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Editor’s Letter

40th Southwest Believers’ Convention

I attended my first Southwest Believers’ Convention in August 1997, just two months after coming to work for Kenneth Copeland Ministries. But it was long before that when I first heard about the annual six-day meeting that took place at what was then the Tarrant County Convention Center in Fort Worth.

During the mid-1980s, when we lived in Winston-Salem, N.C., hardly a weekday went by that I didn’t slip a cassette into the tape player to record the 15-minute radio broadcast called Believer’s Voice of Victory. As young believers, my wife, Edna, and I were hungry for the Word of God and never wanted to miss anything Kenneth Copeland taught. Our excitement was always heightened each year when the announcer invited listeners to join Kenneth and Gloria, and thousands of believers, in Fort Worth for the SWBC. In those days, a trip to Texas wasn’t in our budget. But that didn’t keep us from believing to one day be part of those meetings, or imagining being immersed in an atmosphere of faith, surrounded by thousands of fellow Christians and saturated in God’s Word.

I’m reminded of those days every year at this time as we prepare for another SWBC. The difference, though, is instead of being 1200 miles away, the Fort Worth Convention Center, and the SWBC, are only about a 20-minute drive. That’s where we plan to be in August—armed with the same excitement and expectation we had 23 years ago when we attended our first live convention after moving to Texas. We look to be blessed by the preaching, teaching and fellowship. I’m saddled up and ready to go. Hope to see you there!

As you know, due to the impact COVID-19 has had on our nation and other nations around the world, for a while all public events were canceled or rescheduled for health and safety reasons. At KCM, all scheduled meetings up to now have been moved to a virtual platform, where you can attend them via live streaming. At this writing, no decision has been made regarding whether the SWBC will be a public event or virtual. KCM is continuing to monitor travel and event restrictions. For updates on SWBC and our other events, please visit kcm.org/events.

On page 9, we look back at the first SWBC and the anointed word from God that was delivered to the Body of Christ. The articles by Kenneth and Gloria Copeland, and Jerry Savelle, were adapted from messages they preached during that meeting. Also in this issue, Brother Copeland encourages believers to pray, listen to and obey God’s voice, and VOTE in the upcoming election. Take time to read this encouraging article, as well as the other insightful articles we’ve prepared for you this month.

Ronald C. Jordan
Managing Editor

INSIDE JULY

100% Committed
by Kenneth Copeland

Living Out Loud
by Melanie Henry

Pray, Listen and Obey
by Kenneth Copeland

How to Increase Your Faith
by Jerry Savelle

Growing Together in the Glory of God
by Gloria Copeland
100% COMMITTED
When they got out on the field, they were going to get hammered...and they weren't going to make the team.

One reason I knew this was because I understood what they were up against. They were going to be facing guys whose greatest thrill in life was to flatten each other. Guys who pushed themselves almost to the breaking point all week long to get in shape. Guys who put up with sore muscles, bruises, bloody noses and whatever else they had to endure—all to play a game they didn't even get paid for.

When you're playing against a bunch of guys like that, the “try this out” mentality doesn't cut it. You have to absolutely love the game. You have to be determined to play—and play to win. You have to want it so much, that even when you're getting slammed from all sides you're saying, “Somehow, I'm going to succeed at this!”

Otherwise, you won't last long at all. You'll get the wind knocked out of you and end up running for the locker room while the rest of the team is still out there on the field punching and pounding one another and calling it “fun.”

Winning at the Life of Faith

In my years as a believer, I've discovered something similar is true about living by faith in God. It's the most thrilling, powerful adventure there is, but it doesn't work for those who take a wait-and-see attitude. It doesn't produce results for people who just hear a few messages about it and say, “I think I'll give that faith stuff a try.” If you want to win at the life of faith, you have to really want it. You have to take the same attitude Abraham did in the Bible.

Talk about someone who wanted to walk by faith! Abraham set the standard!

He wanted to walk in the manifestation of God's power more than anything else on earth. He wanted it more than he wanted his family. He wanted it more than he wanted his own life. He wanted God so much, that he'd believe and act on His WORD no matter what anyone else thought or said about it.

You can see that by how he responded when God told him, at 100 years old, that he and his 90-year-old wife were going to have a baby. He not only had audacity enough to believe it, he made a public announcement: “I'm the father of many nations,” he said. “From now on, don't call me Abram. Call me Abraham, the Father of a Multitude!”

Can you imagine how people reacted to that? They must have treated Abraham like a laughingstock. They might not have mocked him to his face because he was the richest man around; but behind his back, I'm sure they pointed at him and snickered, “That old man has taken leave of his senses! There's no way he and his old, barren wife are going to have...
children at their age. It's impossible.

While they were scoffing, however, Abraham was believing. He was refusing to be moved by impossibilities. As Romans 4:19-21 says: “Being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah’s womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.”

When it came to living by faith in God's WORD, Abraham was as rugged and determined as they come. Like those guys I used to play football with, he was all-in. One hundred percent committed to believing God.

The Same Kind of Faith God Uses

You and I, as born-again believers, can have the same kind of attitude! When we see in God's WORD that by the stripes of Jesus we were healed, we can choose to consider not the symptoms of sickness in our bodies. We can jump up in faith and say, “Yes, Sir! I am the healed of The LORD!”

When we see that our covenant with God declares that He will give us strength, we can believe that He will make our bank accounts or other people might say. “Yeah, but Brother Copeland, I just don't have that kind of faith.”

The Bible says you do. It refers to all of us, who believe in Jesus, as those who “walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham” (Romans 4:12).

Exactly what kind of faith did Abraham have? He had the same kind God uses! No human being ever had that kind of faith until Abraham came along. But he caught hold of it and once he did, he used it to the max. He actually believed God to the point that he perpetuated his seed to a thousand generations. He put so much faith in his covenant with God that there was no way God could ever annul that covenant or call it off. As He said to Abraham in Genesis 22:16-18: “By myself have I sworn…for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: that in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.”

Notice that according to those verses, Abraham's faith in God was so strong he didn't withheld from Him even his own son. He went up the mountain and Isaac on the altar of sacrifice simply because God asked him to. As a result, he obligated God, as his covenant partner, to do the same. He put God in the position where He was bound by covenant to sacrifice His own Son for the sake of all mankind.

Up until Abraham, God hadn't found that kind of faith on the earth. He'd found some people who would believe Him for financial BLESSINGS or for healing. But no one had ever believed God to raise someone from the dead—and when Abraham offered Isaac, that's exactly what he was believing God would do.

Abraham wasn't brokenhearted and crying the day he took Isaac to the altar, like the silly Hollywood movies portray him. He had the fire of faith flashing in his eyes. He was “accounting that God was able to raise [Isaac] up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure” (Hebrews 11:19).

