



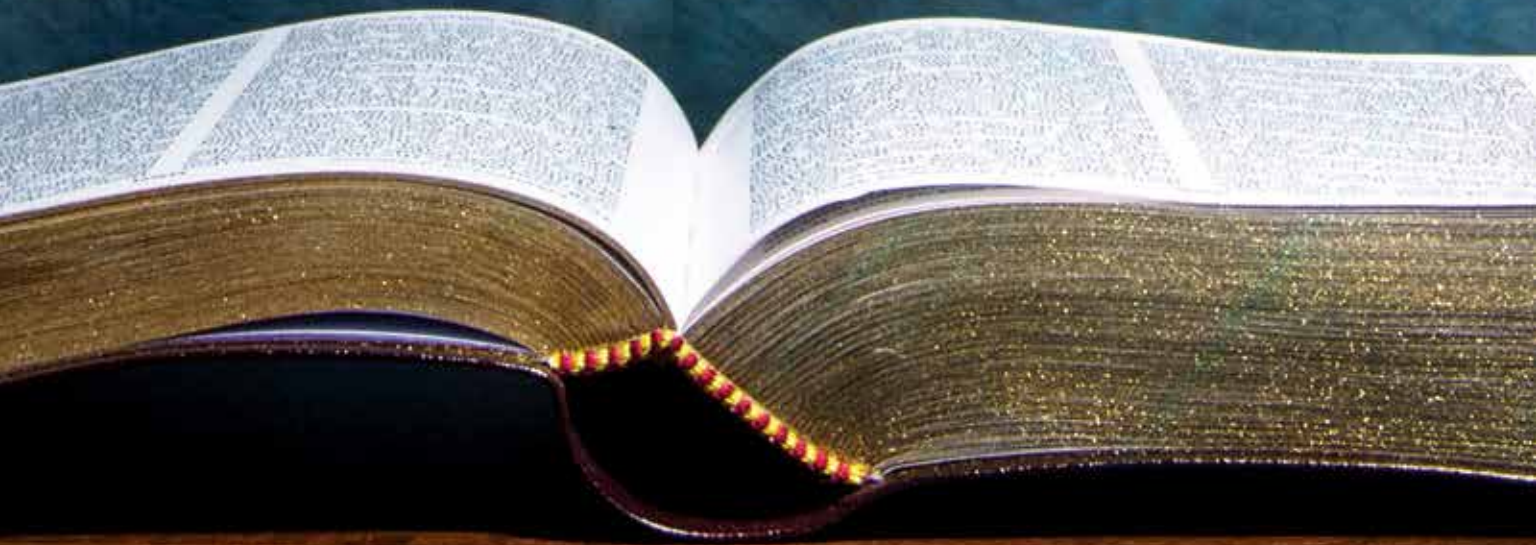
THE Word of Faith

APRIL 2023

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

HEALING BY THE WORD

PG 4





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'It Is Finished'

After Jesus spoke those final words on Calvary's cross, His head slumped to His chest, and He died. Those words have echoed from the cross down through the ages to today. They declare that Jesus bore the sins of humanity and paid the penalty for sin.

When Christ said, "*It is finished*," He meant that His blood and broken body had provided salvation and healing for everyone who trusts in His Name.

People have asked, "How can one man pay for the sins of the entire world?"

Jesus was no ordinary Man. He was the Lamb of God. Consider for a moment Who He really was.

"*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God*" (John 1:1). This verse is about Jesus Christ. The One Who hung on Calvary's cross with blood streaming from wounds on His body was there when the heavens and earth were made.

Ephesians 1:7 (NKJV) tells us, "*In Him [Jesus] we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.*" Forgiveness for sins comes only one way—through the blood Christ shed on Calvary!

What significance does "*it is finished*" have for us today? We are reconciled to God through Christ. Ephesians 2:13 (NKJV) says, "*But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.*"

What is finished? Sickness has been done away with by the supreme sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross. Every man, woman, boy, and girl should be exceedingly glad that He spoke the words "it is finished." They signify that we have been redeemed from poverty, sickness, and spiritual death. We don't have to bear the burden of those things anymore!

While Jesus' work on the earth is finished, the work of Rhema and its graduates continues. The Gospel is spreading around the globe, and Rhema grads are doing their part. On page 12 of this issue, you can read about the opening of Rhema Guatemala.



Kenneth W. Hagin

THIS ISSUE



4 Healing by the Word

KENNETH E. HAGIN

Christ is not *going* to redeem us from the curse of the Law. He *already has* redeemed us! Learn how to make Jesus' work real for you.

8 The Price Has Been Paid!

CRAIG W. HAGIN

Jesus paid for our sins on the cross. But He also provided many other benefits for us. Learn more about what belongs to us in salvation.

16 We Need Each Other

KENNETH W. HAGIN

From the beginning, God said it isn't good for people to be alone. We can achieve greater success when we work with others.

SEED THOUGHTS Page 21
FAITH ACADEMY Page 22



SPECIAL REPORT

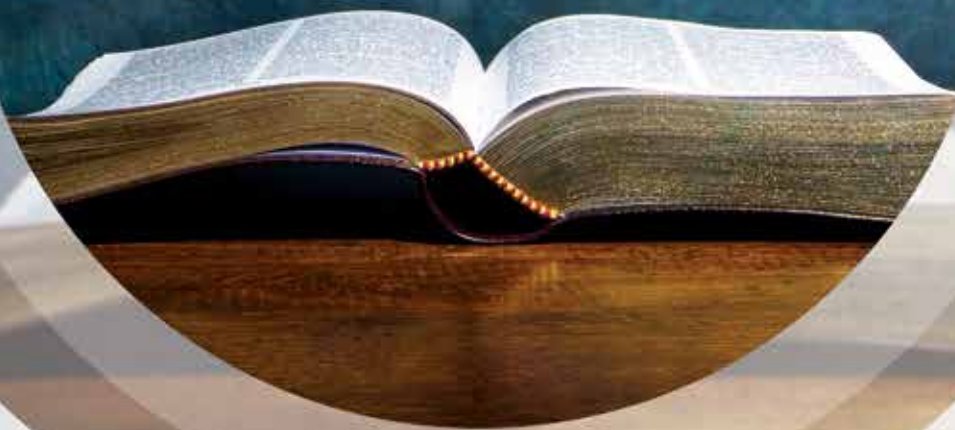
Humble and Hungry

Rhema graduates Michael and Viena Gutierrez were young and inexperienced when God called them to start RBTC Guatemala. But they longed to see truth transform the nation. Read their story.

HEALING BY THE WORD



Timeless
Teachings
of Kenneth E. Hagin



GALATIANS 3:13 SAYS, “*Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us.*” We are redeemed from the curse of the Law! Numerous verses in Deuteronomy chapter 28 reveal what that curse entails. Among other things, they show that sickness is a curse of the Law. The punishment for breaking God’s law includes the dreadful diseases enumerated in that chapter—and in fact, according to verse 61, every sickness and disease.

