make up your mind to be a blessing to others, and before you know it, you'll be receiving more from God than you ever dreamed.

That's what happened to me. I decided years ago, first and foremost, to be a giver. I developed a lifestyle of giving. Today, I literally "live to give." And I don't mind telling you, God dumps blessings on me by the truckload!

He'll do the same for you if you'll become His servant—if you'll lay down your time and your money and your love for those who need it. Become a giver—and God will take pleasure in prospering you!



## WHAT HAPPENED TO Y HARVEST

IT'S FRUSTRATING. YOU'VE BEEN CONFESSING THAT GOD SUPPLIES ALL YOUR NEEDS, BUT YOU'RE STILL BROKE. WHAT'S EVEN MORE PUZZLING IS THAT YOU'RE A TITHER AND A GIVER. YOU KNOW THAT GOD'S WORD IS TRUE AND HE PROMISED TO OPEN THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN AND POUR OUT BLESSINGS YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ROOM ENOUGH TO RECEIVE. BUT, YOU STILL HAVE PLENTY OF ROOM.

by Keith Moore









ou can't figure it out. You're wondering, Where is my abundant supply? What happened to my harvest?

When God began teaching me about the laws of increase, He showed me there are reasons why some people fail to reap a harvest and why others reap only a small one. If we'll give attention to those reasons—and make adjustments accordingly—we can enjoy a bumper crop of God's blessings every time!



Keith Moore is founder and president of Moore Life Ministries and Faith Life Church in both Branson, Mo., and Sarasota, Fla. For more information or ministry materials visit moorelife.org

## First Things First

The first reason people fail to reap a harvest is simple and obvious. But we can't pass over it because it's the most common mistake people make.

When the Lord initially pointed it out to me, He said, Keith, did you notice that I set up laws of sowing and reaping, not reaping and sowing?

I realize that's very basic, but it's amazing how many people want to reap a harvest when they haven't even sown yet. Jesus said, "Give, and it shall be given unto you" (Luke 6:38). The Apostle Paul wrote, "He which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully" (2 Corinthians 9:6). Again and again in the Scriptures, we see that sowing must come before reaping. Yet the No. 1 reason why people fail to receive a harvest is because they haven't sown!

They'll make confessions. They'll turn in prayer requests. They'll call hotlines. But when all that is said and done the fact remains, if they haven't planted anything, if they haven't given anything, they're not going to reap a harvest.

"But Brother Keith," you may say, "I don't have anything to give!"

No problem. Second Corinthians 9:10 says God will provide seed for the sower. So if you have absolutely nothing, just say, "God, I need some seed to sow," and He'll give it to you.

When He does, don't just plant it haphazardly. Sow it in the particular area in which you want to reap. Here's why.

Genesis 1:11-12 plainly tells us that every seed produces after its own kind. That's not only true in the natural, it's true spiritually too. Galatians 6:7 says it this way, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." If you sow money, you'll reap money. If you sow jewelry, you'll reap jewelry. Whatever you sow is what will grow into a harvest in your life.

As soon as my wife and I started practicing this principle, things began to happen in our life. For example, we helped someone pay off their car. We made a payment for them every month

IT'S NOT **ENOUGH** FOR YOU TO BELIEVE GOD IS GOOD AND WANTS YOU TO PROSPER. IT'S NOT ENOUGH FOR YOU TO BELIEVE THAT YOUR HARVEST IS OUT THERE. YOU MUST BELIEVE THAT YOU RECEIVE. bvovn.com

for a year. Just a few months later, we were able to pay off our own car. We sowed a \$3300 debt repayment and reaped a \$15,000 debt repayment in return!

Right now you may be thinking, That's great! I'll take part of my tithe and pay off someone's car! If so, let me warn you: Tithing is not sowing—there's a difference. When you tithe, you're giving back to God what already belongs to Him. The Bible says the firstfruits (that's the first and best 10 percent of your increase) belong to the Lord. Sowing implies giving something that belongs to you, so you're only sowing when you give something over and above your tithe.

Your tithe does affect your sowing, however. In fact, it's the key to your sowing being blessed. Malachi 3:10-11 says, when you tithe, God will open the windows of heaven, rain on the seed you've sown and multiply it many times over.

