



THE Word of Faith

MAY 2023

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES



What Does it Mean To Be
A GODLY MOTHER?

PAGE 7



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the Word of Faith



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PLEASE SHARE WITH A FRIEND OR RECYCLE.

Pentecostal Revival

The Day of Pentecost was one of the greatest moments in mankind's history. That day, God poured out His Holy Spirit upon the human race. Pentecost began in the Upper Room with tongues of fire and a rushing, mighty wind from Heaven (Acts 2:1-4). Over time, there were many great moves of the Spirit. But eventually, they all waned.

As the 20th century began, the Spirit's flame burst out again. Soon after, it was fanned in a little mission on Azusa Street in downtown Los Angeles, and Pentecostal fire started spreading around the world!

The mid-1960s witnessed a tremendous outpouring of the Spirit. People were filled with the Holy Ghost in restaurants, in elevators, in hotel lobbies—everywhere! But as we rolled into the 1990s, those Pentecostal fires once again began to wane. People tried to quiet the move of the Spirit. The Holy Ghost was relegated to a special service or a back room. But we need to stop treating Him like a guest and treat Him like a Resident! We must stop telling the Spirit of God when He can and cannot move!

When I was a boy, my dad pastored a little Pentecostal church in Farmersville, Texas. He began holding healing services every Saturday night. More people came to our church that night than to the movie theater downtown. Why? Because the Spirit of God was moving. I saw people climb through windows and crawl over the tops of pews, rushing to the altar to get saved!

More than anything else in the world today, we need a demonstration of the Spirit. If we will keep those Pentecostal flames burning, we'll have a revival like none we've seen. The power of Pentecost must not take a back seat. Let's carry the fire of God's Spirit to a lost and dying world!

On Mother's Day, May 14, let's remember those who gave us birth and raised us. And on Memorial Day, May 29, let's also remember those who gave their lives so we could have the freedoms we enjoy.



Kenneth W. Hagin

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FINDING *God's Purpose* FOR YOU



DENISE HAGIN BURNS

WE ALL GO through different seasons in life, and each one has a purpose. I used to think God had one purpose for me. I wanted Him to tell me what it was so I could run as fast as I could to fulfill it and then check it off my list. But that's not how it works.

God's purpose for us is not a destination; it's a journey. The word *journey* means the miles you can travel in one day. Our journey with God refers to how far we travel with Him in a day. It's a daily exploration in our relationship with Him. His mercies are new every morning (Lam. 3:22–24).

With every season, our purpose changes. Recently my husband and I became empty nesters. I didn't anticipate how difficult that was going to be for me. For 21 years, my purpose was being a mom. Really, that's all I ever wanted to do. So when that season of taking care of my kids each day ended, I felt devastated. I didn't even want to get out of bed. I thought my purpose in life was over. However, what I failed to see was that I haven't reached my destination until God calls me home.

During that transitional season I prayed, "God, if this season is over, what's next for me?" And He answered. Here are some thoughts to remember when going through transitional periods in your life.

YOUR PURPOSE IS INSIDE YOU

You don't have to look around for your purpose. It's already inside you. God planted all the purposes for every season on the inside of you when He created you.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 (AMPC) says, "*He has made everything beautiful in its time. He also has planted eternity in men's hearts and*

minds [a divinely implanted sense of a purpose working through the ages which nothing under the sun but God alone can satisfy]."

God implanted in you a sense of purpose for what He wanted you to do. You just have to ask the Holy Spirit, Who lives inside you, to reveal it.

John 16:13 (NLT) says, "*When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future.*" We have a "future teller" living inside us. He knows the purposes and plans God has for us in the next season. If we will just ask God to reveal them to us and listen on the inside, His Spirit will reveal them.

*You don't have to look around
for your purpose.
It's already inside you.*

BE CONTENT IN THE UNCOMFORTABLE

Your purpose in the next season is generally going to require more of you. So you'll need to be content in the uncomfortable. You'll have to grow, because healthy things grow. Jesus went through the pain of the cross because He knew it would bring eternal life to all of us. Are you willing to be a little uncomfortable to get to the next purpose God has for you?