As far as Abraham was concerned, the outcome was certain. God had said, “In Isaac shall thy seed be called” (Genesis 21:12); and Abraham absolutely believed it. He fully expected to sacrifice that boy and then watch God raise him up from the ashes. Abraham wasn't brokenhearted and crying the day he took Isaac to the altar, like the silly Hollywood movies portray him. He had the fire of faith flashing in his eyes. He was “accounting that God was able to raise [Isaac] up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure” (Hebrews 11:19).
outcome was certain. God had said, “In Isaac shall thy seed be called” (Genesis 21:12); and Abraham absolutely believed it. He fully expected to sacrifice that boy and then watch God raise him up from the ashes. Of course, God sent the ram to take Isaac’s place so his blood was never shed…but ultimately what Abraham believed came to pass.

Jesus died on the cross as God’s sacrifice to set us free from sin and the curse, and after He spent three days in the heart of the earth, Abraham’s faith finally bore fruit. His faith for resurrection slammed together with the power of Almighty God and Jesus was raised from the dead!

If you’re wondering how Abraham’s faith, which was released thousands of years before the cross, could have anything to do with Jesus’ resurrection, it’s because there’s no time in God. It doesn’t make any difference to Him if it’s a thousand years, 10 minutes or a split second. God doesn’t forget anything except the sins we withhold from Him. Every ounce of faith any of us have ever released is still on record with Him.

You might have believed God for something 35 years ago and then let go of it, but as far as God is concerned that faith is still in force. If you’ll stand on your covenant rights, you can reconnect with it and pick up right where you left off. You can get back on your faith in that area and receive the fulfillment of the promises that are yours through Abraham’s covenant with God.

A Covenant With God on Both Ends

“But Brother Copeland,” you might say, “as a New Covenant believer, God’s promises to me aren’t through Abraham, they’re through Jesus. They’re mine because of what He did.”

That’s absolutely true. It was also true for Abraham. His was a covenant with God on both ends. Read in Genesis 15 about how God established it and you’ll see what I mean. When He cut His covenant with Abraham He came down Himself, walked in the blood of the sacrificial animals, and made covenant promises to Abraham’s seed. “He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ” (Galatians 3:16).

Abraham’s covenant had God Almighty on one side and His Son, Jesus, on the other.

God basically said to Abraham, “If you’ll believe this covenant and act on it, I’ll treat you just like I treat

Jesus. You’ll be able to approach Me with the same confidence He does, and I’ll receive you and treat you like you’ve never sinned.”

God has said the same thing to us in the New Covenant. He’s not saying, “Get away from Me, you sinner.” He has invited us to come boldly to His throne against you.”

This is the reason we can follow in the footsteps of Abraham’s faith. We’re in on the same covenant. Galatians 3 confirms this. It says clearly, “They which believe are blessed with faithful Abraham…For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise” (verses 9, 26-29).

Look again at the last verse. It refers to you and me, as believers, as Abraham’s “seed.” The word seed there is singular, talking about us just as it is in verse 16
when it’s referring to Jesus. That’s important. It lets us know that when it comes to walking in the faith of Abraham, we’re all in this together. We’re one with Jesus and He’s one with us.

In times past our failure to realize this has hindered our walk of faith. We stumbled around more than we should have because we fragmented the Body of Christ. We divided ourselves up until we forgot that when we’re talking about believers, we’re talking about Jesus; and when we’re talking about Him, we’re talking about the whole Church. He’s the Head and we’re His Body.

You can’t separate a head from a body and expect it to keep functioning. For life to keep flowing, the two must be united. That’s why no one ever says when I walk into a room, “Here comes Kenneth and his body.” They just say, “There’s Kenneth,” because my head and my body are one.

The same is true spiritually with the Body of Christ. As Jesus said in John 17:23, we’re one with Jesus and with each other just as Jesus and the Father are one. Jesus is in us, God is in Him, and we’re in God “made perfect in one.”

It’s time we renewed our minds to this and stopped separating ourselves from each other. We need one another! We have to have one another to walk “in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God” (Ephesians 4:13).

There’s too much at stake here for us to let petty doctrinal differences and offenses drive us apart. Believing God for the fullness of the manifestation of God’s power among us is too important! It’s worth more than anything else in the world, and the only way we’re going to have it is by working together in unity—by clinging to each other in love (faith works by love), praying for each other and releasing our faith on each other’s behalf.

Do you know what happens when we come together like that? We become more than just individual Christians wandering around on the field of life trying to do something for God. We become a faith team! We become a spiritual version of that wild bunch of winners I played football with in high school.

That’s the kind of team God is putting together in these last days before Jesus returns. It’s a team of believers who absolutely love God, love each other and love living by faith in God’s WORD. It’s a team of believers who are in this for keeps and who are 100% committed to running roughshod over the devil.

It’s a God-squad of people like you and me who were born again to walk in the footsteps of Abraham’s faith!
It was 1966, on the campus of Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Okla. Kenneth Copeland was still basking in the anointing after Oral Roberts had laid hands on him, when God showed him something in the spirit—opening his eyes to see the spiritual condition of believers as he’d never seen it before.

Suddenly the bodies of the believers standing before Brother Roberts in the prayer line were transparent. Only a vague outline could be seen. Though physically healthy in most cases, their spirits were so scrawny and sickly they could hardly walk. Yet, on top of each emaciated, little spirit body was a huge head.

Son, Kenneth heard the Lord say, I have called you to feed My people. They are out of balance. They are physically developed. They're mentally developed. Some are so developed mentally that they can hardly hold their heads up. I'll show you how to feed My people and build them up spiritually until they become balanced.

That commission was the goal as the doors of the Tarrant County Convention Center in Fort Worth, Texas, opened on Aug. 17, 1981, and Kenneth stepped onto the platform for the first Southwest Believers’ Convention. He was taking a major step in fulfilling a vision and call the Lord had given him nearly 15 years earlier.

Set to minister alongside Kenneth and Gloria Copeland during the six days of meetings was a powerfully anointed lineup of speakers that included Jerry Savelle, Norvel Hayes,

It was evident God was raising up a new generation of believers. In a word delivered through the late John Osteen about the meeting, the Lord said: “I’m sending a Word revival to cause the Church to know who they are in Jesus Christ. And they will arise like a giant and they will go forth into a darkened world saturating them with My glory and My power. And they’ll cast out demons and heal the sick and bring deliverance to mankind. And I will show My glory in your generation.”

From then until now, those words have rung true as the power of God has been evidenced in every convention. Southwest has continued to be a catalyst for change in the lives of hundreds of thousands as new Kingdom keys have been revealed and new strength infused into their lives.

Reflecting on the beginning of the Southwest Believers’ Convention, Kenneth said: “When I asked The LORD all those years ago, ‘What do You want out of these meetings? What is our specific purpose?’ He said to me, ‘I want you to conduct meetings where people can totally immerse in The WORD of God. Get into The WORD of God and stay there! Talk about faith and the integrity of The WORD—talk about it and talk about it and talk about it...there is a people in the land today who have enough hunger for My WORD to come and sit under that kind of intensive exposure. That’s our calling and we’re seeing it done!'”

Since it began, the SWBC has continued to thrive, remaining committed to total immersion in God’s Word.

Free and open to the public, the convention is designed to build up the Partners and Friends of Kenneth Copeland Ministries and to take them from the milk to the meat of the Word. Southwest continues to meet that goal as it ministers to people of all ages and all walks of life, through its adult services, children’s ministry through Superkid Academy, and ministry for youth in 14forty.