## Don't Faint

The second reason why people don't reap is that they get tired of waiting for their harvest, and give up. God warns us about that in Galatians 6:9. He tells us not to "be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

We have, however, a hard time waiting for "due season" because it almost always comes later than we want! Our flesh is impatient. It expects to plant a seed today and reap a harvest tomorrow. But that just doesn't happen.

Spiritual things work just like natural things. A farmer knows it will take a certain amount of time for his crop to grow. He doesn't try to rush the ground. He doesn't get on his tractor and drive around yelling, "Hurry up, crops. I need a harvest NOW!" He just waits patiently because he knows his harvest will come in due season.

Many charismatic Christians, on the other hand, seem to think that the moment they sow, the ground will quake, lightning will flash from the sky, and suddenly a massive harvest will shoot up from the ground. When that doesn't happen, they just shrug their shoulders and say, "Well, I guess I'm not going to get anything."

So they go on about their business and never give another thought to the seed they planted. As a result, they faint and miss their due season by forgetting what and where they sowed. Many times this happens because people don't take their giving seriously enough to even expect a harvest. They view their giving as a loss instead of as an investment.

Take your sowing seriously. Remember when and where you planted seed. Every time you think about it say, "I've sown in that area and I'm expecting a harvest!" Then constantly watch for it. Proverbs 10:5 says, "He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame." Don't be a sleeping son at harvest time. Stay awake and reap the rewards!

## Reaping Is NOT Automatic

"If I plant good seed in faith, won't my harvest just automatically come in?"

No. It won't. Reaping is no more automatic than sowing. Read the parable Jesus told in Mark 4 and you'll see what I mean: "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" (verses 26-29).

God didn't sow the seed in this parable. The man did. God gave the increase. Then it was the man who reaped the harvest by putting in the sickle.

Reaping takes work. It requires action on our part. Just as a farmer doesn't sit around at harvest time expecting his crops to march out of the field and into the barn all by themselves, we cannot expect our harvest to come in without our help. Maybe you were hoping God would take the responsibility for it all. But He won't.

If you'll read the Bible, you'll see that even when God supplied spectacular, miraculous provision, He still required His people to go out and gather it. When the Israelites were in the wilderness, for instance, God poured food down on them from the sky. But they couldn't just sit in their tents and wait. It fell in little flakes like snow and they had to take their pot and pick up these little specks until they had collected enough to make bread. They had to reap the harvest!

Spiritually speaking, you will have to do the same thing. You have to thrust in your sickle of faith and lay claim to the provision that's yours by right of the seed you've sown. You have to say, "I believe I receive my harvest in Jesus' Name. Now go, ministering spirits, and cause my money (or whatever it is) to come in!" (See Hebrews 1:14.)

In other words, you must reap by faith just like you sow by faith. Instead of just sitting around "waiting on the Lord," you must become aggressive. You have to go after what's yours.

Mark 11:24 tells us how to do that. It says, "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."

Look again at that verse. It says you're to believe. Believe what? Believe that you receive.

It's not enough for you to believe God is good and wants you to prosper. It's not enough for you to believe that your harvest is out there. You must believe that you receive. In this passage, the word translated receive literally means "take." You can't be a timid soul and be successful in the Christian life. The Apostle Paul told Timothy, "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life..." (1 Timothy 6:12). When it comes to enjoying the blessings of God that are provided for you, you have to wade in and lay hold—you have to be bold to possess what God said belongs to you.

So get busy. Plant some seed in the specific area where you need a harvest. Stand strong, stay alert and awake until due season comes. Then put in the sickle and take what God has given you. V

IT'S AMAZING HOW MANY PEOPLE WANT TO REAP A HARVEST HAVEN'T EVEN SOWN YET.



Brother Kenneth & Mrs. Gloria.

We celebrate with you on your 50th anniversary in the ministry.

Phyllis and I will never forget the first time we were in one of your meetings. We were just married, and had iust discovered the wonderful word of faith through your ministry when, by the grace of God, you came to a little auditorium in Jackson, Miss.

