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DECEMBER 2022

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

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# the Word of Faith



**KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES**  
*Working Together to Reach the World!*

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# The Wonder of a Savior

The winter season often begins with a chill in the air, crackling flames in the fireplace, and time spent with family and friends. Although many dread it, winter is a season to be anticipated and enjoyed, just like any other. The psalmist wrote of God, *“It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter”* (Ps. 74:17 NIV).

Like winter, the wonder of Christmas is something that we should look forward to.

Have you ever stopped to think what life would be like without Christmas? This month we will celebrate something of great importance for Christians. But over time it has become so commercialized and secularized that many miss its value and meaning. Without Christmas, would there be a holiday when we would gather with our families? Would there be gifts under a tree? Would there even be a tree or any of the other things we look forward to each year?

As I thought about this, I remembered a passage of scripture. The biblical Christmas story recounts the angel declaring, *“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord”* (Luke 2:11). Shepherds in the fields, wise men from the east, and angels from on high all proclaimed the wonder of Christmas in the birth of Jesus Christ.

As our Savior, Jesus didn’t offer wrapped gifts of toys and clothes; He offered eternal life! That includes deliverance, healing, and wholeness for every area of our lives! Now that is a gift worth opening!

I encourage you to stop and think about Christmas all this month. As you do, allow the real meaning of the season to be your focus. After all, if we lose the wonder of Christ, we will miss what this holiday is all about. On Christmas Day, think about Him as you open each gift. Weigh the value of the package you just received in light of our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Have a wonderful Christmas!



*Kenneth W. Hagin*

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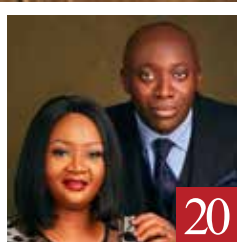


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**SPECIAL REPORT**  
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Toks Adejuwon’s life was forever changed when he heard the message of faith as a child. Read how he and his wife, Akunna, are spreading that message in their home country.

# DISCOVER WHAT'S

# Yours



**GOD'S RICHES ARE** available to every Christian. But if we don't know what He's promised us, we can't take possession of it.

Ephesians 1:3 says that God has *"blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ."* Notice the word *all*. God has blessed us with *every* spiritual blessing there is. All means all. He has left nothing out.

If we ever realize all the benefits we have in Christ, we'll move up to a higher level. But first, we have to know what's in God's Word. We do that by renewing our minds with that Word (Rom. 12:2).

When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, our spirit being is made new. Our mind, however, is not automatically changed. We must renew it by reading and meditating on God's Word.

As children, we learned the multiplication tables by going over them again and again. Eventually, they became a part of us. Today, I never think about what 9 times 9 is. The answer automatically comes to me: 81!

The same thing happens when we renew our mind with God's Word. Scripture should be ingrained in us. When the enemy squeezes us, we should automatically quote scripture. Bible verses concerning our situation should come out of us.

## Do You Know?

Lack of knowledge of what belongs to us is the main reason we Christians don't enjoy every benefit Jesus purchased for us on the cross.



**KENNETH W. HAGIN**

The great English preacher Charles Spurgeon told of a woman who had been a maid for a wealthy man. Upon his death, he left her a vast estate. But she lived in poverty for years. She didn't know what her former employer had provided for her.

As Christians, many of us are the same way. We live in lack and bondage because we don't know

God's Word.

All of God's promises are ours through Jesus' redemptive work on the cross. That is a written and sealed fact. It has already been decided.

Have your kids ever asked you something and you said, "Let me think about it. I'll decide later"? Well, when we ask God to keep one of His promises, He never says, "I'll have to talk to Jesus and the Holy Spirit to see if that can happen." No. *All* God's promises are ours. Second Corinthians 1:20 (NIV) says, *"For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ."* "Yes" means we can have them because we are in Christ. And God is glorified when we receive them.

## Our Benefits

Understanding who we are in Christ, what we have in Him, and what we can do because of Him will change the way we live.

If I am in Christ, I don't have to ask, "God, will You please heal me?" The Bible says I am already healed (1 Peter 2:24). I don't have to ask God, "Will You please meet my needs?" He has already promised to supply what I need (Phil. 4:19). I only have to thank Him for doing it.

The promises of God are *now*, not "wait and see." "*Now faith is*" (Heb. 11:1). We can have what we need *now*. We don't have to wait until we get to Heaven. And faith in God's Word is what brings the promises in that Word into reality.

Have you ever received a letter saying you're prequalified for a credit card? All you had to do was call a number to activate the card. Well, Jesus' blood prequalifies us to receive every promise in the Bible. A "yes" is stamped on every need we have.

## Faith Takes Possession

To take possession of what belongs to us, we only have to call on the Lord in faith. And we do that with our mouth.

### ROMANS 10:8–10 (NKJV)

**8** But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach):

**9** That 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.

**10** For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

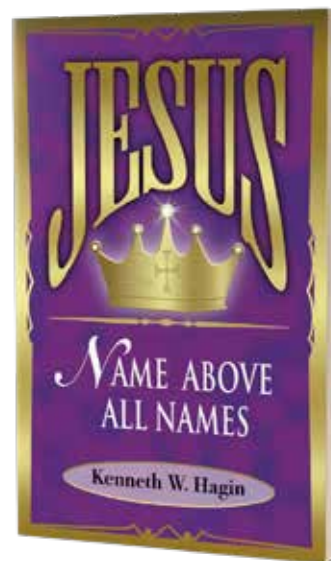
### FAITH IN ACTION

## This Is Who You Are

Begin making a habit of confessing who you are and what you have in Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:5	I am enriched in everything.
Ephesians 1:4	I am chosen by God.
Colossians 1:14	I have forgiveness through the blood of Jesus Christ.
Ephesians 1:6	I am accepted by God.
Romans 3:24	I have been justified by God's grace.
Ephesians 1:3	I have all spiritual blessings from God.
1 Peter 2:24	I am healed by the stripes of Jesus.
1 Corinthians 6:17	I am joined unto the Lord.
Colossians 1:13	I am delivered from Satan's kingdom.
Mark 11:23	I have mountain-moving faith.
Ephesians 1:11	I have an inheritance through Christ.
1 Peter 1:5	I am kept by the power of God.
John 3:16	I am unconditionally loved by God.
2 Corinthians 5:17	I am a new person in Christ.
1 John 5:4	I am an overcomer by faith.
Psalms 91:1	I am protected by the Lord.
Colossians 1:12	I am qualified to be an heir of God.
Hebrews 7:25	I am saved to the uttermost.
2 Corinthians 2:14	I am triumphant in Christ.
Romans 6:5	I am united with Christ.
1 Corinthians 15:57	I am victorious in Christ.
Revelation 1:5	I am washed by the blood of the Lamb.

