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APRIL 2021

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the Word of Faith



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PLEASE SHARE WITH A FRIEND OR RECYCLE.

Crowned With Lovingkindness and Tender Mercies

Everything God provides for you is yours to enjoy now. But He is not responsible to make sure you enjoy them. You are. In Psalm 103:4 we find one of many things He provides: He crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies.

That's important to remember, because many people—even believers—have been abused physically, verbally, emotionally, and mentally. They have deep wounds and hurts from rejection, betrayal, and lack of love.

God has promised never to leave you or forsake you. I like how the *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition* translates Hebrews 13:5: "He [God] Himself has said . . . [I will] not, [I will] not, [I will] not in any degree leave you helpless nor forsake nor let [you] down (relax My hold on you)! [Assuredly not!]"

God is saying to those who are hurting, "You can always count on Me. I will never betray you!"

In the midst of what you have experienced, know that God loves you. He has promised to always be with you and never separate Himself from you. To become separated from God, you would have to separate yourself from Him.

Let the love of God flood your heart! Tell yourself repeatedly, "The Lord crowns me with lovingkindness and tender mercies." Don't let yourself forget this precious benefit!

Faith never pretends hurts don't exist. Nor does it deny circumstances. It looks beyond the situation to the Word.

Being rejected or betrayed hurts. But faith applies the Word to the situation and enables you to rise above what happened. True faith doesn't settle for anything less than enjoying God's benefits.

God crowns you with His lovingkindness and tender mercies! He is more than able to bring restoration and healing.

As you dive into *The Word of Faith* this month, notice how each article reveals God's amazing love toward you. Each one will teach you how to remain strong in Him despite life's challenges. You are more than a conqueror!

Kenneth W. Hagin



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A Battle We All Fight



Timeless
Teachings
of Kenneth E. Hagin



THE BATTLE BETWEEN THE HUMAN SPIRIT AND THE INTELLECT

ONE OF THE greatest mistakes made in our intellectual culture has been the ignoring of the human spirit. We have not allowed our spirit to dominate our intellect. Instead, our knowledge has dominated our human spirit. In many instances, our intellect has taken the throne. Our human spirit—which should guide us—has been neglected or locked away in prison, so to speak.

When we shut away our spirit and don't listen to it, we become crippled in life and easy prey to selfish and designing people. But when we allow our human spirit to gain mastery, it will influence us during a crisis, and we will climb to the top.

My wife and I knew a woman pastor who related the following story to me. An evangelist came to her town and got all the churches he could to cooperate in a citywide meeting. He rented an auditorium in the city.

It is sad to say, but not everyone in the ministry is honest. Because this man had a poor credit rating, the manager of the auditorium demanded payment in advance.

The evangelist asked the woman pastor for help. She was gullible and let her church be responsible for the \$3,000 fee to rent the auditorium and the evangelist's newspaper advertising costs.

Crowds of 2,000 to 3,000 attended the services every night. The evangelist received a lot of money in offerings, but he left town without paying one bill. This woman's church had to take \$5,000 out of their building fund to cover his expenses. (That was a lot of money in those days!)

The woman pastor eventually recovered her church's money. But she told me, "Brother Hagin, if I had listened to my spirit, this never would have happened. I had a check in my spirit. If I



WHAT NATURAL
FOOD IS TO
YOUR BODY,
THE **Word**
of God IS TO
YOUR SPIRIT.

by the Holy Spirit to develop our human spirit.

Meditate on the Word

The New Birth is the rebirth of the human spirit. It's not the rebirth of our body or our mind. After we are born again, we must renew our mind (Rom. 12:1–2) and discipline our body (1 Cor. 9:27). The Holy Spirit uses God's Word to impart His nature into our human spirit.

After the death of Moses, God told Joshua to meditate on His Word day and night. As Joshua did what was written in the scriptures, he made his way prosperous and had good success (Joshua 1:8). Today, we can meditate on God's Word as Joshua did. We also have the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth (John 16:13).

As we learn to quiet our mind, the Holy Spirit will communicate with our spirit through the Word of God and unveil truths

had listened to it, I wouldn't have had to pay his debts."

If we had listened to our spirit, we would not have done some of the things we did. Remember, those whose spirit gains mastery can be influenced by it during a crisis. They are the ones who climb to the top.

Learning to Listen

How do we learn to listen to our spirit? We start by meditating on the written Word of God.

Jesus said in Matthew 4:4, "*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*" Bread in this verse means "food."

You could say, "Man shall not live by natural food alone." What will we live by? Every word that proceeds from God's mouth.

