



# THE Word of Faith

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2023

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

## GOD'S GIFT OF PEACE

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## the Word of Faith



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# God Cares for You

Many people feel that no one cares. They feel left out. Today, if you have that sinking feeling of being all alone, I want you to know that someone *does* care. God cares!

First Peter 5:7 (NIV) says, “Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.” Care and anxiety carry the connotation of fear, worry, and concern. You can throw all those things over on God. You can then get up, move on with your life, and feel useful and worthwhile because someone cares for you.

When we believe someone cares for us, we trust that person. We’re not afraid to tell them whatever we need to tell them, because we believe they care.

First Peter 5:7 in the Phillips translation says, “You can throw the whole weight of your anxieties upon him, for you are his personal concern.” There’s no need to be down and depressed. God has made you His personal concern. The Bible says He knows the number of hairs on your head (Matt. 10:30). He is right there with you all the time.

Now, at times you are busy and you may not be thinking about God. But whether you are thinking about Him or not, He is still caring for you.

Your Heavenly Father is personally concerned about your well-being at all times! He is there to minister to you, care for you, and lift you up. At your invitation, He will come and sustain you. He will carry you through the crisis. He will put a smile on your face and a song on your lips. And you will be able to say, “I’m not moved by what I feel. I’m moved only by what I believe. And I believe God cares for me.”

I encourage you to meditate on that truth until you do not doubt that the Lord cares for you. It will sustain you in the time of need. So however you may feel and whatever you may face, know that you are blessed because God cares about you!



*Kenneth W. Hagin*

## THIS ISSUE



### 4 Choose Love **DENISE HAGIN BURNS**

Love is a choice. When we choose to practice God’s kind of love, we will transform our relationships and our world.

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Should all Christians speak in tongues? Emphatically yes! Find out why.

# CHOOSE LOVE

**RECENTLY, I WAS** in a very long drive-through line at a coffee shop. The parking lot was tight and someone was trying to back out of a parking spot. For them to back out, there had to be a break in the line. So when the driver in front of me moved up, I waited so the person could pull out. Instantly, the driver behind me aggressively honked their horn. When I looked in my rearview mirror, they were making inappropriate gestures at me.



**DENISE HAGIN BURNS**

In a situation like that, it can be tempting to get angry. However, I thought, “Maybe they’re having a really bad day or received some really bad news.” As I pulled up to the window to pay for my coffee, I decided to pay for their coffee as well. Instead of responding in anger—which is what I wanted to do—I did what Jesus would do. I chose love.

## WHERE IS THE LOVE?

As I look across the landscape of the world today, it seriously concerns me how angry people are. The amount of anger, judgment, and arguing on social media alone is disturbing. It’s especially sad when I see Spirit-filled people, pastors, and ministers engage in that type of behavior.

It seems that as God-loving people, we’ve lost some of our love walk. Over the past three years in particular, we have lost some of our kindness. I believe it is time for us to get back to studying, reading about, and walking in the love of God.

The Apostle John had a lot to say about walking in love.

### **1 JOHN 4:7–8 (AMP)**

**7** Beloved, let us [unselfishly] love and seek the best for one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves [others] is born of God and knows God [through personal experience].

**8** The one who does not love has not become acquainted with God [does not and never did know Him], for God is love. [He is the originator of love, and it is an enduring attribute of His nature.]

You see, God doesn’t just walk in love. He *is* love! It’s in His DNA. He can’t help but love. And as God’s children, we have that same love in our DNA because His love has been abundantly

poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit (Rom. 5:5).

Someone may say, “I’m impatient. I can’t help it. It’s just who I am.” If you have been born again, it is not just who you are. Once we are saved, God’s nature becomes our nature. Therefore, we no longer have any excuse for not walking in love.

When we value people, we take care of them. **We don’t use them or treat them like trash.**

## QUALITIES OF LOVE

The Bible is full of scriptures that teach us how to continually walk in love. We find one example in Ephesians chapter 5.

### **EPHESIANS 5:1–2 (AMP)**

**1** Therefore become imitators of God [copy Him and follow His example], as well-beloved children [imitate their father];

**2** and walk continually in love [that is, value one another—practice empathy and compassion, unselfishly seeking the best for others], just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and sacrifice to God [slain for you, so that it became] a sweet fragrance.

One way we can walk in love is by valuing others. Most people take care of the things they value. When we value people, we take care of them. We don’t use them or treat them like trash.

Love is full of empathy. *Empathy* is the ability to relate to someone else’s pain. We may not agree with everyone, but we don’t have to be disagreeable with them. Empathy seeks to understand and relate to what someone else is going through.

Love is full of compassion. Compassion is a feeling that arises when you’re confronted with another person’s suffering, and it motivates you to relieve it. Throughout the Gospels we see Jesus being moved with compassion and using His power to relieve the suffering. When we see someone who is unsaved or hurting, we should be moved with compassion because we have the answer to help them.

Love unselfishly seeks the best for others. This takes sacrifice on our part. Sacrifice is basically putting aside what we want for someone else’s sake. Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice when He



God doesn't just walk in love. He is love! **It's in His DNA.**  
 He can't help but to love. And as God's children,  
**that same love is a part of our DNA.**



came to earth and died on the cross for us. He did it because He loved us. It wasn't what was best for Him, but it was best for us so we could live eternally with the Father in Heaven.