Many of you have been with us for most, if not all, of the exciting journey. Others have connected with us along the way. We rejoice that each year you chose to allow the SWBC to play a role in your spiritual growth and maturity. And we thank you for being part of this exciting piece of history.

—Ronald C. Jordan, Managing Editor
“What is the purpose of SWBC?” Kenneth Copeland asked me one day. “It is to make the Word of God the central focus of what you do,” he said. “I want you to conduct meetings where people can totally immerse themselves in The WORD of God. Get into The WORD of God and stay there! Talk about faith and the integrity of The WORD—talk about it and talk about it and talk about it…there is a people in the land today who have enough hunger for My WORD to come and sit under that kind of intensive exposure. That’s our calling and we’re seeing it done!”

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—Ronald C. Jordan, Managing Editor
“My ministry was just me, an itinerant preacher. What God asked was far more than I’d ever even thought.”
TODD WHITE stepped into the mobile home where he lived with his girlfriend, Jackie, and their daughter, Destiny.

Empty. That’s how the house felt. Not temporarily, as if they had just run out to the store for ice cream. This was different. A feeling of despair washed over him.

Todd picked up a note left for him by his daughter. Each word felt like a knockout punch. She and her mom had moved in with Jackie’s mother and stepfather, the note read.

“Mommy’s not coming back.”

The crooked letters of the child’s scrawl stripped him of his bravado.

Dropping onto the sofa, he leaned back and closed his eyes, not wanting to see the holes he’d punched in the walls.

In nine years, he’d had about 30 jobs. He had been fired or quit each of them. In all that time, he’d never brought home a paycheck. He’d snorted it. Smoked it.

Todd White was a grown man. But his life had been in a downward spiral since he was 11 years old, and his parents had called him and his siblings to the kitchen table to announce they were getting a divorce.

“Your mom doesn’t love me anymore,” his dad explained as he walked out of the house carrying a suitcase.

Todd had tried running after him, but was stopped by his mother before he could get out the door. Overcome with anger and hatred, he’d destroyed his room, breaking vinyl records and chipping the plaster off the walls.

Todd’s mother’s boss was a 32nd-degree Mason.
“There’s a place Todd can go,” he explained. “They’ll take care of him.”

Todd was sent to live in a Masonic home for orphans. His mother said he could come home at the end of summer, but later she changed her mind.

By the time he was 12, Todd was a full-blown drug addict. He lived in the orphanage until he was 16½, when he was finally kicked out. He returned home only to find that his mother had remarried.

That didn’t go well.

“You could never be a Marine,” Todd’s stepfather taunted. “Marines are real men. You’ll never be a real man.”

On a dare, Todd joined the Marines and went through boot camp. It looked like everything had changed, but it hadn’t. He was still an addict.

Todd began a cycle of going AWOL, running to hide from the military police, being arrested and sent back. In time, he was given a bad conduct discharge.

That’s when he met Jackie, and Destiny was later born.

Jackie was never going to be the little woman who went to sleep hoping he would come home from his latest binge. No matter what time he dragged himself home, Jackie and Destiny were there, waiting on the sofa.

Jackie would scream at him.

Destiny would sob, “Daddy, you promised!”

Now they were gone.

All he’d ever done was hurt and disappoint them. Enough was enough.

Todd went to get a gun. He would put a bullet in his mouth and end everyone’s suffering. First, he would write a letter telling them goodbye.

On the way to the gun cabinet, Todd saw a phone book. When he picked it up, it fell open to reveal a number of churches. Todd hated Christians—thought they were hypocrites. Yet, for some reason, he ended up driving to one of the churches he saw listed in the phone book. It was a Word of Faith church, whatever that meant.

A pastor named Dan met him at the door.

Todd exploded, telling him what he had planned to do.

“Well, can I tell you about Jesus?”

“I didn’t come here to hear about Jesus!” Todd said. “He isn’t real! Jesus died!”

“That’s what I wanted to tell you. He’s alive.”

Todd paused. He believed in ghosts. He believed in UFOs. He believed in Dracula and haunted houses. Maybe Jesus was alive.

“Listen, since you don’t want your life, why don’t you give it to Someone who does?”

“Who would want what I have?”

A Small Seed

“I figured if Jesus wanted my life, He could have it,” Todd recalls.

“Later, I talked Jackie and Destiny into coming home. When I put Destiny to bed, I told her Jesus was in my life and that things had changed—that I would be there for her. A couple hours later, my body screamed for cocaine. I stole Jackie’s debit card and went on a binge. When I got home, Jackie and Destiny were waiting up. Jackie screamed that she hated me. Destiny sobbed.

“I called Pastor Dan and told him that Jesus didn’t work! He told me that there was a seed growing inside me. I exploded, telling him it needed to grow faster!”

Shots in the Dark

Along the way, Todd had connected with some people and began singing with a band. “We played in clubs and had a good following,” Todd recalls. “I wrote our music and we were pretty good. During our band practice, I kept talking about Jesus. Three of the guys told me that if I mentioned that Name again, they would leave and never play with me again. I had the mic and taunted them, and they walked out. Bobby, our guitarist, stayed because I was his best friend. I got high with him, partied with him, did “coke” with him, and talked about Jesus to him. He didn’t believe in Jesus.”

Late one night, Todd was standing at a pay phone trying to call his dealer when he turned and saw Jackie and Destiny. They were wearing pajamas. It was 1:30 in the morning, and they had followed him when he left the house. Todd jumped into his black Jeep Wrangler and sped away.

Shortly after, he picked up a kid who was dealing drugs.
Drugs. Todd sped away.

He left the house. Todd jumped into his black Jeep in the morning, and they had followed him when he got high. Each time he took a hit, he heard that voice:

“Later, I talked Jackie and Destiny into coming to church. I told them about Jesus, but no one had shared the gospel with them. I was stunned that so many people knew the Bible. I was stunned that so many people knew about Jesus, but no one had shared the gospel with me in 34 years.”

Looking up, Todd said, “Hey, Jesus loves you. I hope you know it.”

The man pushed his cart to the side.

“I know how much He loves you,” he told Todd.

“Do you know how much He loves you?”

“Tell me.”

The man began to share the gospel in the most compelling way Todd had ever heard.

“Why are you pushing a shopping cart?” Todd asked.

“What do you want?” the kid asked.

“As much as you’ve got.”

He pulled out cocaine in separate bags. As soon as Todd took the bags, pretending to be an undercover cop, he said to the kid, “You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law…”

“I knew you were a cop! I knew it!”

Todd pulled his Jeep over.

“Get out and put your hands on the hood,” he said to the kid.

Before Todd could move, the kid got out of the car, spun around, and began firing his 9 mm handgun at close range, shooting until the gun was empty, as Todd sped away.

I’m dead! I’m dead! Todd thought. I’ve been shot! I’ve got to get out of here!

Fueled by adrenaline, Todd floored the Jeep and rushed through red lights as he made his getaway. As he drove, he heard an audible voice that was louder than the gun blast:

I took those bullets for you. Are you ready to live for Me yet?