EMBRACE THE NEW

Your new purpose will look different. Even the things you do each day will change.

Matthew 9:17 (NLT) says, *"No one puts new wine into old wineskins. For the old skins would burst from the pressure, spilling the wine and ruining the skins. New wine is stored in new wineskins so that both are preserved."*

What God has for you now can't fit into your old ways. If you hang on to your old habits in your new season, they'll burst you wide open. We always go from glory to glory to glory, and our purposes get bigger and better. With those come new pressures and new ways of doing things. But the Holy Spirit will help you embrace a new way of thinking.

SAY YES

You have to be willing to say yes to God's new purpose. A simple yes can carry you from one purpose to the next. God is waiting for your yes, because it opens the door for Him to come in and usher you onto your new path.

One day Jesus saw two brothers, Peter and Andrew, fishing. He called out to them, *"Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!"* (Matt. 4:19 NLT). They left their nets at once and followed Him. They said yes. They could have turned down that invitation but didn't. Their yes paved the way for their next purpose of becoming Jesus' disciples.

Moses said yes and it opened up his next purpose of leading Israel out of Egypt. Even Jesus had to say yes to the cross or we wouldn't have a way to be saved.

BE QUIET AND LISTEN

During a hard, uncomfortable transition, it is easy to gripe and complain. But God wants us to get quiet and listen to what He's saying.

Elijah was a great prophet at a time when Jezebel, Israel's queen, was killing God's prophets. When the queen threatened his life, he ran away, hid in a cave, and complained to God. While Elijah was quiet and alone, God gave him his next purpose. He was to anoint Elisha, who would eventually be the next great prophet.

Elijah had to stop crying and complaining to hear God's still, small voice and find his next mission. The Bible says, *"Be still, and know that I am God"* (Ps. 46:10). God is waiting for us to be quiet and listen to Him. Then He will show us our new purpose.

STAY STEADY

We have to stay steady on our journey. We must not quit on our purpose, even when we can't see the next step. We must have faith that God will bring us through. He will never let us down. Galatians 6:9 (NLT) says, *"So let's not get tired of doing what is*

good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up."

There are plans only you can fulfill for God. That's why He implanted a unique purpose in you. God made you on purpose, for His purpose, and He does not make mistakes. He designed you and your personality to carry out His plan.

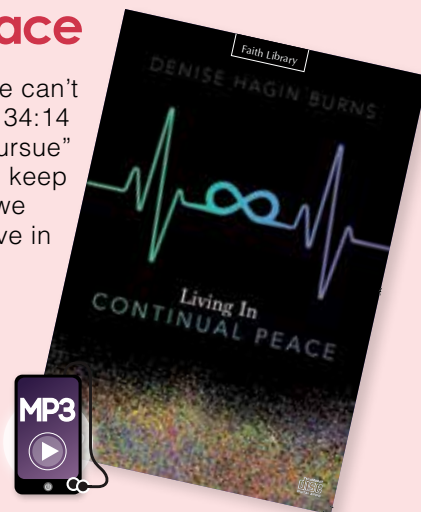
Your divine destiny is waiting for you to step into it. But remember, it's a journey, not a destination. And when you get up and go on that exciting journey with God, He'll lead you into His purpose for you. And you will affect many lives. 🙏

*Your divine destiny
is waiting for you
to step into it.*

SPECIAL OFFER

Pursue Peace

To live in peace, we can't be passive. Psalm 34:14 (NIV) tells us to "pursue" peace. We have to keep going after it. But we *can* learn how to live in perpetual peace.



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The Power of a Godly Mother

GOD CREATED WOMEN with special traits for the most strenuous and honorable task of motherhood. No job on earth takes more physical, mental, social, emotional, and spiritual strength than being a good mom.

Moms have a powerful influence over their children. The home is the greatest theological seminary in the world. It's where children get their basic training about God.