I like to put it this way: What natural food is to your body, the Word of God is to your spirit. Or you could say, God's Word is spirit food. The written Word of God was given to us

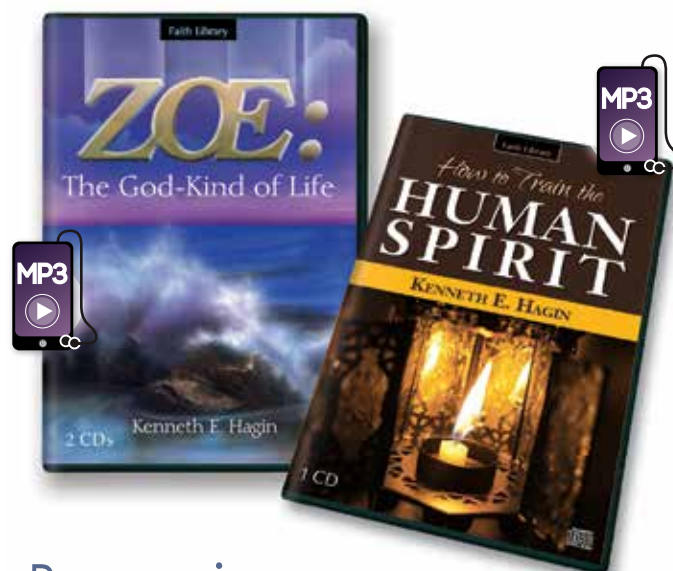
to us. For many, it's easier to get quiet physically than mentally. When we lie down at night, our body is quiet, but our mind is racing.

The more we quiet our mind and think on the Word, the more the Holy Spirit will speak to our human spirit. That is how He becomes the dominant force in our lives. We will seldom make mistakes when we give heed to our spirit.

We've learned how to develop our bodies and become athletes. And we've learned how to educate our intellect and become mental gymnasts. Now let's learn how to enrich our human spirit by meditating on the Word of God.♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin's book *How You Can Be Led by the Spirit of God*.]

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FAITH IN ACTION

Developing the Human Spirit

You can take these steps to develop your human spirit. The first three are centered on God's Word. The fourth will not work unless you have put the first three into practice.

1. Meditate on God's Word.
2. Practice the Word. Be a doer of it, not a hearer only (James 1:22).
3. Give the Word first place in your life.
4. Instantly obey the voice of your spirit.

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The Lordship Principle of the Kingdom

EARL GLISSON

“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has chosen gladly to give you the kingdom.”

—LUKE 12:32 (NASB)

A KING HOLDS ultimate authority in his kingdom. It's through authority that his kingdom is established. A king's domain is the territory over which he exercises authority, control, and dominion. The word *kingdom* literally means “king's domain.”

God has a Kingdom He wants us to operate in. Matthew 6:33 says, *“Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”* To have things “added unto” us, we first must understand the principle of lordship.

Before anyone gains access to God's Kingdom, they must be born again. Jesus died for the world and made a way of salvation for everyone. Salvation is free. In context, that means we couldn't do anything to deserve it. But make no mistake—for this *free* gift to be applied to our lives, it *will cost* us something. We have to give up our way of living and allow Jesus to be our Lord.

Romans 10:9 (NASB) says, *“If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”* Savior refers to what Jesus did. Lord is who He is.

The Greek word translated “confess” in Romans 10:9 means “to covenant.” When we confess Jesus as Lord, we are making a covenant with our mouths that Jesus is our Lord. The word *lord* means “supreme in authority.” It means “he to whom a person or a thing belongs.” It also means that Jesus makes decisions for us.

God's Kingdom isn't a democracy. We don't get to pick or choose

what we like and don't like. When we are born again, we say, “My life is not my own. I give Jesus full authority over my path.” Accepting Jesus as our Savior is so much more than saying, “Jesus, save me so after I leave this planet my final destination is Heaven.” Submitting ourselves to God's lordship is saying, “I am Yours; what's my next step?”

Jesus is the Word. When we accept Christ as our Lord, we are giving the Word supreme authority over our lives.

Some of us think that salvation is a one-time experience. It's not. It operates all the time. Salvation manifests itself in healing, prosperity, and restoration of our relationships. When we make a covenant with God

that His Word is supreme in authority, we will be saved from all kinds of trouble.

The Kingdom of God is bigger than our personal lives. Yes, God promises to provide for us. But it's so much more than saying, “I'm blessed and prosperous!” He wants us to touch the world! And if we seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness, all these things will be added unto us anyway (Matt. 6:33).

When we give God lordship over our lives, He will make the crooked places straight. His Word will be a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from a message Earl Glisson spoke at Campmeeting.]



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*Savior refers to what Jesus did.
Lord is who He is.*



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CRAIG W. HAGIN

ACTS CHAPTER 3 records the healing of a man who had been lame from birth. Every day he was carried to the Temple and laid by the gate called Beautiful. There he begged for money from everyone who passed through the gate to enter the Temple.

One day, when the lame man saw Peter and John, he asked them for alms. Peter replied, *“Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk”* (Acts 3:6).

With a firm grip, Peter took the man by his right hand and raised him up. Immediately strength came into the crippled man’s lifeless legs, and he began walking and leaping and praising God. (See Acts 3:1–10.)