### WE HAVE A CHOICE

Choosing love isn't always easy. Walking in love is in direct opposition to our selfish human nature. Each day we must decide whether we will choose love or revert to our old ways of doing only what is good for us.

It doesn't bother me when non-Christians are rude, nasty, and mean. They're simply doing what is natural for someone who doesn't know Jesus. But when I see Spirit-led Christians being angry, selfish, and judgmental, or lashing out on social media, I have a hard time with that. God's love lives in us. We should know better.

I'm convinced that this whole Christian thing we do every day and give our lives for is not about us and how much God can bless us. It's all about how much we can love others.

My challenge to you is simply to walk in love. Choose to value others, to practice empathy and compassion, and to sacrifice your desires for what's best for others. When we all do that, our families will look different. Our marriages and relationships will change. Our whole world will change. And we'll be able to minister to people and reach them by simply choosing love.♥

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#### FAITH IN ACTION

Galatians 5:22–23 (TPT) says, *“But the fruit produced by the Holy Spirit within you is divine love in all its varied expressions: joy that overflows, peace that subdues, patience that endures, kindness in action, a life full of virtue, faith that prevails, gentleness of heart, and strength of spirit. Never set the law above these qualities, for they are meant to be limitless.”*

However others treat us and whatever they say about us, these qualities produced in our hearts by the Holy Spirit through God's love should be limitless in us.

Insert your name in the blank to personalize these verses, and speak them over yourself daily.

- has joy that overflows.
- has peace that subdues.
- has patience that endures.
- is kindness in action.
- lives a life full of virtue.
- has faith that prevails.
- is gentle of heart.
- has strength of spirit.

# Loving Others

**Leviticus 19:18 (NIV)**

18 Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.

**Matthew 5:44 (TPT)**

44 Love your enemy, bless the one who curses you, do something wonderful for the one who hates you, and respond to the very ones who persecute you by praying for them.

**Luke 6:31 (AMP)**

31 Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.

**John 13:34–35 (TPT)**

34 I give you now a new commandment: Love each other just as much as I have loved you.

35 For when you demonstrate the same love I have for you by loving one another, everyone will know that you're my true followers.

**John 15:13 (TPT)**

13 For the greatest love of all is a love that sacrifices all. And this great love is demonstrated when a person sacrifices his life for his friends.

**Romans 12:9–10 (NLT)**

9 Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. . . .

10 Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.

**Romans 13:8 (NIV)**

8 Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another.

**1 Corinthians 16:14 (AMP)**

14 Let everything you do be done in love [motivated and inspired by God's love for us].

**Galatians 5:13 (NLT)**

13 . . . Use your freedom to serve one another in love.

**Galatians 6:2 (AMP)**

2 Carry one another's burdens and in this way you will fulfill the requirements of the law of Christ [that is, the law of Christian love].

**Ephesians 4:32 (NIV)**

32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

**Ephesians 5:33 (NLT)**

33 Each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

**Philippians 2:3 (NLT)**

3 Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.

**1 Peter 4:8 (NLT)**

8 Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins.

**1 John 3:18 (NLT)**

18 Let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.

**1 John 4:7–8 (NLT)**

7 Let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God.

8 But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

**1 John 4:20–21 (NLT)**

20 If someone says, "I love God," but hates a fellow believer, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see?

21 And he has given us this command: Those who love God must also love their fellow believers.

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## A Prayer for Loving Others

Heavenly Father, thank You for the love You have poured abundantly into my heart by the Holy Spirit. Father, You are love. And because I am made in Your image, my DNA is love. Thank You for showing me through Jesus how to live in love.

Father, right now I choose love. I commit to genuinely love others. Forgive me for not being patient, kind, and loving. Forgive me for being judgmental, argumentative, and angry with people. Help me each day to choose compassion, selflessness, forgiveness, and kindness. When I am tempted to respond in an unloving way, remind me of the commitment I made today. In Jesus' Name, amen.

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**IN FIRST KINGS 18:41 (NKJV)** Elijah said to King Ahab, “Go up, eat and drink, for there is the sound of the abundance of rain.” The word *abundance* indicates an overwhelming amount. As we continue reading this story, realize that something significant is about to happen.

## 1 KINGS 18:42–45 (NKJV)

**42** So Ahab went up to eat and drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; then he bowed down on the ground, and put his face between his knees,

**43** and said to his servant, “Go up now, look toward the sea.” So he went up and looked, and said, “There is nothing.” And seven times he said, “Go again.”

**44** Then it came to pass the seventh time, that he said, “There is a cloud, as small as a man’s hand, rising out of the sea!” So he said, “Go up, say to Ahab, ‘Prepare your chariot, and go down before the rain stops you.’”

**45** Now it happened in the meantime that the sky became black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy rain. . . .

In verse 41, it’s interesting that when Elijah talked to King Ahab, there was no sign of rain. Notice that Elijah didn’t say rain was coming. He said, “*There is the sound . . .*,” present tense.

Elijah perceived what God wanted for Israel and began declaring it to be so. Many Christians think doing that is enough. But verse 42 tells us Elijah went to Carmel, bowed down, put his face between his knees, and

contended in prayer for what He knew God wanted.

So many times, we want to pray comfortably. Not Elijah. He pressed in. He lifted his voice to Heaven and called on God until it started to rain.

We often give up easily in prayer. We don’t yield to the Spirit and go far enough. **IF WE WANT WHAT GOD HAS FOR US, WE MUST CONTEND FOR IT.** People often say, “Well, I prayed, and I’m believing God.” That’s good, but sometimes it’s not enough.

