



# THE Word of Faith

JUNE/JULY 2020

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

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# the Word of Faith



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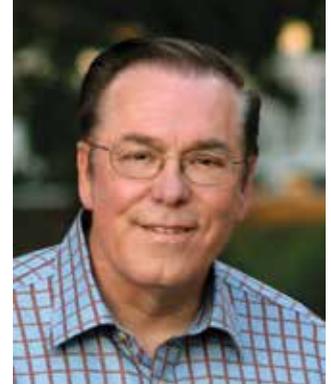
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# Staying in Shape

Have you ever heard someone say, “I’m out of shape”? They are referring to the fact that their physical bodies are not up to par. Maybe their clothes are tight on them, or perhaps they don’t have any energy. So they begin dieting or start an exercise program.

While physical fitness is important, it’s absolutely necessary to stay in shape spiritually. It’s rare to hear people talk about being spiritually out of shape. But if you are around someone who is, it’s easy to tell their spiritual life isn’t great. But just as you can get your body back in shape, you can also get into shape spiritually!

You are responsible for your spiritual well-being. No one else can do it for you. One of the best ways to get started is by meditating on the Word day and night (Joshua 1:8). You are always giving out, whether at work, school, or home. So it’s crucial to *take in* the Word of God, which will build you up.

Another way to get in shape spiritually is to attach yourself to God’s Word—not allowing anything or anyone to cut you loose from it. And by loving the Lord with all your heart.

Your spiritual workout isn’t complete unless you go to church and fellowship with other Christians. Doing that gives you the extra *oomph* you may need to cross over any mountains you face.

I remember a story about a 63-year-old woman who walked from New York City to Miami, Florida. A newspaper reporter asked her how she had the courage to make such a long journey on foot. She said, “Oh, it doesn’t take courage to take one step at a time!”

We can follow that woman’s example. It takes one step at a time to become spiritually fit. So begin taking the steps I have mentioned. Staying in shape spiritually *is* obtainable. Why not start today!

*Kenneth W. Hagin*

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### Fantastic Fathers (and Grandfathers)

**CRAIG W. HAGIN**

God wants families to spend time together. And as your Heavenly Father, He wants to spend time with you too!

# THE ANOINTING



GOD'S POWER IS *always*  
PRESENT, BUT IT ONLY  
MANIFESTS WHEN PEOPLE  
EXERCISE THEIR FAITH.



KENNETH W. HAGIN

**THE ANOINTING IS** a simple thing! It is the power of God activated in a person's life when they believe. Isaiah 10:27 says, "*The yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.*" Another word for yoke is *chain*. The anointing destroys bondages, chains, and anything the enemy tries to place on us. It has the potential to change everything in and around us! But it

will not set us free from the works of darkness if we don't understand how to activate it.

## Activating the Anointing

Terms such as *the anointing*, *the power of God*, and *the Holy Spirit* are often used interchangeably. God's power is *always* present, but it only manifests when people exercise their faith. It is faith that activates the anointing. We see an example of this in the story of the paralytic in Luke chapter 5.

### LUKE 5:17–20 (NIV)

**17** One day Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there. They had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. **And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick.**

**18** Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus.

**19** When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

**20** When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."

The power of God was present to heal everyone there that day. But the anointing wasn't activated until Jesus saw faith!

## The Anointing in Us

All Christians have the anointing in them. It helps believers to live the Christian life successfully.

### 1 JOHN 2:20, 27 (NIV)

**20** But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth.

**27** As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit—just as it has taught you, remain in him.

Many times people only look at the anointing as a shout, a prophecy, or being there for healing. Once I was in a service that 200 people attended. The presence of the Holy Spirit was strong, and we sat motionless for 45 minutes in complete silence.

Shouting and praising God is part of the anointing, but it's more than just having a good time in the Lord. The anointing is in us to teach, lead, and guide us. It helps us do what the Word tells us to do and that is to walk in love!

The anointing also strengthens us. Romans 8:11 says, *“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”* It was the power of God—or the anointing—that raised Christ from the dead. That same power dwells in us to strengthen our mortal bodies. That quickening power gives us strength when we lack the energy to accomplish what we need to.

## The Anointing Upon Us

The anointing upon us is for ministering to others. Every child of God is equipped to go out and do the work of the Lord. (See Eph. 4:12.) God didn't intend for us to minister in our own strength and ability. The anointing is the equipment He gives us to fulfill our calling.

We can say what Jesus said in Luke 4:18 (NKJV), *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed.”* What has God anointed each of us to do? To share the Gospel to those around us and set the captives free.

One problem we see among Christians is some people don't want to serve where they are called. They want to be behind the pulpit, even though God hasn't anointed them for that position.

Each person in the Body of Christ is vital for the Church to function properly. The Apostle Paul illustrates this in First Corinthians chapter 12. Some parts of the Body that seem the weakest and least important are actually the most necessary.

For example, one time I found out how important my little toe is. Before Lynette went to bed one night, she told me she had moved a chair in our house. I woke up in the middle of the night and walked through the house to get a drink of water, pray, and check on the dogs. I didn't bother turning on the lights because I know where everything is. But I had forgotten what she said about the chair. I bumped into it and stubbed my little toe. I yelled so loud I woke her up.

## What has God anointed each of us to do?

TO SHARE THE GOSPEL TO THOSE AROUND US AND SET THE CAPTIVES FREE.

For the Body of Christ to operate correctly, we need to be wherever God assigns us. It doesn't matter if we are an usher, traffic team member, youth pastor, or businessperson. We are anointed to function in our role. A reward waits for those who are obedient. However, when we step out of our calling, we risk losing that reward.

We must never allow ourselves to get caught up in what I call “The Disease of Comparisonitis.” God has given everyone a different anointing, and we are never to compare our gifting to someone else's. We have to be comfortable with who we are and where God has us and then flow in what He has anointed us to do. The more we understand how to operate in the anointing the Lord gave us, the more great things will happen in our lives and in people around us.♥

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# Life Lessons From Joshua

BILL RAY

**JOSHUA IS BEST** known as Moses' second in command, who God chose to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land after Moses' death. Joshua's focus, faithfulness, courage, and obedience led to his effectiveness as one of Israel's greatest leaders. What can we learn from his life? Several life lessons led to his success, which, if applied, will help us succeed in every area of life.

## Meditation

Joshua showed us the importance of meditating on God's Word. The Lord told him, "*Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do*" Joshua 1:8 (NLT). God essentially was telling him to "get his head in the Book." Obedience and success are connected to our meditation.