Peter could perform this miracle because he knew who he was in Christ. He followed Jesus’ command to go into the world, preach the Gospel, and lay hands on the sick. *And* he expected the sick to recover (Mark 16:15–18).

A Salvation Benefits Package

Do *you* know what you have in Christ? Do you recognize all the rights and privileges that are yours as a born-again believer? Unfortunately, some Christians don’t. And because they don’t know what they have, they never use what is theirs.

Have you ever known someone who accepted a job but never took advantage of the benefits package that came with it? They never took a vacation or used the health benefits or enjoyed the other perks that came with the position. You probably don’t know anyone who did that. Most people are quick to use their benefits.

When we were born again, you could say we received a salvation package. Of course, spending eternity in Heaven after we die is a major part of the package. And that is what many Christians focus on. But salvation includes so much more than just escaping the flames of hell. Here are a few of the many benefits included in salvation.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S YOURS?



What We Have in Christ

Here are more benefits we have because of Jesus:

Justified	Romans 3:24
Not Condemned.	Romans 8:1
Sanctified	1 Corinthians 1:2
Made Alive	1 Corinthians 15:22
Triumphant	2 Corinthians 2:14
A New Creation	2 Corinthians 5:17
Reconciled With God	2 Corinthians 5:19
Righteous.	2 Corinthians 5:21
Blessed With Every Spiritual Blessing.	Ephesians 1:3
Holy and Without Blame Before God	Ephesians 1:4
Seated With Christ	Ephesians 2:6
Made Perfect	Colossians 1:28

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Healing

Over 2,000 years ago, Jesus bore on His back the wounds that brought us healing. First Peter 2:24 says, *"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."*

Authority in Jesus' Name

No other name is higher than the Name of Jesus. Philippians 2:9–10 says, *"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth."* Born-again believers have the right to use the Name of Jesus.

Provision

God wants to be our source. Instead of looking at how much money we make, let's look to God. When we do, we will never go under, no matter what is happening around us. The scriptures say, *"My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus"* (Phil. 4:19).

Jesus' Friendship

Friends are not always loyal, but Jesus promises never to leave us or forsake us. According to the Bible, *"God has said, 'I will never fail you. I will never abandon you'"* (Heb. 13:5 NLT). He is a friend who sticks closer than any brother. And He will always be there for us.

The Holy Spirit

When Jesus ascended into Heaven, He did not leave us without help. He sent the Holy Spirit to dwell in us. Jesus said, *"And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter; that he may abide with you for ever"* (John 14:16). The Greek word translated "Comforter" is *paraklētos*. This word can also mean "Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners," and "Standby."

The Word of God

Although portions of the Bible were written over 3,000 years ago, the Word of God contains solutions to any problems we encounter. When we don't know what to do or who to turn to, we can look to the Word for guidance, comfort, and assurance.

Effective Prayer

There is power in prayer, and our prayers can change circumstances and move mountains. I'm reminded of the fall of the Berlin Wall and the Iron Curtain. At one time no one thought people would ever cross freely from the east side of Berlin to the west side or that the Iron Curtain would be dismantled. But the face of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union was forever changed through prayer.

These are only a few of the many benefits we have in Christ. But let's not stop here. Let's continue studying the scriptures and discover everything that is ours. Then let's become doers of the Word (James 1:22) and take advantage of what belongs to us in Christ. 🍎

KEEPING IT ♥ SIMPLE

We could write a clever
article about spring just
beginning and things

coming back to life and relate it to a new life in Christ. But honestly, it's all about Jesus and what He did for us on the cross. He died in agony in our place. He loved us more than He loved His own life. The Bible says, *"God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us"* (Rom. 5:8 NKJV). Jesus' love for us is amazing. But it does us no good until we accept Him as our Savior. To accept Him into your heart today, simply pray the following prayer:

GOD,

I come to You in the Name
of Jesus. The Bible says,
*"If you confess with your
mouth the Lord Jesus and
believe in your heart that
God has raised Him from
the dead, you will be
saved"* (Rom. 10:9 NKJV).
I believe in my heart that
Jesus is Your Son and that You
raised Him from the dead.
And I confess Jesus as my
Lord. Therefore, I am saved!

THANK YOU!

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A Life of Service

TAD GREGURICH

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

— GALATIANS 2:20



INSTRUCTOR
HIGHLIGHT

WHEN PAUL SURRENDERED his life to Christ, he no longer belonged to himself. He willingly gave up his rights and chose to become a bondservant to Jesus.

The same is true for us today. After giving our lives to the Lord, we don't belong to ourselves anymore. We belong to Christ. It's not a matter of what we want to do, but of what Christ wants to do through us. **OUR LIFE SHOULD BE ONE OF SERVITUDE.**

Jesus had a servant's attitude from an early age. He was 12 years old when He went to Jerusalem with His parents to celebrate Passover.

