



THE Word of Faith

DECEMBER 2020

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MERRY
CHRISTMAS



KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES
Working Together to Reach the World!

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Miracles for Today

Christmas started with the greatest miracle of all time—God’s Son being born in human form. Our Heavenly Father lined up one supernatural event after another, so Jesus came to the earth at the right time. Only God could arrange all the prophetic utterances, signs, and wonders to come together for the birth of Christ.

- The prophecies of the Old Testament.
- The miracle birth of John the Baptist.
- The virgin birth of Jesus.
- Angelic appearances.
- Guidance from a star.
- Heavenly dreams.

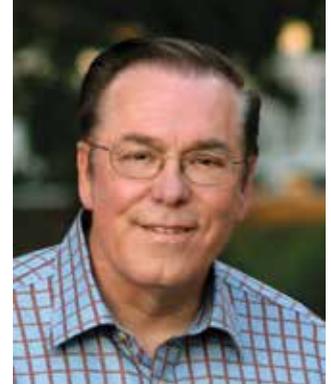
Every moment was a part of the miracle alignment so Jesus could come and fulfill His destiny. *No man could have done this!* God orchestrated a plan all the way from the Garden of Eden, down through the ages, and into our lives. The birth of Jesus is nothing short of miraculous—and so is our New Birth in Him.

Jesus came for the foreigner, the outcast, the despised, the rejected, the imperfect, the sick, the broken, the weak, the weary, the depressed, the needy, and the criminal. He came for the sinner. He will not reject or despise anyone who turns to Him but freely offers His grace and forgiveness to anyone who believes and accepts it.

Through the message of Christmas, we see the miraculous. God reached down to humanity to grab their hand through the birth of Jesus Christ. He became the sacrifice for sin so we could reach up and grab the hand of God and walk through life born again by the power of God.

Just as the Heavenly Father mapped out supernatural events for Jesus, He orchestrates supernatural events to bring about the ultimate plan for our lives today. We need to embrace the idea that God still moves today and continues to communicate in visions, dreams, and our personal prayer life. He is the same miracle-working God! I encourage you to expect Him to move in your life—especially during this holiday season!

Kenneth W. Hagin



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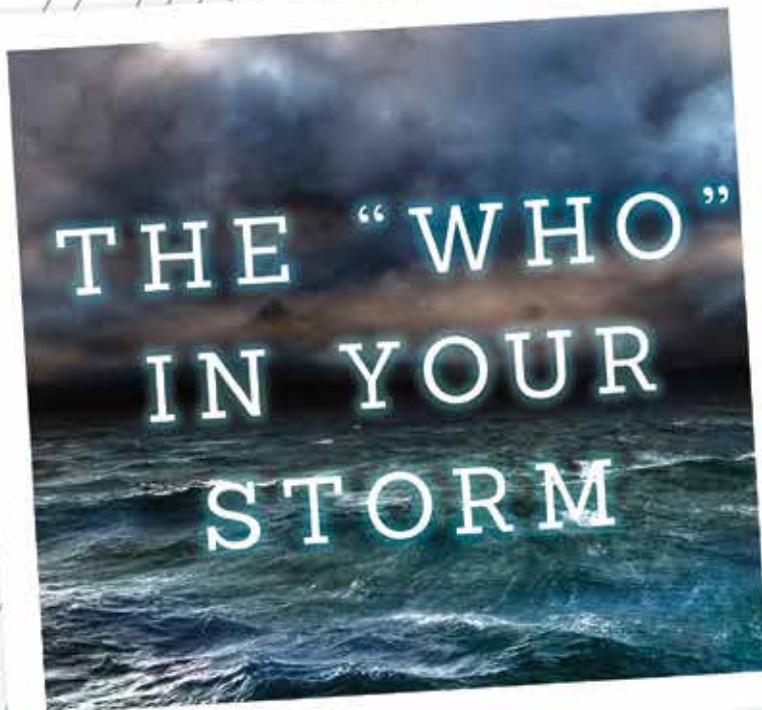
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Special Report: Ministry Didn’t Stop!

When the world shut down in 2020, we didn’t! The dips and dives took ministry to new places, and it expanded!



WHY THE STORM IS HAPPENING IS NOT NEARLY AS IMPORTANT AS *Who* IS IN THE STORM WITH YOU.

Jesus is the Who in any storm you face. And if you know Who He is to you during those times, the *why* simply doesn't matter.

Many times when Christians experience adversity, they default to thinking they must be out of the will of God. But going through a trial does not mean that at all.

In the biblical account where Jesus calms the storm (Mark 4:35–41), the disciples were in the middle of a storm. Yet, they were very much in God's will—after all, they were with Jesus! And He always did His Father's will.

Jesus said we would experience trials and sorrows (John 16:33 NLT). But then He told us to *take heart* because He overcame the world. In the Greek, *take heart* means “unflinching courage.” And this is the attitude to have during a storm.

God knows every hardship you will face and promises to take you through all adversity. So anytime you encounter an overwhelming situation, instead of asking *why*, look to the Who that is always with you. Who is He?

Your Calm

Mark 4:39 (NLT) says, “*When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, ‘Silence! Be still!’ Suddenly the wind*



DENISE HAGIN BURNS

ONE OF MY favorite inspirational quotes is by Vivian Greene. It says, “Life isn’t about waiting for the storm to pass. . . . It’s about learning to dance in the rain!” This quote inspires me for two reasons: I love to dance, and I don’t like rain. I don’t like storms. I like it when everything goes according to plan. I guess you can say I am a recovering perfectionist. But life isn’t perfect or fair. It doesn’t always go the way we hope or expect.

Growing up, I always wanted to know the “why” behind bad things happening to good people. So I asked people I respected for an answer. One person was my grandfather, Kenneth E. Hagin. Whenever I asked him why such and such happened, he looked at me and said, “Denise, the secret things belong to the Lord.”

As a teenager, that answer pacified me for a while. But as I grew older and started experiencing faith-shaking events in my life, it was no longer good enough.

When a close friend received a life-altering report from her doctor, I asked the Lord why. He said, “You are asking the wrong question. That is why you don’t have an answer. Stop asking why, and start asking who. *Why* the storm is happening is not nearly as important as *Who* is in the storm with you.”

stopped, and there was a great calm.” The Who in your storm will be your calm.