### PSALM 1:2-3 (NLT)

2 But they delight in the law of the Lord, **meditating** on it day and night.

3 They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do.

### PHILIPPIANS 4:8 (NKJV)

8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure . . . **meditate** on these things.

**SCRIPTURE COMMANDS US TO MEDITATE ON THE WORD OF GOD!** In Christian circles, we say that *meditate* means to mutter the Word, to

chew it over and over again similar to the way a cow chews its cud. **WE ARE TO MEDITATE ON SCRIPTURE AGAIN AND AGAIN—ALL DAY, EVERY DAY, NO MATTER WHERE WE ARE.**

Meditation is how the Word goes from our heads to our hearts. Once it's in our hearts and comes out of our mouths, circumstances and people start to change, and the devil runs!

Storing God's instructions in his heart was an essential key to Joshua's victory. It enabled him to keep his mind on what the Lord said. Many times we know that God told us something, but we get distracted. Then the devil bombards us with all kinds of situations. But if we keep our mind on what God told us, we will have the same success as Joshua.

## Memory

Joshua also had a good memory. He had a way to remember the right things. At the miracle of the Jordan River crossing, Joshua made sure the people did not forget how God delivered them that day. (See Joshua 4:4-9.) He instructed one person from every tribe to carry a stone out of the river to later make a memorial to the Lord.

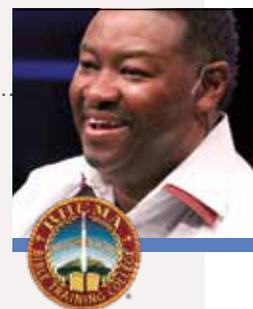
Believers ought to have memorials to the Lord—ways to remember what God did for them. I believe every Christian should have a journal where they write down their prayers and how God answered those prayers!

Every day we should fellowship with the Lord. And spend time reminding Him of His goodness and thanking Him for saving us, delivering us, and cleaning us up. **NOT ONLY DOES GOD EXPECT US TO REMEMBER WHAT HE DOES FOR US, BUT HE ALSO WANTS US TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT WHAT HE HAS DONE.**

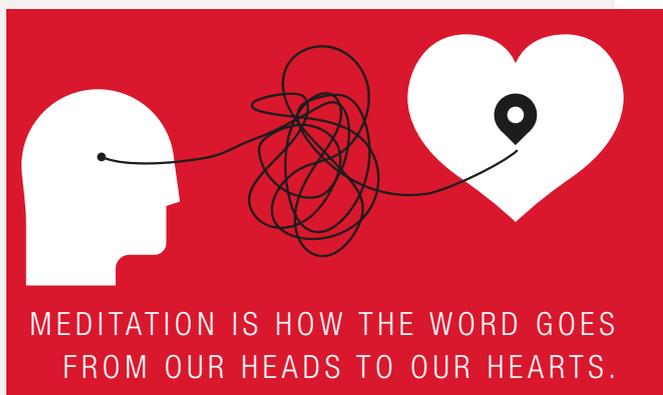
## Opportunity

Until we get to Heaven, everyone will face obstacles in life. **BUT WE SHOULD LOOK AT OBSTACLES AS OPPORTUNITIES.** Our biggest hindrances today may be our greatest opportunities tomorrow.

God told the Israelites to cross the Jordan during springtime. That was the worst time of year, because the river was at its highest tide. It looked like a suicide mission! But they obeyed the Word of the Lord. When the last priest put his foot in the water, the river parted. Joshua's greatest obstacle became a meaningful opportunity.



**INSTRUCTOR HIGHLIGHT**



After that day, the Bible says the people respected Joshua for the rest of his life. They honored him in the same way they honored Moses (Joshua 4:14). When we keep the right perspective and realize the obstacles we face are really opportunities, God will make a way for us just as He did for Joshua. 📖

[Editor's Note: Bill Ray is a Rhema Bible Training College instructor and an associate pastor at Rhema Bible Church.]

# Fantastic Fathers (and Grandfathers)

CRAIG W. HAGIN

**EVERYBODY NEEDS A** father. Speaking from an adult son's point of view, I can say it remains true throughout life. I'm a grown man, but I'm still my dad's child.

Moms are usually the ones who cook meals and pick out our clothes, and dads play with the kids. They teach us how to fish, ride bicycles, play sports—they are really kids at heart!

## Time With Kids

The number one thing a child wants from parents is time. As I was growing up, my father traveled quite a bit, but he sacrificed to spend just a few hours with my sister and me. He was almost always at my sporting events! He even helped coach as much as he could.

Even though Dad knew nothing about soccer, he was the head coach when nobody else helped! Some parents didn't have time, and I felt bad for their kids. I knew them because they always rode with us. **IT'S ESSENTIAL THAT PARENTS FIND OPPORTUNITIES TO BE WITH THEIR CHILDREN!**

## Time With Parents

After growing up, it's still important to spend time together. Sometimes kids move away after college and have hardly anything to do with their family. Our parents were there when we needed them, and now we can be there to love, honor, and respect them.

Call them on the phone if you can't be with them in person. Or continue doing something you love. My dad and I always

shared auto racing. We're still

at the racetrack, but now, my oldest son is the one who races.

## Time With Grandparents

My grandfather, Kenneth E. Hagin, used to come and sit in my office. He wouldn't say anything for a while.

Usually you had to ask him a question and then he would answer. But in 2003, before he passed away, he came to my office, sat down, and just started talking.

He said, "Craig, I want to tell you I'm very proud of you." It was a significant moment because I was going through one of the worst periods of my life. But he was still proud of me!

He also told me two other things: "Craig, always be humble." And "Putting another man's candle out will never make yours any brighter." To me, it was another way of saying, "walk in love."

I am thankful for Christ-like examples to follow! **KIDS MUST HAVE GODLY EXAMPLES OF LOVE.** If not, who will they look to?

## Time With Our Heavenly Father

I realize that not everybody has a godly father or father figure. Some have passed away. Some were not good examples. Some left. **WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE A FATHER, YOU CAN RELY ON THE HEAVENLY FATHER.**

God is there for you. He cares about what you go through. The Bible says He is a Father to the fatherless (Psalm 68:5 NLT). God will never leave you nor forsake you no matter where you are at (Heb. 13:5; Deut. 31:6).

If you don't know God as your Father, the ultimate Father's Day gift is for you to become His child. It starts by believing in your heart that Jesus is Lord and that God raised Him from the dead. Declare that with your mouth, and you will be saved (Rom. 10:9–10). You are now free from the past and a part of God's family (Rom. 8:1–15)!♥

## Time to Heal

If your dad was not a godly example for you, you can be an example for him. You might be the only light he will ever see! Keep honoring, appreciating, and loving him.