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# 2022—REFLECTING ON A GREAT YEAR!

God has done exciting things this year through Kenneth Hagin Ministries. Enjoy these highlights.

## MINISTERING ACROSS THE U.S.

Kenneth and Lynette Hagin love preaching the Gospel. The 2022 *Living Faith Crusades* took the Hagins to 15 U.S. cities. God confirmed His Word with miracles following.

At Trailhead Church in Graham, North Carolina, Thomas, a children's church worker, had dislocated his leg when he was 16 and had a hard time walking. He testified that during the crusade, he entered the sanctuary just as Kenneth was praying over a prayer cloth he had sent in. Instantly, a warmth spread down his leg, and he was healed.

Speaking about the healing later, Thomas said, "When Kenneth said, 'If you know you're healed, stand up,' I stood up before I realized that I didn't grab the chair in front of me or the seat under me!"

In January the Hagins visited Anchor Faith Church in Saint Augustine, Florida, pastored by Earl and Marci Glisson. Ahead of this meeting, the Glissons' young granddaughter, Luna, announced to her classmates and family, "They're having a healing service, and I'm going down to be prayed for, and I'm going to be healed!" She'd been gluten intolerant all her life. Whenever she ate foods containing gluten, she'd throw up and her stomach would hurt.

When the invitation was given for healing prayer, the girl came forward. The next morning she said to her mom, "I'm going to get donuts!" She went to a shop that had exceptionally good donuts. She'd never been able to eat donuts. But she ate them that day, and the next, and suffered no ill effects. She was healed.

## 48TH RBTC USA GRADUATING CLASS

*"We say to the world, get ready. The Chosen Ones are coming in Jesus' Name!"*

—Tad Gregurich, Dean, Rhema Bible Training College USA

On Friday, May 13, Rhema USA graduated its 48th class, nicknamed "The Chosen Ones." As the ceremony neared its end, the auditorium lights were turned off. In their place rose candles, held by 253 graduates from the USA and 23 other nations. They sang in unison, ". . . I've learned the truth, so I'll carry the flame and I'll go—never the same."

Like multitudes before them, they pledged to *"carry the banner of faith and God's power to a lost and dying world."*

## RHEMA WORLDWIDE FAMILY

*"The sun never sets on a Rhema graduate preaching the Word of God."* —Kenneth W. Hagin

Overcoming the many challenges relating to Covid-19 restrictions, the international RBTCs found Spirit-led strategies to fulfill Rhema's God-given mandate to *"Go teach My people faith."* The schools continue to use creative plans and technology to impact the world.

This year over 20,000 students were enrolled at 282 international campuses in 54 countries. Upon graduation, they all have the opportunity to join the Rhema Alumni Association and gain access to a network of thousands of other graduates worldwide.

Many thousands around the globe are hearing the Gospel and the teaching of faith through Rhema alumni. RBTC graduates currently pastor 3,243 churches around the world.

## MINISTRY EVENTS

The international Rhema family "came home" for *Winter Bible Seminar & Rhema Worldwide Homecoming* in February and Kenneth Hagin Ministries' 50th *Campmeeting* in July. Freezing winter temperatures and blazing summer heat couldn't keep them away.

Thousands gathered on the fifth day of *Campmeeting* to celebrate a legacy 50 years in the making. That heritage has been built not on a personality but on a mandate from God to bring the message of faith to a lost, dying, and hurting world.

Two other on-campus events—*Kindle the Flame Women's Conference* and *A Call to Arms Men's Conference*—blessed many who came to hear God's Word.

## SHINING LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

On Thanksgiving Eve, millions of tiny lights began illuminating the Rhema USA campus for the holidays. Each night through New Year's Day, the brilliant display points visitors to the love of Christ, the Light of the World, and the real meaning of Christmas. 🕯️



# Reaching people with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**That's what Kenneth Hagin Ministries is all about.**

Thanks to the prayers and generous support of our Rhema Word Partners, we're able to do that. The Gospel is going forth. **PEOPLE IN EVERY CORNER OF THE EARTH ARE BEING SAVED AND HEALED.** And they're discovering who they are in Christ. Their lives will never be the same!

*Start making a difference. . .*

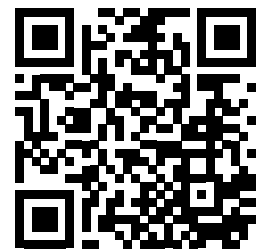


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# Visit the Campus Today!

You've seen our Christmas lights—now come tour our campus!



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# Jesus Is Not a Toy

CRAIG W. HAGIN

MANY TIMES WE get too involved with the hustle and bustle of Christmas. We can measure how good our holiday season is by how well we're doing financially. When times are good we might say, "This is the best Christmas ever!" But we need to remember that the very first Christmas was the best Christmas ever. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

That's what Christmas is all about. God loved the world so He gave. And we are to love others and spread what Christmas is all about to our world. John 3:16 may be a reality to us. But we need to make sure it becomes a reality in other people's lives. Christmas is about giving. We give presents today because God gave the ultimate present—His only begotten Son. **WE NEED TO REMEMBER HOW IMPORTANT GOD'S GIFT TO US IS.** We shouldn't do with Jesus what we've done with other gifts we've received.

When I was between one and two, someone gave me a toy that I named Jimmy Bear. For a time we were inseparable. He went everywhere with me. Then I got older and quit hauling him around. Jimmy just sat on my bed. I didn't play with him much.

I still liked Jimmy Bear, but he wasn't as important to me as he used to be.

After a few years Jimmy went into the closet. I didn't have time for him. Other things had become more important to me than he was.

Eventually I moved out of the house, and Jimmy ended up in a box in my parents' attic. Even though he was still my toy, I stopped spending time with him.

That's what we do with toys. As kids we get new toys at Christmas and for our birthdays. For a while, we think they're the coolest thing in the world. Then we start playing with them only once in a while. Then we get bored with them and put them in the closet. Over time, they get relegated to the attic or maybe even a garage sale, and we never see them again.

Unfortunately, some of us treat Jesus like a toy. When we're first saved, He's important to us. We spend time with Him every day and tell others about Him. As life goes on we may still talk about Him, but often we get busy doing other things. **WE MIGHT NOT INTEND FOR IT TO HAPPEN, BUT WE CAN END UP NOT SPENDING MUCH TIME WITH HIM.**

We might relegate Jesus to our bedroom. We might pray and read our Bible once in a while, but we don't really fellowship with Him. He's no longer an important

part of our life. We may even get to a point where Jesus ends up in the closet and our Bible gets dusty.