It’s not natural to be calm when faced with difficult situations. The world expects you to freak out, cry, and scream. But because the Who with you is Jesus, you can tap into His peace and let it flood your heart and mind.

Your Joy

No one feels like being joyful in a trial. There may be days you don’t want to get out of bed. But outlook often determines outcome. A defeated and depressed outlook allows the waves of a storm to crash down on you.

Instead of being discouraged, James 1:2 (NIV) says to consider it an opportunity for pure joy when tests and challenges come your way. That doesn’t mean you are happy *for* the hard time. Joy comes from knowing the waves are temporary and that you will get to the other side with the One who is in your boat.

You may have to force your emotions to line up by doing things that fuel your joy. Find something that makes you laugh and lifts you up. A cheerful heart is good medicine!

Your Friend and Comforter

Jesus is the source of your comfort. Believing this truth gives you the boldness and courage to face anything. Psalm 34:18 (NLT) says, “*The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.*” And Second Corinthians 1:3–4 (NLT) says, “*God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.*”

God will bring people into your life to show His comfort and mercy during a storm. Don’t let pride, stubbornness, or self-sufficiency cause you to reject the help God sends to you.

God also wants you to be part of the Who in someone else’s life. One of the best ways to forget about your problems is by looking for opportunities to comfort someone during a tough season in their life.

Your Focus

Storms come at the most inconvenient times! When they arrive, it is critical to focus on the Who and not the circumstance, problem, or prognosis. Keeping your eyes on Jesus will transform the very atmosphere around you. It can change the atmosphere in a hospital room, in your home, or with a rebellious teenager.

Hebrews 12:2 says to fix your eyes on Jesus—the author and finisher of your faith. That means Jesus will be with you in the beginning, in the middle, and at the finish line. He will never leave you! So no matter how bad things may look or how hard they may be, stay focused on God!

Your Voice

The Who will be your voice. Remember, Jesus was not silent in the storm. He spoke to it and said, “*Silence, be still.*” He has given you authority to do the same.

Let Jesus speak in your storm through the Word. It has a lot to say about every circumstance you go through! Search the scriptures to find what it says about your situation. Once you have God’s Word on the matter, speak to your storm! Speaking the Word with boldness will bring about a great calm.

Peace, Be Still

When we trust God in a storm and hold fast to His Word, He will renew our hope, calm the winds and waves, and anchor our souls in the safe haven of His protection.



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Your Victory

The Who with you is always victorious. He never quits or loses! Therefore, you never have to be afraid when faced with challenges. You can be confident that the end of your story is victorious because Jesus—the King of Kings, the Healer, the Provider, the Alpha and Omega—lives inside of you. He has made you more than a conqueror (Rom. 8:37).

So the next time you are in a storm, you don’t have to wait for it to pass. You can smile and dance in the rain because you know Who is with you!♥

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Christmas Hope

EVERY CHRISTMAS, billions of greeting cards are sent around the world. But did you know that long before printing companies introduced their first cards, God sent a Christmas greeting for the world to hear?

IT WAS THE *original* **CHRISTMAS CARD . . .**
sent **BY GOD**, *delivered* **BY ANGELS:**

“ *Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord’* ” (Luke 2:10–11 NKJV).

IT WAS A MESSAGE OF HOPE—

HOPE FOR *happiness* . . .
HOPE FOR *help*.

Do you need hope today? Could you use some peace and joy in a world filled with fear and turmoil?

Why not respond to that first Christmas greeting? It still rings true today. God sent His only Son—Jesus—to be your Savior (John 3:16). He sent Jesus so you could live without fear . . . not worrying about what tomorrow will bring. You can have hope and peace—today.

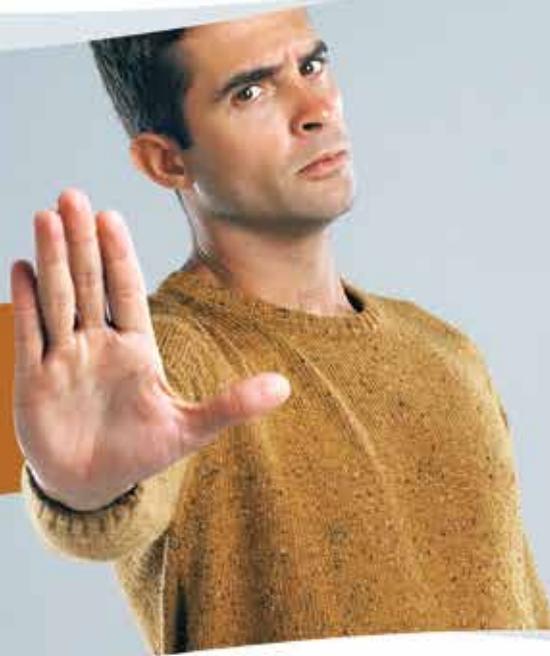
Just say the following prayer aloud, from your heart:

God,

I come to You in the Name of Jesus. I admit I am not right with You, but I want to be. I ask You to forgive me of my sins. The Bible says if I confess with my mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in my heart that God raised Him from the dead, I will be saved (Rom. 10:9). I believe Jesus rose from the dead. And I confess that Jesus is the Lord and Savior of my life. Therefore, according to your Word, I am saved. Thank You for saving me. Thank You for your joy and peace!

If you prayed this prayer, welcome to God's family! We would like to send you some materials to help you in your new life with Him. Email us at partnerservice@rhema.org or call us at 1-800-54-FAITH (543-2484).

RESPONDING TO OFFENSE



KENNETH W. HAGIN

ONE MIGHT ARGUE that the prevalence of offense—unforgiveness, bitterness, and hatred—is a sign of the times (2 Tim. 3:1–5). With all the reasons you could harbor unforgiveness in your heart, a refreshing, timeless truth surpasses the world’s sin and darkness. And that is *love triumphs over offense*.

First Corinthians chapter 13, commonly referred to as the “love chapter,” is a description of God’s love and how you are to act toward others. We see that love never receives or gives an offense!

You can miss it and say or do something unkind you shouldn’t have. You may unintentionally offend someone. But all Christians should grow in love and make it their highest goal.

Being easily offended is a sign of immature love. Yielding to God’s love in you helps you rise above any offense. As a result, you won’t hold on to it when an affront comes.

Let’s look at some characteristics of God’s love in First Corinthians 13:4–8 that will keep you high above the “low road” of offense.