If you have children who are not living for God, pray for them. Rest on Proverbs 22:6. They're hurting and need your love.

If you don't have a good relationship, you can forgive and start over. Father's Day is a good time to heal.

Even if your earthly father is gone, your Heavenly Father is the most important father in your life. Spend some time with Him.



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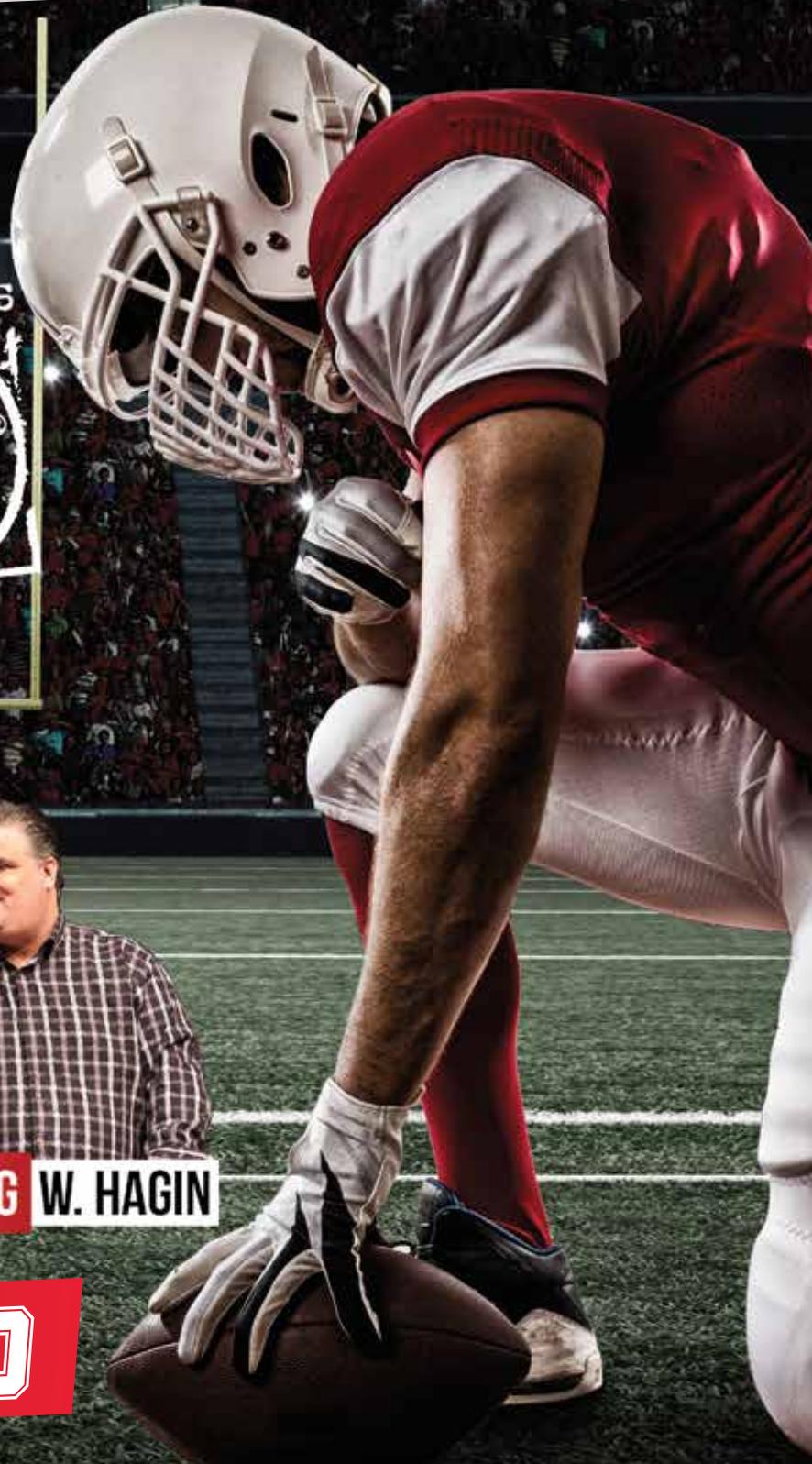
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# ALL IN

# #1

*Deciding to be all in for God can't be based on emotion.*



**DENISE HAGIN BURNS**

**SOME OF THE** craziest people I know are football fans. Have you seen the ones painted in team colors and screaming into the TV cameras? They don't care what anyone thinks because they act crazy in public. But I'll give them this: they are seriously all in!

The Bible also has people who are all in. In the Book of Daniel,

King Nebuchadnezzar built a huge statue of gold and assembled a band. When the music played, everyone was supposed to worship the idol. But three people didn't: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

Some tattletales went to the king. He was furious and had the three young men brought before him. Nebuchadnezzar asked them if what he heard was true. Because the king liked them, he gave them one more chance to bow down to the idol or be thrown into a fiery furnace.

Daniel 3:16–18 (MSG) records their answer: ***"Your threat means nothing to us. If you throw us in the fire, the God we serve can rescue us from your roaring furnace and anything else you might cook up, O king. But even if he doesn't, it wouldn't make a bit of difference, O king. We still wouldn't serve your gods or worship the gold statue you set up."***

All they had to do was bow, but they chose to be all in. I love how Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego spoke their faith and had

the commitment to back it up! **THEY DIDN'T CARE WHAT PEOPLE THOUGHT OR IF IT MEANT THEY WOULD DIE. THEY NEVER GAVE IN TO FEAR.** Would we choose the same thing?

## How Committed Are You?

Here's the question: Does our commitment level match our faith? We love God and know He heals, saves, and meets our needs. We go to church and worship Him. But do we bow down to peer pressure? Do we think, "What can it hurt? I'll just ask God for forgiveness later, and it will be fine. First John 1:9!"?

**SITUATIONS WILL COME AGAINST OUR COMMITMENT TO CHRIST AND TRY TO KEEP US FROM GOING ALL THE WAY.** Maybe we have heard people say of others, "They're *religious*. Stay away from them!" And we think, "I don't want to be the weird one!" But really, who cares?

So what if people think we are weird? What does it matter if we are labeled a Jesus freak? Being all in is more important than that. **JESUS NEEDS US TO BE A LIGHT TO THOSE AROUND US.** We will *never* bring others to Christ by compromising our commitment to God.