## THE END-TIME OUTPOURING

The rain in First Kings chapter 18 was a type of the outpouring of God’s Spirit. And that incident wasn’t the Spirit’s peak performance. He is not getting old, growing weak, or fading away.

Scripture says the end of a thing is better than the beginning (Eccl. 7:8). God is not working to calm things down. He’s stepping them up and wrapping them up for the Church.

Acts chapter 2 tells us **GOD WANTS TO POUR OUT HIS SPIRIT ON ALL FLESH.** The Holy Spirit is looking for people of faith. He is waiting to hear words of faith spoken so He can perform them. He’s looking for yielded people who will contend for what they know is God’s will.

The outpouring of the Spirit is in the Church today, but most people aren’t talking or acting like it. We are in the last days, the time of the Holy Spirit. We don’t have to wait for the outpouring. It’s here.

Since the Day of Pentecost, there have been continuous outpourings of God’s Spirit. He’s being poured out upon us afresh and anew day after day.

It’s time to declare, “I *hear* the sound of the end-time outpouring.” The Spirit moves in power and healing *today*. He guides and directs us *today*. The time for the Church to come forth is *today!*

God is calling us to a deeper level of praying and contending for His things. Now is the time to contend for what He’s spoken to our hearts.

We can’t give up when the devil throws a fit or quit when circumstances don’t look good. And we can’t wait until we see something to say it is happening. We must say by faith, “It is happening!”

I hear the sound of the abundance of rain. Let’s lift our voices in faith and contend for God’s purpose for this hour. ♣

[Editor’s Note: Marvin Yoder is an instructor at Rhema Bible Training College.]







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TURN THE  
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**THE PROBLEMS OF** life are real. Tragedy is real. Sickness, disease, and the loss of jobs and income are real. No matter what our education, strengths, skills, or financial status, every one of us at one time or another will encounter problems that lie beyond our resources to solve.

We will—if we haven't already—come to realize that we have limitations. But along with that realization, we also need to realize that there is hope beyond ourselves, a ray of light beyond the dark tunnel of our human limits. And we need to know that we are not alone.

No doubt we've all reached times in life when we simply didn't know what to do. The circumstances seemed impossible from our standpoint. During those times we can throw up our hands in despair and allow feelings of hopelessness to overwhelm us. Or we can look to the Limitless One and let Him strengthen and revive us so we see the possibilities that exist with Him.



**KENNETH W. HAGIN**

## **GOD WANTS US TO DEPEND ON HIM**

So what *do* you do if your marriage is in trouble? If your kids are rebelling against you and the things of God? If your doctor gives you a bad report? If you find out after putting in years at your place of employment that your job has been terminated?

I can't specifically tell you what to do in each situation of life. But I can point you to the One who can—and who *will!* Some problems arise through no fault of our own; others we bring on ourselves. But God wants to show us the way out of *all* of them!

Certainly, in the tests and trials of life, we need to make sure

we're not doing something that would prevent God from helping us. For example, if we're not walking in love, we can short-circuit His power in our lives even though He's willing to help us. But once we do the things we know to do, we must trust this timeless truth: *What is impossible with man is possible with God.* We should let it permeate our hearts and dominate our thinking.

## **YOUR REVELATION IS YOUR FOUNDATION**

That's what Jesus said in Luke 18:27: "*The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.*" We have to receive a revelation of that truth. It can't be mere words that we only mentally agree with. This truth has to become an attitude of life. Then we will be in a strong, steady position to reap those God-possibilities.

You see, until something becomes a revelation to you, you won't act on it. You may go along with it mentally when you hear it. But it won't be a living reality to you, and it won't produce anything of lasting value in your life.

You may be facing a situation where it sounds impossible that God's Word can become more real to you than whatever you are going through. But it *is* possible! When God's Word becomes revelation to you in your heart, it will be a rock that will not be shaken. Nothing can take the truth of the Word away from you if you hold on to it—not circumstances, not other people, and not the enemy himself! And the Word you hold on to will produce something powerful in your life.

## **MAN IS LIMITED**

Someone may read the first part of Luke 18:27 and ask, "Well, isn't that a negative statement?" No, it is simply a testament to man's limitations. Humans are limited. We are often limited by



knowledge or intellect. We are limited by our natural strength—our physical bodies.

We need to understand who we are as human beings to appreciate what God can do through us and for us. In ourselves, we are nothing, and apart from God, we can do nothing. But we also must understand that as believers,

their Creator. He doesn't make mistakes—and He doesn't make inferior creations!

Jesus Himself said, "I do not pray that You [God the Father] should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world" (John 17:15–16 NKJV).

We are in the world, but we are not of the world!

As I said, believers have the unique ability to live in two realms at the same time. When we are born again, we gain citizenship

## WE MUST TRUST THIS TIMELESS TRUTH:

*What is impossible with man is possible with God.*

we have the unique ability to live in two realms. We live in and have access to the *limited earthly* realm and the *limitless heavenly* realm.

To recognize our limitations, we must understand our individual strengths and weaknesses. Too many people are trying to be something they're not supposed to be—simply because they want to!

Throughout the Bible, we see great leaders whom God used to

bring deliverance, blessing, and protection to His people. We should all try to emulate their *faith*, but that doesn't mean we should try to emulate their *office*.

in Heaven. We're part of a divine exchange. Limited man meets unlimited God. When that happens, our impossibilities can become God's *possibilities* on the earth!♥

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bring deliverance, blessing, and protection to His people. We should all try to emulate their *faith*, but that doesn't mean we should try to emulate their *office*.