Sitting there in our bellbottoms, the Spirit of God ministered to us so powerfully through you. Looking back now, it was α turning point in our lives into God's good plan for us, setting us on His course for our lives.

For years now, we've been privileged to know you personally. What great and true friends you have been to us. Always believing in us, and always standing with us through every challenge and assignment. You

have been strength and comfort to us many, many

Having been in the ministry for a while now ourselves, we are coming to realize the commitment and dedication it takes to do what you both have done so well now for half a century. We have witnessed how you have been willing to make any sacrifice and pay any price to accomplish what the Lord has instructed you to do. Your example is inspiring.

It was God who chose that, through your mouths, we should heαr His good Word and believe.

Our lives have been forever changed and enriched beyond what we thought was possible. And the same is true for millions around the planet. Your value to us is beyond price!

We love you and thank God for the gifts that you are. Precious are your feet to us.

Keith & Phyllis



FOR MORE ABOUT KEITH MOORE, AND TO SEE A VIDEO TRIBUTE TO THE COPELANDS, GO TO: KCM.ORG/KEITH

## GoodNEWSGazette

GOD SPARED ME FROM HARM

I had an accident Nov. 28, 2015, on my way home from work. A truck driver crossed the robot [traffic light] while I had right of way, causing the accident. My car is a write-off, but God spared my life. There was not a broken bone in my entire body. Even the doctors said that I was lucky. I know it was not luck, but the hand of God at work. To God be the glory and may He continue to use you to impact our lives.

T. | South Africa

NEW ROOF AND WINDOWS— DEBT FREE!

I had called KCM for prayer for a new roof and windows for my home. The lady prayed Isaiah 45:3, "I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places." There was a government grant that had just been put in place. We received it and it was debt free! Praise the Lord! Thank you, KCM!

E. M. Peterborough, Ontario

## 'HEALING IN MY BACK'

One Tuesday night I was watching Gloria Copeland on the *BVOV* broadcast. I had no need that I knew of, but I simply watched the program just to enjoy it. Gloria began to pray for healing in the body from head to toe. As I watched, a tingling sensation happened on both my legs. I felt it. I did not think I had a need, but God was healing my

legs. I received the prayer, and the program ended. I thought for a moment, What just happened? Then I got up from the sofa, moved my waist and instantly felt there had been a healing in my back. Glory to God! The next morning, I told my children I had received a new back. Now, I thank God every day for that healing! I feel new strength in my back and I'm able to do things I

could do before I had children. I thank Him that by His stripes I am healed. Thank you, Ms. Gloria Copeland—I did not expect that healing. I did not even ask for that healing, but God knew I needed it and gave it to me through your hands. Glory to God! May you and Brother Copeland be blessed in all things.

C. | South Africa

## **Coming Out of Autism**

My family has changed because of the teachings of Kenneth and Gloria. We are walking in greater faith and in greater surplus. Thank you so very much. :: Our five adopted children have had autism and are coming out of it! One of them, you can't even tell had it, all due to these teachings from KCM! We cannot say thank you enough! PRIUS.

## PROTECTED BY THE BLOOD

A few years ago there was an outbreak of foot and mouth disease in our nation. I was living in my hometown on the Fylde Coast in Lancashire at the time. One day, I was watching the local news talking about the spread of the plague as it went from farm to farm out of Cumbria. It seemed to be heading in our direction. Afterward, I was walking my border collie when suddenly this righteous indignation hit me. I yelled at the top of my voice, placing a blood line around my whole area and declaring that this disease could not come near us! And, glory to God, we never did get it on the Fylde Coast!

Gill D. | Berkshire, U.K.

## STORM NO MATCH FOR BVOVN

We had a winter storm here yesterday. We are digging out from a foot of snow today. Through the storm the station on the Dish network kept going out. But not BVOVN. It was on all day yesterday and today. If I go to another station it says Complete Loss." Praise the Lord for BVOVN!

Zandra S. Michigan



## INSTEAD OF NEWS, THEY WATCH BVOVN

We had been watching TBN, but when you came on Dish® 265, we started watching that daywhat a blessing. We have been Partners for at least 34 years. On and off not always faithful, but intercessors. You and God have never aiven up on us. Our daughter and her husband are serving the Lord now. Our son and his wife need continual prayers, but as for me and my husband, we watch this all day. We can't stand to watch the news so we watch the teachings, instead!