Love Is Patient and Kind

Verse 4 in the *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition* says, “*Love endures long and is patient and kind.*” Most of us don’t like the words “endure” and “long.” They imply that you have to put up with something you don’t want to deal with! However, when it

comes to engaging with others, learning patience is a must. We need to be patient with people! We need to see them for what they can become in Christ, not for what they look like today.

Love is also kind—gentle or mild mannered. One way to show kindness is by not snapping back when someone is unfriendly. Perhaps that person is having a bad day. Kindness can also mean being humble enough to serve somebody who has spoken negatively about you. Instead of becoming offended and giving them a piece of your mind, you can simply let the matter drop.

Love Is Not Envious or Jealous

First Corinthians 13:4 (AMPC) continues, “*Love never is envious nor boils over with jealousy.*” Do you want to know God’s way of getting ahead in life? Refuse offense. Never give in to envy or jealousy. Rejoice with someone who receives a blessing. For example, if you want a new house and a friend gets one, rejoice with them. Send them a housewarming gift or a card of congratulations. Pray for their continued success. You will reap a harvest of blessing for sowing into their life.

Love Overlooks an Offense!

“*Love . . . takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong]*” (1 Cor. 13:5 AMPC). This verse specifically talks about forgiving and not taking offense. The person who walks in love “takes no account” of evil committed against them. They don’t get even with anyone who wronged them. Instead, they refuse to give the injustice the attention it demands. Therefore, they aren’t thrown off track spiritually.

Someone once approached me and asked, “Have you heard what so-and-so said about you?”

Interrupting him, I said, “Well, God bless him. We love him.” And I began talking about something else. I never allow myself to get in strife. I have too much at stake spiritually to become entangled with offense.

When the opportunity to get offended presents itself, I “take no account” and “pay no attention”! I encourage you to do the same—it will work wonders in your life!

Love Doesn't Rejoice at Injustice

First Corinthians 13:6 (AMPC) states, “It [love] does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness, but rejoices when right and truth prevail.”

One of the distinguishing characteristics of someone who has allowed offense to become rooted in them is the desire for revenge or “getting even.” When the person who hurt them experiences some kind of tragedy or hardship, they think, “Good! I’m glad—he had it coming!”

Jesus accomplished the greatest act of forgiveness and refusal of offense on the cross. Referring to those who crucified Him, He said, “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34).

Notice that Jesus *didn't* say, “Father, kill them all! Pay them back for the wrong they committed!” He showed mercy by forgiving His offenders and asking the Father not to hold their sins against them.

Have *you* ever asked God not to hold someone’s sin against them after you were offended? This is the attitude you must maintain to avoid the trap of being offended. Love doesn’t rejoice at someone’s hardship. Instead, have compassion and pray for the person—and desire blessing, not cursing, to come to them.

Love Does Not Humiliate Others

Often when a person is offended, the “gloves come off,” so to speak. The one offended yields to the temptation to talk badly about that person behind their back. They might spread malicious gossip about the individual. Whereas before the offense occurred, the person who was hurt would never have done such a thing.

God’s love covers sin (1 Peter 4:8). A person who walks in love doesn’t tell everyone about someone’s personal problems. Love stops offense in its tracks, because it refuses to pass the offense on to others.

Let Go of the Weight!

It is imperative to keep the Word before your eyes and heart because what you constantly feed on is what you eventually act on. Continually thinking about what someone has done to you only produces wrong actions that cause you to step out of love *into* sin.

How much baggage do you carry from the past? Have you paid so much attention to an offense that it consumed your life, weighed you down, and paralyzed you from moving toward happiness and your dreams?

Love Is . . .

*“Love is patient, love is kind.
It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.
It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking,
it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.
Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.
It always protects, always trusts, always hopes,
always perseveres.
Love never fails.”*

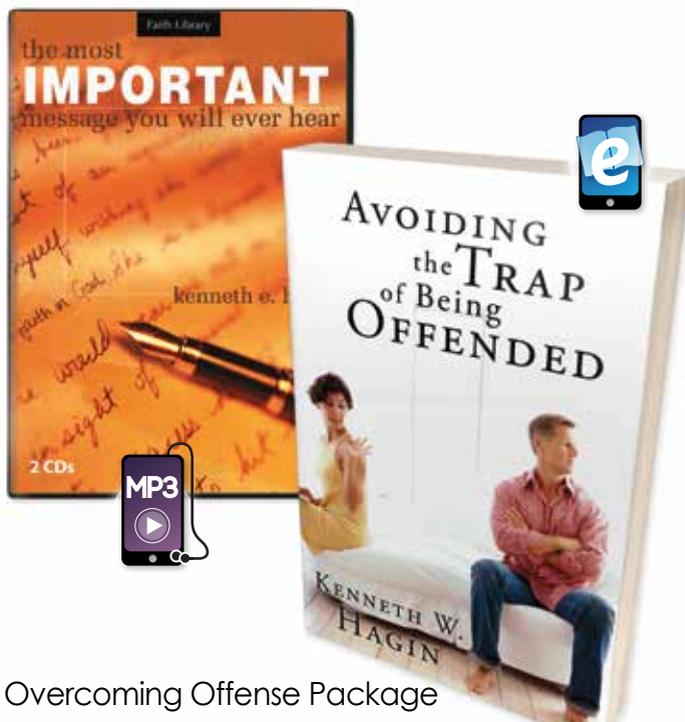
—1 Corinthians 13:4–8 (NIV)

You cannot move forward with God if offense weighs you down. People have said that when they finally let go of offense, they felt better spiritually, mentally, emotionally, and physically. Even their circumstances began turning around for the better. Why? They let go of the weight that bound them. They stepped into the light and away from the shadows that darkened their paths. So let’s evict offense and step into the freedom of God’s light.♥

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MINISTRY DIDN'T STOP!



THE YEAR 2020 held more surprises than anyone could have predicted. Hearts were in deeper need of hope. Minds struggled in a maze of a pandemic, riots, natural disaster, and fear. Healing and peace became a desperate, global cry. When people needed one another most, in-person connections were sometimes impossible. The world shut down, but Kenneth Hagin Ministries ramped up and reinvented. ♥

SPREADING THE WORD

in an Online World

Because Kenneth Hagin Ministries has been broadcasting for decades, the structure was already in place to expand. YouTube Live was added to the array, along with a new channel for “Timeless Teachings” by the late Kenneth E. Hagin. Smaller portions of “Timeless Teachings” have been released on *Rhema for Today* and available as podcasts free of charge.