What if Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had said, "We want all these people to serve God. Here's an idea. We will worship their idol, so they can see we are like them. Then we will ask them to become like us." Would that have worked? No.

Likewise, when we act like the crowd and go against what the Bible teaches, we can't turn around and say, "Hey, come to church." That never works.

## No Compromise

When I was a young teenager, I was a cheerleader and had a cheer squad slumber party at my house. All the girls were in the popular crowd. Because my dad was a pastor, they asked me questions. For a while, it was cool. But then they wanted to have a séance with the Ouija board one of the girls brought.

My mind went crazy with thoughts, “What am I going to do? If I tell them we can’t do this, they’ll tell all the football players. I’ll eat lunch alone for the rest of my life. Everybody will hate me, and I won’t have any friends!”

But I said, “Guys, we can’t do this.”

They were stunned. “Why?”

“It goes against what I believe. This is like witchcraft, and I just don’t do that. It gets into the spirit realm.”

At first they laughed and had a “Whatever!” attitude. My friends wouldn’t listen to my protests. Not knowing what to do, I started to pray in tongues under my breath.

One girl saw me and asked, “What are you doing?”

My mind went crazy again, but I said, “I’m praying in tongues.”

They didn’t know what that was, so I explained it was a special language with God—that it was supernatural. Instead of making fun of me, they were interested and asked, “You know how to reach the supernatural?”

“Well, yeah.”

“Can you teach us? We want to do that!”

What I thought would be horrible turned out to be pretty cool. I was able to get some of my friends saved and filled with the Spirit.

## Decide Now

But I had a choice to make. I was either going to be all in or give in. I chose to be all in—even if it meant having no friends. **BUT HERE’S THE KEY: WE CANNOT WAIT UNTIL WE FACE PRESSURE TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO.**

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had decided to follow the God of Israel long before they faced the fiery furnace (Dan. 1:6–16). And we must do the same thing. Our decision must be made long before the opportunity to compromise our faith presents itself.



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Deciding to be all in for God can’t be based on emotion. If it is, it’s too easy to turn from our beliefs when it gets rough. Being all in is a serious, lifelong commitment. When pressure comes, what are we willing to do? Are we prepared to suffer and be outcasts?

Are we ready to give our lives for a relationship with Jesus?

**JESUS WAS ALL IN FOR US.** He was human and had feelings just as we do. He faced peer pressure, fear, emotions, and thoughts—to the point of death. Can you imagine Him on the cross? Don’t you think He was afraid to die? He knew exactly what was going to happen! His emotions were probably going crazy, but He didn’t give in.

**LET’S BE ALL IN FOR JESUS.** Who cares what people think! Let’s be intentional about being a light to those in darkness. We can’t wait until we are under pressure to figure out what we will do. We must commit now, live what we believe, and God will honor us.♥

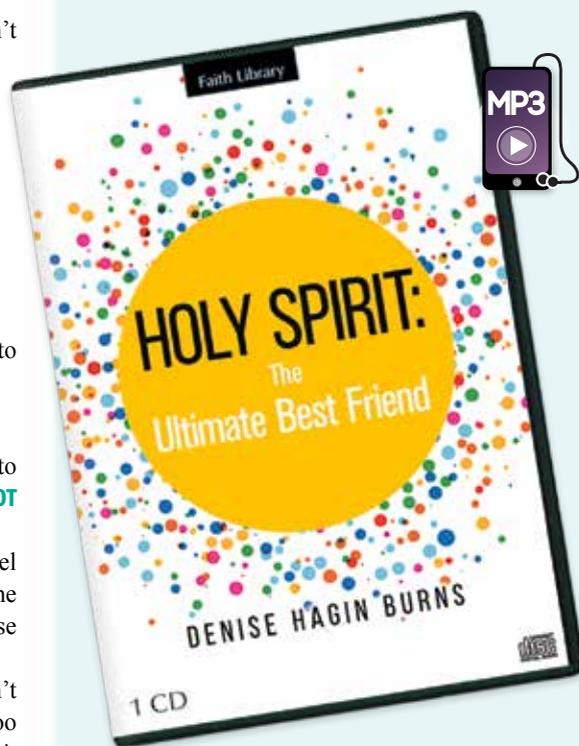
HERE’S THE QUESTION:

*Does our commitment level match our faith?*

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When you live for God, some relationships may have to change. But you are never alone. The Holy Spirit, who is *always* with you, is better than any friend on the planet!



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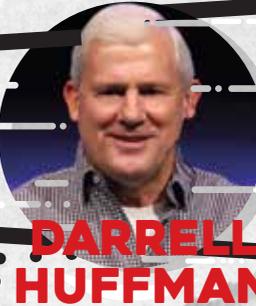
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# THE GOD WHO IS MORE THAN ENOUGH



Timeless  
Teachings  
of Kenneth E. Hagin

*“AND WHEN ABRAM was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect” (Gen. 17:1).*

When the Lord God revealed Himself to Abraham in Genesis 17:1, He used the Hebrew name *El Shaddai*, which the *King James Version* translates as “Almighty God.”

*El Shaddai* is one of seven covenant names through which God revealed Himself to Israel. In Hebrew, *El Shaddai* means “the All-Sufficient One,” or “the God Who is more than enough.”

He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He said to Abraham, “*Thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance*” (Gen. 15:13–14).

Four hundred thirty years went by. God came on the scene and spoke to Moses—His chosen one to led the children of Israel out of Egypt. But as they were leaving, Pharaoh’s heart was hardened. He went after the Israelites with his soldiers, intending to recapture them and make them his slaves again.

## Miracle After Miracle

The children of Israel stood on the shore of the Red Sea crying, “What are we going to do?” The Egyptians were behind them, and the Red Sea was before them. On one side of them was wilderness, and on the other side were mountains.

The God Who is more than enough spoke to Moses and said, “Stretch forth thy rod.” When Moses did so, the waters of the Red Sea parted long enough for the Israelites to cross on dry ground. They were delivered!

When the Egyptian army attempted to follow, they drowned in the depths of the sea. One modern preacher wrote, “That wasn’t much of a miracle. The water was only *ankle deep* at the place they crossed.”

When I read that, I thought, “Dear Lord! That poor simpleton thinks an entire army drowned in ankle-deep water! It would have been a greater miracle for so many to drown in so little water!”

The issue is not that they drowned in ankle-deep water; the point is that God divided the waters, and Israel crossed over on dry land. It happened just as the Bible says. God divided the Red Sea.