As he drove out of the city, Todd realized he didn’t feel any pain from the bullets. When he reached a safe place, he started using the drugs. For the next three and a half hours, Todd used up all the crack cocaine. But for some reason, he recalled, he didn’t get high. Each time he took a hit, he heard that voice he had heard earlier: I took those bullets for you. Are you ready to live for Me yet?

I drove home and got out of my car,” Todd remembers. “I used a flashlight to see how many bullet holes were in the car. There wasn’t one. Not even a scratch.

“It was early August 2004 at about 5:30 in the morning. I went inside and Jackie started screaming at me. I knew that something greater than me had saved my life. Those words were still playing in my head. Earlier they had been audible, coming from the outside. Now the words were quiet, but internal.

“I contacted Pastor Dan and he said a bed had opened for me at Teen Challenge, and that I could be admitted in three days. I agreed to go. It was a one-year commitment.

“Jackie was glad I was leaving. She hated me. Destiny was sad. Bobby was glad I was going to rehab until he learned that it was a Christian program. That made him furious.

Teen Challenge

“I was not only a drug addict, I had ADHD, dyslexia and bipolar disorder. I was on antidepressants. Teen Challenge wasn’t your typical rehab program. They didn’t discuss 12 steps. They didn’t talk about drugs or alcohol. They never mentioned chemical imbalances. They didn’t discuss serotonin levels. They only talked about one step: submitting to God. They talked about Jesus. They taught the Bible.

“I’d never been able to read, learn or memorize, but I started reading, learning and understanding the Bible. I was stunned that so many people knew about Jesus, but no one had shared the gospel with me in 34 years.”

Two months into the program, Todd’s heart was settled as he sat on a bench across the street from Teen Challenge. He watched as a homeless man with a scruffy beard and wearing a baseball cap, army fatigue and swimming goggles, walked by pushing a shopping cart.

Looking up, Todd said, “Hey, Jesus loves you. I hope you know it.”

The man pushed his cart to the side.

“I know how much He loves me,” he told Todd.

“Do you know how much He loves you?”

“Tell me.”

The man began to share the gospel in the most compelling way Todd had ever heard.

“Why are you pushing a shopping cart?” Todd asked.
“Years ago, the Lord told me to pick up my cross and follow Him,” the man said. “I sold everything and I’ve been pushing this cart across America.”

The cart was filled with Bibles.

“I’m going to pray for you,” he told Todd, “and that thing that’s plagued you will never touch you again.”

After the man prayed, Todd thanked him and walked back across the street. When he turned to look back, the man and his cart had vanished.

For some time, Todd had been plagued by night terrors. After that prayer, they left—replaced by sweet dreams about a valley between two mountains. Over and over the Lord told Todd not to fear. Then, one night during the dream the Lord said, This addiction will never touch you again. Go and restore friends and family.

The next day, Todd called Pastor Dan and asked him to come get him. All the way home, Pastor Dan told him all the reasons he was going to make it—that everything was going to be all right. At home, Destiny came running outside and threw herself in Todd’s arms.

“Daddy, something’s different about your eyes,” Jackie stepped outside. She wasn’t screaming.

“I’m so sorry for everything I’ve put you through,” Todd said. “I love you and hope you can forgive me. I met Jesus and He really changed me. In time you’ll see that. I’m going to get a job and provide for my daughter.”

New Creatures in Christ

“I know you will,” Jackie said. “While you were away, I gave my heart to Jesus.”

Pastor Dan had been pouring the gospel into Jackie and Destiny.

“I can’t live here because we’re not in covenant,” Todd said. “Of course not,” Jackie replied. “We need to be married first.”

“We’ll do it Sunday between services,” Pastor Dan said.

Todd went through the house, cleaning out drugs, alcohol and pornography. He put everything in a trash bag, smashed it with a hammer, and then set it on fire. On Sunday, he and Jackie were married.

The next day, Todd went to see Bobby.

The day Todd left for Teen Challenge, Bobby had suffered a brain aneurysm. Now, he was on life support and not expected to live. In the hospital room, Todd apologized to Bobby for not being a better friend.

“Bobby,” Todd said, “Jesus is real.”

That night, Bobby died.

“I was just crushed,” Todd recalls. “Jackie held me while I cried. This is what happens when you don’t live your life out loud for Jesus. It comes from not living a consecrated life. This will never happen again.”

Bobby’s wife asked Todd to speak at the funeral.

Standing in front of the casket, Todd shared that he had not been a good friend to Bobby. He said that real friendship means you lay your life down for your friends.

When the minister gave an altar call, half the people responded, giving their hearts to Jesus.

A Seed Full Grown

True to his word, Todd got a job and began to support his family. He never touched drugs or alcohol again. He submitted himself to the local church and lived his new life out loud.

“When I first got saved, I discovered Kenneth Copeland on television,” Todd recalled. “I watched his program, read his books and ordered his Word of Faith Study Bible, which is still my favorite. He just fascinated me. I realized that he and Gloria were two of the greatest teachers I’d ever heard. I followed their ministry, always looking up to them.”

One day, Todd was delivering ice on his job when he noticed a man limping to his car.

“Let me see your legs,” Todd asked.

“I had polio as a kid.”

“Sir, what happened to your leg?” Todd asked.

“Why?”

“Let me see your legs.”

The man sat down and stretched out his legs.

“Can I take a look?”

“Why?”

“New Creatures in Christ

“I know you will,” Jackie said. “While you were away, I gave my heart to Jesus.”

Pastor Dan had been pouring the gospel into Jackie and Destiny.

“I can’t live here because we’re not in covenant,” Todd told Jackie. “Of course not,” Jackie replied. “We need to be married first.”

“We’ll do it Sunday between services,” Pastor Dan said.

Todd went through the house, cleaning out drugs, alcohol and pornography. He put everything in a trash bag, smashed it with a hammer, and then set it on fire. On Sunday, he and Jackie were married.

The next day, Todd went to see Bobby.

The day Todd left for Teen Challenge, Bobby had suffered a brain aneurysm. Now, he was on life support and not expected to live. In the hospital room, Todd apologized to Bobby for not being a better friend.

“Bobby,” Todd said, “Jesus is real.”

That night, Bobby died.

“I was just crushed,” Todd recalls. “Jackie held me while I cried. This is what happens when you don’t live your life out loud for Jesus. It comes from not living a consecrated life. This will never happen again.”

Bobby’s wife asked Todd to speak at the funeral.

Standing in front of the casket, Todd shared that he had not been a good friend to Bobby. He said that real friendship means you lay your life down for your friends.

When the minister gave an altar call, half the people responded, giving their hearts to Jesus.

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Preparation for the Harvest

“I’ve seen thousands of people healed,” Todd explains. “This is a mobile gospel, it isn’t just for the Church. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead dwells in every son and daughter. God wants us to share the good news. He wants us to heal the sick. He wants us to prophesy over people and give words of knowledge. God wants compromise to be cut out of the Church and out of our lives, so we represent Him properly.