Friend, Jesus is not a toy. Revelation 3:20 says, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Jesus Christ is standing at the door of our hearts right now. He's knocking and saying, "Let me in. I want our relation-

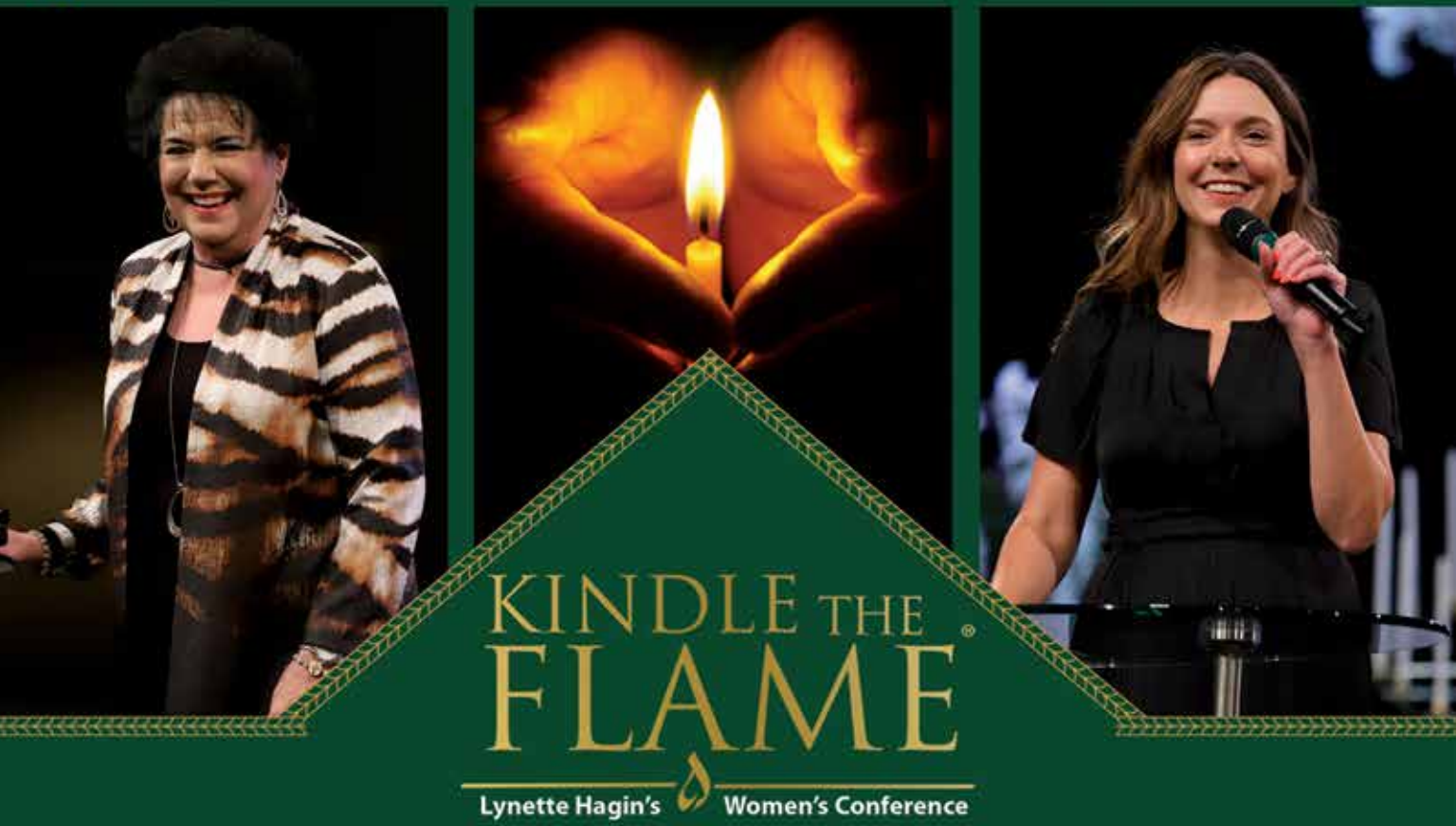
***We give presents today because God gave the ultimate present—His only begotten Son.***

ship to be like it used to be. I want you to know Me like you used to know Me."

Maybe you haven't been spending much time with Jesus. I hope this reminds you to change that—not just on Christmas Day, but every day. Don't let Him become like a toy.

Second Corinthians 6:16 says, "God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people." Before long, our Christmas gifts will be in the closet. They're just things. But Jesus will be with us for eternity, not in our closet but in our heart. He wants to walk with us and be our guide. **WE JUST NEED TO OPEN THE DOOR AND LET HIM IN.♥**





Women from around the world gathered once again for Lynette Hagin’s 22nd *Kindle the Flame Women’s Conference*. It was a weekend of meeting new friends, hearing powerful messages, and refocusing priorities. The main focus of the conference was to bring women together to unite in prayer. The emphasis this year was praying for the last-day revival. During the Candlelight Prayer & Praise Service, the ladies were grouped by their age decade for the prayer time. Each conference speaker represented an age group and led their group in prayer for a specific area that would bring revival. The evening ended with communion and a beautiful candlelight service. **MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND KINDLE THE FLAME 2023, SEPTEMBER 28–30!** In the meantime, enjoy these highlights.

## BEING CONTENT IN THE HERE LYNETTE HAGIN

How much time are you concentrating on the “here”? Or are you always thinking about the “there” or the future? We’re often not content in the here, so we’re not thinking about it. We’re focusing on what will happen next.

We often believe that the next phase will be so much better. There’s a saying, “The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.” Yet, when we get there, it’s not nearly as green as we thought it was.

We need to embrace and enjoy the seasons that we are in. The Apostle Paul learned this secret. “*I have learned how to be content with whatever I have*” (Phil. 4:11 NLT).

Learning to be content is not an instant transformation. It’s a process. It’s something we learn by walking with God. As we let Him minister to us, He will help us be content with where we are.

God is taking us on a journey. And every “here” that we are in prepares us for what He has “there.” If we don’t pass the test and learn what we need to in the here, we won’t be successful in the there. But as we follow the voice of the Holy Spirit, He will lead us and prepare us for the season in front of us.

## THE JOURNEY OF PURPOSE DENISE HAGIN BURNS

As women, we walk through different seasons. In our walk with Jesus, we go through different seasons and purposes. Our purpose is not a destination but a journey. The word *journey* means “the miles you can travel in one day.” Our purpose with God is the miles that we travel daily. We should wake up excited each morning and ask God, “What’s my journey today?”

We don’t have to look for our purpose. It’s already inside us. When transitioning to a new purpose, a new season, we have to be content in the uncomfortable. Our purpose in the next season will require more of us. It requires that we grow. Healthy things grow.