If your talent lies in one area, and you're trying to function in other areas, you will be frustrated! Certainly, you can feel challenged when you're functioning in the middle of God's perfect will. But He gives you grace. You may feel challenged at times, but you won't continually be frustrated.

#### THINK IT OVER

In any situation that seems impossible, how can you place your faith in the wisdom and power of God and not man?

### KNOW THYSELF

One of the great secrets of success is to find out your abilities and limitations and go from there. In other words, *know thyself!* God created those abilities within you, and He wants to use them to His glory. On the other hand, unless you have specifically heard from God to do otherwise, don't go beyond your limitations.

When you find out who you really are, and you begin to operate in those channels, things will go well for you. That's

WHEN GOD'S WORD BECOMES REVELATION TO YOU IN YOUR HEART, IT WILL BE A ROCK

*to you that will not be shaken.*

hard for some people to accept because they don't want to admit that there are some areas they are simply not gifted in. They get down on themselves or feel inferior if they can't do something as well as somebody else can. But they need to realize that God is

**CALL TO ARMS 2022:**

# **DESTINED TO WIN**

## **DESTINED TO WIN**

KENNETH W. HAGIN



How do you see yourself? Do you see yourself the way God sees you? He does not see you as a weak person. He sees you as a strong, smart, and talented person. God does not see you as a fearful person. He sees you as triumphant and courageous.

**WINNING BEGINS BY SEEING YOURSELF CORRECTLY.** We're all God's men, and we are all

winners. Don't ever look down on somebody because he doesn't come up to what you think the standard is. The only standard of measurement is God's.

**THE GREATEST THING YOU CAN DO TO WIN IS TO UNDERSTAND WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST.** God never created an unworthy person or a weak person. When you were born again, you were recreated and became a brand-new person in Christ. God never created you as a failure. That doesn't mean you have never stumped your toe. But you're never a failure until you stop trying.

There's a game to be won. There are buildings to be built, books to be written, and songs to be sung. There's the enemy to overcome and a race to run. There's a family to raise. God's will needs to be done, and souls must be won. **GOD HAS DESTINED EVERY ONE OF YOU TO SUCCEED IN SOME AREA OF LIFE.** He made it possible for you to win by sending Jesus to the cross. **YOU ARE VICTORIOUS THROUGH CHRIST.**

**ON NOVEMBER 3-4**, men from different walks of life gathered on the Rhema USA campus to be encouraged and inspired to live to their full potential in God. "You're not here by accident," Kenneth W. Hagin told them. "I believe you're here by divine appointment." How true his words were. The men returned home armed to win and reign in every area of life!

**MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND A CALL TO ARMS NOVEMBER 2-3, 2023.**

In the meantime, enjoy these highlights.

## **YOU'VE ALREADY WON, SO ACT LIKE IT!** CRAIG W. HAGIN



A great team comes on the field with swagger. You can tell the difference between someone who's used to winning and someone who's not. They walk differently. They come on the field and act like winners. At some point, they believe they can't be defeated.

**WINNING BEGINS BY SEEING YOURSELF CORRECTLY.** We're all God's men, and we are all winners. Don't ever look down on somebody because he doesn't come up to what you think the standard is. The only standard of measurement is God's.

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First Corinthians 15:57 (NKJV) says, "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory

through our Lord Jesus Christ." Notice this verse doesn't say that God is going to give you the victory. He already has. People say, "I can't wait to win!" The Bible says you already have. **SO IF YOU'RE ALREADY A WINNER, IT'S TIME TO ACT LIKE IT.**

You have to understand Who's in you. If you've accepted Jesus as your Savior, the Spirit of the living God is in you. **YOU HAVE THE ANSWER TO EVERY PROBLEM BEFORE YOU GET TO THE PROBLEM.** He's in you everywhere you step, causing you to triumph in every situation. But it's up to you to act like it.

Jesus obtained the victory for us, and all we have to do is accept it by faith. But people think, "I don't know how I'm going to do it." The problem is you're trying to do everything instead of letting God do it. The Bible says if you believe, all things are possible. **YOU DON'T HAVE TO FIGURE OUT HOW YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE IT. BELIEVE GOD, AND PUT YOUR TRUST IN HIM. IT'S THAT SIMPLE.**





**MARK BINTLIFF**

“If we’re going to lead, we must first know how to follow. Every athlete must submit to training and their coach. **THE FIRST CHARACTERISTIC OF A GODLY MAN IS SUBMISSION. IT’S THE PLACE WHERE WE FIND OUR PURPOSE.** You can’t find your purpose outside of God and what He has called you to be and do. Adam fell into sin because he failed to submit to God. We all have places where we want to run our own lives. It takes courage to submit completely to God.”

“God intended us to get our thoughts from His Word. When a thought comes against the Word, get rid of it! If you imagine something without casting it down, it will become a stronghold in your life and affect your future. The degree to which your life is healthy, is the degree to which you allow your thoughts to come from what God says about you. **LET YOUR IMAGINATION RUN WILD WITH THOUGHTS OF WHO GOD SAYS YOU ARE AND WHAT HE SAYS YOU CAN DO. THEN IMAGINATIONS OF GOD’S WORD WILL BECOME A STRONGHOLD IN YOUR LIFE.**”



**WYATT BROWN**



**JOSH GRESHAM**

“People can get so focused on unessential things rather than on the vision God has laid out for them. A lot of times we get focused on provision more than we do the vision. **I HEAR PEOPLE SAY, ‘IF WE JUST HAD THIS, OR IF WE JUST HAD THAT.’ NO, NO, NO. WHAT’S IN YOUR HANDS? WHAT DID MOSES HAVE? A STICK. WHAT DID DORCAS HAVE? A NEEDLE!** I’ve done a lot of stuff without a lot of things.”