Many times, children learn about Who God is more from what they observe in the home than what is said to them. Your actions speak louder than words ever will. Therefore, it's important for moms *and* dads to always be conscious of the attitudes, values, and deeds they display in the home. Children learn by example, and being a proper example to your children is what a true Christian home is all about.

Hannah—A Model for Motherhood

When I think of a wonderful example of a mother, I think of Hannah in the Bible. I've always loved the story of Hannah and Samuel. (See 1 Samuel chapter 1.) Elkanah, Hannah's husband, had two wives. One, Hannah, was barren, and in those days it was considered a curse if women didn't bear children. Elkanah's other wife, Peninnah, had borne him children, and for years she taunted Hannah for being childless. But Peninnah was jealous of Hannah because Elkanah loved her more.

Hannah desperately wanted a child. She prayed and cried out to God year after year for a son, promising to dedicate him to the Lord. God answered her prayers and opened her womb, and she gave birth to Samuel (and five more children later). Samuel became a great prophet mightily used by God.

Mothers and wives can learn some great lessons from Hannah's story. If you read the entire account in the Bible, you will see that before Hannah was a mother, she was first of all committed to God. She didn't believe in complaining to others. Instead, she believed in prayer and going to God for her needs. She also didn't belittle Peninnah, even though she had caused Hannah great distress.

Hannah knew her God could solve the problems in her life. She had a vital first-name relationship with the Lord. We must be as committed to God as Hannah was. We need to look inward and ask ourselves if we are that committed to our Heavenly Father.

Second, Hannah was committed to her husband. She was a loving wife who endured criticism without complaining. Hannah didn't threaten to leave Elkanah because of how his other wife treated her. She didn't nag her husband; she took her burdens to God.

When Hannah could have held a grudge against Peninnah, she chose to forgive her. Oftentimes as women we say, "Well, I'm going to forgive you, but I'm never going to forget what you did." Forgiveness is not forgiveness until we forget.

If you're a wife, don't remind your husband of things you're still holding on to that may have happened years ago. If he said "I'm sorry," that's enough. Forget it. Hannah did.

Third, Hannah knew her children were a gift from God. Mothers need to recognize that children are a gift from the Lord and treat them as such. Furthermore, she was committed to train her children in the ways of God. Hannah's responsibility was to train Samuel in the ways of the Lord so he would recognize the voice of God.

A mother's job is to train her children in the things of God. A significant part of that training is teaching them to pray, reading the Word with them, and teaching them to be honest and kind to others.

Finally, Hannah honored her commitment to give Samuel back to God. You know, Hannah didn't have children until she was older. It would have been easy for her to cling to her firstborn. But she kept her promise. And that is what we must do with our children. We must train them, but then we must give them back to God.

Are you preparing your children for the moment when they must do what God has called them to do? A mother's responsibility is to train her children. God's responsibility is to call them to whatever He has for their lives.

I will never forget what I did with my own children before they were born. I said, "God, thank You for giving me this child. However You want to use him and her, I'm willing."



LYNETTE HAGIN



We must dedicate our children to God as Hannah did. Someone once said, “Maybe the reason we don’t have more Samuels today is, we don’t have more Hannahs.”

Love Matters Most

The most important way mothers can walk like Hannah is by pointing their children back to the love of God. The number-one thing a mom can do is to love her children and teach them to love her God.

A boy wrote a letter to his mom who had been nagging him about straightening up his room. He said:

“Dear Mom, I have decided that you and not I are the casualty in the battle of the bedroom. Yes, my bedroom is a mess. Yes, it’s true you don’t ask too much. But will wars end because I make my bed? Will world hunger end because I hang up my clothes? With all the terrible things happening in the world today, what does the condition of one bedroom matter?

“Yes, I know that before the world can be put in order, each person must put their own little world in order. But this doesn’t bother my world. To put my world in order, Mom, I need love, not Ajax. So Mom, I’ll make you a deal. You use a little more love, and I’ll use a little more Ajax.”