When the children of Israel arrived safely on the other side, the women got out their musical instruments and began to sing and dance. The song the Spirit of God gave them said, “*The depths were congealed in the heart of the sea*” (Exod. 15:8).

“Congealed” water is frozen water. God made the water stand up on both sides like a wall. He froze it. The Israelites walked across the sea on dry ground. The Word was spoken, and the water came together again. God is more than enough!

## When Time Stood Still

Once the children of Israel had reached Canaan’s land, they ran into other difficulties. One day as they were fighting a crucial battle against their enemies, it started to get dark. If night fell, they might lose the battle. Joshua, their leader, prayed that the sun and moon would stand still in the sky (Joshua 10:13).

God stopped the entire universe because a man prayed! God can do that because He is the Almighty God—the All-Sufficient One—the God Who is more than enough!

## God Is Unlimited

Throughout the Old Testament, we see El Shaddai reveal Himself in the lives of men and women: leaders, prophets, priests, and kings.

We see Elijah praying on Mount Carmel and the fire of God falling from Heaven to consume the sacrifice. The prophets of Baal were defeated (1 Kings 18:17–40).

We read about David's mighty men of war and think we are reading the exploits of supermen. Although they did extraordinary feats, they were not wounded or killed. They overcame their enemies because the power of God was upon them. He is El Shaddai, even in the midst of war!

## Jesus Reveals the Father

Coming over to the New Testament, we see Jesus appear on the scene and declare, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father" (John 14:9).

Jesus told the Jews, "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad. Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am" (John 8:56–58).

God had revealed Himself to Moses in the Old Testament as the great God *I AM*. Jesus was trying to tell the Jews, "I am that God. You are looking at God right now." The Lord Jesus Christ demonstrated in His earth walk that He was the great God *I AM*. He is more than enough!

We see Jesus attending a wedding with His mother in Cana of Galilee. Mary told Him the hosts had run out of wine, and she instructed the servants, "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it" (John 2:5).

Jesus told them to fill the water pots with water and carry them to the governor of the feast. By the time they got there, the water had been turned into wine. The governor exclaimed, "You've saved the best till last!" God is more than enough!

## God Has Not Changed

So often we want to relegate everything to the past. We say, "Oh, it was wonderful way back when. God could do mighty things back in those days."

Or we want to skip over the present and talk about what it will be like when we get to Heaven. "Someday it'll all be over." "One

of these days, we will leave this vale of tears. Here we wander like a beggar through the heat and cold."

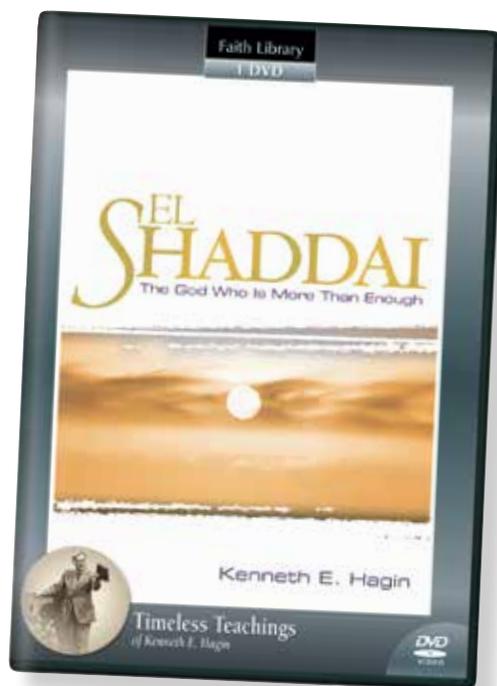
Things can be different *now* if we will believe God. Things will be different *here* if we will trust Him. He is the God Who *is*—not *was* or *will be*, but *IS!*

God *is* the All-Sufficient One. He is not just the God of yesterday; He is the God of *now*. He didn't say, "I *was* El Shaddai" or, "Someday I will be the God Who is more than enough." No, He said, "I *AM*"—I *am* El Shaddai.

Thank God, He is the Almighty God. He is the All-Sufficient One. He is the God Who is more than enough!♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin's book, *El Shaddai: The God Who Is More Than Enough*.]

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- 3) Answer you when you call on Him
- 4) Be with you in trouble and deliver you
- 5) Honor you
- 6) Satisfy you with long life
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# Trusting God

PATSY CAMENETI

**GOD WANTS YOU** to live in a place of victory. He doesn't want you to get chased out of your inheritance by the enemy after experiencing success. The prerequisite for living in what belongs to you is trusting in the Lord!

## PSALM 37:3

3 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

God has plans for you. He wants to bring those plans to pass but can only do that for those who rely on Him. **NO ONE CAN PRAY FOR GOD'S PLAN TO BE DONE IN YOUR LIFE IF YOU WON'T TRUST HIM!**

In Mark chapter 4, Jesus rebuked His disciples when they thought their boat would capsize. He asked, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?" (v. 40 NKJV). Trust is another way of saying "faith." Fear shows that your confidence is in something other than the Lord.

**TO HAVE GOD'S BEST, TO LIVE IN VICTORY, AND FOR HIM TO BE YOUR PROTECTOR, YOU MUST COMPLETELY DEPEND ON HIM.** God created everything—the silver, the gold, the cattle on a thousand hills—it all belongs to Him. The one thing that doesn't is your trust. And only you can give that to Him.

One day the Lord said to me, "I need your trust. There are some things about My plan that need to come to pass! I want to bring them to pass in your life, but I need one thing from you. I need your trust. If you don't give it to Me, I won't have it!"

## Psalms of Trust\*

### Psalm 18:30

As for God, His way is perfect! The word of the Lord is tested and tried; He is a shield to all those who take refuge and put their trust in Him.

### Psalm 32:10

He who trusts in, relies on, and confidently leans on the Lord shall be compassed about with mercy and with loving-kindness.

### Psalm 34:8

Blessed (happy, fortunate, to be envied) is the man who trusts and takes refuge in Him.

### Psalm 37:5

Commit your way to the Lord [roll and repose each care of your load on Him]; trust (lean on, rely on, and be confident) also in Him and He will bring it to pass.

\*Scriptures are taken from *The Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*.

Trusting God is crucial to staying steady and not falling apart when circumstances contrary to the will and Word of God arise. **SITUATIONS CAN BE AS GOOD AS DEAD AROUND YOU. IT'S YOUR FAITH THAT PULLS THE LEVER TO BRING GOD'S POWER TO CHANGE YOUR CIRCUMSTANCE.**

We can look to Sarah, Abraham's wife, as an example. First Peter 3:5–6 (AMPC) tells us to put our trust in God the way she did. Sarah's confidence in the Lord brought power into her and Abraham's bodies, and she gave birth to Isaac. (See Heb. 11:11.) And from Isaac came Jacob. And from Jacob came the 12 tribes of Israel and so on until Jesus was born.