“Real men dominate! **REAL MEN STEP OUT ON THE WORD AND WALK ON THE WATER WHEN IT’S TAKING EVERYBODY ELSE UNDER. WE DON’T RUN FROM TROUBLE, WE RUN TOWARD IT WITH OUR MOUTHS OPEN!** We are called good soldiers of Christ. You are God’s best. He picked His best for the last hour. You are an agent of change. There is nothing that comes your way that you can’t change. God has given you power, dominion, and authority. You are not here to get second place. You are here to win the race.”



**RODDY SHAFFER**

“Life will give us opportunities to quit. We will face adversity. Many times we try to avoid it or rebuke it away. But the battle is what causes the greatest victories. It’s the process of going through difficult times that causes a resolve in us. **WE WANT THE MOUNTAINTOP EXPERIENCE, BUT FRUIT IS PRODUCED IN THE VALLEY. AND FRUIT IS WHAT SUSTAINS US THROUGH HARD TIMES AND DIFFICULT THINGS.** So when we think about winning, it’s an attitude. It’s a choice. You have to choose to be a winner.”



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# The TEST of FAITH

**WHEN MY SON**, Craig, was in the 8th grade, he was diagnosed with a brain tumor. The doctors informed Ken and me that the tumor, the size of a large lemon, was pressing against his brain stem. One blow to the head could have ended his life.



**LYNETTE HAGIN**

At that moment, nothing on this earth mattered to us but the life of our son. We prayed with all of our hearts and stood firmly on God's Word as we believed for Craig's healing. Our families and friends prayed with us, but there was no immediate change in his condition. Then my father-in-law said something very powerful to us. He said, "An army never goes to battle without a second line of defense."

Since we were dealing with a life-and-death situation and Craig's healing hadn't instantly manifested, we believed God was leading us to adopt "a second line of defense." We decided to let the doctors perform surgery to remove the tumor.

We began to focus our faith and prayers on the operation. We prayed for God to guide the surgeon's hands, and we also believed for the tumor to be benign and not malignant. Above all, we prayed that the doctors would be able to remove the tumor without any damage or negative side effects.

Everyone reached by this ministry is family to us and that means you! If you are facing difficulty, we want to pray with you. Call the Prayer & Healing Center at **918-258-1588, ext. 2980** or email [partnerservice@rhema.org](mailto:partnerservice@rhema.org).

As we prepared for the surgery, I was at home packing so I could stay with Craig while he was in the hospital. As I stood there in the middle of my closet, I began to cry out to the Lord, “God, I need to feel You right now! I know we walk by faith, but I need to feel Your presence. I need to hear Your voice. I need You to speak to me!”

I needed to feel the comfort of the Holy Spirit reassuring me that everything was going to be OK. I knew it in my heart, but I needed to feel God’s presence at that moment because I felt so alone.

I had barely gotten those words out of my mouth when something dropped from the closet shelf and landed on the floor in front of me. I picked it up and discovered it was a small lapel pin that someone had given us a few months earlier. It had a little saying written on it—“You can make it!” God was saying, “Lynette, you can make it!”

I sighed with relief and thanked God. I then rushed to Craig’s bedroom and told him, “Son, look! The Lord has just dropped a pin from Heaven. We’re going to pin this on you, and if fear tries to grip you when you go into the operating room, just remember what the pin says.”

It was amazing how God confirmed what He had spoken to us through that little pin. No matter how long we sat in the waiting room, I had confidence in the Lord that Craig was going to make it.

The surgery went perfectly. In fact, the power of God was so strong in the operating room that one of the nurses, a ministry partner of ours, was completely healed of a chronic back condition!

It’s been 40 years since that surgery, and Craig has had no negative effects from the tumor or operation.

## DON'T BE SHOCKED WHEN THE FIRE GETS HOT

The Apostle Peter said something about the fiery trials of life that really grabbed my attention. He said, “*Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you*” (1 Peter 4:12 NLT).

God wants us to know that we’ll all be tested by fire. But He also said, “*When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you*” (Isa. 43:2 NKJV). We can stand on that promise when we’re going through the fiery trials of life.

## WHEN WE PASS THROUGH A FIERY TRIAL, IT'S SO IMPORTANT THAT WE HAVE FAITH.

When we pass through a fiery trial, it’s so important that we have faith. But we also must be committed to the Lord as Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were. (See Daniel chapter 3.)

Before being cast into the fiery furnace, they declared, “*Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us . . . and He will deliver us*” (Dan. 3:17 NKJV). That was their faith talking. But they added a statement of their commitment to the Lord. They said, “*But even if God doesn't deliver us, we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image you have set up*” (v. 18).

The three Hebrew children had to go through the fire, but Jesus met them in the middle of it. When they came out, there were no signs they had ever been in the fire.