During the height of pandemic lockdowns, many digital products usually sold at [RHEMA.ORG/STORE](https://rhema.org/store) were made available at no cost. More free resources were added to [RHEMA.ORG/STUDYCENTER](https://rhema.org/studycenter), and daily emails from the devotionals *Health Food* and *Faith Food* encouraged wider audiences than ever before.

The hub for spiritually hungry people at [RHEMA.ORG/MEDIA](https://rhema.org/media) continued to connect and release more of the Word in various formats to read or hear online and by subscription:

- » [RHEMA USA APP](#) » [RHEMA.TV](#) » [VIDEO ON DEMAND](#) » [TIMELESS TEACHINGS](#)
- » [THE WORD OF FAITH MAGAZINE](#) » [RHEMA PRAISE](#) » [RHEMA FOR TODAY](#)
- » [MESSAGE OF THE MONTH](#)

VIRTUAL *Shift*

- » [COLOMBIA](#) » [BRAZIL](#) » [NIGERIA](#) » [EUROPE](#)
- » [AFRICA](#) » [MIDDLE EAST](#) » [\(AND BEYOND!\)](#)

Freedom to travel took on new meaning as the Hagins “traveled” the world from their homes via online video conferences and social media. This year’s international “trip” was a virtual adventure in Colombia, Brazil, and Nigeria by way of cameras and computers. The entire Hagin family connected with Rhema leaders in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. Kenneth W. Hagin also appeared on The Victory Channel as a guest on Kenneth Copeland Ministries’ *Victory Update*.

Facebook became a place to be ministered to beyond live broadcasts with teaching and prayer. Lynette Hagin brought comfort by playing the piano and singing hymns. Denise Hagin Burns even joined in on the singing, and Craig W. Hagin read bedtime stories for little ones.

Digital expansion brought hope into quarantined homes. Worldwide audiences enjoyed virtual events from Rhema grads and others who invited the Hagins as special speakers. Even glimpses of their personal life made the isolated world a little more warm, loving, and connected.

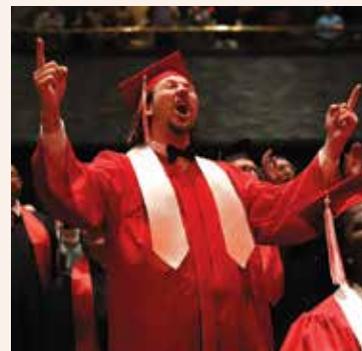
“WE ARE DOING GREAT THINGS AROUND THE WORLD—EVEN IN THE MIDDLE OF A PANDEMIC!”
—CRAIG W. HAGIN

THE *Unstoppable* ONES

- » [EFFORT](#) » [SACRIFICE](#) » [FAITHFULNESS](#)
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Rhema students (and teachers) conquered the challenge of completing their studies during a pandemic. And for the first time in the school’s history, the Rhema USA campus hosted its first RBTC graduation.

“THE CLASS OF 2020 WILL BE A CLASS OF REMEMBRANCE, BECAUSE IT’S THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE HELD COMMENCEMENT INSIDE THE RHEMA BIBLE CHURCH AUDITORIUM.”
—KENNETH W. HAGIN, PRESIDENT



- » **RBTC WORLDWIDE***
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- 51 nations
- 88,537 graduates
- 10,041 advanced ministry training graduates
- 3,391 Rhema churches by graduates
- *at time of publication



Pray for Me!

- » PRAYER PARTNERS
- » PRAYER AND HEALING CENTER
- » PARTNER SERVICES
- » PRAYER CLOTHS

The backbone of Kenneth Hagin Ministries is prayer. Restrictions during part of the year temporarily prevented prayer lines at events, gatherings at the Prayer and Healing Center, and volunteering as a prayer partner. But prayer continued! Phone calls turned into voicemail. Every request was written down and prayed over like the emails and letters that also come in.

Prayer cloths were sent out in record numbers by the partner services department, and testimonies of healings returned with news of complete recoveries from disease and viruses like COVID-19 to physical injuries and heart failure.

Even during economic shutdowns, reports of provision came in. Perhaps the most simple and beautiful expression was this: "Never had money for food. Now I'm buying food for pantries."

Special prayer services were held through the year that streamed live worldwide. Some were held with empty rooms and a skeleton production staff, but prayer not only continued—it expanded to meet the needs of people facing fear and unprecedented challenges.



REAL PEOPLE,

Real Lives

- » NAPLES, FLORIDA
- » MIAMI, FLORIDA
- » DECATUR, ALABAMA
- » DOTHAN, ALABAMA

Living Faith Crusades were held throughout the year whenever possible. Though many crusades were canceled due to restrictions on public gatherings, several were also held in person. Rev. Kenneth W. Hagin brought his signature "talk to you like family" style to southern churches, and Lynette Hagin led the gatherings in prayer.



THE CORE Remained Strong

Winter Bible Seminar and Rhema Homecoming is always a strategic time of preparation and calibration. This year, it set the tone for the rest of the year!

"Don't look around at everything going on and allow fear to come in. Walk in God's Spirit. Remember: Jesus defeated the devil!" —Kenneth W. Hagin

"When you run a race, you strip down to the bare essentials. Let go of the weights and run God's race." —Lynette Hagin

"Every single season has a purpose, and you have to find that purpose." —Denise Hagin Burns

"There's no situation that Jesus doesn't already have a solution for. It might not look good right now, but you are victorious!" —Craig W. Hagin

Campmeeting, Kindle the Flame Women's Conference, and A Call to Arms Men's Conference all experienced some tweaking and last-minute changes as safety protocol continued to change throughout the year. Kenneth Hagin Ministries remains grateful for every opportunity to band together in person!