My husband has been healed of a frozen, painful right shoulder and an itchy mole on his arm. He's happier than ever. I believed for healing of my left knee and sciatic nerve. I was in so much pain, I could barely walk. Since watching the 2015 SWBC and the EMIC service with Billy Burke, my pain is gone and I can walk normally again. Every day I confess God's goodness. BVOVNwhat a blessing! Like listening to DVDs or CDs all day.

The Holy Spirit had us get Dish for my best friend, who had turned us on to Jesus 35 years ago. She is enjoying it so much. Again, thank you for this blessing. We sowed to your channel so we will reap with you.

Ada W. | Bunker Hill, III.



Gloria Copeland

ne of these days soon, there's coming a mighty worldwide coming a moment when the last trumpet will sound, the mortal bodies of all the believers on earth will be clothed in be caught up to meet Jesus in the air.

That's going to be an amazing moment!

As thrilling as it's going us who are born again don't have to wait until then to experience resurrection. We can live in it to a great degree right now. Even before this age is over, while we're still living in a natural body, we can live supernaturally.



GOD'S
KINGDOM IS
WHEREVER
HE AND HIS
BODY EXERCISE
DOMINION,
AND RIGHT
NOW, HE IS
EXERCISING
HIS DOMINION
RIGHT HERE
ON EARTH
THROUGH US.

We can walk in resurrection life every single day!

I realize that might sound like a wild claim, but the New Testament backs it up. It says that when we believed on Jesus, our old sinful spirit died and "we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4, New King James Version).

In other words, our spirit has already been resurrected! Through the new birth we've received on the inside of us the life and the glory of God Himself. What's more, if we've been baptized in the Holy Spirit we've also received the Anointing of God's power that Ephesians 1:14 calls "the earnest" (or the initial deposit) of the full inheritance that will be ours when Jesus returns.

That "earnest," along with the life and glory of God that's within us, is enough to defeat anything the devil or this world can bring against us. It's enough to empower us to live victoriously and to give us the boldness to say in the face of any challenge, "We are more than conquerors through Christ!"

"But Gloria," you might

say, "you have to remember that even as believers we're still just earthly creatures."

No, we're not. We're new creations!

God has "raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus." We've been seated with Him "far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come" (Ephesians 2:6, 1:21). As Christians, we're citizens of the kingdom of God. His kingdom isn't someplace we're going to go someday when Jesus returns or after we die. It doesn't just exist in a place called heaven. God's kingdom is wherever He and His Body exercise dominion, and right now, He is exercising His dominion right here on earth through us.

I'm telling you, we ought to be excited about this! As the Church, even on this side of the final resurrection, we have so much going for us that when it comes to fighting our enemy, the devil, it's not even a fair fight!

## Operating in a Whole New Realm

I know what you might be thinking. If it's not a fair fight, then why do believers seem to be getting beat up so much of the time? Why aren't we all walking in constant, glorious triumph?

Because we are living far below our privileges. We are just barely walking in the resurrection life and power God has made available to us. To walk





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more fully in that power, we have to learn to operate in a whole new realm the realm of the spirit.

Before we were born again we didn't know anything about that realm. Because sin had darkened our hearts and deadened us to God, all we could do was operate in the flesh and in the realm of the natural. When we gave our hearts to Iesus, however, that situation changed. Spiritually, we became "dead...unto sin, but alive unto God" (Romans 6:11). We experienced the fulfillment of what God said in Ezekiel 11:19-20: "I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God" (NKIV).

Notice those scriptures say that God has given us a new heart and a new spirit. They also tell us He has done that for a reason: so we can walk in His ways! So we can learn how to walk with Him in the realm of the spirit!

That's what the Holy Spirit is in us to do. He's here to teach us how to live and serve the Lord according to Romans 7:6: "not under [obedience to] the old code of written regulations, but [under obedience to the promptings] of the Spirit in newness [of life]" (The Amplified Bible, Classic Edition).