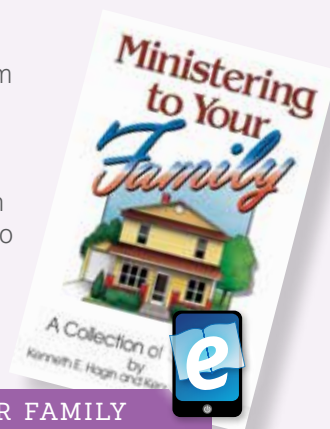
Many times in training their children, mothers are using “Ajax” on them, and they are not combining it with love. Do you know what happens if you use only Ajax to clean *everything*? Those things will get scratched, dull, and damaged by the abrasives. So as a godly mother, yes, you may have to use a little “Ajax” on your children. But combine it with love—God’s love.

Remember, be committed to God as Hannah was. Be committed to your husband. Treat your children as a gift from God. Commit to train them, and then give them back to the Lord. But most important, give your children love and point them to God’s love.♥

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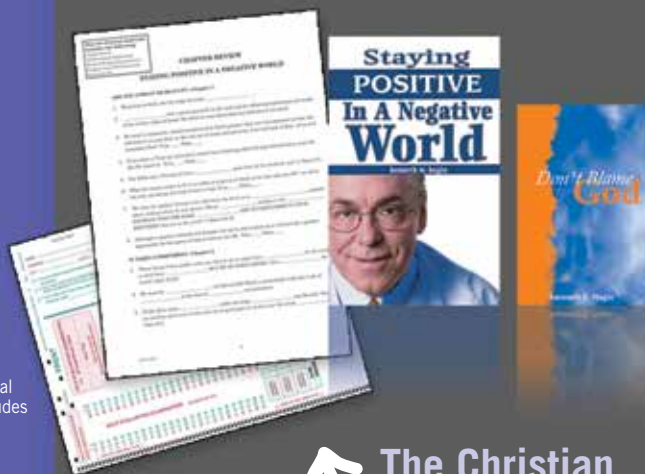
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OFFER #W2202

Conquer Worry by Conquering Your Thoughts



KENNETH W. HAGIN

HAVE YOU EVER sat quietly, thinking and meditating on the Word of God? Did you realize that as you were meditating, you were using your creative imagination?

God gave humans the ability to imagine. We are to use our imaginations properly, according to God's Word, so we can envision our lives the way they are supposed to be—the way God intends our lives to be.

But without renewing our minds with the Word, we will use our imaginations improperly. We will see our circumstances only the way they appear, and we'll live powerless to change them. On the other hand, if we meditate in line with God's Word, we'll see things as they *really* are according to the Word, not as they *appear* in the natural.

Train Your Thoughts to Work for You

Worry begins when we use our thoughts or imagination to dwell on the wrong thing. When we think on wrong things, negative feelings arise and worry starts to set in. Often that happens because we try to analyze a certain situation instead of taking it to God and going to His Word for answers.

Have you ever heard the expression “paralysis by analysis”? When you overanalyze a situation instead of going to God with it and trusting Him, you can become paralyzed, feeling hopeless and confused. When situations confront you, don't forget the Word and use your own reasoning to analyze them. God's Word is where you can find your answer!

In the midst of a test or trial, some people become so involved in trying to figure out why something happened that they forget to pray and trust God for the answer! They worry instead of praying and believing God.

The Bible says, “*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding*” (Prov. 3:5 NKJV). Victory comes through trust and faith, not through worry and anxiety.

Worry never accomplishes anything productive. It never produces victory, because worry is fear triumphing over faith. Worry is the misuse of the creative imagination God has given you. It's nothing but a thief and a robber, and it will rob you of God's promises. Worry is the highway that leads from somewhere to nowhere! So stay off that road.

After you have decided to trust God and not worry, the devil will still put thoughts in your mind to try to make you fret. But resist those thoughts and go back to thinking and seeing in line with the Word.