Overall, 2020 has been a year of extreme tests and new outreach. The worldwide Rhema family took every challenge and became even stronger! Together we continue to press forward with the mandate God gave to Kenneth E. Hagin: "Go teach My people faith." ♥



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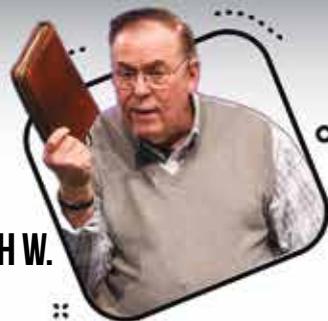
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"I knew *Winter Bible Seminar* would be a new awakening that many needed and wanted. I've been getting a deeper connection with the Lord ever since it started." // JENNIFER

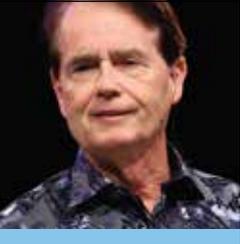
"What I love about *Winter Bible* is seeing the family come back together—the reunion. I love the feel of family, and that's what this is all about." // KEVIN

"We love what this ministry has contended for all these years. This wonderful, precious anointing where you get in and bodies get healed and lives change. We're not just remembering what happened—it's what Jesus is doing today!" // JIM



The Move of God Is Now!

KIRK DUBOIS



THE BEGINNING STAGES of the next great move of God have already begun. The Lord is raising up ordinary people of all ages and backgrounds to bring about a Holy Spirit infused movement that will sweep the earth. It will be the greatest outpouring of God's glory the world has ever seen.

Gideon demonstrated a pattern for this type of move. His story is found in the Book of Judges. The Israelites were handed over to their enemies because they did evil in the Lord's sight. **THE ONCE VICTORIOUS CHILDREN OF ISRAEL WERE HIDING IN CAVES FEARFUL OF THE MIDIANITES.** Because the nation had turned away from God, their enemy prevailed.

The Israelites were tired of their condition and came to realize how far they had strayed. They cried out to God in repentance, and He responded to their cries. He sent prophets to correct them and give the people hope that something good was coming. This marked the beginning of a revival for Israel. **THEN GOD LOOKED FOR A PERSON HE COULD USE TO BRING HIS PLAN INTO THE EARTH. THAT PERSON WAS GIDEON.**

An angel appeared to Gideon and said, "*The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor!*" (Judges 6:12 NKJV). **ALTHOUGH GIDEON WAS HIDING IN FEAR LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, A FIRE BURNED INSIDE HIM.** He asked the angel, "*If the Lord is with us, why then has all this happened to us?*" (Judges 6:13 NKJV). Gideon had heard about the great acts God performed for their ancestors but wondered where the miracles were in his day. In essence, he was saying, "It should not be like this." He wanted to see God move!

The angel replied, "*Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?*" (Judges



GOD IS LOOKING FOR
yielded vessels
WHO WANT TO SEE THEIR
GENERATION ROCKED BY
HIS PRESENCE AND POWER.

6:14 NKJV). Gideon began taking steps to follow the angel's instructions, and the Lord used him to smite the Midianites and deliver his people.

THE ISRAELITES' FEAR OF THEIR ENEMY REFLECTS WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE CHURCH WORLD IN RECENT YEARS. The Church is hiding while the world is speaking loud and clear. Instead of the Church having a positive impact on society, people are turning to the world for deliverance.

Today, God is looking for people with hearts like Gideon. The Lord is searching for people who are tired of the status quo, fed up with seeing the Church defeated, and dissatisfied with only hearing about past moves. God is looking for yielded vessels who want to see their generation rocked by His presence and power.

For years, it has been prophesied that "a great move of God is coming." That move is now! The Lord wants a harvest of souls. But the harvest won't come if the Body of Christ is withdrawn from society and hidden in churches.

How do we change our generation and take back what the devil has stolen? First, we must cry out to God and repent. Second, we need to pray. There has never been

a revival that was not preceded by much prayer and repentance. Third, we have to prepare ourselves. That includes getting rid of anything—even good things—that suppress our hunger for God.

MOVEMENTS DON'T BEGIN BY SOMEONE WAKING UP AND SAYING, "LET'S START A MOVEMENT TODAY!" THEY START WITH BELIEVERS WHO GET ON FIRE FOR GOD, ANSWER THE CALL, AND GO OUT AND WIN SOULS.

It's time to believe God for the impossible. Let's believe Him for entire cities and nations. **PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW THAT GOD IS REAL, JESUS IS LORD, AND THAT HIS NAME STILL HAS POWER.** The problem is not on the Lord's end. He wants to do miracles in our generation. We have to hunger for it. Let's start by praying the following:

God, make me hungry for Your power and presence. Remove all idols and distractions in my life and anything that has replaced my hunger for You. Renew my hunger for Your glory. I will not be satisfied with anything but Your glory, power, and presence.♥

[Editor's Note: Kirk DuBois is an instructor at Rhema Bible Training College. This article was adapted from his WBS 2020 message.]



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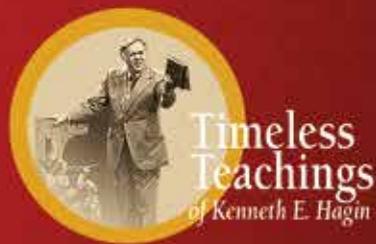


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THREE Enemies OF FAITH

THE BIBLE TELLS us to “*fight the good fight of faith*” (1 Tim. 6:12). There wouldn’t be a fight if there were no enemies! The enemies of faith aren’t what most people think they are. Many look for enemies in the natural realm, but that’s not where they are!

1 Romans 10:17 says, “*So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*” **THE GREATEST HINDRANCE TO FAITH IS A LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF GOD’S WORD.** Because faith comes by hearing the Word, all enemies of faith are connected in some way with our lack of knowledge.

When you know God’s Word, faith comes. As soon as the light of the Word comes, faith is there. It accompanies knowledge. Knowledge of what God has said comes first. Then faith automatically accompanies it.

People often pray for faith saying, “What I need is faith.” But what they need is knowledge of God’s Word. People who pray for faith are attempting to get through prayer what the Word alone can give.

2 **ONE OF THE MOST PROMINENT ENEMIES OF FAITH IS A SENSE OF UNWORTHINESS.** All of us have battled it. Feelings of unworthiness and a sense of lack of faith go hand in hand. These two are perhaps the most subtle, dangerous weapons of the devil. But we can find the answer to these feelings in God’s Word: **YOUR WORTHINESS IS JESUS CHRIST!**

God does not heal your body or baptize you in the Holy Spirit based on your worthiness. If He did, no one would ever receive these blessings from God because no one is worthy in themselves.