DOES GOD PUT SICKNESS ON PEOPLE?

The King James Version of these scriptures would lead us to believe that God Himself puts sickness and afflictions upon His people, because it reads, “*The Lord shall smite thee . . .*” (Deut. 28:28).

Dr. Robert Young, author of *Hints to Bible Interpretation*, points out that in the original Hebrew, the verb is in the permissive rather than the causative sense. Actually, it should have been translated something like this: “The Lord will *allow* you to be smitten . . . The Lord will *allow* these plagues to be brought upon you.”

The original Hebrew of these scriptures was in the permissive tense, but because the English language has no corresponding permissive tense, the verbs were translated in the causative tense. No, God does not send plagues and sickness upon His people as these verses seem to indicate.

IS SICKNESS GOD’S WILL?

While preaching to Cornelius’ household, Peter said, “*How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him*” (Acts 10:38).

This scripture makes it clear that the people Jesus healed were oppressed by the devil. Two thousand years ago, Satan was oppressing people and Jesus was healing them.

The Bible tells us, “*Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever*” (Heb. 13:8). From the beginning to the end of His public ministry, Christ was combating Satan. His battle was not with men, but with demons who indwelt them.

Don’t ever tell anyone sickness is the will of God for us. It isn’t! Healing and health are the will of God for mankind.

If sickness were the will of God, Heaven would be filled with sickness and disease.

Jesus in His earth walk was the will of God in action. He came to unveil the Father to us. He is the Word of God. **IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT GOD THINKS ABOUT SICKNESS, LOOK AT JESUS!** He went about healing the sick!

The Holy Spirit, looking back at Calvary, wrote in the past tense through Peter, *“Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed”* (1 Peter 2:24).

SPEAK YOUR HEALING!

Dr. Lilian B. Yeomans was a medical doctor who became addicted to morphine and other drugs. After she was divinely healed, she spent the rest of her life preaching the Gospel and teaching on healing.

When she and her sister inherited property, they turned it into a “faith home.” They took in people beyond medical help who were seeking healing for their bodies. They would work with them until they got enough faith built up in their hearts to receive healing from God.

One day a woman in the last stages of tuberculosis was brought to the home by ambulance. She was carried to an upstairs room, and Dr. Yeomans spent about two hours reading Bible verses to her on healing, especially Deuteronomy chapter 28 and Galatians 3:13.

Dr. Yeomans then instructed the dying woman to repeat to herself every waking moment, “According to Deuteronomy 28:22, consumption (or tuberculosis) is a curse of the Law. But according to Galatians 3:13, Christ has redeemed me from the curse of the Law. Therefore, I no longer have tuberculosis.”

The next morning, Dr. Yeomans asked the woman if she had been repeating what she’d instructed her to say. She answered that it seemed as if she’d said it 10,000 times, but she couldn’t understand what it meant. Dr. Yeomans read more scriptures to her and asked her to continue repeating the same words.

The next day the story was the same. On the third morning, the woman still did not understand. Dr. Yeomans had not even prayed with her yet, even though she’d been in her “faith home” three nights. (I think sometimes we pray for people too quickly. We should instruct them more in the Word first.)

On the afternoon of the third day, Dr. Yeomans and her sister were helping prepare the evening meal when they heard a commotion upstairs. Their new patient came rushing down the stairs, shouting at the top of her voice, “Sister Yeomans, did you know? Christ has redeemed me, and I no longer have tuberculosis! It’s gone now!”

You see, Dr. Yeomans realized that the way into the heart is through the mind. She knew if the woman would say those words to herself often enough, the truth eventually would register on her heart.

YOU ARE FREE

Disease is *broken ease*. Sickness is pain and suffering. It makes slaves of family and friends who must care for sick loved

ones. Disease and sickness are enemies of mankind.

SICKNESS IS A THIEF AND A ROBBER. It has robbed many a young mother of her health, beauty, and joy. It has robbed her husband of his wife and deprived her children of their mother.

Disease has robbed many young men, coming upon them in the midst of young manhood, filling them with anxiety and fear, and robbing them of faith.

Sickness and disease rob people of happiness, health, and money which is needed for other things.

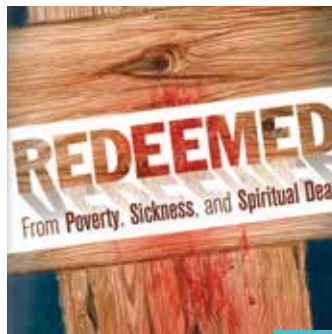
The Bible says that sickness and disease are part of the curse of the Law—and they should come upon us. But praise God, *“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law”* (Gal. 3:13).♥

[Editor’s Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin’s slimline book *Redeemed From Poverty, Sickness, and Spiritual Death*.]

SPECIAL OFFER

You Are Redeemed!

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WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT . . .

Healing

EXODUS 23:25-26 (NIV)

25 "Worship the Lord your God . . . I will take away sickness from among you,
26 and none will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will give you a full life span."

PSALM 91:9-10 (NLT)

9 If you make the Lord your refuge, if you make the Most High your shelter,
10 no evil will conquer you; no plague will come near your home.

PSALM 103:2-4 (NLT)

2 Let all that I am praise the Lord; may I never forget the good things he does for me.
3 He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases.
4 He redeems me from death and crowns me with love and tender mercies.

PSALM 118:17 (NIV)

17 I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.

PROVERBS 4:20-22 (NLT)

20 My child, pay attention to what I say. Listen carefully to my words.
21 Don't lose sight of them. Let them penetrate deep into your heart,
22 for they bring life to those who find them, and healing to their whole body.

PROVERBS 3:7-8 (NIV)

7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil.
8 This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.

PROVERBS 14:30 (NIV)

30 A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones.

PROVERBS 17:22 (NIV)

22 A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

ISAIAH 35:6 (NIV)

6 Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.

ISAIAH 40:29 (NIV)

29 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

ISAIAH 53:5 (NIV)

5 He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

JEREMIAH 30:17 (NIV)

17 "But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds," declares the Lord.

MATTHEW 8:17 (NIV)

17 . . . "He took up our infirmities and bore our diseases."

MARK 5:36 (NIV)

36 Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe."

MARK 5:34 (NIV)

34 He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

MARK 9:23 (NLT)

23 "What do you mean, 'If I can'?" Jesus asked. "Anything is possible if a person believes."

ACTS 3:16 (NIV)

16 "By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him . . ."

1 PETER 2:24 (NIV)

24 "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed."

Additional scripture references: Exodus 15:26, Psalm 41:3, Psalm 107:19-20, Isaiah 41:10, Joel 3:10, John 10:10, Acts 10:38, Galatians 3:13, Hebrews 4:16, Hebrews 13:8, James 5:14-16, 1 John 5:14-15

A CONFESSION FOR HEALING AND HEALTH

Thank You, Father, that Your plan of redemption provided not only forgiveness for my sins but also healing for my body. For it is written in Matthew 8:17 that Jesus took my infirmities and bore my diseases. I don't have to bear what Jesus bore for me. Disease is not mine; therefore, I refuse to tolerate it. Because Jesus bore my sickness and disease, I am healed. I am free. I am well *now!* I believe that in my heart, so I say it with my mouth. I am healed!♥

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God's Word is **MEDICINE** to
all our flesh. That means
there's **NOTHING** it won't cure.