I don’t know what crisis has come your way or what fiery trial you may be experiencing. But I know that the same God who met me in the middle of my fiery trial will meet you in the middle of yours. And He will cause you to triumph over it, just as He promised in His Word..♥

## THE THREE HEBREW CHILDREN HAD TO GO THROUGH THE FIRE, BUT JESUS MET THEM IN THE MIDDLE OF IT.

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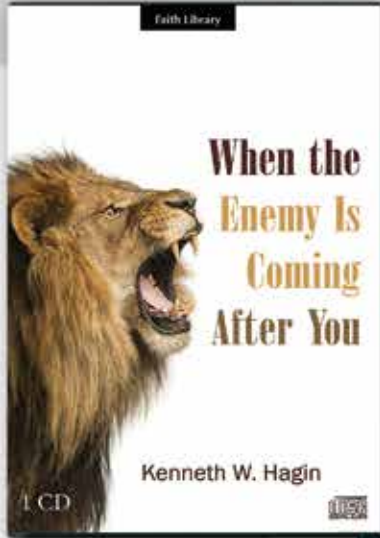
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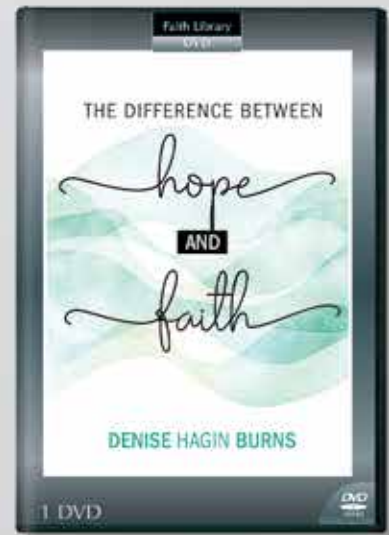
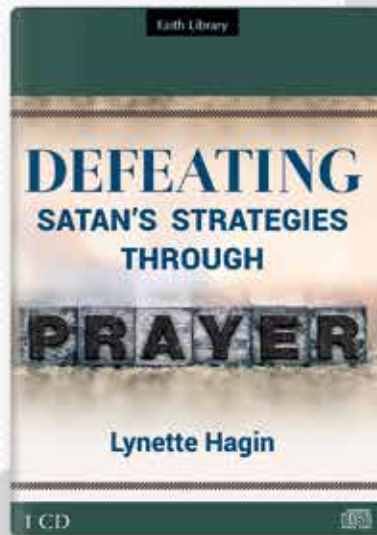
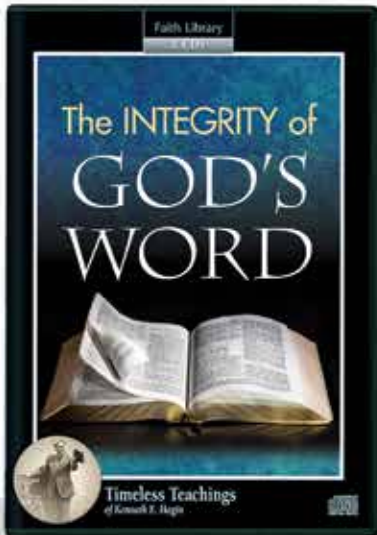
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# FOUR OBJECTIONS TO SPEAKING IN TONGUES



Timeless  
Teachings  
of Kenneth E. Hagin

WHY?

**OFTENTIMES PEOPLE** who do not speak in tongues ask, “Why do folks give such importance to speaking with other tongues?” There are at least three reasons:

1. Speaking with other tongues is always manifested when one is baptized in the Holy Spirit. It is the supernatural evidence of His infilling in a person’s life.
2. The spiritual gifts of tongues and interpretation of tongues are distinctive of today’s dispensation (1 Cor. 12:1–11).
3. The Apostle Paul gave prominence to the subject of tongues. In his first letter to the Corinthian church, he wrote much about it. (See First Corinthians chapter 14.) Why? Because then, as now, the subject was misunderstood.

Here are some common objections people have to speaking in tongues.

## #1: ‘JESUS DIDN’T SPEAK IN TONGUES.’

Although the other seven gifts of the Spirit manifested in Jesus’ earthly ministry, you won’t find tongues and interpretation. Jesus said God would give this new gift under the New Covenant. Mark’s Gospel records five supernatural signs that are to follow believers.

### MARK 16:17–18

**17** And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

**18** They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

One supernatural sign is speaking in tongues. Some try to explain verse 17 away by saying people won’t tell vulgar jokes or lie anymore. While you shouldn’t do either, this scripture is not talking about that.

If four of the five signs are supernatural, it doesn’t make sense that one would be natural. And Jesus didn’t say a few believers would speak in tongues. He clearly said all believers should do so.

Why don’t some believers pray in tongues? Sometimes people

have personal reasons, but I’m sure the main reason is little teaching on its importance has been done. Christians don’t realize the value of speaking in tongues. If they did, they would want to do it.

## #2: ‘TONGUES ARE OF THE DEVIL.’

Some Christians are concerned they will receive a wrong spirit when they pray for the baptism in the Holy Spirit. But if you ask God to fill you with His Spirit, He will not give you something else.

### LUKE 11:11–13

**11** If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

**12** Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?

**13** If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Luke 10:19 says, “Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.” Jesus wasn’t talking about literal snakes or scorpions here. He was talking about the power of Satan and demons.

This lets us know that Jesus was referring to an evil spirit in Luke chapter 11. He said, “If a son asks for a fish, will his father give him a serpent (an evil spirit)? Or, if he asks for an egg, will his father offer him a scorpion (an evil spirit)?” We never have to be afraid to receive the Holy Spirit.