Cast Down Vain Imaginations

Someone may say, “Wait a minute! The Bible says, ‘*Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself*

Worry is the enemy's tool to steal the Word of God from us and make God's promises ineffective in our lives.

against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ’ (2 Cor. 10:5). And you're telling me to *imagine* something?”

Yes. The Bible never said, “Don't imagine.” It simply said, “Cast down imaginations that exalt themselves against the knowledge of God.” According to this scripture, you're to cast down imaginations that tell you God's Word isn't true.

For example, you're to reject thoughts that say you can't be healed and made whole. Those thoughts are contrary to the knowledge of God, because God said, “You are healed”



(Isa. 53:5). Therefore, based on the authority of His Word, you have every right to imagine and see yourself healed.

It's the imaginations that go against the knowledge of God that we are not to give place to or think about. Thoughts that bring worry and fear need to be cast down and made subject to Christ—they must be brought under obedience to Him.

You have the ability and authority to cast down worry and resist anxious thoughts. You can take the energy you've spent worrying and put it to better use by casting down vain imaginations and throwing your cares on the Lord.

Refuse to Be Robbed of the Word!

Some people spend all their time and energy worrying about a particular situation instead of giving their care to the Lord and trusting Him to work it out. They lose sleep at night worrying about the problem. But that problem is still there in the morning.

When the devil tries to work on me with similar thoughts, I say, "Devil, you want somebody to worry? Then *you* worry about it. But my Bible tells me I can cast all my cares on the Lord, so I'm going to sleep in the Holy Spirit." Then I quote the scriptures that cover whatever it is I need. I lay my head down, pray in tongues, and always fall fast asleep. Then I'm fresh the next day. I'm not worn out physically, mentally, and emotionally from worry and anxiety.

When the devil comes to me with his "what ifs," I always have an answer from the Word. Satan has no defense against God's Word. He wants to get us thinking apart from the Word and dwelling on his negative thoughts so he can defeat us.

The devil will try to keep us in an anxious state of mind, and he will eventually try to destroy our sanity. He will come to us with questions to get us off track so we will begin to think things that aren't in line with God's Word. But the Bible says we are not to be ignorant of Satan's devices (2 Cor. 2:11). We

SPECIAL OFFER

Be Prepared!

Life comes with problems. When tough times show up, where can you turn for safety and guidance? Who will protect you? The answers are found in God's Word. Don't merely exist as a victim of circumstances. Hold on to God's promises and enjoy the victory He's planned for you!



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can defeat the enemy at every turn if we know how he operates and we stand fast against him with the truth of God's Word.

Set Your Heart & Mind on the Word

Worry is the enemy's tool to steal the Word of God from us and make God's promises ineffective in our lives. The devil uses worry to distract us and get us to dwell on anxious, negative thoughts instead of on what God said. Then gradually, we stop thinking on the Word or trusting God to see us through to victory.

You see, we cannot worry and think on the Word at the same time. Likewise, we cannot think on the Word and worry at the same time! Therefore, we know what we are to think on.

The Apostle Paul said, "*Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things*" (Phil 4:8).

You can break the worry habit in your life simply by conquering your thoughts and keeping your heart and mind set on God's Word!✝

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Purpose and Power

DARRELL HUFFMAN



JESUS BEGAN HIS ministry by preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom and demonstrating the power of the Kingdom. He then called the disciples and sent them out with instructions to preach that the Kingdom of God was now here.

Before Jesus ascended to Heaven, He spoke to the disciples about “things pertaining to the kingdom of God” (Acts 1:3 NKJV). If the Lord started and ended His ministry preaching about the Kingdom of God, maybe it’s important for us to be involved in it too.

Jesus commanded the disciples to stay in Jerusalem until they received the promise of the Father (v. 4). They then asked Him, “Will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” (v. 6). Notice that Jesus was talking about the Kingdom of God, but they got caught up with end-time events and natural kingdoms.

If we don’t watch out, we will allow the enemy to distract us and get us caught up in things that aren’t really important to the Lord. We need to get connected to what Jesus commissioned us to do.