PEOPLE WHO *pray for faith* ARE ATTEMPTING TO GET THROUGH PRAYER WHAT *the Word alone* CAN GIVE.

By not knowing the Word, many Christians allow feelings of unworthiness to defeat them. People have told me they were sure they wouldn’t be filled with the Holy Spirit because they weren’t good enough—they were unworthy. Praying with people for healing, I ran into the same situation many times.

The trouble is that Christians are acquainted with all their shortcomings, mistakes, faults, and failures. They look at themselves from a natural standpoint rather than from a biblical perspective—the way God looks at them.

The Word Brings Light

I struggled with unworthiness when I was a teenage invalid and thought I was being humble! I didn’t know I was just being stupid. “I’m weak and unworthy,” I thought. From the natural standpoint that may have been true, but it wasn’t from the biblical standpoint.

Psalms 119:130 says, “*The entrance of thy words giveth light.*” Once the light is in your spirit, it can’t be removed, even though the devil will do his best to confuse you. He will try to keep you from walking in the light by saying, “The prayer of faith works, but you can’t pray it because you aren’t good enough. You are too unworthy.” He did that with me while I was bedfast. Not knowing

any better, I agreed with him and remained an invalid several months longer.

I came to a different conclusion after reading Second Corinthians 5:17, “*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*”

Paul said, “*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus*” (Eph. 2:10). **WE DID NOT MAKE OURSELVES NEW—HE DID.**

I asked myself, “Did God make an unworthy new creature? Would He make a new creature that wasn’t good enough to stand in His Presence?”

Then I saw where I made my mistake. Instead of believing what the Bible said about me—the real me, the man on the inside—I looked at the outward man and my physical shortcomings. I passed judgment on my situation when I should have accepted God’s estimation of it. I knew He did not make any unworthy new creature. If He did, that would have belittled His work.

Our worthiness is in Christ Jesus. I look a lot better in Him than I do any other way! And that is how God sees me: in Him. He doesn’t really see me; He looks at Jesus and sees me in Jesus. When I learned this truth, it was a giant step toward releasing my faith and having faith to receive physical healing.

The Word of God will help you rid yourself of this sense of unworthiness; and when it is gone, the sense of a lack of faith will leave. They are tormenting twins of the enemy that rob you of the blessings Christ secured for you!

Accept No Substitutes

3 **ANOTHER ENEMY OF FAITH IS SUBSTITUTING EITHER HOPE OR MENTAL AGREEMENT FOR REAL FAITH.** That is why so many people are defeated. They say, “Well, I’m hoping and praying . . .” The Bible does not say that God hears the prayer of hope! “*The prayer of faith shall save the sick*” (James 5:15). If James had said the prayer of hope would do it, we would all automatically have results!

Jesus taught, “*What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them*” (Mark 11:24). Believe—not hope—that you receive. Hope is a human reaction. You may call it believing, but that doesn’t make it so, any more than calling a Model-T Ford an airplane would make it a plane.

You may say, “I believe God is going to do something for me. I believe He is going to heal me. I believe God is going to hear and answer my prayer someday.” That isn’t faith! It is hope because you are postponing what you want to the future.

In Summary

Faith Enemy #1—Lack of Knowledge of God’s Word
Solution: Faith comes by hearing and hearing the Word of God.

Faith Enemy #2—A Sense of Unworthiness
Solution: Your worthiness is Jesus Christ.

Faith Enemy #3—Substituting Hope or Mental Agreement for Faith
Solution: Keep faith in the present tense—faith believes now!

Faith is present tense. Blessings are already provided for us in Jesus. The Bible tells us that God “*hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ*” (Eph. 1:3). God doesn’t have to do one thing more; it is already done.

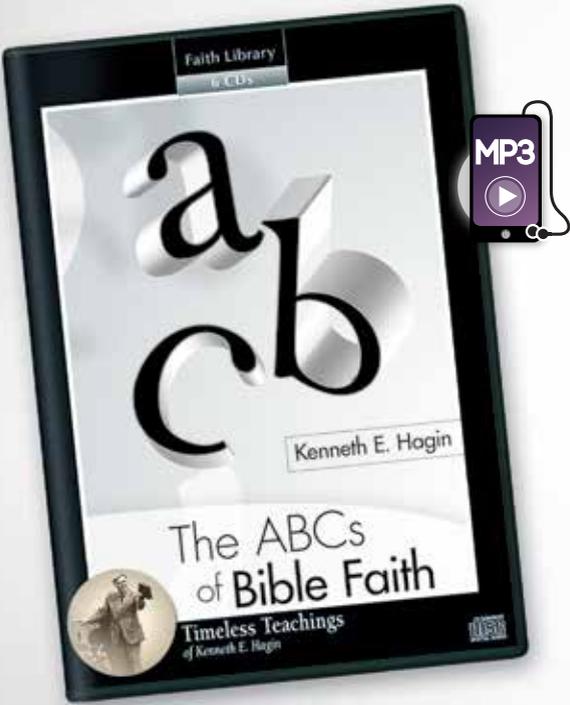
Get your believing in line with what the Bible says. Quit hopping. Start believing—not because you feel like it or see it, but because God’s Word says it!♥

[Editor’s Note: This article was adapted from the book *The Real Faith* by Kenneth E. Hagin.]

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Emboldened by the Word that was ministered, freedom and healing flooded every session, and the traditional Candlelight, Prayer & Praise service capped the conference with reverence and worship.

Make plans to attend *Kindle the Flame* September 23–25, 2021! In the meantime, enjoy these highlights.♥



WE’RE GOING TO WIN!