On our journey with God, we need to embrace the new. Things that kept us in our old purpose, things we do daily, our routine, will not work for our new purpose. In our journey, we have to stay steady. We can’t quit just because we can’t see the next purpose.

God is right there beside us. Just reach up and grab His hand, and He will carry you to the next purpose. Remember, it is a journey, not a destination. Every day, get up and say, “God, your mercies are new every morning. How many miles are we going to journey together today?”



**ANNA GRESHAM**

“Philippians 3:12 (NKJV) says, *“Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.”* The Lord gave me three specific things to talk about in pressing on: remain, receive, and restore. We often look at things as a process, but this is one big bite. The Lord is saying, ‘As you remain in Me, as you receive from Me, I will restore you.’ **IT’S TIME TO STOP SNACKING AT THE LORD’S TABLE AND BEGIN TO FEAST.** It’s time to receive every good gift He has for you.”



**KAIRA MCKINNON**

“God is a personal God and a generational God. Everything He is doing in us is not limited to us. Psalm 37:25 says, *‘I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.’* David looked back at the timeline of his life and saw that every seed he sowed in faith, every place of hardship, every place he had to believe against all impossibility is going through him into his future seed. **IF THERE IS MULTIPLICATION, THEN THERE MUST BE COOPERATION.** God reminds us that both the young and old are a part of His movements on the earth.”



**JULIA POST**

“Living in England, I was introduced to a traffic phenomenon called a roundabout that is in almost every intersection. Often, you find yourself circling one because you didn’t get in the correct lane. If you have been stuck on one of life’s roundabouts, **YOU KNOW THE FEELING OF TAKING STEPS AND NOT GOING ANYWHERE.** You’re moving, but you’re going in circles around the same issue. This is what the Lord is saying about this junction. *‘Stop at the crossroads and look around. Ask for the old, godly way, and walk in it. Travel its path, and you will find rest for your souls’* (Jer. 6:16 NLT).”



**BRENDA THOMAS**

“*‘Are you weary, carrying a heavy burden? Come to me. I will refresh your life, for I am your oasis.’* (Matt. 11:28 TPT). **JESUS HAS A GREAT EXCHANGE PROGRAM FOR YOU.** He is saying, ‘If you’re weak, come to me, and I’ll give you strength. If you’re full of sorrow, I’ll give you joy. If you’re tormented, I’ll give you peace. If you’re bound in any area, I am your freedom. I am your oasis.’ Anytime you are in a dry season, He is the One who will bring refreshing to your life.”





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# Faith for Assignments

VIDAR LIGARD

**“FAITH IS THE assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen”** (Heb. 11:1 ESV). Faith is a conviction based on what we don’t see. That conviction is so strong, it causes us to speak and act in line with something in our hearts. It enables us to walk out what God told us to do.

We are saved by faith. And we appropriate God’s promises by faith.

Another level of faith exists that we don’t often talk about. **ICALLITFAITHFORASSIGNMENTS**. Life is not about getting a new leather sofa, a larger home, or a new car. It is more than obtaining God’s promises for ourselves.

## The Hall of Faith

Hebrews chapter 11 is filled with accounts of men and women who used their faith to do what God asked of them. It contains the stories of Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, and many others.

God invites us as Christians today to run our race in the same way these people of old did. The list is not complete, and we should be working on adding our names to that chapter.

## Examples to Follow

In the Old Testament, Moses represents the Law and Elijah the prophets. James 5:17 (ESV) says, *“Elijah was a man with a nature like ours.”* To Jewish believers, Elijah was the greatest prophet. Yet James said he was just like you and me.

Elijah’s example is not one we can’t attain to. He is somebody to follow. However, he lived under the Old Covenant, and we live under a better covenant. As Christians today, we should do greater exploits than Elijah and the others listed in Hebrews chapter 11.

What did these men and women have in common? One thing I see is that their assignments were bigger than they were. **THEY ALL WALKED CONTRARY TO THE MAINSTREAM OF THOUGHT AROUND THEM.**

## Assignments

Let’s go on to something that is beyond believing God for our own needs and wants. Thank God for those things. But there’s more.

The assignments of the Old Testament saints required that they walk close to God. They had to hear His voice in the face of challenging situations.

Can you imagine Noah? The voices against him must have been loud. At times he must have questioned what he was doing. But his conviction was strong enough to land him in Hebrews 11.

What do you do when surrounded by adversity? Do you listen to the loud voices? What about your well-meaning friends who give advice contrary to what God put on your heart to do?

We must get to where the assignment burns in us and what others say doesn’t matter. Only what God has said matters.

**THE PEOPLE IN HEBREWS 11 RISKED THEIR LIVES TO LIVE BY THEIR CONVICTIONS.** Live, die, sink, or swim, they trusted God. They did not hold on to their lives but followed God no matter what.

## Always Move Forward

We never plateau in our faith. There is always another assignment.

Shrinking back and not living by faith is never OK. One successful season doesn’t mean we can relax. Faith never relaxes.

It’s not OK not to influence society or pursue the dream God has given you. **FAITH IS THE ONLY WAY TO PLEASE GOD, AND HE EXPECTS YOU TO WALK BY IT.** What is His next level for you? What is His next stage for your church or business? What is your assignment from Him?

*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us”* (Heb. 12:1 ESV).♥

[Editor’s Note: Vidar and his wife, Cathrine, are the directors of Rhema Bible Training College Kenya, which has nine campuses throughout that country. To learn more about the Ligards, go to [safariimpression.org](http://safariimpression.org).]



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# WE CAN WALK WITH GOD



**GENESIS CHAPTER 5** gives us a genealogy of the patriarchs of old. Beginning with Adam, we read how long they lived and how old they were when they died.

An important difference is recorded in the account of Enoch. He didn't die! Scripture says, "*Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him*" (Gen. 5:24).

Genesis 6:5 describes the conditions Enoch lived in: "*And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*"

Enoch must have shone like a star in the midst of darkness. He must have been like an oasis of righteousness in a desert of wickedness.

What made Enoch stand out? It was that he "walked with God." What does that phrase mean? First, Enoch walked in *divine direction*.

We often talk about getting direction from God. But the first step to receiving guidance is choosing to walk *with* Him. We must choose to follow *God's* plans and purposes instead of our own.

As you walk with God, you can have continual fellowship with Him. You can talk to Him as a loving Father, and He will show you what you need to do.

Walking in divine direction means keeping in step with God. Enoch didn't lag behind, and he didn't run ahead.

In my younger days when I received a revelation concerning God's plans for my future, I sometimes ran off with it. Although it was something God wanted me to do, I ran out ahead of Him.