Jesus said that all authority was given unto Him. He then delegated that authority to us and said, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you” (Matt. 28:19–20 NKJV).

JESUS WANTS US TO GET PEOPLE IN THE DEVIL’S KINGDOM AND BRING THEM OVER TO GOD’S KINGDOM. Paul tells us what the Kingdom of God is. It is not “eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit” (Rom. 14:17 NKJV).

Joy is a spiritual force that flows out of our spirit. In the midst of sorrow, we can tap into “a joy that is unspeakable and full of glory” (1 Peter 1:8). It gives us strength in the middle of a test and causes us to stand in the power of God.

OPERATING IN GOD’S POWER

Jesus told us how to operate in the power of the Kingdom today. He said, “You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8 NKJV).

The word *power* means “ability.” **GOD’S ABILITY IN OUR LIVES WILL ENABLE US TO DO WHAT HE WANTS US TO DO.** The Holy Spirit gives us the ability to be witnesses. And the word *witness* means “one who can produce evidence and proof.”

Our purpose is to take the Gospel and reach all the nations of the world. It’s not by *our* power or might. When the Holy Spirit comes on us, He will empower us with His ability. We will be people who can get the job done!

A LIGHT TO THE WORLD

The Book of Daniel says the wicked will get more wicked in the last days. But Daniel also said the righteous will shine like stars (Dan. 12:3).

Now is the time for Christians to get bolder in God. Light always dispels darkness, but the light has to be turned on. Jesus told us not to hide our light under a bushel. Our light needs to shine so everybody can see what God is doing.

Jesus said in John 14:12 (NKJV) that “he who believes in Me, the

works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.” God has filled us with His Holy Spirit and has given us His ability. Jesus has given us His authority.

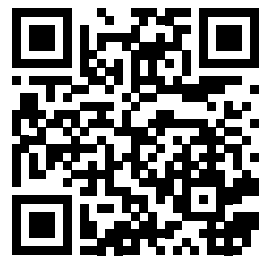
Let’s not live our lives just to get to Heaven. God wants to work with us, in us, and through us. Let’s go out and do the works of Jesus. 🙏

[Editor’s Note: Darrell Huffman and his wife, Bonnie, graduated from Rhema Bible Training College in 1978. For over 41 years, they have preached the Gospel across the U.S. and around the world. This article was adapted from one of Darrell’s Campmeeting 2022 messages.]

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Kenneth Hagin Ministries'

WINTER BIBLE Seminar

Sounds of Revival!

The sound of revival rang loud at *Winter Bible Seminar* as attendees were refreshed in their souls. Throughout the week, there was an urgency to pass the torch of revival, faith, and the power of God to the next generation. As the Rhema family poured out their hearts in worship and prayer, the Holy Spirit made it clear that revival is for every generation, both young and old.

Make plans to join us next year for *Winter Bible Seminar* and *Rhema Homecoming, February 18–23*. Here are some highlights from the week.

IS THERE ANY GAS IN YOUR TANK?



“Running out of gas in our vehicles is a great concern. But we should be just as concerned when it happens to us spiritually. In First Samuel chapter 30, David and his men returned to Ziklag to discover their homes had been raided and burned, and their wives and children were captured. With their families and possessions gone, they were at their wits end. David realized

he had to go to God for encouragement. **TIMES OF CONFLICT AND BETRAYAL CAN DRAIN US AND RUN OUR SPIRITUAL TANKS DRY. IN THE SAME WAY WE HAVE TO FILL UP THE TANK IN OUR VEHICLES, WE HAVE TO FILL UP SPIRITUALLY.** God has a vast supply that never runs out. Ephesians 5:18 (AMPC) says, ‘*Ever be filled and stimulated with the Holy Spirit.*’ Being filled and refreshed is an ongoing action.”

// KENNETH W. HAGIN

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING ON?