As those who have God's Spirit dwelling in us, we're not in the same position people were under the Old Covenant. All they had was God's written law. They couldn't live in close fellowship with Him because He's a spirit and they were still operating in the realm of the natural. They were still trapped in the flesh.

As New Covenant believers, however, we're "not in the flesh" (Romans 8:9). We're "born of the Spirit." We not only have the written Word of God, we have the Author of that Word living inside us. He's in us 24/7 to reveal to us what His Word means, to show us how to apply it to our lives, and to EMPOWER us to do what it says.

I think sometimes we take that for granted! We read exciting stories in the Old Testament and wish God would deal with us like He did with Abraham or Moses. We wish He'd send an angel when He wants something from us, or talk to us out of a burning bush. But, really, that would be a big step down.

Abraham just got to hear from God every once in a while. He had to wait years for special supernatural appearances. We have the life of God dwelling right here inside us. We're created in Him of the same spiritual substance and He's walking with us and talking with us all the time.

What exactly is He saying?

For one thing, He's talking to us about being holy, about reckoning ourselves dead to sin. He's speaking to us about living differently than the world does.

There's nothing more miserable than being born again and continuing to live like the world. When we're in that condition, we know just enough about God to not really enjoy sin and not enough about Him to stay out of it. That's no way to be! Yet it's exactly how a lot of Christians live.

Instead of setting their affections on things above and drawing near to the Lord through the Word and through prayer, they spend all their time on natural things. They live a sloppy, lazy spiritual life and then when they get themselves into trouble they act like, *This is a big shock! Why did this happen to me?* 

Of course, God is merciful, so if we find ourselves in that situation we can call out to Him and He'll respond and help us. But that's not the way we, as believers, ought to live.

## The Most Exciting Adventure Ever!

We're not supposed to be conformed to this world. We're not designed by God to be under its domination. We're destined to walk as overcomers in the realm of the spirit. As Romans 8:29 (NKJV) says, we're "predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son."

## THERE'S NOTHING MORE MISERABLE THAN BEING BORN AGAIN AND CONTINUING TO LIVE LIKE THE WORLD.

# WHEN WE'RE IN THAT CONDITION, WE KNOW JUST ENOUGH ABOUT GOD TO NOT REALLY ENJOY SIN AND NOT ENOUGH ABOUT HIM TO STAY OUT OF IT.

That image is already perfect and complete in your inner man. Because Jesus is living in your spirit, you're already just like Him on the inside. What you're doing now is learning to walk in a way that allows Him to increasingly come forth on the outside. You're learning to manifest in your life the reality revealed in Colossians 2:9-10: "In [Jesus] the whole fullness of Deity (the Godhead) continues to dwell in bodily form [giving complete expression of the divine nature]. And you are in Him, made full and having come to fullness of life [in Christ you too are filled with the Godhead-Father, Son and Holy Spirit—and reach full spiritual stature]" (AMPC).

Talk about an exciting adventure! As a new creation in Christ, you're on

the most thrilling mission imaginable. You're in the process of looking more and more like Jesus. Living in the power of His resurrection life, you're developing your capacity to walk in the spirit and not fulfill the lusts of the flesh

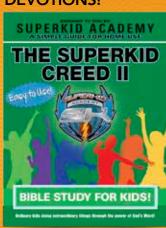
What's more, you have the mighty Holy Spirit as your own personal trainer. If you'll listen to and obey Him, you can't lose.

"But Gloria," you might say, "I've been thinking the Holy Spirit is going to tell me to go to China or Africa as a missionary or something—and I'm eager to do it. But so far He hasn't said anything."

Oh, He's said things, all right. He's always speaking to us. You're probably just not hearing Him because you're

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focused on things you consider big and important—like moving to a different continent, and He's talking to you about the basics.

That's where He starts with all of us. He talks to us, for instance, about how to "mortify the deeds of the body" (Romans 8:13). He speaks to us about areas in our life where we've been disobedient to God and tells us what adjustments to make so that we're walking according to the Word.

Those kinds of instructions may not sound very glamorous, but you want to pay attention to them. If you don't, you'll be hindered in your walk with God. You'll get drawn off course by your flesh and God's power won't be able to flow freely in your life.