I had to learn I didn't have to immediately stop what I was doing and pursue that direction. Keeping in step with God's *timing* is as important as walking in His *will*.

Once during a vision Jesus said to me, "I would rather you be too slow than too fast when acting on what I show you. If you're too fast, you'll get ahead of me and lose direction. At least if you walk behind me, I'm still leading you."

We should endeavor to stay in step with God, obeying His will and moving in His timing.

## Walking in Agreement

Second, Enoch walked in *agreement* with God. Amos 3:3 says, "*Can two walk together, except they be agreed?*" The answer is no. To walk with God, Enoch must have agreed with Him.

God won't agree with our plans and opinions that don't line up with His Word.

A certain Full Gospel pastor I knew learned that lesson. He was concerned that his church wasn't growing as it should. So he spent time waiting before God in prayer and fasting.

After several days, the Lord showed him the problem. He would make his plans and then ask God to bless them. But God wanted the pastor to find and follow *His* plan.

As this pastor began walking in agreement with God's plan for the church, attendance grew.

## Walk in Faith

Third, Enoch walked with God in *faith*. Hebrews 11:5 says, "By faith Enoch was translated . . . for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God."

One of Enoch's outstanding characteristics was, God could trust him. Enoch pleased God with His faith.

Hebrews 11:5 begins with "by faith" and ends with "he pleased God." Together, those phrases tell Enoch's story: "By faith, Enoch pleased God."

Notice that verse 6 says, "Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

Faith pleases God. If we want to walk with Him, we must walk by faith.

## Enoch's Rapture

Enoch walked with God day by day until one day, he walked right into Heaven. The Bible teaches that in the last days, something similar will happen. Scripture points to the catching away of the Church. Believers will be caught away to Heaven in what is commonly called the Rapture (1 Cor. 15:51-54).

Many believe that Enoch is a type of the Rapture of the Church. I'm also of that opinion. In Genesis chapter 5 we read that Enoch was taken away to Heaven. Genesis chapter 6 records the account of God's judgment on the world's wickedness.

God destroyed the earth by water (Genesis chapter 7). But before He did, Enoch was taken out.

Another judgment day is coming. This time the earth will be destroyed by fire. But just as Enoch was taken out before the Flood, the Church will be raptured before the Day of Judgment.

Although the word *rapture* isn't in the Bible, the event is written about.

### 1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-17

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be **caught up** together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

One dictionary definition of *rapture* is "the carrying or transporting of a person to another place or sphere of existence." That is what these verses refer to. A day is coming when the Church will be supernaturally transported to another sphere of existence—Heaven.

We are in the Last Days, and a "catching away" of the Church is coming. As never before, *we need to walk with God*.

## Walking With God Today

Enoch lived under a different covenant than we do. The New Testament teaches us how we should follow God today.

First, just as Enoch did, we are to *walk by faith*. Second Corinthians 5:7 says we are to walk by faith and not by sight.

Second, our walk with God is a *walk in the spirit*. Romans 8:1 tells us to "walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Rather

than allowing our flesh to dominate us, we should let our spirit man dominate.

Third, we are to *walk in the light of God's Word* (Ps. 119:105). We are to feed upon the Word of God daily and walk in the light of its truth.

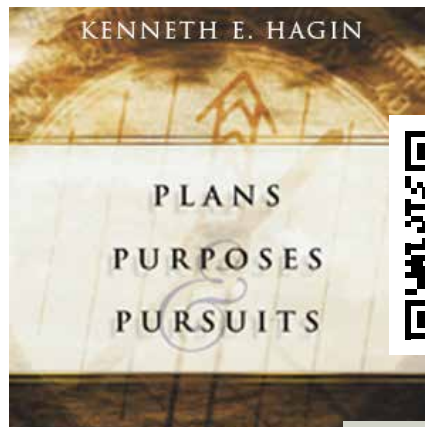
Fourth, we are to *walk in fellowship with God and one another*. The blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin so we can walk in fellowship with God and fellow Christians (1 John 1:3, 7).

When we get to the end of our lives, people should be able to say that we walked with God. The time is short, and the day is fast approaching when Jesus will return to the earth. Today, more than ever, we need to learn how to walk with God. 📖

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin's book *Classic Sermons*.]

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# If you knew what I've done...

**ONE DAY IN** a small town somewhere in America, two men were having an intense conversation. Both were dressed in biker garb—the only thing they had in common. They'd developed an unusual friendship, and now they met every Tuesday for lunch at one of the local diners.

"I'm bad news," the bigger of the two men said. He stood at a burly six-five, and nobody messed with him. The patch over his left eye and the long scar across his face added to his sinister appearance.

"Look, preacher," he continued, "I respect you. You're nice to me and my boys. But I'm just too bad for God."

"God loves you," insisted the preacher, "and He wants you to be His son."

"God loves *you*," the huge man responded, "but He doesn't want people like me. If you knew the things I've done . . ." His voice trailed off as he stared out the window at where their bikes were parked.

"What's the worst thing you've ever done?" asked the preacher. "Tell me. Have you ever killed a man and taken his wife?"

"No!" growled the giant, turning so fast it looked as though his neck would snap. "Why would you even suggest that?"

"The Bible talks about a guy named David. And that's what he did," said the preacher. "David had an innocent man killed so he could marry his wife. Yet God later called David a man after His own heart."

The preacher's friend stood to his full height, his eyes filled with fire. "Why would God forgive a murderer?" he barked. "A man like that deserves to die!"

"Yes," said the preacher, "but Jesus died in his place. Jesus' death on the cross paid for *all* sin. When He sacrificed His blood, He didn't

leave any sin out." The big man stopped and looked at the preacher.

"When you accept Jesus into your heart and make Him Lord of your life, you become a new creation in Christ," continued the big man's friend. "That's what a man named Paul wrote in his second letter to the Christians in Corinth (2 Cor. 5:17). And Paul himself was a murderer. Before he accepted Jesus as his Savior and Lord, he had Christians killed and thrown in jail.

"Many years before, the Jewish prophet Isaiah talked about this kind of changed life. He said, '*Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow*' (Isaiah 1:18 NIV).

**WHEN YOU ACCEPT WHAT JESUS DID FOR YOU ON THE CROSS, GOD WIPES YOUR SLATE CLEAN.** He doesn't remember anything bad you ever did. He gives you a new start in life."

The next day that giant of a man came to the preacher's church and gave his life to Christ.

Are you like that man? Do you feel that God could never forgive you for what you've done? If you do, you don't know the power in Jesus' blood. You can receive God's forgiveness through Christ.