The Price **HAS BEEN PAID!**



CRAIG W. HAGIN

JESUS REDEEMED MANKIND from sin on the Cross of Calvary. When something is redeemed, it means it was bought or a debt was paid in full. Jesus paid the ultimate price to redeem us. He willingly shed His blood, wiping away our debt of sin.

In God's eyes, we were forgiven when Christ shed His blood on Golgotha's Hill. Even before we were born again, God saw us as forgiven. It was when we made Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior that we took advantage of Christ's redemption. That's when we appropriated, or took possession of, what technically was already ours.

WE HAVE SALVATION COUPONS

Jesus not only paid the price for our salvation, He also bore stripes on His back and secured healing for us. We were healed 2,000 years ago. First Peter 2:24 says that it's by the stripes of Jesus that we were healed. If we were healed on the Cross of Calvary, then we are healed today. However, even though healing is available to us today, many Christians are sick because they haven't cashed in on what belongs to them.

Many benefits are included in our salvation package. Healing and escape from hell are just two of them. It's up to each one of us to take hold of what has been given to us. Here's one way to do that: See the benefits of salvation as a bunch of coupons Jesus gave us. Anytime we need anything, we just have to cash in one of the coupons.

For example, if we need healing, we receive it by opening our mouths and saying, "Jesus, I need to be healed. It's by the stripes that You bore on Your back that I am healed. I receive what you bought for me over 2,000 years ago. I'm taking my healing today. Here's my coupon."

FORGIVENESS IS OURS

Some Christians get tripped up when they sin after they've been born again. Whether we like it or not, being born again does not keep us from sinning. Our spirit man has become a new creature in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17). However, we still live in a body that has fleshly desires. A battle between our flesh and our spirit is fought every day. Both sides want to dominate. That's why the Apostle Paul told us in First Corinthians 9:27 to keep under our bodies and bring them into subjection.

While most Christians don't blatantly sin, we can easily be challenged in our love walk. It's very easy for things to happen that just set us off. During those times, we have to put the flesh under and allow our spirit man to rule.

OUR SPIRIT MAN IS FULL OF THE UNCONDITIONAL LOVE OF CHRIST, AND GOD'S LOVE LOVES EVERYBODY, no matter what. Anytime we lash out in a fleshly manner, we've let our flesh win at that moment.

When this happens, we need to remember our salvation coupons and cash in First John 1:9 by saying, "Father, I messed up, but You said that if I would confess my sin, You are faithful to forgive me and cleanse me from all unrighteousness. Here's another coupon!" When we do this, we're basically reminding ourselves that we've been redeemed.

NO MORE GUILT

After asking God to forgive them, some people still feel guilty. They think if they do something nice for somebody, donate to the local food bank, or do some kind of penance, they'll stop feeling guilty. They don't realize that they are trying to redeem themselves. They really don't understand what redemption means. Instead of accepting God's forgiveness, they are trying to

do something so they feel better. But they don't have to do that. They don't have to hold up a sign, "Will work for redemption." It's not about what they do; it's about what Jesus did.

Unfortunately, way too many Christians are walking around with guilt. They think that because they've done something wrong, they can never be what God wants them to be. They think that it's three strikes and they're out, but Jesus doesn't count up our strikes. We can have 99 strikes against us and Jesus still loves us unconditionally.

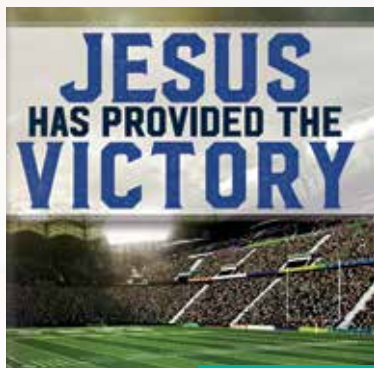
Although we may "feel" better after doing something for somebody, we have to realize that feelings are emotions. And it's not about *feeling* better; it's about *knowing* that we're forgiven. One definition for *redemption* is "atonement for guilt." Jesus redeemed us from guilty feelings. So anytime we feel guilty for something we've already confessed and repented of, we just need to let go of it.

God loved us so much that He sent His Son to redeem us. We need to remember that through Jesus Christ, we *have been* redeemed, and we need to drop that guilty feeling. Instead of thinking about guilty feelings, we need to think about Jesus. Through His shed blood, we are "not guilty!"

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The Cross Was Enough!

Jesus defeated Satan 2,000 years ago through the cross. The devil still roams the earth looking to steal, kill, and destroy. But Jesus has given us the weapons we need to keep standing and enforce the victory He won for us.



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FAITH IN ACTION

What does "I'm redeemed" mean? Once you accept Jesus as your Savior, it means you can say the following about yourself. Do that often. Because you are in Christ, you are saying what's true about you.

I am a new creature in Christ. Old things are passed away and all things have become new (2 Cor. 5:17).

I am victorious in every situation I encounter, for no weapon formed against me shall prosper (1 Cor. 15:57; 2 Cor. 2:14; Isa. 54:17).

I can do all things through Christ Who strengthens me (Phil. 4:13).

I am an heir of God and a joint-heir with Christ (Rom. 8:17).

I am more than a conqueror through Him Who loves me (Rom. 8:37).

I am healed by the stripes that Jesus bore on His back (Isa. 53:5; 1 Peter 2:24).

I am redeemed from the curse of the Law (Gal. 3:13).

I am filled with God's peace, which passes all understanding (Phil. 4:7).

I am the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19).

I am the salt of the earth and the light of the world (Matt. 5:13-16).

I am not condemned, for there is no condemnation in Christ (Rom. 8:1).

FAITH ON THE MOVE

RHEMA'S GROWING IMPACT

1950

The Lord appeared to Kenneth E. Hagin and told him, "Go teach My people faith." With the message of faith burning in his heart, he began holding seminars across the United States. But he knew he couldn't get the message out alone. He often cried out to God, "The world must hear this... How can we get it out?"

"We're excited about what God is doing around the world. We're taking Rhema's vision and running with it."
—Craig W. Hagin

2023

RBTC has more than 29,000 USA graduates and more than 112,000 graduates worldwide. In just the past few years, God has expanded our reach exponentially. We now have 282 campuses in 52 nations.