As Mary and Joseph were returning to Nazareth, they did not realize He stayed behind. After searching for Him, Jesus' parents found Him in the Temple. When they asked for an explanation, He replied, *"Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"* (Luke 2:49 NKJV).

We, too, must be about our Father's business. While we are here, we have work to do. Thank God for the many benefits we have in Christ. We have escaped eternal damnation and can walk in health and live in prosperity. But we would be negligent if we didn't share what we have with others.

Our life in Christ is about service. It's about yielding to something greater than we are. When Jesus sent His disciples out, He said, *"Freely you have received, freely give"* (Matt. 10:8 NKJV). God gave each

of us a gift, and He expects us to use it in service to others.

Some people have talents but don't use them. **WE MUST NOT ALLOW WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN US TO BECOME DORMANT.** Paul told Timothy to *"stir up the gift of God, which is in thee"* (2 Tim. 1:6). We nourish our gifts by actively using them. One of the best ways to do this is by being involved in a local church or hooking up with a ministry.

Kenneth E. Hagin often said, "I never pray, 'Lord, bless me.' I pray, 'Lord, make me a blessing.'" When we give ourselves to the Lord this way, He will make us a part of something bigger than we are. He will plant us in a local church or connect us to a ministry. **WHEN WE ARE PART OF SOMETHING GREATER THAN ANY MAN IS, WE ARE PART OF A MANDATE FROM HEAVEN.**

Some people may struggle with this because they don't want to give themselves wholeheartedly to the Lord or anyone else. But I'm not suggesting we follow a man; I'm suggesting we hook up with what God has placed inside us.

Are you using your faith to reach backsliders? To get people filled with the Holy Spirit? To help set people free from the bonds of the devil? If not, it's time to be a part of something bigger than you are.

GOD HAS NOT CALLED US TO LIVE APART FROM OTHER PEOPLE. He's called us to minister to those around us. Let's commit to follow Paul's example and live a life of service.♥

[Editor's Note: Tad Gregurich is Dean of Rhema Bible Training College and an Associate Minister at Rhema Bible Church in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.]



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Are We Doing What's Truly Important?



LYNETTE HAGIN

WE ARE GOD'S
MOUTHPIECES AND HIS
HANDS AND FEET. LET'S
slow down ENOUGH
TO RECOGNIZE HIS
INTERRUPTIONS.

THE DAY OF the Lord is coming soon, and it's time for us to be busy doing our Father's business. Most of us lead fast-paced lives, and we can grow so busy that we neglect what God wants us to do. We all have many legitimate things to accomplish. But we must not become so engaged in our activities that we miss doing what is truly important.

I've found that I can be too focused on my agenda. I love checking off the tasks on my to-do list. And once I start a task, I don't want to be interrupted until I finish it.

One day the Lord said to me, "You get so irritated when interruptions happen. But I want to use you during those times. My interruptions are more important than anything on your to-do list."

I quickly repented and said, "Okay, Lord. I'll do whatever *You* want me to do."

After that, when I looked at Jesus' life, I saw how much He was interrupted. When you read the Gospels, it's clear that He was *always* being interrupted!

A Day in Jesus' Life

We see this in Mark chapter 4. Jesus spent the day ministering to a multitude on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. In the evening, He said to His disciples, "*Let us cross over to the other side*" (v. 35 NKJV).

Calming the Storm

Jesus and His disciples were in the boat when a fierce storm came up. Jesus was sound asleep on a pillow in the back. The disciples thought the boat was going to sink, so they woke Him up. He rose and "*rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace, be still!'*" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm" (v. 39 NKJV).

Casting Out Demons

When the boat landed at Gadara, Jesus was met by a madman! He cast the unclean spirits out of the demon-possessed man, and he became perfectly sane. However, when the townspeople saw that, they became afraid and told Jesus to leave their region. (See Mark 5:1-20.)

Although Jesus' short stay in the region of the Gerasenes may have looked like a wasted trip, it paved the way for great miracles to happen later. You'll notice in Mark 6:53–56 that when Jesus returned, people throughout the entire region brought their sick to Him. And scripture says that *"as many as touched him were made whole"* (v. 56).

Ministering to Jairus' Daughter

After delivering the demon-possessed man, Jesus got back in their boat and sailed to His hometown of Capernaum where a multitude of people met Him (Mark 5:21). Jesus would have taught the people immediately if he had not been interrupted. Jairus, the ruler of the synagogue, begged Jesus to come and heal his daughter. So Jesus left the multitude to minister to one child (verses 22–24).

Healing a Woman

But on the way to Jairus' house, Jesus was interrupted again! This time, a woman with an issue of blood touched the hem of His garment and was healed. Are you beginning to see how unplanned events continually side-tracked Jesus?

I noticed that some of Jesus' greatest miracles happened when He was interrupted. So I prayed, "Lord, if I don't get anything on my to-do list crossed off, that's okay. I want to accomplish what is on Your list."