“Jackie and I have been married for 16 years now. For 13 of those years, I’ve traveled the world preaching the gospel. In 2015, I started traveling back and forth to Texas. While I was doing that, the team from 14forty, the youth ministry at KCM, asked me to come help out with their sessions during the Southwest Believers’ Convention. Jesus showed up and the next year the attendance doubled.”

Eventually, the Lord spoke to Todd and told him to move to Texas.

“He said to build a team around me and build a ministry training center,” Todd said. “He told me to raise up people who would take the gospel around the world. It would be a training hub, like an incubator for revival. I didn’t have a team or an office. My ministry was just me, an itinerant preacher. What God asked was far more than I’d ever even thought.

“We moved to Texas in January 2016. I was thinking about renting a space until the Lord told me that the building would seat 3,000. I saw a property that was far bigger than I imagined. It was a 200,000-square-foot building on 37 acres. It could seat 3,000. The price was around $20 million. I asked the Lord what to do. He told me to sow seed with purpose—to give $200,000 to KCM as seed and believe Him for the rest.

“I’d met Brother Kenneth before at meetings, and now I met with him in his office. I told him what the Lord had said and handed him the check. Kenneth grabbed my hands and pulled me to the floor. He prayed, asking God to give me the building.

“I love him so much. I would give my life for his any second of any day. We have an amazing relationship, and he pours into my life on a regular basis.

“Of course, God gave us the building. Right now, I have 43 full-time staff. We started Lifestyle Christian University and graduated 350 students in the spring of 2020. We will start another class in September. We will also launch the church in September.”

Today, Todd and Jackie’s oldest daughter, Destiny, is 23 and married. They have two other daughters, 14-year-old Zoey, and 9-year-old Brylee. They adopted Azariah, a baby born addicted to heroin, who is now smart and unscathed. And they are in the process of adopting another baby, 9-month-old Asher.

As we move into the greatest harvest of souls on planet Earth, Todd White asks one thing of you: Live your life for Jesus…out loud.
We are responsible for everything that happens in the earth politically. The condition of the world is supposed to be controlled by our prayers. The Church has been given the power to change things. We stand in a covenant. We have the armor of God and the power of attorney to use the Name of Jesus and the power of His blood.

God desires for His people to pray and take a stand with Him in faith. First Timothy 2:1-2 says, “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.” It is vitally important that we pray daily for our leaders.

It’s also crucial that we ask God how to vote. Voting is our God-given right and responsibility. In this nation and others, people have suffered and died so we could have that right. We must not take it lightly. Not voting is the same as casting a vote for the wrong side. Yet there are Christians all over this country who are not even registered to vote—enough of them to swing every election.

The time has come to take our place. We are responsible. When God speaks, we are to listen and obey, and we need leaders who will do the same. Party affiliation is not what matters. The person God can use is the one with a willing heart who will obey His voice.

Join us in asking God to give us leaders with willing hearts who will stand for what is right. Then vote as He leads you. Your Holy Spirit-directed ballot is a powerful seed. When you vote in faith, in obedience to God, your household will be protected. God will take care of you no matter who is in office or what is happening in the world. So don’t fear. Remember that God is your Source, not the people who get elected.

Whether you live in America or another country, don’t miss your God-given opportunity to lift up your leaders in prayer and to vote when elections are held. Remember, you have authority and a responsibility to pray, listen and obey. You have a voice in the kingdom of God, so let it be heard! 🕊

As the Body of Christ, we have great authority in the kingdom of heaven and in the things of God. It may come as a shock to many to learn that even though politicians will have to answer to God for what they do, the Body of Christ will also be held responsible.
Heavenly Father, I join with my brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ and lift up our nation to You. During this crucial election year, I claim Your personal choice for every office, in the Name of The LORD Jesus Christ. Give us leaders who have willing hearts to listen to Your voice and follow Your will. Remove any who refuse. I pray that all our leaders come into the knowledge of Your perfect will and carry it out. Give them wisdom and revelation.

Give us leaders who will do what is right so the Church can live in peace, honesty and godliness and The WORD can go forth freely.

Thank You, Father, that this country has a God-fearing president. I declare that we have God-fearing leaders in every position of authority at national, state and local levels.

Reveal to me, LORD, how to vote. I commit to do my part, and I’ll be a witness to encourage others to do the same.

I declare that we have a record turnout of Christian voters in every election this year. Father, we choose You. We choose to pray, listen and obey.

Thank You, LORD, that people all across the land are repenting and turning to You. Our finest hour as a nation is just beginning. Thank You for watching over and protecting us. I declare that we are, and we remain, one nation under God. I give You all the praise and the glory for it, in Jesus’ mighty Name. Amen!

An Election Year Prayer for the Nation
Forever Grateful for Healing

December 2018, I had a hysterectomy and had to go back to the doctor after four weeks. In my last week of recovery, I had a major setback and was in extreme pain. The pain medication I had didn’t help. I remembered reading and meditating on healing scriptures and realized I had tried fighting this battle on my own. I called KCM and asked for prayer to have someone stand in agreement with me for my healing. The lady who answered prayed with me, and not long after I received an email: “Confession for Healing.” I did that every day until I had no pain and knew I had made a full recovery.

After eight weeks I was able to exercise again and continue my journey. I thank God for my healing and all who prayed with me. I will be forever grateful.

South Africa

A Quick Answer to Prayer

I was scheduled to close on my first home last December, but the funding had not come through. So, I waited through Christmas, not knowing where I would live. When I called the KCM prayer line, the young lady prayed with me and told me to be sure to let you all know when the Lord provided. On Jan. 17, 2020, I closed on my home. Praise God for the KCM prayer line!

B.G. | Madison, Miss.

Fear Out, Faith In

I am a Partner with KCM, and the prosperity broadcasts with George and Gloria have prepared me to stand in a time of famine. Due to the COVID-19 virus, my employer cut back my hours so I was only working two days a week. Right before this happened, however, the Lord opened up another channel for income so the cutback did not affect me at all! I thought back to the broadcasts where George and Gloria talked about Isaac reaping in a time of famine. Having this Word inside me before the chaos began helped me to keep fear out and faith in!

A.D. | Sarasota, Fla.

Multiplied Benefits

I want to thank the Lord and the KCM prayer team for praying for my husband to get benefits on his job of a little over two years. He received his benefits of vacation, holiday pay and personal time as of Jan. 1, 2020. He also received a raise.

B.C. | Louisiana

‘I’ll Take That’

I was listening to the KCM broadcast as I always do while getting ready for work. Kenneth said someone was being healed of a sinus infection. Well, I had just woken up with that and said, “I’ll take that.” Right then it was gone! Praise God.

D.R. | Ohio

Blessed in Tithing

We have been blessed so much since tithing on our gross! We are living better in retirement than we did when we worked! We’re able to give offerings also, which is a great blessing. It doesn’t add up on paper but it’s real!