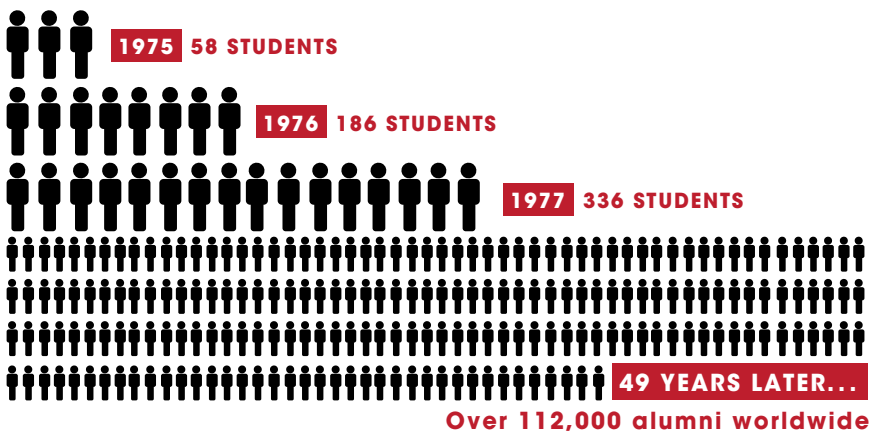
1975 58 students graduated. "I was the most excited guy you ever saw in your life," Kenneth W. Hagin recalled. The Hagins thought that if they could train 50 people a year, it would be wonderful.

1974 Kenneth W. Hagin started Rhema with only a pad and pencil, his Bible, and his college handbook. He was amazed when 73 people showed up for school.

1973 Kenneth E. Hagin received the answer to his prayers at Rhema's first *Campmeeting*. Speaking under the unction of the Holy Spirit, he said, "Bless God, we're going to start a Bible school."

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RBTC GRADUATION TOTALS



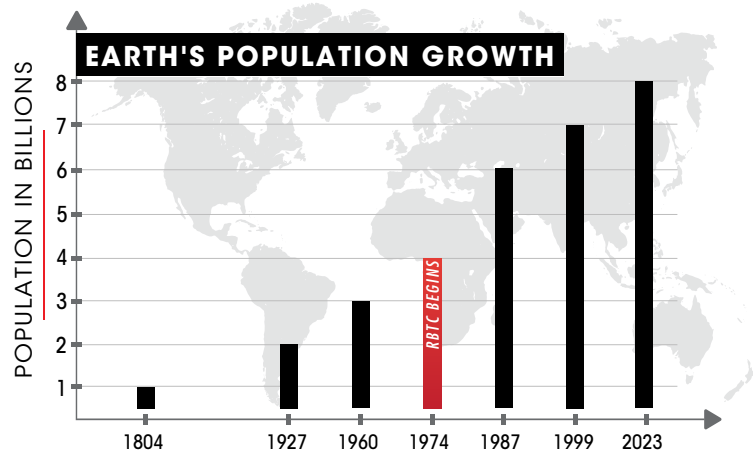
It takes only one generation for the truths of the Word of God to be lost. That's why every generation must be taught the message of faith and the move of the Holy Spirit. And that's why Rhema Bible Training College is still here. We didn't stop after five graduating classes, after 10, after 15, after 25. . . . We're in our 49th year because each generation must be trained. And we're never going to stop. . . . "Then [Jesus] said to His disciples, 'The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.'"

—Matthew 9:37–38 (NKJV)

It's been prophesied that Rhema will have a major role in the last-day revival that ushers in Jesus' return. We're not the only ones, but we're doing our part. In 49 years, this God-given mandate has spread faster than anyone ever imagined.

"So **RISE UP WITH A MIGHTY VOICE!** Link arms together and **MOVE FORWARD** as a mighty moving force, **PROCLAIMING THE MESSAGE** that I gave to a man: "Go teach My people faith." You have been taught faith, and you have lived faith. Now **IT IS YOUR MANDATE** to go and do the will of God, because **YOU ARE A PART** of the army that will bring the King back."

—Given by Kenneth W. Hagin under the unction of the Holy Spirit at a Winter Bible Seminar





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RHEMA IS A SPOKEN WORD, A PLACE, AND A WORLDWIDE FAMILY.

HUMBLE AND HUNGRY



THIRTEEN YEARS AGO in mid-October, Michael Gutierrez sat in the back of an ambulance in Dallas, Texas. It was 2 a.m. His job as a paramedic was to help save lives. But facing a difficult time in his own life, he felt *he* needed saving. That night, another EMT on his shift was a Rhema graduate and Guatemalan missionary. He ministered God’s Word to Michael and gave him one of Kenneth E. Hagin’s books. That encounter eventually led Michael to save lives in a different way.

Michael consumed more books by the Hagins, and in 2012 the Lord directed him and his brother, Edgar, to attend Rhema USA. Enriched and empowered by what they learned during their first year, the brothers and other Rhema students traveled to Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Peru during their summer break to preach the Gospel.

While visiting churches in Guatemala, they met Viena Guillén, a Guatemalan native and pastor’s kid. Impressed by the students’ zeal for God and the miracles she saw happening firsthand, Viena was led to enroll at Rhema USA that fall.

Michael and his brother headed back to Oklahoma to prepare for their second year at Rhema. But they couldn’t shake the pull Guatemala had on them.

“Guatemalans are some of the most humble people you will ever meet,” says Michael. “They are very receptive to the Gospel. We just need more laborers to go—into the rural areas especially—to reach out to them. But they are very humble and hungry.”

To Michael, Viena, and Edgar, it was obviously God’s will to have a Rhema campus in Guatemala. They met with Rhema USA’s dean to discuss that possibility. In the meantime, they

and their friends gathered every Friday for a year to pray out the details of what the school would need to operate successfully.

GOD ANSWERS A HEART’S CRY

As graduation day crept closer, the trio knew in their hearts they were going back to Guatemala. However, they still had no final word on whether an RBTC campus would be opened in that third-world nation.

“I remember singing in the [Rhema Bible Church] choir on *International Rhema Day*,” shares Viena. “The big globe came down, and I saw the lights representing countries with an RBTC campus. I looked, and there was no light in Guatemala. I started crying and said, ‘Lord, I want Rhema in my country! My people need this.’”

Shortly after, they received a call from the dean. “The process happened really fast,” says Viena. “We heard how other Rhema campuses had been opened, and I think for us it was as if the Holy Spirit had everything ready.”

With diplomas and one-way tickets in hand, the young team left for Guatemala. Meanwhile, plans for a new Rhema campus weren’t the only thing that had developed. During their time at Rhema USA, Michael and Viena saw their friendship blossom. They married in 2016, the same year Rhema Guatemala was established.

CULTIVATING LABORERS FOR THE HARVEST

Michael and Viena were officially named Rhema Guatemala’s national directors in 2021. The Gutierrezes admit starting the

school was very challenging. They had no staff, no permanent building, and no credibility. Now they have their own facility. And thanks to the school's 145 graduates and counting, they've assembled a homegrown team of staff, volunteers, and instructors—with more students in training to be instructors.