My God Interruption

Not long after I prayed this, my son and I had an important meeting to attend. We had only 15 minutes to eat before the meeting, so we went to a local fast-food restaurant. We were sitting at a table, eating as fast as we could, when a restaurant worker came over to us and said, "I have a problem. Can you help me?"

I immediately thought about our appointment. But on the inside—in my spirit—I knew this was a God interruption. I knew I had an assignment from Him!

The woman told me she had strayed from the Lord and was having alcohol problems. I told her about our church and about Turning Point, a class we had then that helped people with addictions turn their lives around. She gave me her name and phone number. I told her someone from Turning Point would call her and take her to the class Sunday morning.

To make a long story short, this woman came to Rhema Bible Church, went through the class, and rededicated her life to the Lord. She eventually became one of our members. When I didn't see her in church, I'd call and encourage her to keep coming.

One Sunday morning she introduced me to her nephew and said, "I'm trying to get his mother and daddy to come to church." Her life had changed so much that *she* was bringing people to church! And that's what it's all about—bringing more souls into God's Kingdom.

Make Time for God's Interruptions

How many times have we had a stirring to say something to someone but didn't? We're often so busy running here and there that we don't stop to minister to the people God puts in our path. Let's not allow the enemy to sidetrack us from what's important to God—the souls of men and women who haven't accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

We are God's mouthpieces and His hands and feet. Let's slow down enough to recognize His interruptions. As we do, we'll be among the end-time reapers who bring in the great harvest of souls before the return of the Lord. ♥

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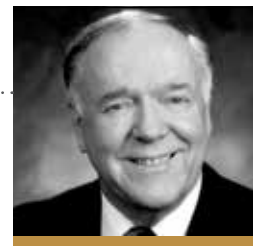
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From Death to Life

KENNETH E. HAGIN



THE BIBLE IS a mystery until we find the key that opens it. Then the mystery becomes a message. Two words open the Bible to our understanding: life and death.

Death has been a mystery in all ages. Science stands mute in its presence. Philosophy turns poetical upon meeting this enemy. Theology speaks in generalities when attempting to explain it.

The Bible records three kinds of death: spiritual death, physical death, and eternal death, which is being cast into the lake of fire (Rev. 21:8).

Spiritual death came first and then manifested itself in the physical body. God told Adam, *“Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die”* (Gen. 2:17). God was referring to spiritual death in this verse. **IF MAN HAD NEVER DIED SPIRITUALLY, HE WOULD NOT HAVE DIED PHYSICALLY.**

Spiritual Death Means Separation From God

Adam became separated from God and united with the devil when he sinned. He became more than a lawbreaker and sinner. Spiritually, he became a child of the devil and partook of his father's nature.

Man cannot stand in God's presence as he is because he has the devil's nature. Man must be saved by someone paying the penalty of sin and by receiving a new nature.

Someone might try turning a mule into a racehorse. You could run the mule around the track every day. But when the gun sounds on race day, he'll lope down the track! Being a racehorse is not in him.

Yet a racehorse that hasn't had much training will still take off at the starting line when the gun sounds. He was born to race. For that mule to become a racehorse, he would have to be reborn—and that's impossible.

Man can be reborn. He can become a new creation in Christ!

Jesus was conceived without the spiritual nature of death in Him. Yet the Bible says that He tasted death for every man (Heb. 2:9).

Jesus took on our sin nature. He *“put away sin [not sins] by the sacrifice of Himself”* (Heb. 9:26). He took on spiritual death that we might have eternal life.

Jesus redeemed us from spiritual death! Adam was banished from the Tree of Life because he rejected God's Word. But Revelation 2:7 says that all who accept and obey God's Word are brought back to the Tree of Life.

THE NEW BIRTH ISN'T GRADUAL; IT'S INSTANTANEOUS! It's a gift from God received the moment we believe.

Ephesians 2:1 says that we who were dead in trespasses and sins have been made alive. Verses 8 and 9 tell us how this happens: *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any many should boast.”*

“Not of works.” That punctures the balloon of the ego. **WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING TO SAVE OURSELVES.**

We have to admit our helplessness and hopelessness. We have to admit that we are lost sinners. Then we can accept what Christ has wrought for us.

Have you passed from spiritual death to spiritual life? Is God your Father? Is His Spirit within you bearing witness that you are His child?

You can answer yes to these questions if you are born again. If you are not born again, accept Jesus as your Savior today!♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin's book *Welcome to God's Family*.]



FAITH NUGGET

The New Birth

To become a new creation in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17), you must:

1. Recognize you are a sinner—lost, without God, and without hope (Rom. 3:23; Eph. 2:12).
2. Admit that Jesus died on the cross to save you from sin (John 3:14–17; Rom. 5:8–9).
3. Come to God, turning away from sin and confessing Jesus as your Lord—and *you shall be born again* (John 1:12–13; 3:36; 6:37).
4. Believe in your heart and confess with your mouth that God forgave you of your sins and that you are born again (John 5:24; Rom. 10:9–10).