If you're ready to start your life over, repeat this prayer from your heart:

God, I come to You in Jesus' Name. The Bible says, "*If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved*" (Romans 10:9 NIV). 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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*There is something powerful about believers coming together in agreement and being persistent in prayer.*

# WHY CHRISTIANS MUST PRAY TOGETHER



DENISE HAGIN BURNS

**ONE OF MY** favorite things to do is get people filled with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in other tongues. Why? Because there is so much power in praying in the Spirit.

Praying with our understanding is good and necessary. But praying in the Spirit brings us to another level. And I believe tremendous power is made available when Christians unite in corporate prayer.

corporate prayer.

Back in the '80s we held Prayer Seminars on the Rhema USA campus. During these meetings my grandfather, Kenneth E. Hagin, would have the entire congregation pray corporately for the Soviet Union—for the Iron Curtain to come down. We prayed day after day and year after year. Once I thought, “Oh God, do we have to pray for the Soviet Union again?” I was ready to move on and pray for something else. But we persisted in prayer, and in the early '90s that Iron Curtain finally came down.

There is something powerful about believers coming together in agreement and being persistent in prayer. Many times we want to pray once and expect God to “part the waters.” Some situations, however, require more than a “once and done” type of prayer. Sometimes things have to be fought in the spiritual realm for results to be seen on the earth.

It is clear in the Book of Acts that the Early Church knew a thing or two about corporate prayer.

## **ACTS 1:13–15 (NLT)**

**13** When they [the apostles] arrived, they went to the upstairs room of the house where they were staying.

**14** They all met together and were **constantly united in prayer**, . . .

**15** During this time, when **about 120 believers were together in one place**, Peter stood up and addressed them.

Then again on the Day of Pentecost, all the believers were gathered in one place.

## **ACTS 2:1–4 (NLT)**

**1** On the day of Pentecost **all the believers were meeting together** in one place.

**2** Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting.

**3** Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them.

**4** And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

And Acts 4:31 (NKJV) says, “When they had prayed, the place where they were **assembled together** was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit.”

## The Benefits of Praying Together

We see from these verses that one result of corporate prayer is, the Holy Spirit shows up! Praying in the Spirit in one accord allows Him to come in, explode in our midst, and do what He wants in us and in the world.

Another result of praying corporately is boldness. Acts 4:31 goes on to say “and they spoke the word of God with boldness.” Corporate prayer infuses believers with boldness to go into our world and speak about the things of God. We receive power from being together and knowing we are not alone.

## Holy Spirit Strategy

In these last days the Church needs boldness and power like never before! To navigate the crazy times we’re living in, believers must boldly speak and demonstrate God’s Word. They will also need something the Lord spoke to my heart earlier this year: praying out Holy Spirit strategy.

We can sum up Holy Spirit strategy in John 16:13 (NLT): “When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future.”

Being led by the Spirit and listening to His voice is vital to navigating the End Times. It’s important for us to always be in tune with the Holy Spirit, because He is always in perfect unity with the Father. He prays the perfect will of God. When we are in tune with the Holy Spirit, He will show us things to come. As we pray, He will give us Spirit-led strategies for our personal lives and as a corporate body.

The Spirit of God knows everything. He wants to share that knowledge with His people so we can be prepared for what’s to come—both spiritually and naturally. He knows when there will be a recession and when there won’t. He knows when the stock market will crash and when it will boom. A businessperson who

CORPORATE PRAYER INFUSES BELIEVERS WITH BOLDNESS TO GO INTO OUR WORLD AND SPEAK ABOUT THE THINGS OF GOD.

has the Holy Spirit living inside can always be successful if they rely on Him instead of on natural methods and strategies.

In the story of Joseph, the Holy Spirit warned Pharaoh in a dream that a severe famine was coming. So he had Joseph store up grain for the seven years before the famine. (See Genesis chapter 41.) When the drought came, Joseph’s Spirit-led strategy provided enough food to bring the nation through it.

If you’re a minister or a pastor, begin to pray out Holy Spirit strategies for your ministry or church. Then watch God place you strategically to carry out His End-Times assignment for you.

## Make Prayer a Priority

Now, I get it. Everyone is busy. Distractions can be endless if we allow them to be. And it’s no accident that for the last two years Satan has fought hard to keep local churches from meeting

together. He knows there is power when believers gather in one place and in unity. That’s why no matter how busy we are, we—the Church—must make meeting and praying together regularly a priority.

Ephesians 4:3–4 (NLT) says, “**Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future.**”

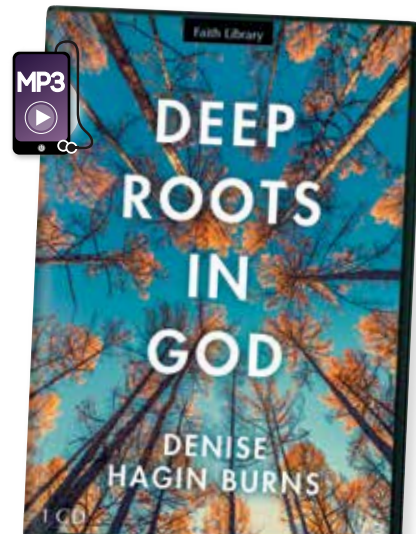
Keeping ourselves united may not always be easy, but we must make the effort. Life as we know it will one day come to an end. Jesus is coming back, and everything in His Word will be fulfilled.

We have a part to play, but it’s bigger than you and me. It’s a whole-world thing, a Jesus thing! If we’re going to see miracles and revival across the world, it will take everyone—every generation—coming together in unity and harmony. It’s time for believers everywhere to join together and go deeper in prayer than we ever have. As we do, the Holy Spirit will show up, and we can let Him have His way in and through us.♥

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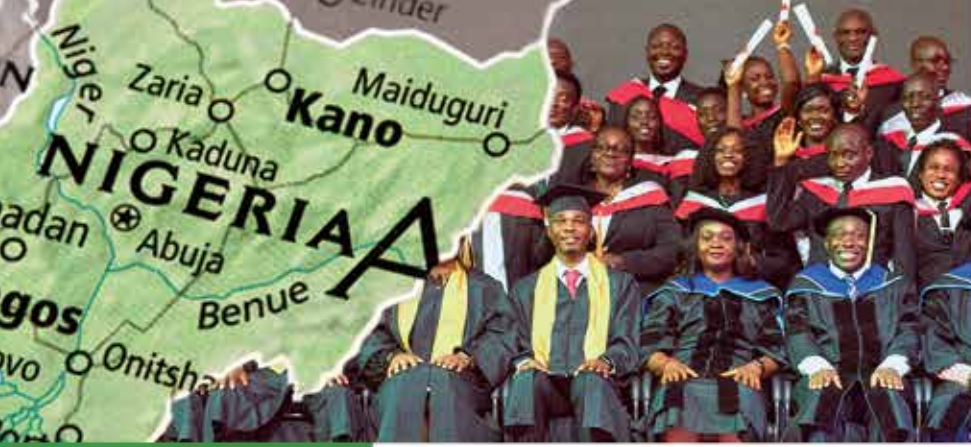
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TOKS AND AKUNNA ADEJUWON ▶



# CONTAGIOUS FAITH

**“YOU ARE CALLED TO PREACH.** You will never know joy, fulfillment, or happiness in life, except you preach the Gospel.” Those are the words Tokunbo (Toks) Adejuwon heard in his heart one day in his first year of middle school.