S. and K.W. | Texas

‘Have Faith in God’

For years, your ministry has been a part of our lives. In November 2018, I was diagnosed with heart failure. The doctors didn’t expect me to live a very productive life at the age of 48. A big part of my faith came from your ministry. The words, HAVE FAITH IN GOD, stayed in our hearts. Well over a year later, I am in full recovery and my heart is pumping blood more than ever. My doctors are acknowledging that I am nothing short of a miracle. Somewhere in between I was delivered from diabetes.

T.O. | Austin, Texas

‘God Had Another Plan’

Thank you for your many prayers over the phone. The Lord had already delivered me from the human trafficking mob when they decided they were going to take my home from me. God had another plan for me—not theirs! The Lord has answered my prayer—I now have electricity and heat throughout most of my home. At His hand, I now have what I call God’s warmth. Thank you.

M.S. | North Carolina

T.Q. | Austin, Texas
If you do not know Jesus as your Savior and Lord, simply pray the following prayer in faith, and Jesus will be your Lord!

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

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

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!
kcm.org/salvation

From Lack to Abundance
One year ago, we had very little money in the bank, and several bills were overdue. BUT, we were meditating on God’s Word, tuning in to Gloria Copeland and Pastor George, Kenneth Copeland, Jerry Savelle, Jesse Duplantis, and others to feed our faith. We tithed and looked for opportunities to sow seed in good ground.

I got a new job, paying much more than I had been making. We eliminated our consumer debt of $44,000, have six months of income saved, and have never felt so free! Even when it was tough, God was ALWAYS faithful, and today He has blessed us so we can be a blessing! Thanks for teaching us how to exercise our faith, praying for us and believing with us.

B.H. | Omaha, Neb.
YEARS AGO when I worked for Brother Copeland, we had gone to Alabama to hold a meeting. Every morning of the meeting, he and I met at 5:30 to pray about the needs of KCM’s television ministry.

After about three days, he told me, “I received the wisdom of God I needed.” “You did?” I asked. “Yes, I know how we’re going to pay for this television ministry. God just told me. I’m going to give my airplane away.”

At the time, an airplane cost at least $30,000. I’d never heard of anyone giving away $30,000 before.

“And you know what else I’m going to do?” Brother Copeland continued. “I’m going to get it in tiptop shape before I do.” “How much will that cost?” I asked. “About $8,000.” “You’re going to add another $8,000 to what is already worth $30,000 and then give it away?” I was shocked. At the time, I was believing God for $38. I couldn’t imagine sowing $38 thousand!

But Brother Copeland followed the voice of the Holy Spirit and gave the plane away. About 11 days later, God brought a bigger airplane into the ministry—completely paid for—as well as the cash to pay for the television ministry.

I was so impressed that I started thinking, What can I give away? But the truth is, I faced two problems. First, the Holy Spirit hadn’t led me to do what Brother Copeland did. Second, my faith wasn’t at a level to believe for an airplane. If I had tried to follow Brother Copeland’s example, I would have failed. I needed to increase my faith first.

Understand Your Measure

The Bible is clear: Every Christian in the Body of Christ has been given the same amount of faith. Romans 12:3 puts it this way, “…according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.” In the Greek, the word measure is the word metron, which means “a determined extent.”

Let me illustrate that definition. Imagine that I have a large pie that I want to share with every person reading this article. So no one misses out, I would give each person a “measure” of the pie. No one person would receive the whole thing. Instead, I would calculate how much of the pie each person would receive.

It’s the same with faith. God gives every believer the same measure of faith. The question then becomes, What are you going to do with your measure?

Strength Fluctuates

You, right now, have the same measure of faith given to me and Brother Copeland and every other believer. But the strength of your measure of faith can fluctuate. Now, of course, God wants every Christian’s faith to grow, but that growth depends on you. If you want your faith to increase in strength, then you must follow Romans 10:17, which says, “Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” You must feed your faith daily with the Word. People often try to live on the strength of the faith that got them through the past month, but your faith needs to be fed daily.

Increase Your Faith

“Faith cometh by HEARING, and hearing by the word of God.”

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People often try to live on the strength of the faith that got them through the past month, but your faith needs to be fed daily.

You need to look at your faith like a bank account and your heart as a treasury. When you go to the Word, faith cometh, making deposits into your heart. Every time you use your faith you’re making a withdrawal. If you’re not careful, you can get to the point that you are making so many withdrawals that you are facing a deficit. You’ve got more demands on your faith than you’ve got Word in your heart.

Instead, you need to increase the strength of your faith by depositing the Word into your heart daily.

If you need to believe God for your health, deposit the Word.
If you need to believe God for your finances, deposit the Word.
If you need to believe God for your marriage, deposit the Word.

Never let a deficit exist in your faith bank account.

Increasing Your Faith
In 2 Corinthians 10:15 the Apostle Paul said, “Not boasting of things without our measure, that is, of other men’s labours; but having hope, when your faith is increased, that we shall be enlarged by you according to our rule abundantly.”

While Romans 12 said, “God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith,” this scripture, which was written to the Christians at Corinth, says, “When your faith is increased...” Clearly, the measure that God dealt to you can be developed and strengthened.

If you have the measure of faith residing in

YOU MUST FEED YOUR FAITH EVERY DAY WITH THE WORD.
you (and you do)…and if you discover that “faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word” (which you have)...and if you apply that law (which you can)—then while you’re meditating on God’s Word, God is imparting the faith in that Word into your heart. You already had a measure of faith, but now it’s growing stronger.

What happens to your original measure? It matures.

Whether it’s reading the Word on your own, joining in a corporate Bible study or immersing yourself in a Spirit-filled, faith-charged atmosphere like the Southwest Believers’ Convention, God is strengthening your faith.

Of course, if your faith can increase, it can also decrease. Referring to people who hear God’s Word, Jesus said, “For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath” (Matthew 13:12).

In other words, if you choose to hear God’s Word, mature faith will come to you. If you choose not to hear God’s Word, even the measure you were dealt originally will diminish—not in measure, but in strength.

And if your faith isn’t developing, if you’re not listening to the Word, then you’ll be susceptible to the words of the enemy—words which breed fear. And when fear is present, faith can’t flourish.

The Word Is the Answer

A lot of people have very little spiritual strength because they won’t get into the Word enough. /T_h e measure of faith that they’ve tried living on since they got filled with the Holy Ghost 20 years ago hasn’t grown. So how do you increase your faith? We’ve already seen it plainly: /T_h e Word is the answer, folks. And it’s not just a one-time fix. /T_h e Word says, “/T_h e just shall live by faith” (Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38). /T_h at’s an ongoing process. /T_h ere’s not a day goes by that we shouldn’t bolster our faith.

Right now, wherever you’re reading this, take a moment to worship the Lord. /T_h ank Him for the measure of faith He has given to you as a born-again believer, and then say, “Father, I’m going to take my measure and let it increase by the Word. I thank You that my measure is going to grow.” Then take a stand and commit to do it. Begin studying the Word and applying it to your life so that your measure of faith can mature…and you can be ready for anything that comes your way!
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Right now, wherever you’re reading this, take a moment to worship the Lord. Thank Him for the measure of faith He has given to you as a born-again believer, and then say, “Father, I’m going to take my measure and let it increase by the Word. I thank You that my measure is going to grow.” Then take a stand and commit to do it. Begin studying the Word and applying it to your life so that your measure of faith can mature...and you can be ready for anything that comes your way!
Growing Together in the Glory of God

Something astounding is about to happen to the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ. She’s about to grow up into what God ordained for her to be from the very beginning.