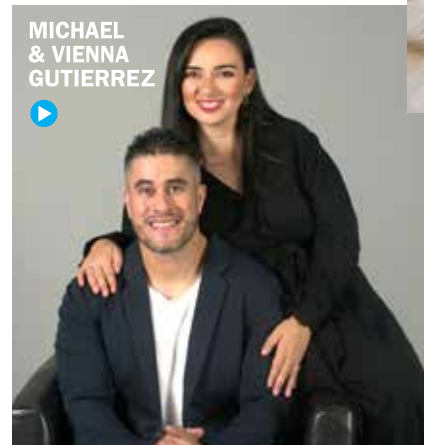
As for credibility, that's growing. Seven years ago, most people in Guatemala City had never heard of Rhema or Kenneth Hagin. But that's changing through word of mouth. The school has donated 4,000 copies of *The Believer's Authority* and other Faith Library Publications books to Guatemalan church leaders. And most importantly, graduates are sharing what God has done in their lives.

One graduate—a pastor—applied what she learned in the school's church pioneering course and planted a Rhema work in the city of Chimaltenango. The congregation is having a major impact locally, but also internationally thanks to social media.

"Rhema Guatemala graduates are the future. They are going to be the attractors," says Michael. "As with any international Bible school, the goal is to produce laborers from the same culture, because the missionaries can't do it all."

KNOCKING DOWN RELIGIOUS WALLS

Michael and Viena are excited to have a part in training Guatemalans to break religious mindsets with the transforming power of God's Word. They are doing that in a country rife with bad doctrine.



MICHAEL & VIENNA GUTIERREZ



As students learn about faith and their authority in Christ, there has been an explosion of miracles. One student gave Kenneth E. Hagin's *Bible Healing Study Course* book to her dad, a pastor. He had diseased kidneys and needed surgery. He was completely healed just by reading the book!

Many Guatemalan churches teach that healing isn't for everyone. As a result, most students came to Rhema Guatemala not sure if God was willing to heal them. "That's one of the greatest walls we've had knocked down," says Viena. "We not only teach the Word, but we demonstrate it. And when people see that it works—when they see miracles and healings—they know it's real."

TRUTH TRIUMPHS OVER TRAGEDY

Michael and Viena agree that the word of faith message has transformed their own lives. The couple welcomed a daughter in 2018. But they credit Rhema's message and the comfort of the Holy Spirit for helping them through the devastating loss of their second baby in 2021.

"Being over Rhema [Guatemala] and teaching about miracles and healing—and then that happened," shares Viena. "The devil wanted to bring shame to our ministry, but he did the opposite. It was the Word deposited in us from Rhema that helped us have a different perspective than others who experienced a similar loss. We're stronger than ever and more determined to preach the Gospel and teach people faith."

Expansion plans are underway, starting with a second RBTC campus launching this year in Guatemala City's business district. Revival is breaking out among the graduates. Rhema is changing many lives in Guatemala. And the Guterrezes are expecting another baby in May! They are thankful for God's faithfulness.

Viena shares, "When we started, we were young, barely graduated, and had no experience. Yet the Lord had us start Rhema Guatemala and share what we learned in two years. It feels like the Lord has us moving fast because He needs to do something in this generation. It's humbling. If you're willing, He doesn't see your age or experience. He's just looking for a willing heart to go and do the work of the Lord."♥



To learn more about Rhema Guatemala, visit rbtcguatemala.org or follow on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/RBTCGuatemala) @RBTCGuatemala.

Rhema Guatemala Student Testimony

Beverly recently graduated from her second year at Rhema Guatemala. She says, "After going through the 'Christ the Healer' course, I was encouraged to bring the healing truths embodied in the Bible to a man named Pablo who was diagnosed with cancer. The miracle happened through a virtual meeting. That's right—we didn't physically lay hands on him! The miracle occurred by declaring the powerful truths of God's Word which Pablo believed and confessed to himself. Pablo is now cancer free—completely healed! God is good!"



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CONQUERING THE FEAR OF REJECTION



KATE MCVEIGH

“HE IS DESPISED and rejected of men” (Isa. 53:3). This verse in the Book of Isaiah reminds us that Jesus experienced rejection so we could experience victory over it! Isaiah let us know that Jesus would be a man so familiar with rejection during His earthly life that He would come to understand sorrow and pain. But, like Jesus, we have been given the supernatural ability to overcome rejection and live in freedom!

filled with the Holy Spirit. I felt as if a great burden had been lifted off my shoulders. The depression and fear that had oppressed me for so long were gone!

As I began to study God’s Word, I realized that He loved me as His own beloved child. I began to defeat the devil’s lies with the truth of the Word about me. And I consciously decided to see myself the way God sees me.

Speak good things to yourself about yourself. God’s Word says great things about you. Believe them! Tell yourself, “I am not a mistake. God loves me. He’s happy with me. He has good plans for me. He thinks wonderful things about me, and they’re all true! By faith, I will fulfill my purpose on earth.”

NO REJECTION HERE!

I believe Satan works overtime on his powerful weapon of rejection because he knows it can paralyze us. As Christians, we then will be of little or no effect, and that’s exactly what he wants.

But we don’t have to receive rejection. God is faithful, and when we believe

“WHEN YOU

KNOW WHO

YOU ARE IN CHRIST

YOU DON’T HAVE TO SPEND TIME

PROVING YOUR WORTH.”

Definitions of the word *reject* include “to refuse to accept, recognize, or make

use of.” Rejection begins with a seed planted—often at a very early age—and sometimes by those who should care most about us. Yes, rejection can wound our emotions. Yet we must keep in mind as born-again believers that the Holy Spirit lives in us to strengthen and comfort us.

My personal experience with rejection set the stage for some very uncomfortable growing-up years. I was the brunt of such painful teasing in school that I developed an overwhelming inferiority complex.

LEAST LIKELY TO SUCCEED

I grew to *expect* rejection from people, and all of my expectations were met. I was actually voted “Least Likely to Succeed” out of my class of more than 600! On that occasion, I went home and ran to my bedroom sobbing. I blurted out to God, “If You don’t do something fast, I’m going to kill myself!”

God was already in the process of doing something. At age 16, I was born again and

CONQUERING INTIMIDATION

You see, we can become so intimidated that we begin to think there must be something terribly wrong with us. We can develop the idea that we’re unacceptable and unsuitable for anyone or anything. We actually reject ourselves because someone else rejected us!

To overcome these negative thoughts, we must recognize their source. John 10:10 confirms that it is the thief (Satan) who comes only to steal, kill, and destroy. God is not the author of turmoil and rejection. Jesus came to give us abundant life.

Once we correctly identify the source of rejection, we must align our thoughts and words with God’s Word. We should avoid saying negative things about ourselves. Remember what Proverbs 23:7 says: “As [a man] *thinketh in his heart, so is he.*”

the truth of His Word, our minds will be renewed (Rom. 12:2), and we’ll get beyond our own opinion of ourselves.

Take inventory of the issues you’re facing and deal with them. As God’s blood-bought child, you don’t have to let old patterns and negative circumstances affect your walk with Him.

When you really know who you are in Christ, you don’t have to try to prove your worth. You can experience for yourself the peace and contentment that come from God alone. Remember, He loves you so much that He gave His own Son to conquer intimidation and rejection once and for all! Through your faith in Jesus Christ, you can be secure in who you are in Him.♥

[Editor’s Note: Kate McVeigh is a Rhema graduate and traveling minister.]