He responded, “Lord, if that’s what You want me to do, then I’m going for it.”

Toks first sensed the call to preach around the age of 5. He wasn’t sure why he felt that way. He didn’t come from a family of preachers, nor did he know any. Growing up in an academic environment, he dreamed of being a neurosurgeon. Yet, the little boy from Ibadan, Nigeria, would go to his bedroom and preach to an imaginary audience.

Saved at age 10, Toks immediately became consumed with studying God’s Word. He came across a copy of the book *What Faith Is* by Kenneth E. Hagin, where he read Brother Hagin’s healing testimony.

“As soon as I saw it [the book], something inside of me said, ‘That’s truth. Go after that,’” says Toks.

Toks spent his childhood in and out of the hospital. He was told he’d be on medication for the rest of his life. As he read Brother Hagin’s healing testimony, he believed God could heal him too. He figured if he acted on God’s Word as Brother Hagin had done, he would see the same results. And he did. Over time, as Toks faithfully applied the Word, he was healed.

Toks knew in his spirit to follow Kenneth Hagin Ministries, and he began reading every book they published. He read the books repeatedly.

While reading Kenneth E. Hagin’s book *Understanding the Anointing*, he came across this sentence: “From this place—Rhema Bible Training Center—we’re going to send out ‘Spiritmen’ and ‘Spiritwomen.’” Instantly, in his spirit, he heard, “There’s going to be a Rhema in Nigeria, and you are going to be a part of that.”

After Toks was denied a visa four times to attend Rhema USA, God led him to Rhema India, where he graduated in 2004.

## RHEMA NIGERIA

Matt Beemer (RBTC ’92) established Rhema Nigeria in the capital city of Abuja in 2010. A mutual acquaintance introduced Toks to Matt, and shortly after that meeting, Toks became the school’s first employee. He did anything and everything he could to help Rhema Nigeria succeed.



In 2018 Toks and his wife, Dr. Akunna, became the national directors for Rhema Nigeria. They also teach many of the school’s classes.

Akunna says when they married, her husband “infected” her with the faith message. “You can’t get close to Toks and not breathe Kenneth E. Hagin,” she says.

As national directors, they oversee more than 4,500 students on 10 campuses in nine cities, with plans for additional campuses. Among the students are pastors, doctors, lawyers, politicians, and prominent businesspeople.

“Rhema is popular in Nigeria because of the books and *The Word of Faith* magazine that were brought here in the late ’70s and early ’80s,” says Toks. “The Kenneth Hagin name here is what the Billy Graham name is in the United States.”



There's no doubt that the same spirit of faith caught by Toks as a young boy is spreading to Rhema Nigeria's student body. Testimonies of miracles are a regular occurrence.

Many students have testified to not being sick since attending the class Christ the Healer. They have also seen their businesses turn around and increase. Students and graduates are using their authority in Christ to raise people from the dead. In a nation where a hunger for the supernatural exists—both godly and ungodly—people are getting hold of truth.

Toks and Akunna are intentional about getting that truth to unreached people groups in the country through the school's REACH initiative (Radical Evangelistic Advancement for Church planters and Harvesters).

Through REACH, trained missionaries are being sent to take the Gospel and plant churches in mostly non-Christian northern Nigeria. Several Kenneth Hagin books have been translated into Hausa—the region's primary dialect. Others are in the works. "The message of faith is coming more to the fore in the nation," shares Toks.

## 'EYES OF FAITH'

Spreading God's truth to unreached people doesn't stop there. Akunna, an optometrist, runs a private practice and has two eye clinics in Abuja. "My practice took off when I graduated from Rhema Nigeria in 2013," she says. "I moved from one level to another because of the courses I took at Rhema."

Most people visit a doctor to seek healing. But Akunna's patients come to her office not only to get healed but "infected"—with faith, that is.

About eight years ago, the Lord told Akunna to start reading Kenneth E. Hagin's book *Faith Food* with her employees every morning. Today, everyone who works in her office believes God and speaks faith.

"Before I employ anyone, I ask if they are born again. If they aren't, I ask if I can pray for them," she shares. "I don't force them. But my mindset is, 'They're coming into the fold.'"

Акунна also has another requirement—every employee must speak in tongues. "If they are going to work in my office, they have to speak in tongues. That's the culture here [in the office]."

Акунна's patients sense that faith atmosphere. She recalls a Muslim patient who said, "I don't know what it is about your office, but anytime I want peace, I just come here. There's something calm here." Another patient thanked her and said, "I don't think I came for my eye. I came here for what you're saying to me."

In a nation where a  
**HUNGER FOR THE SUPERNATURAL EXISTS**  
 —both godly and ungodly—  
**PEOPLE ARE GETTING HOLD OF TRUTH.**

## RIPPLE EFFECT

Toks' passion for the message of faith has had a ripple effect. In addition to his wife and people he's ministered to worldwide, he says his children, friends, and relatives all have been inspired by his passion to live a life of faith in God's Word.

"I give anything I do everything I've got," he says. "I guess it kind of gets people's attention and rubs off on them."

That day in middle school, God told Toks to preach the Gospel. And he's been doing that fervently for nearly 40 years, first as a pastor and now as a Bible school director and itinerant minister. As a result, he's living the happy, fulfilled life the Lord said he would.

"I'm doing what I was born to do—be a part of something affecting the world," says Toks. "I feel like I'm living in my dreams, knowing that I'm in the center of God's will. I get to see

people's lives get blessed and get a hold of truth. My health and finances are good. I have a good wife and kids. That's priceless."

Toks and Akunna look forward to what lies ahead. They believe that in a country of over 200 million people, a tithe—or 20 million Rhema Nigeria graduates—wouldn't be a bad idea. "I see the message of faith and the move of the Spirit sweeping across Nigeria like a tsunami," says Toks. And why not? All things are possible through faith in God.



RHEMA NIGERIA GRADUATE

To **LEARN MORE** more about Rhema Nigeria, visit [RhemaNigeria.com](https://RhemaNigeria.com)

# 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)

### IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME!

When someone says that it's December—what do you immediately think of? Of course, the first thought that comes to mind for me is, "I can't believe another year is almost over." For most, it's a time to get together with family and celebrate Christmas. Your relatives may not live in the same city or state, and you travel to spend time with them too.