She’s about to come into “the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ” (Ephesians 4:13).

That’s what the Word of God says, and you can count on it. It’s coming to pass—soon! We’re in the last of the last days. The signs are all around us, Jesus is coming! He’s about to catch away the Church, and when He does we’re going to be unified, glorified and ready to go.

Now, you might wonder, How are we going to get that way? With so many different denominations disagreeing and arguing with one another, how is the Church ever going to come together?

By the Spirit of God. He’s the One who’s been sent to unite us, and even if it looks impossible from a natural perspective, He is up to the job.

The Holy Spirit has the ability to reveal to believers all over this planet the truth of God’s Word and bring us all into agreement with it. He can cause every one of us to see the same thing in the Scriptures. He lives on the inside of us as our own private Tutor, and He can make the Word of God so plain to us that, as we give our attention to it, we think more and more like God thinks!

That’s really the bottom line, isn’t it? It doesn’t matter what we think. It doesn’t matter what our denomination thinks. It matters what God thinks. He’s not going to change His thoughts to accommodate us and our denomination. He’s going to change our thoughts to align with His, so that when Jesus comes, He can present us to Himself the way Ephesians 5:27 describes us—as “a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing”!

A glorious church isn’t just a wonderful church. It’s a church where the glory of God is manifested. It’s a church where God’s power flows so freely that lives are transformed, crippled legs are made...
“He’s the One who’s been sent to unite us, and even if it looks impossible from a natural perspective, He is up to the job.”
-points to get you there:

1. As you read the Word, let the Holy Spirit reveal its meaning to you so you can think more like God thinks. 
   John 14:26

2. Stir up your faith to believe for God's power and glory to manifest in your life. 
   2 Cor. 3:18

3. Believe and declare that today is the day of God's miracle-working power. 
   Luke 4:21

4. Expect to do the works of Jesus just as He said you would. 
   John 14:12

5. Make it your purpose every day to destroy the devil's works and minister life to people everywhere you go. 
   1 Jn. 3:8

What We Believe Determines What Happens

Truth be told, that's the kind of church God has always wanted. He started the Church on the Day of Pentecost with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and signs, wonders and miracles; and He made every provision for those things to continue in full force. They would have, too, if it had all been up to God. But it's not just up to Him. It's also up to us.

What happens in the Church is what the Church believes for!

“He wants sons and daughters who will walk in His BLESSING and reign in this life.”

When we believe for healing to manifest in our midst, healing manifests. When we believe for people to be filled with the Holy Spirit, people are filled. When we believe we can do the works of Jesus, we do them.

The Church is heading toward the finish line and we need to believe God for everything He's promised! We don't have time anymore to sit around just remembering the great miracles and outpourings of the Spirit that happened in the past. We can't be content to wait passively for the Church to be filled with God's glory some day in the distant future. The hour is late. We need to rise up in boldness right now and declare, as Jesus did in Luke 4:18-21: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.... This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.”

Those are exciting words, aren't they? Yet when Jesus first said them in Nazareth, people got offended. They weren't ready to believe for Scripture to be fulfilled in their day. “We believe God moved in the past,” they said. “We believe He'll move in the future. But we're not going to start expecting Him to do supernatural things right now!”

For many years, the contemporary Church took the same attitude. Preachers and congregations alike relegated the fulfillment of God's plan to another generation or a different dispensation. But in recent years a wonderful change has been taking place. More and more believers have started expecting the Scripture to be fulfilled in our day. We've started expecting God to move among us now and change us into the image of Jesus, “from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord” (2 Corinthians 3:18!)

Why did it take so long for the Church as a whole to expect this?

One reason is because, for a long time, people didn't know anything about it. All they'd been taught was that if they believed on Jesus they'd go to heaven when they died. For years, that's all...
preachers preached because they thought that was the sole purpose of the gospel. They thought the plan of Redemption was only designed to keep people out of hell.

But that’s not the plan God had throughout the ages! He doesn’t just want to keep people out of hell. His plan is to have a family. He wants spiritual sons and daughters He can fellowship with on His own level who will do His will on earth as it’s done in heaven. He wants sons and daughters who will walk in His BLESSING and reign in this life just like He would if He were here in full manifestation.

Only One Restriction
That’s been God’s will from the very beginning. It’s what He had in His heart when He created Adam and put him in the Garden of Eden. As Genesis 1:27-28 says, “God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion….”

By making Adam in His image, God made Adam as much like Himself as it was possible for Adam to be. He clothed him in divine glory and breathed into his spirit His own zoe, eternal life. Adam looked like God, inside and out. He had the same power in his spirit that God had. He had authority on earth just as God had authority in heaven. God gave him dominion and put the rulership of earth into his hands.

The only restriction God put on Adam was this: “Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die” (Genesis 2:17). Even after giving him that command, however, God let Adam choose. He let him decide whether or not he would obey.

God didn’t force Adam to do anything because He didn’t want him to be a slave. He wanted him to be a son. He wanted him to serve God of his own free will and to only know good and never know evil. But Adam made the wrong choice. He sinned. He disobeyed God, bowed his knee to the devil, and opened the door to spiritual death. He lost THE BLESSING and the glory of God, brought the curse upon all mankind, and let the devil steal God’s family.

How did God respond? He immediately went to work to get His family back! Right there in the Garden of Eden He said to the serpent, the devil, who had tempted Eve, “Because you have done this, you are cursed…. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel” (Genesis 3:14-15, New King James Version).

From that moment, God began working toward the day when He could once again have sons and daughters on earth who were made in His image and filled with His glory. That was His plan. It was His will, and because He never changes, even though it would cost Him a dear price, He intended to see it come to pass.

I’m telling you—the patience of God is something to behold! For thousands of years He
worked...and worked...and worked on the plan of Redemption. All through the Old Testament He said through His prophets again and again, “There’s One coming who will pay the price to get My family back!” When at last the stage was set, the Spirit of God hovered over a young woman named Mary and caused Jesus to be conceived.

Jesus came not only as the Son of God but as the Son of Man! Setting aside His rights as divinity, He operated as a man throughout His life on earth because it was the only way He could undo what had happened through Adam’s Fall. A man had given God’s family over to the devil by committing spiritual treason, and a man had to get it back.

That’s why there had to be a virgin birth. It wasn’t so we could sing Christmas carols about it. It was so that, as One born of a woman, Jesus would have authority on earth; and as One fathered by God, He could redeem us from the curse of sin.

**The Perfect Picture of God’s Plan**

During Jesus’ earthly ministry He gave us a perfect picture of God’s will for His family. “I seek not mine own will,” He said, “but the will of the Father which hath sent me...I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things....The Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works” (John 5:30; 8:28, 14:10).