God needs you to trust Him, not the situation. **TRUSTING IN WHAT YOU SEE SHUTS OFF THE POWER.** But your faith makes the connection from Heaven to earth and brings the power of God on the scene.

You may ask, "How do I know if I'm trusting God?" One way to know if you *are not* trusting Him is if you are worrying. And the way to stop worrying is to find scriptures that help you trust in the Lord. Then proclaim, "I trust the Lord in . . ." and insert what you are anxious

Trusting God *is crucial* to staying steady and not falling apart when circumstances that look contrary to the will and Word of God arise.



about. By doing this, you are calling on His lordship to straighten out that area.

I heard the Lord once say, "Trust gives thrust to the plan of God." If God's plan for you seems stuck or in reverse, remember that trusting in your Heavenly Father gives thrust to His plans! God has much goodness stored up for you. And the way for it to reach its destination is by placing your trust in Him.♥

[Editor's Note: Patsy Cameneti co-pastors with her husband, Tony, Rhema Family Church, which is located outside Brisbane, Australia. She has been a speaker at *Kindle the Flame* since its inception. This article was adapted from one of her messages.]



**SPEAKER HIGHLIGHT**

# The 10 Percent Rule

LYNETTE HAGIN



**WHEN I THINK** of the Father's love and mercy and all that God says He will do for His children, I become overwhelmed by His goodness. I am so grateful for the promises we have in the Word. Those promises are much like the ones we set down in our homes with our children—promises that have rewards and consequences.

A family is a partnership with plenty of give-and-take situations. When we raised our children, my husband and I established rules and guidelines. We said, "When you obey the rules, here are the rewards. If you disobey them, here are the consequences."

**GOD ESTABLISHED GUIDELINES FOR US IN THE BIBLE.** As long as we follow them, He is obligated to perform His Word. If we do not obey, our Heavenly Father is not required

*open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.' "*

**WE ALL WANT HEAVEN'S FLOODGATES TO OPEN ON US. BUT SURVEYS SHOW THAT ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIANS TITHE REGULARLY.**

My parents taught me the importance of tithing and giving offerings when I was a young child. Whenever I received money from my allowance or other sources, they reminded me that the first 10 percent belonged to God. I learned the 10 percent rule long before I learned percentages in math class. The principle of tithing and giving has always been a settled issue with me.

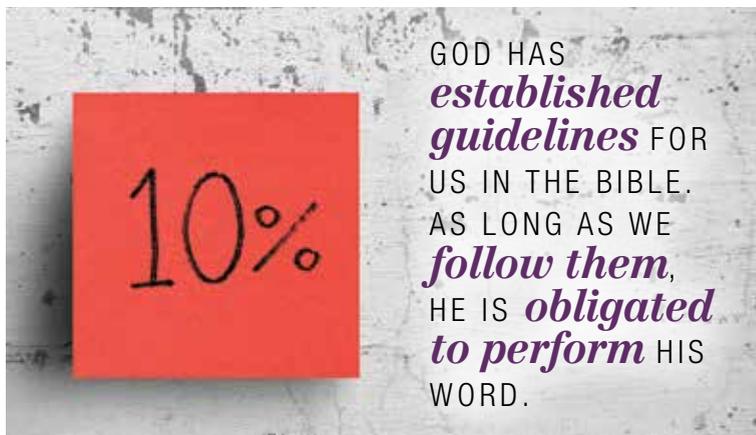
**THE ENEMY KNOWS THE BLESSINGS YOU WILL RECEIVE WHEN YOU GIVE TO GOD.** So he tries to keep you from getting those blessings

## Don't Eat Your Seed

**OUR TITHE IS OUR SEED, BUT MANY PEOPLE ARE EATING THEIR SEED!** A farmer can have a large amount of fertile land and is able to produce an abundant crop. It may have an abundance of rain falling on it. The farmer could say, "Lord, I thank You that I have a lot of fertile land." However, if he doesn't plant any seed, he won't reap a harvest.

That's exactly what many Christians are doing. They confess, "Thank You, Father, that I have more than enough, and everything I need is met. My cup is running over." But their confessions are empty because they are not planting their seed by giving tithes and offerings to the Lord.

One thing to remember about paying your tithes is that the harvest from your sowing won't always come in overnight. It takes time for a farmer to reap a harvest after planting the seed, and the same may apply in your life. **BUT GOD IS FAITHFUL; HE DOESN'T BREAK HIS PROMISES. HE SAYS IN GENESIS 8:22 THAT WHILE THE EARTH REMAINS, THERE WILL BE SEEDTIME AND HARVEST.** I encourage you to keep sowing. If you do, your harvest will come.♥



to hold up His end of the bargain. One guideline in particular—the giving of tithes and offerings—is often ignored.

Malachi 3:8–10 (NIV 1984) says, "*Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me . . . in tithes and offerings. . . Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, 'says the Lord Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw*

by telling lies such as, "If you tithe, you won't have enough money this week. You won't be able to pay your bills or eat."

I am a living testimony of someone who has tithed and given offerings all my life. Never once have I been unable to pay a bill. And I have never gone hungry. I may not have always had an abundant supply, but my needs have been met without exception.

## Prayer

Father God, I determine to follow Your guidelines and give my tithes and offerings to help further Your Kingdom. No matter how hard I try, I could never out give You. Thank You that I am reaping an abundant harvest of blessings that only You can give, in Jesus' Name.

# Can You Predict the Lord's Return?

**BRIAN MCCALLUM**

**JESUS IS PRESENTLY** seated in Heaven at the right hand of the Father. We know He is there in His resurrected body, even while He lives in our hearts by His Spirit. But **JESUS IS COMING AGAIN!** Peter gives us some insight when he preached to a crowd who had gathered after a man was healed.

## ACTS 3:19–21

**19** Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

**20** And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:

**21** Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

The *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*, interprets verse 21 like this: “Whom heaven must receive [and retain] until the time for the complete restoration of all that God spoke by the mouth of all His holy prophets for ages past [from the most ancient time in the memory of man].”