LYNETTE HAGIN

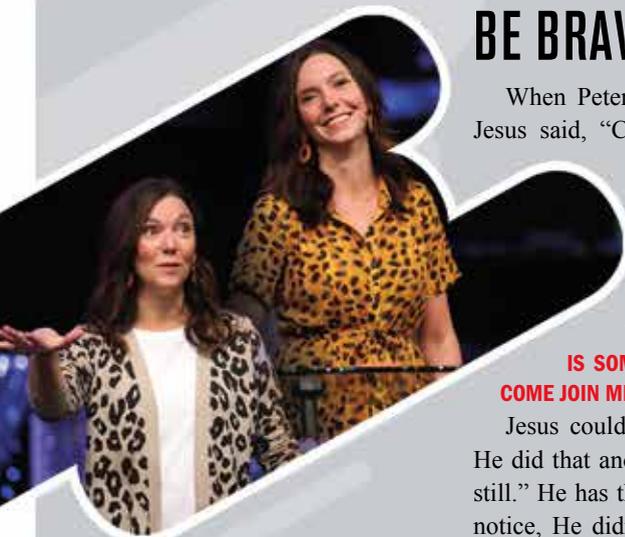
There’s nothing like a bunch of women standing together against the enemy! Although he is defeated, we can’t stop praying. Right now, we’re on the defensive and have to catch up! Too many have been lackadaisical. **WE THOUGHT WE WOULD USE OUR FAITH TO MAKE REVIVAL HAPPEN. IT’S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN BY OUR FAITH; IT’S GOING TO HAPPEN BY OUR PRAYERS!**

We’re going to win and see that mighty revival! It’s going to hit across this nation and around the world. **WE ARE SEEING MANY YOUNG PEOPLE, AND WE NEED TO HAVE THE SAME EXCITE-**

MENT! In my lifetime, I heard the saints say, “Oh honey, you’ll lose your joy after a while.” I haven’t lost my joy. I haven’t lost my enthusiasm. I haven’t lost my mission!

We’re going to make the devil run! Jesus already conquered him, and he’s under our feet. **SO WHY ARE YOU TREMBLING? THE DEVIL IS AFRAID OF YOU!** It takes each of our voices, every one of us coming together in love, harmony, and one accord.

I thank You, Father, for the anointing of the power of God. It shall be manifested in the lives of these women as they go forth and proclaim that Jesus saves, Jesus heals, and Jesus is coming again. SUCH A BOLDNESS WILL COME FROM THEIR MOUTHS! We shall see a mighty revival come forth.



BE BRAVE! DENISE HAGIN BURNS

When Peter walked on the water, before Jesus said, “Come join me,” He said, “Be brave” (Matt. 14:22–32 TPT). I think Jesus was saying, “All right, Peter. You know you want to come walk with Me in the deep. You’ve got to be brave.” **THAT’S HOW LIFE IS SOMETIMES. JESUS SAYS, “BE BRAVE. COME JOIN ME!”**

Jesus could have toned down the waves. He did that another time and said, “Peace be still.” He has the power to calm a storm. But notice, He didn’t do that this time. He only

said, “Be brave.” Sometimes you have to walk in the storm, and Jesus needs you to be brave.

THIS CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE IS NOT FOR THE FAINT OF HEART! THAT’S WHY YOU HAVE TO DEAL WITH YOUR INSECURITIES AND ISSUES—IT HINDERS YOU FROM BEING BRAVE AND WALKING IN THE FULLNESS THAT GOD HAS FOR YOU. You have to take care of your soul—your mind, will, and emotions.

You can have faith all day long, but if you don’t take care of your issues, you will be held back every time. It will creep up and cause you to shrink back, make poor decisions, hurt other people, and hurt yourself.

Sometimes you need help, and there’s no shame in that! God has called people to be therapists and counselors. They will help you heal your soul.



“The Holy Spirit is accelerating things and causing it to happen quicker. He’s making up for lost time—mistakes that we’ve made, times where we missed it. Thank God for His mercies! **THREE WORDS CAME UP IN MY HEART. SEPARATE! SATURATE! PARTICIPATE!** I want to stand before my Maker, my Father God and say, ‘I heard You! I listened! And I obeyed. I did what You said. I accomplished and fulfilled what You told me to do.’”

—LYNETTE ESTRADA



“God is after your heart. All of us have had to deal with some form of brokenness in our lives. **GOD IS THE MASTER REBUILDER. HE WANTS TO REBUILD YOUR LIFE TO WHERE YOU ARE UNRECOGNIZABLE TO YOURSELF.** But the Holy Spirit must deal with the root of the hurts and fix them. God wants you to experience true healing and freedom. But you must give Him all your heart and soul so He can completely transform you.” —MARC GLISSON



“One of the main things God is doing today is emphasizing the local body of believers. He wants to build strong local churches. He wants church members to learn how to flow in the Spirit. The church does not exist for believers; believers exist for the church. **THE NUMBER ONE THING CHRISTIANS NEED TO REALIZE IS THAT THEY WERE MADE FOR THE LOCAL CHURCH.** God is not just at work; He is doing His work through you.” —LOIS TAUCHER



“Joy is a spiritual force. It’s not based on circumstances or on whether you are in quarantine. It’s a force inside every believer! It’s been a long time since some of you have laughed. When you laugh, your enemy runs. Raise the roof with praise for God! **WHEN YOU RELEASE JOY IN YOUR LAUGHTER, THE STRONGHOLDS OF THE DEVIL COME DOWN. LAUGH AT THE STRONGHOLDS THE DEVIL SAID WOULD NEVER MOVE.** Laughter is a powerful force.”

—BRENDA THOMAS

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Medicine and Faith

CRAIG W. HAGIN



IT IS DISHEARTENING when Christians need to see a doctor or have surgery and are criticized for “not having enough faith.” Romans 8:1 (NKJV) says, “*There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.*” We should never condemn anyone for what is happening in their lives! Yes, we believe in divine healing, but it’s okay for medicine and faith to work together!

All good things come from above (James 1:17). I believe that medical knowledge comes from God. **MY GRANDFATHER TAUGHT ME TO BELIEVE GOD FOR HEALING. BUT HE ALSO SAID YOU SHOULD GO TO THE DOCTOR AND FIND OUT WHAT’S WRONG WITH YOU.** That way, you can target your faith! When you know what’s wrong, you know how to believe.

Target Your Faith

I have a friend who was in a lot of pain but wouldn’t tell anyone. He prayed and did everything he knew to do spiritually, but he didn’t get better. He finally told his wife that he thought he was having heart issues. She eventually convinced him to see a doctor. He found out that nothing was wrong with his heart. He had stomach issues and heartburn!

My friend could have prayed until he was blue in the face and still have been in pain. Since his heart was healthy, you could say his prayers were answered! But he still hurt because he needed to take care of his stomach. It is important to hone in on what is happening.

Use Every Tool

KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES HAS NEVER BEEN AGAINST MEDICINE OR DOCTORS. But medicine isn’t always a cure; it’s a band-aid. It keeps some

people alive until they can receive healing. Throwing away medicine is stupidity!