Reaching the iGeneration



DENISE HAGIN BURNS

THE YOUTH OF today will never know a world without technology. Known as the “iGeneration,” they can connect to the world through a device in their hands. They live in a world of dangerous extremes. To them everything is fluid with no absolutes. Suicide is skyrocketing. Lockdown drills in schools are common occurrences. Pornography is literally in their hands, a screen swipe away. They live under a barrage of social media, and their world is deafening.

One time, a spirit of intercessory prayer overwhelmed me. The Lord said, **“YOU NEED TO ADVOCATE TO THE CHURCH ON BEHALF OF THIS GENERATION TO STEP UP AND TAKE THEIR PLACE.”** The Church has a place in their lives.

God reminded me of how Paul encouraged a young man: *“But you, Timothy, certainly know what I teach, and how I live, and what my purpose in life is. You know my faith, my patience, my love, and my endurance”* (2 Tim. 3:10 NLT). Then in verse 14, *“You must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true, for you know you can trust those who taught you.”*

Can youth today say that of us? Do they know what we teach, how we live, and why we are alive? We must boldly speak up. We have to be the ones they can trust.

Psalms 78:2–4 (NLT) says, *“I will teach you . . . stories our ancestors handed down to us. We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord, about his power and his mighty wonders.”*

EVERY GENERATION HAS WITNESSED A MOVE OF GOD. It’s our responsibility to tell these stories to this generation.

Recently while my oldest son was on his computer, I heard what sounded like my “pawpaw’s” voice. One of his friends told him that his great-grandpa, Kenneth E. Hagin, was on YouTube. He came to me and asked, “Mom, why didn’t you tell me? He’s laying hands on people, and they’re laughing and dancing. What is that?”

I didn’t do this on purpose, but I was “hiding” these things from my son! I took it for granted that he knew. So we sat and watched videos of “pawpaw.” I told him about miracles, healings, and the mighty move of God I had experienced when I was younger.

It really broke my heart. It’s our responsibility to teach this generation—to pray and intercede for them. They might miss the move of the Holy Spirit if we don’t tell them.

We all have a part to play. **TWENTY-SOMETHINGS, 30-SOMETHINGS, WE NEED YOU!** We’re counting on you because you have the ear of this generation. You know what they’re going through. You can reach them.

FORTY-SOMETHINGS, 50-SOMETHINGS, WE NEED YOU! Mentor these 20- and 30-somethings. Be there for them. Spend time with them. Help them grow spiritually. Mentor them so they can help the iGeneration.

SIXTY-PLUS—WE NEED YOU! You’re the prayer people! You know how to get in touch with God. We all should pray, but there’s something about older saints who know how to get down on their knees and pray!

It’s going to take all of us! Let this challenge penetrate your heart. Get involved. Pray. Do whatever you can to reach this generation. 🙏

FAITH IN ACTION

Pray This . . .

Heavenly Father, show me how I can make a difference and work with every generation. I put away busyness and selfishness and commit my time and prayers to see a mighty move of the Holy Spirit in this generation. In Jesus’ Name, amen.



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IT IS FINISHED!

“After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, ‘I thirst!’ . . . When Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, ‘It is finished!’ And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.”

— JOHN 19:28, 30 NKJV



KENNETH W. HAGIN

“IT IS FINISHED!” Jesus spoke these words during one of the darkest hours in the history of the human race. An angry mob had just crucified the Son of God.

Jesus’ final words marked the beginning of a new era. The dividing wall that separated man from God had been broken down (Eph. 2:16–18). Salvation and healing were now available to people from every

nation, kindred, and tongue.

Words can’t adequately describe what our Savior went through before He uttered His last words. Although Jesus suffered during His life and ministry (Heb. 5:8), what He experienced on the cross was inhuman.

Go with me for just a moment back through time to the ancient city of Jerusalem. Jesus had just celebrated Passover with His 12 closest disciples. After their meal, Jesus walked to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. All the disciples went with Him—everyone, that is, except Judas.

While Jesus prayed, His disciples slept. Three times He woke them from their slumber. Knowing the hour of His crucifixion

was drawing near, Jesus prayed more earnestly. As He prayed, His sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood (Luke 22:44).

Finally, Jesus’ betrayer found Him at the foot of the Mount of Olives and planted the kiss of death on His cheek.

Armed with swords and clubs and sent from the chief priests and elders, the angry mob that followed Judas arrested Jesus (Matt. 26:47–50). They led him down a narrow, winding road and through the Eastern Gate into Jerusalem. During Jesus’ time, this gate was the main entrance into the Temple.

Jesus was first taken to the Sanhedrin, the supreme court of the Jewish nation. False accusations were brought against Him. He was spit upon, blindfolded, and struck with fists. People shouted, “Prophecy to us! Who hit you?” (Matt. 26:67–68; Mark 14:65).