Everything that has ever been recorded in the Word concerning Jesus’ Second Coming must come to pass exactly the way the prophets foretold it. Therefore, Jesus must stay in Heaven for a specific time. For example, Mark 16:15 records, “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” **IF JESUS CAME BEFORE EVERYONE HEARD THE GOSPEL, GOD’S WORD WOULD HAVE RETURNED VOID!**

## ISAIAH 55:11 (NKJV)

**11** So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

People seem to have a fascination about knowing exactly when Jesus’ return shall be. If we could figure out exactly when *everything* would be fulfilled, we would know when He was returning. But that’s not the will of God. So all such calculations are vain and fruitless!

## MATTHEW 24:36 (NLT)

**36** However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the

angels in heaven or the Son himself. Only the Father knows.

If Jesus doesn’t know the date of His return, how could we?

Peter mentioned “*times of restitution of all things*” (Acts 3:21). All that God meant for the Church to have is being restored to it. A full restoration is underway! Wave after wave of revivals have come, but the restoration is not yet complete.

Until Jesus returns, the Church has a task He gave us to do: preach the Gospel and harvest the souls that Jesus’ blood purchased. He didn’t say, “Go and correct everything that’s wrong.” **JESUS TOLD US TO PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS. WHEN WE FINISH DOING THAT, HE WILL COME AGAIN AND GATHER US UNTO HIMSELF!** 🇩🇪

[Editor’s Note: This article was adapted from Brian McCallum’s book, *Breaking the Bread of Revelation, Volume 1*. After an Air Force career, he began ministry in retirement. He later became an instructor and dean of *Rhema Bible Training College*. Rev. McCallum went home to be with the Lord in 2015.]



IF JESUS DOESN'T KNOW THE DATE OF HIS RETURN, HOW COULD WE?

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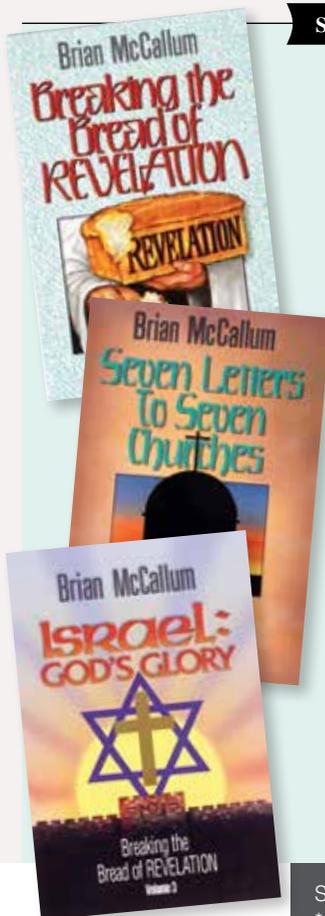
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# One Nation Under God—**Indivisible!**

**KENNETH W. HAGIN**

**INDEPENDENCE DAY IS** an exciting time for Christians and citizens of the USA. We focus on celebrating our national, individual, and spiritual freedoms. It is an honor to stand and address our glorious flag with the Pledge of Allegiance:

**I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS,  
ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE,  
WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.**

I believe God raised the United States to be a beacon of religious freedom that takes the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world. From the halls of seminaries, Bible schools, and church auditoriums, men and women have gone to the uttermost parts of the earth with the message of deliverance and freedom in Jesus.

The word *nation* or *nations* is mentioned in the *King James Bible* over 425 times. God is interested in nations! A nation can refer to a country or an ethnic group or tribe. Symbolically, it pertains to a multitude of people.

God's hand rests on those who follow Him. *"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people He has chosen as His own inheritance"* (Psalm 33:12 NKJV).

Throughout history, God has worked with nations. In the Bible, they rise and fall according to a pattern. When they remembered God, the nation rose. When they forgot God, it fell.

## **JEREMIAH 18:7–10 (NKJV)**

**7** The instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, to pull down, and to destroy it,

**8** if that nation against whom I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I thought to bring upon it.

**9** And the instant I speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it,

**10** if it does evil in My sight so that it does not obey My voice, then I will relent concerning the good with which I said I would benefit it.

We have spiritual freedom because we declare ourselves to be a nation under God. When a nation accepts Christ and the Word, it becomes blessed! You can see the hand of God on the United States from its inception.

Let us gather under the banner of Christ and remember why our country exists—as one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.♥

## Words of U.S. Presidents

*"It is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor."*

—George Washington, first president  
Thanksgiving Proclamation, October 3, 1789

*"God who gave us life gave us liberty. Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are the gift of God?"*

—Thomas Jefferson, third president  
Panel Three, Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C.

*"The fundamental basis of this Nation's law was given to Moses on the Mount. The fundamental basis of our Bill of Rights comes from the teachings which we get from Exodus and St. Matthew, from Isaiah and St. Paul."*

—Harry S. Truman, 33rd president  
Attorney General's Conference, February 15, 1950

*"Without God, there could be no American form of Government, nor an American way of life. Recognition of the Supreme Being is the first—the most basic—expression of Americanism. Thus the Founding Fathers saw it, and thus, with God's help, it will continue to be."*

—Dwight D. Eisenhower, 34th president  
"Back to God" Program of the American Legion, February 20, 1955

*"If we ever forget that we're one nation under God, then we'll be a nation gone under."*

—Ronald Reagan, 40th president  
Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast, Dallas, TX, August 23, 1984



WHEN A  
NATION  
ACCEPTS  
CHRIST AND  
THE WORD, *it  
becomes  
blessed!*

# SEED

# Thoughts

// LYNETTE HAGIN

"THE LORD WILL GUIDE YOU ALWAYS; HE WILL SATISFY YOUR NEEDS IN A SUN-SCORCHED LAND AND WILL STRENGTHEN YOUR FRAME. YOU WILL BE LIKE A WELL-WATERED GARDEN, LIKE A SPRING WHOSE WATERS NEVER FAIL."  
— ISAIAH 58:11 (NIV)

## LIVING IN PEACE

**ALL OF US** have had to adjust to many things outside our normal mode of life. We are constantly wondering if we have washed our hands enough, used enough sanitizer, and followed social distancing. Certainly these are things we need to adhere to. However, amid following CDC guidelines, we can allow these stressful circumstances to keep us out of peace. The enemy loves to play havoc with our mind.

The other day my daughter commented, "Mom, just going to the grocery store is a stressful event." I agreed that it was stressful, as well as taking so much more time practicing social distancing. I honestly did not realize the amount of people contact we experience on any given day.

And of course, the news reports do not help our state of mind. But I'm so thankful that despite the circumstances we are experiencing or the news reports we hear, we have a Heavenly Father we can look to for peace in the midst of the current turmoil.