## #3: ‘TONGUES HAVE CEASED.’

People use First Corinthians 13:8 to say that tongues have ceased.

### 1 CORINTHIANS 13:8

**8** Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.

This verse says tongues *shall* cease, not that they *have* ceased. It also says prophecies *shall* fail and knowledge *shall* vanish away.



## Begin Speaking in Tongues

Are you born again but not Spirit-filled? If so, pray this prayer to be baptized in the Holy Spirit:

*Heavenly Father, I ask You to baptize me in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in other tongues. In Jesus' Name, amen.*

Now begin to speak in tongues. Yield to the Spirit and let Him give you the utterance to speak in a language unknown to you.

“Shall” is future tense. Tongues haven’t ceased any more than knowledge has vanished away.

First Corinthians 14:39 goes on to say, “Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues.” The Apostle Paul never forbade people to speak in tongues; he encouraged them to speak.

### #4: ‘ONLY THE APOSTLES COULD PRAY FOR PEOPLE TO RECEIVE THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT.’

People who hold to the argument that tongues ceased with the last apostle say the apostles received the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost and were able to pass the Spirit on to others. But those folks couldn’t pass Him on to anyone else.

They use Acts 8:14–17 to support their case by saying that Philip was able to get the Samaritans born again but not filled with the Spirit. Peter and John went to Samaria to get them filled. But that argument isn’t in line with scripture.

#### ACTS 9:10–12, 17

**10** And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

**11** And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,

**12** And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. . . .

**17** And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and **be filled with the Holy Ghost.**

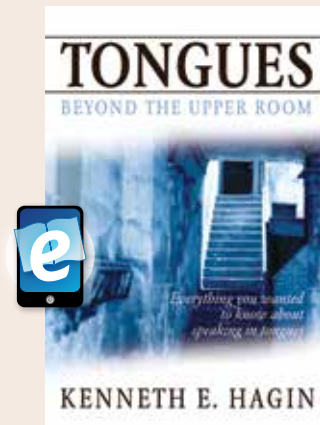
Ananias was not an apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, or teacher. He was a layperson. The Lord Jesus, the Head of the Church, directed him to lay hands on Saul to receive the Holy Spirit.

I believe God put this account in the Bible because He knew we’d face this argument. You don’t have to be one of the early apostles to lead someone into the baptism in the Holy Spirit. You don’t even have to be a minister. Today, believers around the world are helping people get filled with the Holy Spirit just as Ananias did long ago.♥

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# THE Fountain OF Life

**HAVE YOU EVER** felt drawn to a fountain? What about it caught your attention? Was it the way the water jetted into the air? Or the soothing sound as it sprayed and splashed?

Centuries ago, fountains provided water for townspeople and villagers to drink, bathe, and wash. Today we have different kinds of fountains. Some are decorative. Others can supply cool drinking water.

In ancient times many stories were written about fountains. Usually those water sources

represented life. The truth is, we cannot live without water. And those fountains symbolize something we absolutely have to have.

The Bible says, “God is the fountain of life” (Psalm 36:9). He is its Source. We cannot really live without Him. Just as ancient villagers built their homes around their water source, we must build our lives around Him.

Jesus said, “*Are you weary, carrying a heavy burden? Come to me. I will refresh your life, for I am your oasis. Simply join your life with mine. Learn my*

*ways and you’ll discover that I’m gentle, humble, easy to please. You will find refreshment and rest in me. For all that I require of you will be pleasant and easy to bear*” (Matthew 11:28–30 TPT).

Are you tired? Has your load in life been getting heavier and heavier? Do you just feel drained and wish you could find some peace and rest? God wants to help you. Let Him be your oasis—your fountain of life.

To join your life with His, ask Jesus, His Son, into your heart. Make Him Lord of your life. You do that by praying this prayer:

God,

I come to You in Jesus’ Name. 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” (Romans 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! Please refresh me and teach me Your ways.

If you have prayed this prayer for the first time, welcome home! We are glad you’re in the family! Email us at [PartnerService@rhema.org](mailto:PartnerService@rhema.org) and let us know about it. We want to send you some free materials to get you started in your new life as God’s child.♥

# 'WHEN I WAS IN PRISON, YOU VISITED ME.'



Every month *The Word of Faith* magazine is delivered to over 12,000 men and women who are in prison. We receive testimonies from inmates who are being saved, gloriously healed, and strengthened in their walk with the Lord!

This is all thanks to our Rhema Word Partners. Through their prayers and financial support, **OUR PARTNERS MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE MESSAGE OF FAITH TO GO BEHIND PRISON WALLS.** They're making a difference. They're changing lives. Are you ready to join them?

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# 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)

### GOD'S GIFT OF PEACE

**I BELIEVE WE** would all agree that we are living in chaotic days. When we read God's Word, it would seem we are in the days that Paul described to Timothy.

Second Timothy 3:1–4 (NLT) says, "You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God."

In navigating through this season, it is easy to stay in a state of turmoil, frustration, and fear. When you watch the news or get on social media, you witness people bickering and being intolerant of others. Adverse weather conditions are reported somewhere in the world on a daily basis. And, of course, the rising cost of everything causes us to adjust and reevaluate our budgets.

We do not realize that all the information we acquire daily can keep our minds in a state of unrest, even if the news does not directly affect us. Our thoughts can cause us to become depressed. God does not want us to live in that state of mind. One of the things I cherish is living a peaceful life. It is difficult to navigate life or make proper decisions when we are not experiencing peace.