From there, He was taken to the courts of Pilate’s judgment hall. He stood innocent before His accusers. But the crowd pronounced Him guilty. “*Crucify Him! Crucify Him,*” they shouted (Luke 23:21).

Pilate argued His innocence but could not sway the unruly throng (Luke 23:13–25).

Jesus was handed over to the soldiers to be flogged. He was stripped of His garments and tied to a whipping post.

A burly Roman soldier with huge biceps and a big, muscular chest reached up on the wall and grabbed a cat-o’-nine-tails that had bone fragments and glass shards twisted into the end of each cord. The soldier systematically laid 39 stripes on the back of our Lord. The whip tore into His flesh and horribly mutilated His body.

JESUS, THE LAMB OF GOD, HAD
shed His blood once and for all
SO HUMANITY COULD BE SAVED,
HEALED, AND DELIVERED.



#RhemaWOF

The soldiers untied our Redeemer and dressed Him in a purple robe. They twisted together a crown of thorns—thorns that were two inches long and hard to break—and slammed it on His head.

Blood streamed down Jesus' face and mixed with the spittle. Our Lord uttered not a word while the soldiers mocked Him. Bowing before Him, they sneered, "*Hail, King of the Jews!*" (Mark 15:18).

His body bloodied, broken, and bruised, Jesus was brought once again before the crowd. "*Behold the man!*" Pilate said to the mob (John 19:5). "*Crucify him, crucify him!*" they cried out (v. 6).

Jesus was led out of Jerusalem to Golgotha—which in Hebrew means the skull. He laid down His life and was stretched out on that cross.

With bludgeoning hammer blows, the soldiers drove nails through His hands and feet. The same hands that had ministered healing to people. The same feet that had carried Jesus as He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil (Acts 10:38).

The soldiers hoisted the cross and dropped it in a hole in the ground. And there Jesus hung—beaten and bloodied. Our Savior was so disfigured you couldn't tell He was a man (Isa. 52:14).

The sky grew black. As the Son of God hung on the cross—bleeding, dying . . . His body wracked with pain—the soldiers beneath Him gambled for His clothes.

Others continued to mock Him: "*He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God*" (Luke 23:35).

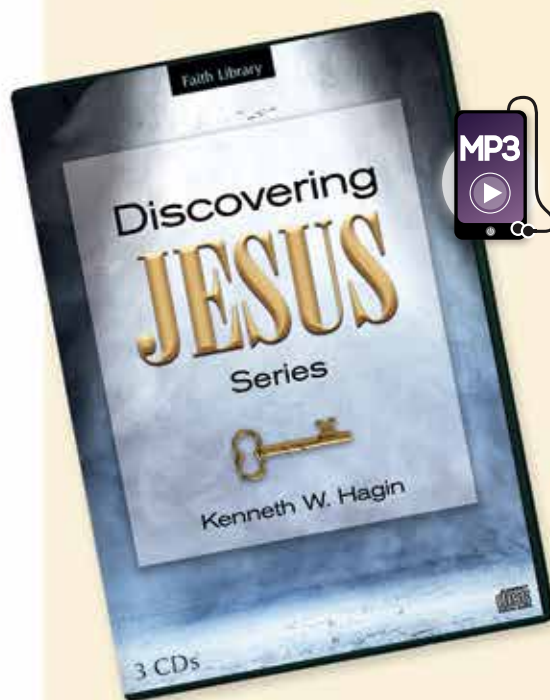
When all things had been accomplished, He committed His spirit into His Father's hands and uttered His final words—"*It is finished.*"

The earth shook like a leaf in the wind. And the omnipotent hand of God reached down from His throne on high into the Temple, into the Holy of Holies, and ripped in half from top to bottom the curtain that hung there (Matt. 27:51; Luke 23:44–45).

No longer was there a need for a mercy seat! No longer was there a need for the High Priest to offer the sacrificial lamb and enter the Holy of Holies to make atonement for the people.

Jesus, the Lamb of God, had shed His blood once and for all so humanity could be saved, healed, and delivered!

Thank God, *it is finished!* ♥



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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)

IT'S TIME FOR SOME SPRING CLEANING

I'M SURE THAT you may have a favorite season of the year. My favorite season is spring. I love the daylight, sunshine, and flowers. It's so neat to see the leaves of the trees returning, the grass becoming green, and the flowers blooming. It's like everything is coming to life again.

Spring is also a good time to do spring cleaning. It is a time to wash windows, clean out your closet, and dispose of items you have not used in several years. I admit that I save everything. It's hard for me to let go of items as I am very sentimental, or I ponder whether I will need to use an item in the future.

You may have done spring cleaning in your home, but what about a spring cleaning in your spiritual life? How long has it been since you have taken a spiritual inventory? The Apostle Paul apparently thought we needed a spiritual cleansing when he wrote, *"Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God"* (2 Cor. 7:1 NLT).