It is important to always look to the Word for instructions. I practice going to scripture every day for guidance and wisdom. Some people only seem to read their Bibles when difficult times come. However, it is important to build your foundation in the Word every day. It's hard to build anything during a storm.

Whatever circumstances I am dealing with, I always find scriptures that will minister to me and help me overcome the situations. During this time, Isaiah 26 has been such a comfort to me. The chapter was written as a song for the children of Israel. Isaiah had warned Judah that tough times were coming and gave instructions for those trying times. I love the first four verses:

*"In that day, everyone in the land of Judah will sing this song: Our city is strong! We are surrounded by the walls of God's salvation. Open the gates to all who are righteous; allow the faithful to enter. You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you! Trust in the Lord always, for the Lord God is the eternal Rock"* (Isa. 26:1-4 (NLT)).

During this pandemic our family has been confessing, *"Our city is strong. We are surrounded by the walls of God's protection."* And then we are directed to verse 3, which says in the *King James Version*, *"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."* It is our mind—or you might say thoughts—that gives us difficulty. Experts say we think between 60,000 and 80,000 thoughts a day. That means we think 2,500 thoughts an hour or 42 thoughts a minute.

The devil loves to take advantage of our mind. First Peter 5:8 (NLT) says, *"Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour."* The devil cannot touch our spirit, so he tries to bombard our mind. If he can manipulate how we think, he will control and manipulate our entire lives.

Our mind is a battleground where the devil loves to wage war. During this pandemic, I have seen many people literally consumed with fear from the thoughts the enemy has placed in their mind. They are constantly bombarded with thoughts of catching COVID-19. They hear the statistics of people who have been affected in their city and become consumed with fear. The Bible says that the Lord will keep us in perfect peace—not just peace—but perfect peace if we will constantly keep our mind on Him.

How do we do that? When the enemy brings negative thoughts to me, I answer him back with the Word of God. When Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness, He always responded with scripture.

As I stated in last month's Seed Thoughts, one of the most important scriptures we can respond with during this crisis is Psalm 91:10-11 (NLT), *"No evil will conquer you; no plague will come near your home. For he will order his angels to protect you wherever you go."*

I encourage you to keep your thoughts on the Lord and meditate in the Word, and you will live in perfect peace during any storm that comes your way.♥

Lynette





# Kids' Page

Fearless, Anointed, Inward-Led, Trustworthy, Heirs of God

## Bible Character CAR TAGS

Match the tags below to the names on the right that the car tag might have belonged to if cars had been around in Bible days.

GOLIATH  
JESUS  
ADAM  
EVE

CRE8ED 4 CRE8R

DCEVDB4I8

2BIG2B B10

MT 2MB

## What is Jesus Worth?



God loved us so much that He sent His only Son to earth to die for us. **THAT'S WHAT HE THOUGHT WE WERE WORTH!**

Unfortunately, many people don't realize **WHAT JESUS IS WORTH.** Read the Bible story below and you will find out what two different people thought Jesus was worth.

*"Now when Jesus was in Bethany, at the home of Simon the leper, a woman came to Him with an alabaster vial of very costly perfume, and she poured it on His head as He reclined at the table. But the disciples were indignant when they saw this, and said, 'Why this waste? For this perfume might have been sold for a high price and the money given to the poor.' But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, 'Why do you bother the woman? For she has done a good deed to Me.' . . . Then one of the twelve, named Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, 'What are you willing to give me to betray Him to you?' And they weighed out thirty pieces of silver to him."*

—Matthew 26:6-10;14-15 (NASB)

So, what was Jesus worth to the woman in this story? The cost of the perfume that she poured on him, according to John 12:5, was 300 denari (about one year's wages for a worker). And what was Jesus worth to Judas? Thirty pieces of silver (the common price offered for a slave). Who do you think valued Jesus more? What is Jesus worth TO YOU? **FINISH THE CROSSWORD PUZZLE BELOW TO FIND OUT ONE THING THAT WE ALL HAVE THAT JESUS IS WORTH.**

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

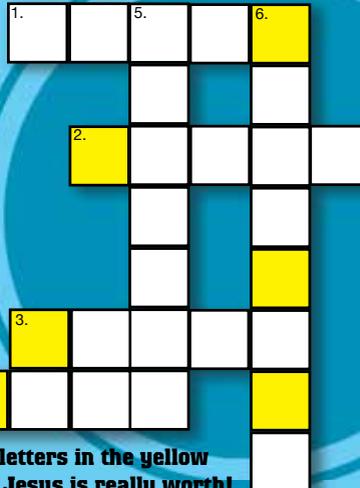
Answer these questions from the Bible story above to fill in the crossword puzzle.

### ACROSS

1. Simon was a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The disciples said the perfume could have been sold for a high \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Whose house was Jesus at in the story?
4. The disciples thought pouring perfume on Jesus' head was a \_\_\_\_\_.

### DOWN

5. What was poured on Jesus?
6. What position was Jesus in at the table?



**NOW, unscramble the letters in the yellow boxes to find out what Jesus is really worth!**

Here are some things that Jesus is worthy of. Match the top halves of the words in blue with the bottom halves in red.

UNANAD  
Γ ΠΑΙΣΕ  
CI ADV  
NUNUN  
DI EESSINP  
WUNSHIP  
DPAISE  
I ΠΗΝΚΣ  
WADCUID  
BLESSING  
TUANKS  
GLUHI

## jokes & riddles



"A merry heart does good, like medicine."

—Proverbs 17:22 (NKJV)

What is one fruit that you can never eat just ONE of?

**A pear (pair)**

Where do all hamsters come from?

**Hamsterdam**

What do a cautious person and a person allergic to bees both have in common?

**Both say "Beware" (Bee! where!)**

What kind of bee never gets full of pride?

**A humble bee**

What kind of bee is very awkward at walking?

**A stumble bee**

What is the smartest bee?

**A spelling bee**

**Mom:** Timmy, why are you crying?

**Timmy:** Because, I've got a B on my report card.

**Mom:** Oh son, there's no reason to cry about a B on your report card!

**Timmy:** But mom, he stung me before I smashed him with it!

ANSWERS:  
CROSSWORD PUZZLE:  
1. LEPER 2. PRICE 3. SIMON 4. WASTE  
ANSWER IN THE YELLOW BOXES: PRAISE  
BIBLE CHARACTER CAR TAGS:  
CREATED BEFORE I ATE—EVE  
DECEIVED BEFORE I ATE—EVE  
EMPTY TOMB—JESUS  
JESUS IS WORTHY OF:  
HONOR, GLORY, BLESSING, PRAISE,  
WORSHIP & THANKS



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