Every word Jesus said and every work He did reflected the heart of His heavenly Father. That’s the reason He never refused to heal anyone. It’s the reason He never prayed, “Lord, is it Your will for this person to be healed, or do You want this person to stay sick so You can teach him something?”

Some people today might pray that way; but Jesus never prayed anything even remotely like that. On the contrary! When multitudes came to Him, suffering with every imaginable sickness and disease, He healed them all because He understood that sickness is an enemy of God. It’s part of the curse that came on mankind as a result of sin. It’s a work of the devil who comes to steal, kill and destroy. But Jesus never said anything even remotely like that. The life He never refused to heal anyone. It’s the reason He never prayed, “Lord, is it Your will for this person to be healed, or do You want this person to stay sick so You can teach him something?”

First John 3:8 says, “For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil,” and Jesus fulfilled His purpose at every opportunity. Anytime anyone opened the door to Him by believing He was anointed of God, He destroyed Satan’s works. He undid the effects of the law of sin and death and brought people abundant life.

When Jesus came to earth it was as if God had created Adam all over again. He was the fulfillment of what God originally intended for His family to be. Just as in Genesis when man was first created, Jesus was born in the image of God. He had on the inside of Him the same life that God first breathed into Adam. That life was so powerful that if someone just touched His garment in faith, it would drive sickness and disease right out of their body.

“But Gloria,” you might say, “that was 2,000 years ago. What does it have to do with God’s plan for the Church today?”

It has everything to do with it! As believers, we’ve been re-created in God’s image so that spiritually we’re just like Jesus. We’re filled with the same Holy Spirit that filled Him. We have the life of God in our earthly bodies just as He had God’s life in His earthly body, so the same power that flowed through Him can flow through us.

That’s what the laying on of hands is all about. Jesus said we, as believers, “shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover” (Mark 16:18). He said the life and the Word of God will not only be made health and healing to our own flesh, it will go into someone else’s body and be made life and health to their flesh, too.

God’s purpose for you and me, as His born-again sons and daughters, is the same as it was for His Firstborn. We’re not just hanging around on earth waiting to go to heaven when we die. We’re here to destroy the works of the devil, undo the results of sin and death, and minister life to people. We’ve been born into God’s forever family so we can fellowship with Him, walk in His glory and do His will on earth as it’s done in heaven.

I said it before and I’ll say it again: God’s patience is something to behold! He’s been working to bring the Church into unity in the fullness of the stature of Jesus for thousands of years, and now it’s about to happen. Jesus is coming soon and what God says in His Word is going to come to pass. So get ready, Church! Believe it. Expect it.

We’re about to grow up together in the glory of God!"
Superkid, YOU are strong! YOU are filled with Jesus and YOU are going to WIN! How do I know that? Because your Savior, Jesus, has already won the fight for you! He has a victory plan for you and if you stick with Him and let Him lead you, He promises you’ll win!

That doesn’t mean hard things won’t happen. Satan has attacked the whole world with a virus that has affected many people. Never before have people all over the world changed their way of life: staying home from school, work, shopping, and being around other people. It can be scary when panic has gripped the media, government leaders and perhaps those around you. Hurts range from the loss of a loved one to the loss of normal, everyday life.

You may have lost part of your school year, time with friends, your birthday party or vacation plans. Whatever loss or change you have experienced, Jesus is right there with you, even if you feel like He doesn’t care. Satan would love you to believe that you can’t count on Jesus in times of trouble. But Satan is a liar!

Jesus is always faithful! Let Him strengthen you in the truth. When struggles and hardships come, we choose what we believe. Some people choose to believe that God brings sickness, death and loss. That is what Satan wants us to think!

Jesus tells the story of the Good Shepherd in John 10:1-9, The Message. He is clear about who is for you and who the enemy is!

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“Let me set this before you as plainly as I can. If a person climbs over or through the fence of a sheep pen instead of going through the gate, you know he’s up to no good— a sheep rustler! The shepherd walks right up to the gate. The gatekeeper opens the gate to him and the sheep recognize his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he gets them all out, he leads them and they follow because they are familiar with his voice. They won’t follow a stranger’s voice but will scatter because they aren’t used to the sound of it.” Jesus told this simple story, but they had no idea what he was talking about. So he tried again. “I’ll be explicit, then. I am the Gate for the sheep. All those others are up to no good—sheep stealers, every one of them. But the sheep didn’t listen to them. I am the Gate. Anyone who goes through me will be cared for—will freely go in and out, and find pasture.”

Jesus is comparing you and me to sheep, and sheep will only follow their shepherd’s voice. Superkid, Jesus Himself said that sheep know their shepherd’s voice. He knows His sheep by name and He takes care of them, safely leading them out to pasture and back home. Sheep follow only their shepherd! But there is a stranger who wants to lead the sheep into trouble.

A thief is only there to steal and kill and destroy” (verse 10). Satan is the thief—the enemy of the Shepherd and the sheep!

“I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of!” (verse 10).

Jesus is letting you know what His whole life is about in these scriptures. Not only is He NOT the one who is trying to hurt you, He came to take care of you! He came to PROTECT you from the enemy!

“I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd puts the sheep before himself, sacrifices himself if necessary. A hired man is not a real shepherd. The sheep mean nothing to him. He sees a wolf come and runs for it, leaving the sheep to be ravaged and scattered by the wolf. He’s only in it for the money. The sheep don’t matter to him” (verses 11-13).

Someone who is paid to care for the sheep will not give his life for them. If he sees a wolf coming, he will leave the sheep because the sheep are not his. This is NOT how Jesus looks at us!

“I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own sheep and my own sheep know me. In the same way, the Father knows me and I know the Father. I put the sheep before myself, sacrificing myself if necessary” (verses 14-15).

Superkid, 2,000 years ago, Jesus did just that. It was necessary for Him to give His life for us. His sheep. When He died on the Cross, He gave His life to free us from sin, and at the same time, He paid for us to be free from ALL sickness and disease! First Peter 2:21-25 says:

“This is the kind of life you’ve been invited into, the kind of life Christ lived. He suffered everything that came his way so you would know that it could be done, and also know how to do it, step-by-step. He never did one thing wrong, not once said anything amiss. They called him every name in the book and he said nothing back. He suffered in silence, content to let God set things right. He used his servant body to carry our sins to the Cross so we could be rid of sin, free to live the right way. His wounds became your healing. You were lost sheep with no idea who you were or where you were going. Now you’re named and kept for good by the Shepherd of your souls.

Superkid, read that passage over and over, until it really sinks into your heart that you can count on Jesus. He is here to defend you, heal you and take care of you. Jesus, your Savior, is here to give you the BEST life! Your enemy, Satan, comes ONLY to STEAL, KILL and DESTROY. Whenever someone says that God is making people sick, don’t listen.

The next time fear tells you that you are going to lose your friends, family, school or the fun times ahead, shout this out:

“I follow the Good Shepherd and His Name is Jesus! He laid down His life for me and I only listen to His voice! He has named me, called me and kept me safe! I am not only winning, I have already won!”

WINNING WITH YOU,

Commander Kellie
WE CANNOT BE DEFEATED
AND WE WILL NOT QUIT!

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