All physical systems over time accumulate debris. They get cluttered, clogged, and congested, and that hinders the operation of the system. In our home, we have to service and replace the filters in our air conditioning units. Filters in our refrigerators must be replaced, or they will become clogged and cause the refrigerator to quit working. When a boat's hull stays underwater, it can collect all kinds of algae, marine life, and barnacles over time, causing the boat not to perform properly. Although it may not be a pleasant job, the system must be cleaned, or the whole system will become broken.

Just as natural things get cluttered, clogged, and break down, your spiritual life can do the same. When that happens, it can affect you and your relationship with others as well as with God. What kind of baggage are you carrying that you need to get rid of?

Life does not always work the way we had planned. We experience disappointments and failures. We have what I call ugly life experiences. Our friends or family can hurt or disappoint us. All of a sudden, we begin to accumulate baggage in our life.

Baggage will keep you from experiencing the fullness of life that God has planned. John 10:10 (NLT) says, *"The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life."* Baggage keeps us from walking in the perfect plan of God.

Oftentimes, we do not even realize the baggage we are carrying. We have become so used to it that we have become friends with it. I carry a lot of bags. I have bags for everything and keep stuffing them (including my purse) with so much junk that they become very heavy. Yet because I carry those bags every day, I have become accustomed to them. I don't even realize how heavy they are until someone asks to carry them for me. They comment, "How on earth are you carrying these bags?"

David wrote in Psalm 139:23–24 (NLT), *"Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life."* Being honest about ourselves and our thoughts is not always easy. Asking God to shine a light on all the garbage in our life, is a little intimidating and frightening.

What baggage needs to go in your life? Are you having trouble forgiving someone? The reason we struggle so much with forgiveness is that it runs contrary to our human nature. When someone offends us, there's a natural tendency to resent it and retaliate.

Jesus gave us the formula for forgiveness in Matthew 5:44 (NKJV), *"But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you."*

Let's look at other baggage that needs to be cleared out. Bad habits need to be removed. Profane speech needs to be cleaned up. TV shows might need to be turned off, and books need to be trashed. Fear is a giant piece of baggage. Isaiah 26:3 (NKJV), *"You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You."*

Remember, you are not alone. God will help you clean out the baggage in your life. He will give you the solution to every issue that needs to be resolved and restore your love, joy, and peace. ♥



Lynette



Kids' Page

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

GUESSTIMATION JAR



Briefly look at the jar of gumballs and then give your best estimate of how many gumballs there are. Challenge a couple of friends and see who gets closest to the actual number.

YOUR ESTIMATE _____

It's Your "TURN" to Play!

As we **TURN** a new year, it may be time to **TURN** over a new leaf! Study the four boxes below and see if you can figure out what phrases or sayings are pictured. It's your **TURN** to play!

turned out

turn it
2
God

turn
↑
it

TURN THINGS
THIS
YEAR
TURN THINGS

An Interview With God



One of the best ways of getting to know someone better is to sit down and ask them questions in an interview. Here are some interesting questions we've asked God and the answers He gave us (from the Bible, that is).

Q: What makes You laugh?

A: When "the wicked plots against the righteous, . . . The Lord laughs at him, for He sees his day is coming" (Ps. 37:12-13 NASB).

Q: Where is Your favorite place to be?

A: "The Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the other dwelling places of Jacob" (Ps. 87:2 NASB).

Q: Is there anything that You just hate?

A: "There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to Him: Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that run rapidly to evil, a false witness who declares lies, and one who spreads strife among brothers" (Prov. 6:16-19 NASB).

Q: What makes You happy?

A: "I will also rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in My people" (Isa. 65:19 NASB).

The Straight 'N' "Arrow"

See if you can find all 44 arrows in the picture box below. But don't be surprised if they are pretty hard to find. It's Extra, Extra, Extra Hard!

Extra! Extra! Extra!



jokes & riddles



"A merry heart does good, like medicine."

—Proverbs 17:22 (NKJV)

Suzie: I heard that the lumberjack and his girlfriend aren't dating anymore.

Jeff: Yeah, they "split" up!

Why did the tennis player get kicked out of his apartment?

Because he was making too much "racquet"!

Johnny: There was one bird Noah didn't want to carry on the ark.

Sherry: Really! Which one?

Johnny: The woodpecker!

Sunday School Teacher: Jesus walked on the water to His disciples. Boys and girls, do you know why He did that?

Sam: Maybe He didn't know how to swim!

If snails played baseball, what would the best batter be called?

A "Slug"ger

Answers:
114
It's Your Turn to Play!
1. Turned Inside Out
2. Turn It Over to God
3. Turn It Up
4. Turn Things Around This Year
The Straight 'N' "Arrow"
There are 24 colored arrows pointing up, 14 blue reversed arrows pointing down, three yellow arrows in the exclamation points, and three blue arrows in the words Extra! Extra! Extra!



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KENNETH E. HAGIN
EVANGELISTIC ASSOC.



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Kenneth E. Hagin

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