Jesus said in Mark 11:24, “*What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.*” If you desire a well body, do everything you can. If you have to take medication, confess God’s healing Word each time you take it. Use it as a tool instead of a crutch!

Going to Doctors

When I was 13, I faced a life-threatening brain tumor. A CAT scan revealed I had a tumor the size of a man’s hand at the base of my skull. The doctors wanted to operate immediately. My family asked for two days to pray and believe God.

My grandfather came and talked to me. “I want you to understand that surgery is a second line of defense,” he said. “If you have surgery, can you believe that everything will work fine, that there will be no complications?” He went through a list of things and asked me if I could believe.

“Yeah,” I said. “I can believe that.” Until that point, no one asked me to believe anything! Everyone else was praying, so why should I have to believe? **MY GRANDFATHER TOLD ME I COULD STILL HAVE A MIRACLE WITH SURGERY.**

If you have to take medication, confess God’s healing Word each time you take it. Use it as a tool instead of a crutch!



#RhemaWOF

A second CAT scan showed the tumor was still there, and I had the operation. Part of the tumor was too close to the brain stem, so they did not remove it. But what the doctors couldn’t do, God did. A follow-up CAT scan showed that every trace of the tumor was gone! I still received a miracle.

Never feel as though you are a second-class Christian because you have surgery or use medicine! It’s another line of defense. And God still gets the glory.♥

Visit rhema.org/healing for free study tools.

Medicine Is From God

KENNETH W. HAGIN

When we learned Craig had a brain tumor, Dad reminded me of when my cousin Ruth had an appendicitis attack. He and Mom prayed for her, and would have gone to the hospital if they didn’t get results fast.

Dad shared two scriptures. “Every good and perfect gift comes down from the Father of lights” (James 1:17). And John 10:10, “The thief cometh not, but to steal, kill, and destroy.” He went on to say, “The devil is not giving doctors medical knowledge to find cures. Medicine is God’s way of trying to help people.”

Craig wasn’t healed instantly. But the operation was successful, and he is alive and well today.

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)

DEPEND ON GOD

ANOTHER YEAR IS coming to an end, and your thoughts may have been as mine, "a year like no other in my lifetime." It has been a time to deepen your faith and learn to rely on the promises of God. When life doesn't go as we have planned, it is tempting to worry and try to figure out solutions on your own.

However, Jesus gave some words to the disciples that we need to adopt. Matthew 6:25–30 (NLT) *"That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing? Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are?"*

"Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? And why worry about your clothing? Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith?"

God wants us to depend upon Him. However, we often neglect to do that until we encounter a situation that is out of our control. It is only then that we cry out to the Lord. I'm reminded of an incident that happened when my youngest grandson, Wesley, was five years old. I taught my children at a young age that Jesus was always there to help them in any situation they might encounter.

Wesley had heard his mother say many times, "Help me Jesus." One day our daughter, Denise, was sitting at the kitchen table. Wesley could sense she was distraught about something. He leaned over, patted her on the shoulder, and said, "Help her Jesus." Out of the mouths of babes comes great wisdom!

Jesus is always there to help us. Oftentimes, we do not realize that the Lord desires to help us with the natural things of life. Have you ever misplaced an item and then became frantic trying to find it? I certainly have more than once. In previous times, when all else failed, I turned to the Lord and asked Him to help me find it. I now ask Him first rather than frustrating myself and wasting time.

Several years ago, I had misplaced something that was valuable. I frantically looked for it and immediately asked the Lord to help me find it. However, I was so distraught about losing it that my mind was not quiet enough to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit. Suddenly Psalm 46:10 came to me, *"Be still, and know that I am God!"* I realized in order to hear God's voice, I had to quieten my mind.

What I heard next astounded me. The Lord said, "Go look in the trash can in the garage." My first thought was, "Lord, I'm not that stupid." However, I was so desperate to recover the item that I went to the garage, looked in the trash can, and there it was. It pays to listen to the Holy Spirit.

During this Christmas season, look to the Lord to help you. Often a lot of time is consumed trying to find the right Christmas presents for your family. Ask the Lord to redeem your time and direct you to the right store or website that will accomplish that assignment.

Many years ago, I had the Christmas list for my children. One gift Denise wanted was a Cabbage Patch doll. I had no idea how popular they had become and how scarce they were. I looked everywhere in Tulsa to no avail, and the internet was not in existence.

Finally, I went to Dallas to see my parents and to find a Cabbage Patch doll. After going to several stores, I realized that God would have to direct me to the right place. As I pulled up to a store, I saw ladies in a line waiting for something.

I inquired as to what they were waiting on. It was a Cabbage Patch doll delivery. Praise the Lord, Denise got the desire of her heart. God is always there for you. Depend upon Him this Christmas season, and you will find that the holidays will be more enjoyable. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!♥

Lynette





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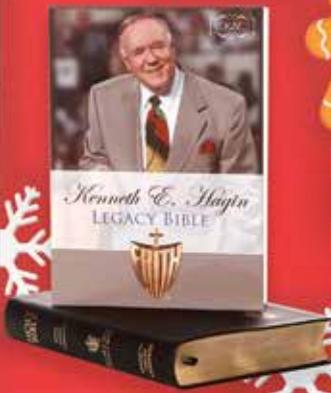
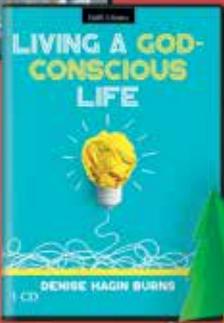
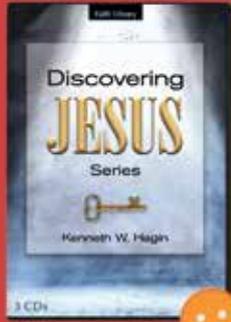
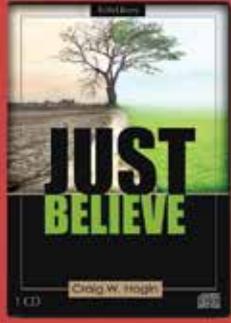
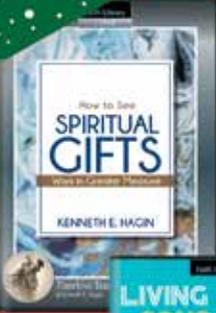
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