WE NEED EACH OTHER



KENNETH W. HAGIN

ALL RELATIONSHIPS BEGIN with God. He wants us! But He also wants us to have relationships with other people.

Some folks isolate themselves and live like recluses. They think they can make it on their own—that they don't need anyone else. But in Genesis 2:18 (NKJV) God said, *"It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."* We need each other.

When one of our relationships is broken, we are limited and crippled, so to speak. But when we maintain healthy, godly connections, it enables us to be tremendously effective for the Kingdom of God.

We can do things on our own and have *some* success. **BUT WHEN WE WORK TOGETHER WITH OTHER CHRISTIANS, WE CAN TURN OUR COMMUNITIES UPSIDE DOWN FOR GOD.**

The Church in the Book of Acts had a reputation for turning the world upside down (Acts 17:6). Their strong relationships with each other enabled them to change the world around them.

Acts 2:46 (NIV) says of the Early Church, *"Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts."*

The early believers went to church but also fellowshiped with one another in homes and other casual settings. We can see two categories of friendship: people entering into a new relationship with Christ (Acts 2:41, 47) and people developing friendships with each other (Acts 2:42, 46). God designed the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ to be relational.

First through the believers' strong relationships with God, and second through their connections with each other, the Lord

"added to their number daily those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47 NIV). As we do what they did, we will see more people being born again.

As a pastor, I'm not interested in catching "fish" from someone else's pond. In other words, I don't want to steal people from other churches. I want our membership to increase because we are winning the lost to Jesus Christ.

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Here is an illustration to show how strength is found in numbers. I can take a single stick and easily snap it in two. But let's say I take a group of sticks (each being about the same size) and bind them together in a bundle. If I try to pop the bundle over my knee, I won't be able to break any of the sticks in it.

The devil often comes to us individually and tries to snap us in half. But he won't be able to break us if we're bound together with others. He may bend us a little, but he can't crush us. There is strength in numbers.

When people see us bound together and busy helping one another, they will want to have that kind of relationship. They'll be born again into God's Kingdom, and our churches will be filled with new babes in Christ.

Some of these converts may not look or act the way we do. And that's all right. Too many Christians try to clean up the outside before they clean up the inside. But if a person has Jesus working on the inside, it will eventually show up on the outside.

When we understand godly relationships, we can shake hands with people who may not look like we do. We need to be ready, willing, and able to help new Christians get established in God and build relationships with others in the Body of Christ.

A BIBLICAL PATTERN

God is relational. He wants to have a personal relationship with us. And He wants us to have fellowship with other people.

You've probably heard the saying, "No man is an island." **WE NEED GOD, AND WE NEED OTHERS.** The Bible is full of accounts of individuals who had a relationship with God and with other people: Adam and Eve, David and Jonathan, Naomi and Ruth, Paul and Barnabas, and so forth.

The healthier our relationship with God is, the healthier our connections with other people will be. Let's first establish and build our relationship with God. Then He will help us develop meaningful connections with the people around us.♥

.....

WE CAN DO THINGS ON OUR OWN AND HAVE SOME SUCCESS. BUT WHEN WE WORK TOGETHER WITH OTHER CHRISTIANS, WE CAN TURN OUR COMMUNITIES UPSIDE DOWN FOR GOD.

.....

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FAITH NUGGET

Relationships

To develop meaningful relationships, we must invest time and attention. Below is an acrostic of the word *relationships* that outlines elements we need to build healthy friendships.

Reach out to others

Enjoy each other

Loyal to each other

Available to each other

Trust each other

Interested in each other

Open to each other

Need each other

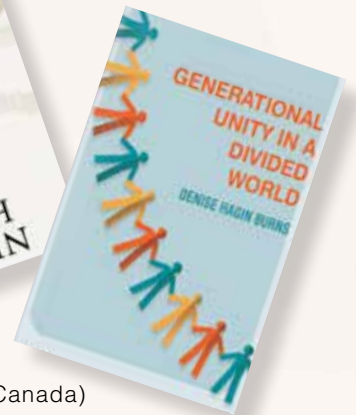
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Help each other

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You Were Meant to **Operate Like God**

FREDERICK K. PRICE JR.

IF YOU'VE EVER heard someone say, “That’s my MO,” they’re referring to the Latin term *modus operandi*, which means “way of operating.” They are essentially saying, “That’s the way I do things” or “That’s how I operate.”

God has a mode of operation. His MO is to speak something and it comes to pass. When God said, “*Let there be light*” (Gen. 1:3), light showed up. Mankind was meant to replicate God’s way of operating on the earth.

GENESIS 1:26 (NKJV)

26 Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion . . . over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ ”

Humans are the only creatures created in God’s image. It’s what makes us unique. Like God, we are authoritative speaking spirits. Although we are *not* God, we look like Him and are like Him. Therefore, we should act like Him. That means we, too, should see results whenever we speak words of faith.

YOU MUST SAY SOMETHING

God has done the hard part. We’ve assumed that we are to speak things into existence. But everything we need is already in the unseen realm waiting to manifest.

The *logos* (Word) brought everything into existence (John 1:3). And in Hebrews 11:3 we see that the worlds were framed (arranged and ordered) by the *rhema* (spoken Word) of God. The word *rhema* means “utterance or thing said.”

Rhema must be placed on what *logos* has brought forth. We simply have to speak order to what exists in the unseen. In other words, for

the invisible to become visible in our lives, we have to *say* something. Our Heavenly Father spoke and created the universe. We have the ability to speak order to our world, our lives, and our families.

A NEW LINGO

The tongue is a powerful instrument. According to Proverbs 18:21, two major things are in the power of the tongue—death and life. James 3:6 says our tongues can set on fire the course of nature. They can introduce the very nature of hell and evil! That’s why it’s of utmost importance for us to take our tongues captive and speak only words that agree with God’s Word.

In fact, our language should have changed when we were born again. Romans 10:6 (NKJV) says, “*The righteousness of faith speaks in this way.*” The Apostle Paul was saying that those of us who are righteous by way of faith—not by the working of the law—are to speak in a particular manner.

Now that we are the righteousness of God, we have a Kingdom dialect. Instead of saying things such as “I *hope* God can,” we say, “I *know* God will.” Hope is a good place to start, but we don’t want to stay in hope. It’s faith that changes things.

GET THE DOUBT OUT

Jesus said if we speak to our mountains, they will move. He said we will have whatever we say if we don’t doubt. (See Mark 11:23–24.) Doubt is dangerous. It’s the only thing that will prevent mountains—obstacles in our lives—from moving. When we speak to our mountains, they must move if there is no uncertainty in our hearts.

I believe part of the reason some believers don’t see results is, they don’t really believe. What you believe in your heart is key. You can’t get results saying something just because someone told you to say it. You have to really believe what you say.