A scripture I refer to often is Isaiah 26:3, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." The New Living Translation says it this way, "You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!"

We do not have a lot of trouble with our thoughts when everything is going well. But when things around us are being shaken on a daily basis, the enemy tries to invade our thought life. The Holy Spirit is a gentleman and gently whispers to us. Satan hollers in our ears and enhances our thoughts.

In these days, it is important to keep our minds focused on God. He is the one Who will keep us in perfect peace. What is perfect peace? It is a condition of freedom from disturbance within the soul. You may wonder how we can keep our minds constantly on God.

I have shared this in previous columns, but it bears repeating. Being raised in a pastor's home, we faced many circumstances that could rob us of peace. I found, even as a teenager, that worship music kept my mind focused on the Lord and not on the situation at hand.

Years ago, before cassette tapes, 8-tracks, CDs, and MP3s were vinyl records. I had a record player with a stack of records that would play the entire day. And I played them 24 hours a day! I wanted Craig and Denise to constantly be filled with faith-building songs.

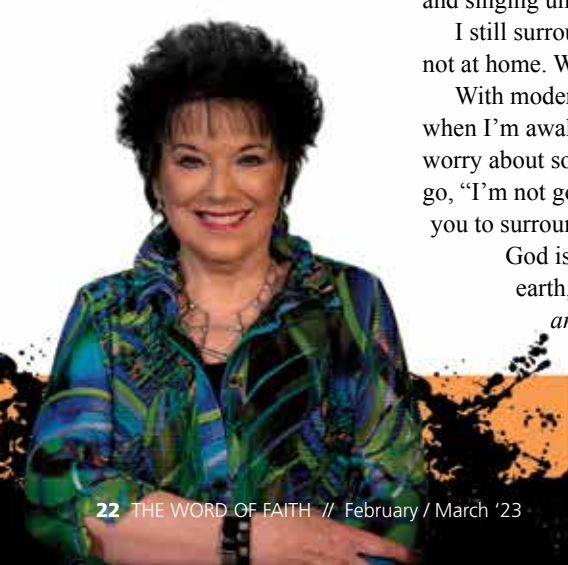
Many children came over to our house to play with Craig and Denise. Because of the peaceful music, they did not fuss or fight with each other. In fact, my neighbor once asked me what kind of music I played at my house. She said, "My son comes home so peaceful and singing unfamiliar songs."

I still surround myself with worship music. It plays in our house constantly, even when we are not at home. When I am in a hotel, my music is playing in our room constantly.

With modern technology, I have playlists. I listen to some songs while I'm sleeping and others when I'm awake. I have playlists for various situations that I'm dealing with. If I am tempted to worry about something, I listen to "Not Gonna Worry" by the Gaither Vocal Band. Part of the lyrics go, "I'm not gonna worry, I'm not gonna fret. He's got the whole thing in His hands." I encourage you to surround yourself with worship music that ministers to you.

God is always there to minister peace in every situation. When Jesus was leaving this earth, He gave the disciples a word that is still good for us today. John 14:27 (NLT) "I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid." I encourage you to accept God's gift of peace.♥

Lynette





# Kids' Page

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

## Fix the Broken Heart!

The heart below has been broken and only one of the hearts on the right will fix it perfectly. See if you can fix the broken heart.



A.



B.



C.



## He Loves Me . . . He Loves Me Not?

Pick the first petal off the daisy saying "He Loves Me." Pick the next petal and say "He Loves Me Not." Continue this same pattern picking petals in your mind until you have one petal left. Does He Love You?

## jokes & riddles



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

- What did the worm say to the giraffe?
- What's Up!
- What do you get if you cross a T-Rex with Miss Piggy?
- Jurassic Pork

Harry: Hey Joe, I heard that you went ice fishing in Antarctica. Did you catch anything?  
Joe: Yeah, a cold!

What do you call a crying camel?  
A Humpback WAIL

**Answers:**  
 FIX THE BROKEN HEART! • Answer: A.  
 WHAT I DID FOR LOVE!  
 A. RUTH B. JACOB C. ESTHER D. GOD  
 HE LOVES ME . . . HE LOVES ME NOT?  
 HE LOVES ME!  
 TAKE AWAY THE 'LOVE' • Answer: CHRIST

## What I Did for Love!

The Bible is full of people who showed their love in many different ways. Read the following clues, then unscramble the names below to match the person with the thing that they "did for love."

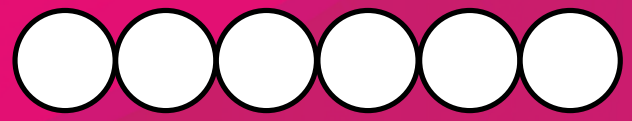
- A** I left my homeland to help my mother-in-law in her homeland.
- B** I worked seven years for my father-in-law so I could marry the woman I loved.
- C** I put my life at risk for my people by approaching the king unannounced.
- D** I sent My one and only Son to Earth to die for the people I loved.

ogd      bojac      thru  
 theres

## Take Away the 'LOVE'

All of the words below contain the letters to the word LOVE. If you take the "LOVE" out of these words you will be left with six letters. Put the letters in the blank circles below and then unscramble them to discover Someone you will never be able to "take away the LOVE" from.

SHOVEL REVOLT  
 CLOVE OLIVE





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