If you haven't learned to follow the Holy Spirit in the everyday affairs of living, He can't risk telling you to go to Africa because once you got there, you'd probably go to the wrong city. You'd get yourself in a mess and wouldn't do anyone any good because you'd be walking in the flesh instead of walking after the Spirit.

Brother Kenneth E. Hagin, who taught Ken and me a lot about these things, used to say, "Don't miss the supernatural leading of the Holy Spirit because you're looking for something spectacular." Be sensitive to even the Spirit's seemingly smallest promptings. Honor His every instruction as important and act on what He tells you to do—whether you think it's significant or not.

Let me show you what I mean. Say you need healing in your body, and you want to receive a miracle. You might go to a meeting thinking God's power will hit you like a lightning bolt and knock you to the floor. During the meeting, however, you might hear the Holy Spirit say, You need to forgive your sister-in-law.

If you haven't made a decision to esteem that still small voice, you might just brush off that instruction. You might not pay any attention to it because it's not what you were looking for. I can forgive my sister-in-law later, you might think. But right now I want to stay focused on receiving my miracle.

It may never dawn on you that the bitterness you've had toward your sister-in-law is what's been keeping you sick. So, by ignoring that inner prompting you might leave the meeting disappointed, never realizing that you could have received your miracle by simply doing what the Holy Spirit prompted you to do.

That's what happened to Peter in the Garden of Gethsemane. He went there with Jesus and two other disciples to pray and prepare for one of the most trying times of his life. When, instead of praying, Peter fell asleep, Jesus woke him up and tried to help him. "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation," He said, "the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matthew 26:41).

At the time, Peter didn't know his flesh was weak. He thought he was strong. He'd told Jesus a few hours earlier that he would do anything for Him, no matter how big or difficult it might be. (See verses 33-35.) "I'll go to jail with You, Jesus! I'm even willing to die with You!" he said.

Jesus, however, didn't want Peter in jail. He didn't want him dead. He just wanted Peter to obey Him. He just wanted him to watch and pray. If Peter had done so, he could have avoided a great personal failure and enjoyed a great victory. But he didn't. He disobeyed Jesus' instructions, gave in to his flesh and went back to sleep.

You and I don't have to make that mistake! We're not like Peter was that night. He wasn't yet a born-again believer with a resurrected spirit. He wasn't yet baptized and filled to overflowing with the Holy Ghost.

We are!

Even though we're still living in natural bodies, we're supernaturally new creatures. We've died with Christ and our spirits have been raised up with Him by the glory of the Father. We not only have the power to hear the Lord's instructions, we have the indwelling power of His Spirit empowering us to obey Him.

We have within us everything it takes to walk every day in resurrection life!

WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE, PEOPLE SAID THAT A LOT. :: WHAT PEOPLE TODAY CALL EMOJIS, WE CALLED **SMILEY FACES, AND THEY ALWAYS** WENT ALONG WITH, "SMILE, JESUS LOVES YOU."

What a simple thing to say. And maybe people said it without thinking about the power of those four words.

Well today, Superkid, we are going to think about it! Not just the smile part but the reason we should smile-because Jesus loves us!

That is a BIG, BIG, BIG statement. You know just how big?

Jesus gave up His place in heaven with His Father and came to earth to live, and love, and then die on the cross to pay the price for our sin.

Smile, Jesus loves you!

With His own blood, He purchased our peace, safety, healing and well-being.

Smile, Jesus loves you!

He sent the Holy Spirit to help us in every situation, to help us hear Jesus' voice, to fill us with His love and His presence—so much that people see Him in us!

Smile, Jesus loves you!

He planned a future for you and provided everything you will ever need by giving you His life, His promises, His power, His Word, His Name and His Spirit.

Say it with me now, "Smile, Jesus loves you!"

That has so many things in it to think about, but let's just look at a few.

**BIG STUFF:** Nothing you are dealing with can stand up against the love of God, expressed in Jesus. If you are facing something big today, look to Him! He not only has the answer to fix your problem, He will put joy in your heart and you can smile as you go through hard times. However, you have to look to Him first. He won't force you to trust in Him over the problem, but He is waiting to help you. So give it all to Him and go ahead and smile in faith, knowing that Jesus has got this!