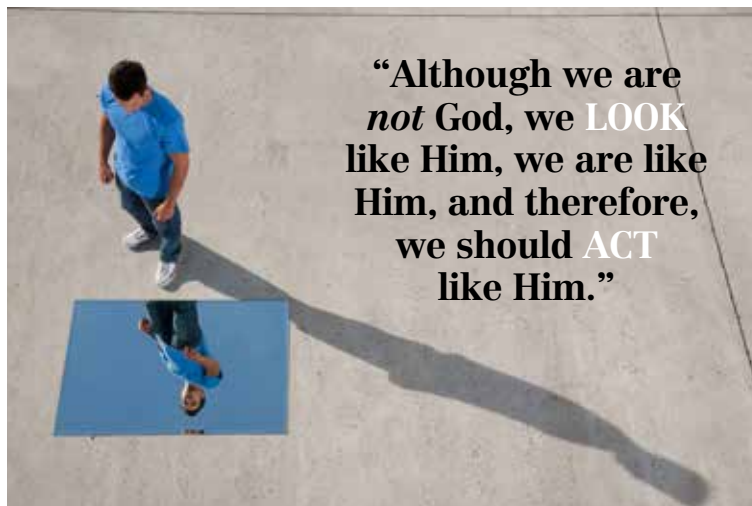
God doesn’t wonder if what He says will come to pass. He’s never uncertain when He speaks. And He intends for us to follow that model. God has given us dominion, Jesus’ authority, and the Holy Spirit’s ability. When we speak words of faith, we’re not to wonder or hope. We’re to *know* that what we say will come to pass. Why? Because that’s how we’re meant to operate.♥

[Editor’s Note: Frederick K. Price Jr. pastors Crenshaw Christian Center in Los Angeles, California. This article was adapted from his *Campmeeting 2022* message.]



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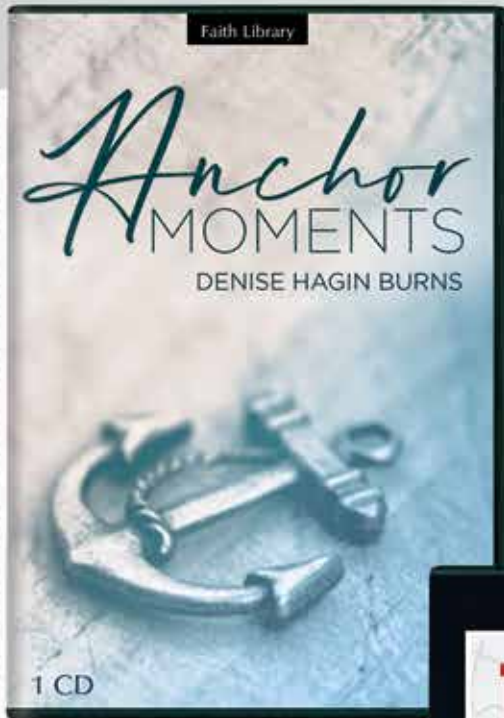


“Although we are *not* God, we **LOOK** like Him, we are like Him, and therefore, we should **ACT** like Him.”

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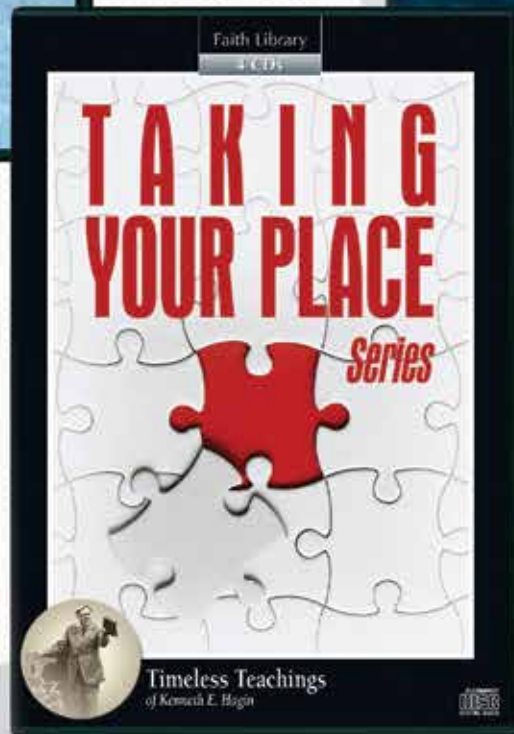
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SEED

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)

NO MORE COMPLAINING!

HAVE YOU BEEN around a person who complains and criticizes constantly? I don't stay around those types of people for very long. If you want a formula that will destroy your relationship with God and others, give yourself over to complaining and criticizing.

Some people complain about everything. They complain about the weather, the economy, their job, their boss, and their co-workers. One common complaint is how people drive. How many times have you yelled in your car at a driver? I tease my husband because he gets irritated when people don't know what to do when they approach a ramp on the freeway. He is talking, and, of course, I am the only one in the car. I laugh and tell him, "They can't hear you."

When I think of complainers, the children of Israel come to mind. Of course, we know Pharaoh was persecuting the Jews. God had compassion on them and chose Moses to lead them out of Egypt. God miraculously parted the Red Sea, so they could escape.

The Egyptians came after them but drowned in the sea the Israelites had crossed. The people were rejoicing and began singing and praising God for their deliverance.

During their journey in the wilderness, they came to Marah. The water was bitter, and the Israelites were unable to partake of it. Suddenly, their praises turned to murmuring and complaining. It's amazing how quickly our praise can become complaints when unexpected challenges come our way.

God had mercy on them and gave Moses the plan for making the bitter water sweet, and they were able to partake. The Lord then gave them this promise in Exodus 15:26–27 (NKJV), "*If you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the Lord who heals you. Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees; so they camped there by the waters.*"

You would have thought the children of Israel would have realized that God was with them and would deliver them from every challenge that they encountered on their journey. But time after time when a challenge occurred, they began complaining instead of looking to God for the answer to their situation.

Let me ask you a question? What have you been complaining about—your job, your spouse, your children, the car you drive, or the house you are living in? I would encourage you to stop complaining and began giving thanks for what you do have.

I once read in a column where a lady complained that her husband snored and kept her awake at night. Another lady wrote, "I wish I could still hear my husband snore." Her husband had passed away recently. So many times, we are like the children of Israel. We complain about our job or boss and decide to work for a different company. Later we say, "Wow, I had it better where I was."

An old adage says, "The grass always looks greener on the other side of the fence." I like to add: "Until you cross over and find the same challenges you faced are on the other side of the fence."

The Apostle Paul is a great example of being positive in any situation he encountered. I love to read the Book of Philippians. It so inspires me to rise above my complaints and look to God in every situation I find myself in.