The holidays can be joyful, or they can be frustrating and stressful. As wives and mothers, our tasks seem to multiply during this time. We spend time decorating our homes for the occasion. We plan festive parties. It seems as though every night is taken up with an activity.

In the midst of the celebration, I think we sometimes forget what Christmas is all about — celebrating the birth of our Savior. We spend more time trying to find the requested Christmas gifts for our children and grandchildren than we spend teaching them about the true meaning of Christmas.

When I was 5 years of age, my Aunt Oma took time out of her busy schedule during the holiday season to help me memorize the Christmas story from the Word of God. She never had children of her own but loved to teach youngsters. About a month before Christmas she said, "Lynette, you've got to go home with me so I can teach you the Christmas story."

There were times I didn't want to go with her. I would have preferred to play, but my aunt was persistent. She did not take no for an answer. It was very important to her that children planted God's Word in their hearts at a young age. So I went to her house and learned the Christmas story. That year at church, I recited by memory the entire Christmas story to the congregation. The people were amazed, and my aunt was so proud of me.

I am very grateful that my aunt took the time to teach me the Christmas story. It has always kept my focus on what Christmas is all about. It's not about how much we can give each other—although I enjoy giving gifts to my family members. It is about celebrating the birth of our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. It is about being grateful that God sent His very best gift to redeem mankind.

Statistics have proven that Christmas time is one of the highest times that suicides are committed. It is a time when those without families yearn for the fellowship of a loved one. For those who have lost a loved one—it is a time that you miss your loved one and the times you have shared with them over the years.

I want to encourage you this year to get involved in giving to someone who is in need. Find a needy family and adopt them as your project for Christmas. Get your children involved by having them use their own money to buy a gift for those who are less fortunate than they are.

Over the years, we have blessed families during the holiday season, and it is rewarding to see how grateful they are to be remembered at this time of the year. I'm reminded of Acts 20:35 (NKJV) which says, "*It is more blessed to give than to receive.*" It truly is rewarding to see a smile come to the face of a child who has not enjoyed the basic needs of life.

Focus on the joy of giving rather than receiving. Don't be so concerned about your packages being wrapped perfectly. I always spent hours wrapping my packages. I would be worn out and stressed out.

One year we were without electricity during the holidays. Our lights had been off for two days, and I had to wrap my packages with a flashlight. That year I decided all I was going to do was wrap them with paper. I dispensed with the fancy ribbon and bows for the sake of time. My stress was relieved so much that I have not used ribbon and bows since then. It made me realize I was being stressed and worn out by something unimportant.

This Christmas season, I encourage you to focus on the important things. Focus on the good memories you and your family will share together. Focus on giving to those in need, and most of all, focus on being thankful for the Lord Jesus Christ Who came into this world to be our Redeemer.♥

Lynette





# Kids' Page

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

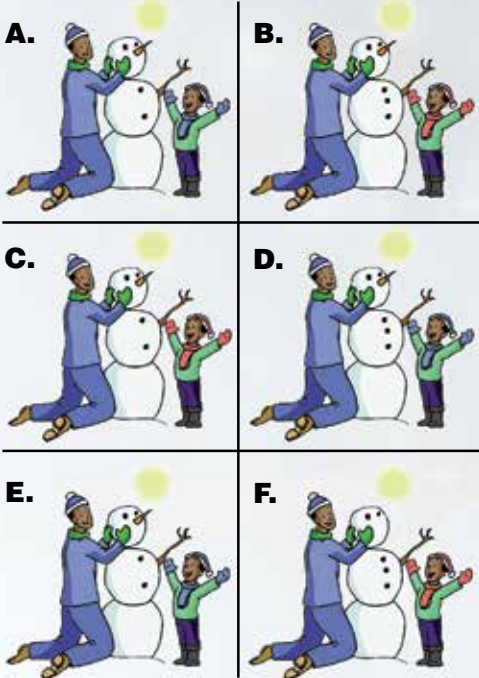
## What's "IN" His Name?

If you look closely at the word "FATHER," you can see the words "FAT" and "HER" contained in it. Read the verses below and circle other words that are contained in the name FATHER.

- A. "Let all the earth fear the Lord"**  
(Psalm 33:8).
- B. "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches"** (Rev. 2:7).
- C. "Their heart is far from Me"**  
(Matt. 15:8).

## Find the Match

There are only two pictures below that are exactly the same. Can you find the match?



**ANSWERS:**  
 What's His Favorite Name? • Answer: FATHER  
 What's "IN" His Name?  
 A. earth, fear, the B. He, ear, hear, the C. heart, far  
 Find the Match • Answer: A and E  
 Note: All scriptures on this page are from the New King James Version of the Bible.

## What's His Favorite Name?



You may have several names that you are known by. If your name is Robert, you might be called Rob, Robby, or even Bob. But, more than likely, there's one name that you'd rather be called more than any other . . . your favorite name!

Well, God has several names that He is known by too! One person might call Him "Almighty God" while someone else calls Him "Jehovah God" and still another calls Him "Lord God." He has a lot of different names, but, just like you, there is one name that He would rather be called more than any other. Can you guess what His favorite name is?

Read the prayers of Jesus below and you will discover the name of God that Jesus used the most . . . and we should too!

**"our father in heaven, hallowed be YOUR name" (LUKE 11:2).**

**"I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight" (LUKE 10:21).**

**"Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done" (LUKE 22:42).**

**"FATHER, I THANK YOU THAT YOU HAVE HEARD ME" (JOHN 11:41).**

**"NOW MY SOUL IS TROUBLED, AND WHAT SHALL I SAY? 'FATHER, SAVE ME FROM THIS HOUR? BUT FOR THIS PURPOSE I CAME TO THIS HOUR. 'FATHER, GLORIFY YOUR NAME'" (JOHN 12:27-28).**

**"Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You" (JOHN 17:1).**

## jokes & riddles



**"A merry heart does good, like medicine."**  
 —Proverbs 17:22 (NKJV)

What do you call a woodpecker with no beak?

**A Headbanger!**

Teacher: Sara, If you had sixteen jelly beans, and Johnny asked you for ten, how many would you have left?

**Sara: Sixteen!!**

Why did the scientist install a knocker on his door?

**To win the no-bell prize**

What sort of a cat should you never play cards with?

**A cheetah**

How do you keep a bull from charging?

**Take away its credit card!**

Have you heard about the new restaurant on the moon?

**It has great food but no atmosphere.**

What do you call a fairy that hasn't taken a bath?

**Stinkerbell**

Why are teddy bears never hungry?

**Because they're always stuffed**



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