## LITTLE STUFF:

Sometimes, we let little stuff get to us. This can be one of the trickiest things the devil does to mess people up. Allowing little things to bother us and lead us to anger and frustration, steals our joy and our peace.

If your brother or sister annoys you when they mess with your stuff, it's easy not to take it to Jesus, because it's a little thing. But lots of little things can add up to a pile that's BIG.

When we don't let Jesus help us with the little stuff, then when the big stuff happens, it's even more difficult to give Him any of it. He WANTS TO HELP!

So, when someone or something bothers you, give it to Him and go ahead and smile in faith, knowing Jesus has got this!

WHAT MY FACE IS SAYING: Think about what is in your smile. Does it mean everything is perfect? No. It means you are trusting Jesus to fix what's not. I would tell my kids, "If everything has to be perfect for you to be happy, you will be an unhappy person." When you focus on what you don't like about your life, friends, school, day or circumstances, you will miss what is good. And people will miss what is good in YOU! You have Jesus, Himself, on the inside of you! When you smile, people see Him. When you frown, whom do they see?

**OPEN THE DOOR:** I read a verse recently that jumped out at me. In Matthew 23:13, New Living Translation, Jesus was speaking to religious leaders. Instead of seeing that Jesus, the Messiah, had finally come, they just complained and saw problems. Selfishly, they didn't like it that He was getting the attention of the people, who were listening to Him and being set free. Jesus told them, "You shut the door of the Kingdom of Heaven in people's faces. You won't go in yourselves, and you don't let others enter either." When we frown, our face tells others we aren't happy-

that we have no hope and no one to turn to. Is that true? NO! In any situation we can smile, not because everything is perfect, but because JESUS LOVES US! He

is working things out for us. In a sense, when we smile we let people see the kingdom of heaven (God's ways and His love) inside us. People need Jesus and His love. Jesus can use your smile to let others see Him.

## **DON'T BE A FROWNIE FACE!**

Sure, Superkids, stuff happens sometimes that we don't like and we frown. But don't stay in a frown. You can turn to Jesus on purpose. Let Him help you—on purpose. As you practice this, you will begin to smile more. Watch your face. Ask family members to help you if they notice you frowning. I heard my dad say a funny thing the other day. He said, "Is a frown your parking place?" In other words, "Do you frown more than you smile?" The same way Jesus can use your smile to bring joy, the devil can use your frown to bring sadness to others. Have you ever experienced someone frowning at you and you wondered what you had done to make them mad? All kinds of thoughts might go through your head when, in all truth, they were just irritated about something else. Or, maybe they were just expressing boredom or ingratitude through their face. (Ouch, I've done that!) So don't give the devil any space on your face! Instead, give it to Jesus! Jesus LOVES YOU. He lives to take that frown and turn it upside down! And the same way He can do that, He will take your situation, BIG or SMALL, and turn it right-side up! He's good that way! Sooooooo...

SMILE, SUPERKID! JESUS LOVES YOU!

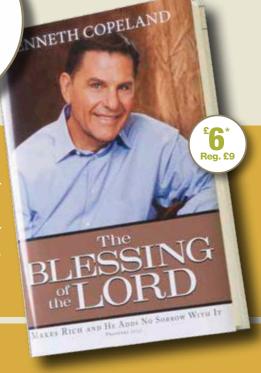


An outreach minister at Kenneth Copeland Ministries, Kellie Copeland is the developer of the Superkid Academy curriculum. Through her ministry and as "Commander Kellie," she fulfills the mission of drawing people of all ages into a personal, growing and powerful relationship with Jesus Christ.

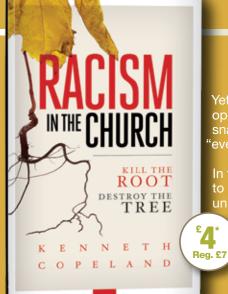
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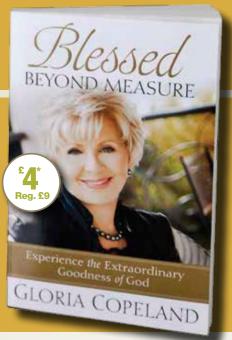
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