Paul was in prison writing a letter of encouragement to the Philippian church. He wrote in Philippians 4:4 (NKJV), "*Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!*"

I often say if it had been us writing the letter, we would have started out with, "Grumble in the Lord always. Again I say grumble." Paul then wrote in verse 8 "*Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.*"

Life is about choices. Will you choose to complain or praise? I choose to follow Paul's example to rejoice in the Lord and meditate on the good reports!♥

Lynette



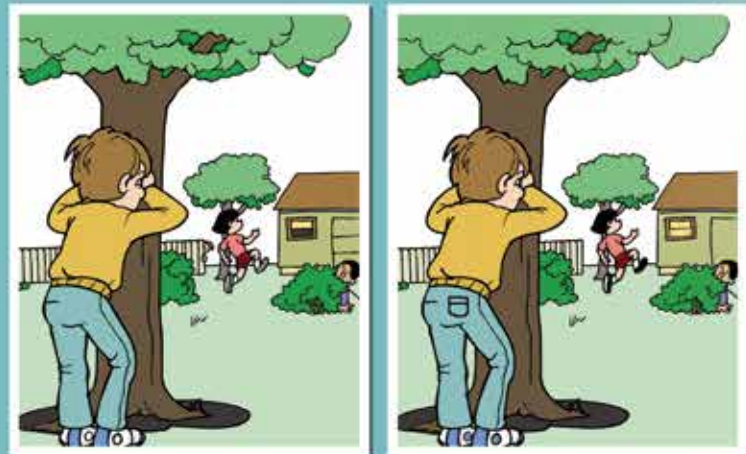


Kids' Page

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

FIND THE DIFFERENCES

Search and find the eight differences between the two pictures below.



HIDE AND SEEK



There are a lot of people who don't like to play the game of "Hide and Seek." They don't like looking for hidden things. They prefer that everything that they need in life be in plain view. So, it might interest you to know that God DOES like Hide and Seek! Sure, there are some things that He puts in plain view for everyone to find. But the Bible tells us that there are HIDDEN and DEEP things of God that most people don't take time to SEEK (1 Cor. 2:7-10). Jesus said that the Kingdom of God is just like a HIDDEN treasure buried in a field (Matt. 13:44). It takes some work, some searching, and some digging to find HIDDEN treasure. In Matthew 6:33 Jesus said that we should "SEEK first the kingdom of God" as you would for a HIDDEN treasure. Isaiah 45:15 says, "Truly, you are a God who HIDES Himself." But the good news is that He really wants to be found! In Jeremiah 29:13 God says "And you shall SEEK me, and find me, when you search for me with all of your heart." So, spend some time today SEEKING God and His kingdom and remember that "He is a rewarder of those who SEEK Him diligently" (Heb. 11:6).

WHAT'S HIDDEN IN GOD?

According to Colossians 2:3, there is something very precious that is HIDDEN in God that only the diligent SEEKER will find. Using the number replacement system below, replace the numbers with letters to fill in the blanks. A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4 and so on to Z=26

1	12	12	20	8	5	20	18	5	1	19	21	18	5	19
15	6	23	9	19	4	15	13	1	14	4				
11	14	15	23	12	5	4	7	5						

SEEK AND YE SHALL FIND...

Here are some things that the Bible tells us to SEEK in order to FIND. See if you can find these things hidden in the word puzzle below.

- THINGS ABOVE KINGDOM OF GOD
- RIGHTEOUSNESS PEACE
- THE LORD GODS FACE
- STRENGTH

R R P K T R K T T R P R D S
 I K E I H I H H O I O I T
 G P A N E G N I E G G G K R
 H P E A C G K Y L F P H O E
 T H I N G S A B O V E T H E
 E E K E P E I M R E A E T P
 O O P O T O O D O C O G E
 U P E A C D U U O U E U N A
 S S R S G S S E P S S L E D
 N T N N P R K I N O N Y R N
 E K I E E G E K O P E E T K
 S K S G O D S F A C E S S S
 S S P S T P E A C L S K S O

jokes & riddles

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



Why was the broom late?
 It over swept!

What kind of car does Luke Skywalker drive?
 A Toy-Yoda!

What did the teddy bear say when he was offered dessert?
 No thanks, I'm stuffed!

What did the policeman say when the spider ran down his back?
 You're under a vest.

Answers:

Find the Differences

- Leaf at top of tree
- Boy hiding behind fence
- Bush missing a limb
- Boy's pocket
- Blue circles on boy's shoes
- Running girl's shoes different color
- Garage window
- Garage door missing lines

What's Hidden in God?

ALL THE TREASURES OF WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE

I Guess I Should Talk to God...

“GOD LOVES YOU. He doesn’t want you to kill yourself.” Mark said the first words that filled his heart. Minutes before, he had convinced the younger man sitting across from him not to jump off a bridge. Now they were talking over coffee.

“No, God doesn’t care about me. I deserve to die!” Ray sobbed. “I should have been there to save him . . .” Ray’s four-year-old son had drowned in a neighbor’s pool. He was swimming with his friend, and the boy’s mom was watching them. When she heard her infant crying, she went inside to check on the baby. By the time she came back, it was too late.

“Ray, none of us can save ourselves, much less someone else,” Mark said. “That’s why we need God. I just read about a rich man who lost his 10 children and his wealth in

one day. His skin broke out with boils and his servants snubbed him. Even his wife told him to curse God and die. He was a godly man and had prayed for his children every day. But it seemed as if God had abandoned him. He was in so much emotional and physical pain that he wished he’d never been born.”

“Did you say 10 children?” asked Ray, forgetting himself momentarily.

“Yes, 10 children.”

“And he had prayed for them every day?”

“Yes.”

Ray exploded, “Why would God sit by and watch a godly man lose all his children? I might not be perfect, but my parents were good people. They went to church twice a week. The day they died, we were coming home from church when someone ran a red light. My parents and little brother didn’t survive!”

Shocked, Mark said nothing, but his heart went out to him.

“I’ve been angry at God since that night,” Ray continued. “I decided that if He wouldn’t save my family, He certainly didn’t care about me.” He reached for his coffee.

Both men sat silent.

Abruptly, Ray asked over the rim of his steaming cup, “How did the story end?”

Mark answered quietly, “His name was Job. He finally admitted he couldn’t save himself, and God comforted him. Everyone who had abandoned him came to celebrate. They brought him gold and other gifts. God blessed him with 10 more children and doubled the size of his business empire.”

“Wow!” exclaimed Ray, his eyes brightening. “That really happened?”

“Yes!” said Mark, just as excited. “The Bible says it did.”

“I guess I should talk to God then. I want this pain in my heart to go away. I want to live and take care of my wife. Can you help me talk to Him?” Ray’s eyes welled with tears.

Mark reached for both his hands. “I can do you one better. I can introduce you to Him. That way, you can talk to Him whenever you want.”

Ray was ready. Mark led him in a simple prayer, and the younger man welcomed God into his life. If you need the kind of comfort Ray received, you, too, can get to know God. To meet Him, ask Jesus, His Son, into your heart and make Him Lord of your life. Pray 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!

If you prayed this prayer for the first time, welcome to God’s family! He longs to comfort you and help you. Email us at PartnerService@rhema.org and let us know about it. We’ll send you some free materials to get you started in your new life as His child.



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