“John chapter 5 tells the story of the pool of Bethesda where many sick people waited in hopes of getting healed. An angel would stir the water at certain times and whoever stepped in first was made well. While they were waiting, Jesus came and healed one man who had been sick for 38 years. This story reminds me of the church today. Many Christians are like the people around the pool. They’re waiting for a move, not realizing they’re living under the New Covenant. Jesus Christ is with us all the time. **WE DON’T HAVE TO WAIT FOR JESUS TO SHOW UP AT OUR CHURCH OR ANYWHERE ELSE. HE’S ALREADY ON THE INSIDE OF US!**”

// CRAIG W. HAGIN

ELIMINATING DISTRACTIONS



“In this season, we need to eliminate the distractions in our lives to walk out God’s plan. The enemy uses distractions to keep us from fulfilling what God has planned for us. Ask yourself, ‘Are my ears tuned to the voice of God, or am I being distracted?’ It can be hard sometimes, especially when the enemy is blasting his negative thoughts so loudly in our ears that we can’t hear God’s voice. We must turn

off the enemy and listen to the Lord. **GOD WANTS TO GIVE US VISION AND ASSIGNMENTS, BUT VISION AND PURPOSE CAN DIE IN LIFE’S DISTRACTIONS IF WE AREN’T CAREFUL.** We have to stay in touch with God morning, noon, and night. Ask the Lord to help you correct those things—even the seemingly good things—that are distracting you from fulfilling His plan for your life in its fullness.”

// LYNETTE HAGIN

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH



“Jesus said, ‘*A time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth*’ (John 4:23 NIV). We have the Spirit within, and the Spirit within us worships God spirit to Spirit. Listen, we have to create an atmosphere for Him to come in. We’ve been putting the Holy Spirit in a box. I like to laugh, run, and dance,

but that is not the only way He moves. I am convinced there are moves of the Holy Spirit we’ve never seen because we haven’t let it happen. We’re limiting Him to only move in the ways we have seen in the past. **BUT IF WE WILL SHATTER THAT BOX AND GET INTO GOD’S PRESENCE AND WORSHIP HIM IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH, HE WILL DO THINGS WE’VE NEVER SEEN, THINGS THAT WILL BLOW OUR MINDS.**”

// DENISE HAGIN BURNS



“We need all hands on deck. It’s time for God to move. Some of you who have been saved a long time need to dust yourself off and get back into the fire and realize your services are required right now.” // **KIRK DUBOIS**



“The Gospel message should be the most understood message above all other messages we carry as Christians. Yet, most of us can spout the ABCs of faith quicker than we can Christ died, was buried, and rose for our justification.” // **DOUG JONES**



“The way we pull our ‘selfie’ together is to look in the correct mirror. The world is not your mirror. As a Christian, God’s Word is the only safe and accurate mirror, and the Revealer lives in you.” // **JOE DUINICK**



“Doing the works of Jesus is important, and we are called to do them. We believe for the miraculous and want to see people healed. But Jesus’ works disconnected from Jesus’ Words produce actions apart from His heart.” // **TONY MCKINNON**



“Who is in us? The mighty Holy Ghost. God’s glory resides in the temple of God individually and collectively. Part of the revival is rising up and being containers of God’s glory and power in our generation.” // **TAD GREGURICH**



“When believers lose sight of honor, three things will happen. We’ll stop receiving answers to our prayers. We won’t live the long life God promised us. And it will be hard to be led by the Spirit of God.” // **BILL RAY**



“What you’re focused on will come out of you. The Bible says that out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. We ought to be focused on the good things in us in Christ.” // **TANNER GREGURICH**



“What is coming out of your mouth every day, all day? Is it agreeing with what God is saying? You can’t speak the curse and speak the promises and expect the promises to dominate.” // **KAREN JENSEN SALISBURY**



“God’s promises are designed to be pressure-tested—to sustain you in the middle of a circumstance. That situation may be beating you upside the head, but put your emphasis on the promise. It can overcome whatever pressure you are facing today.” // **GARY HENNEFENT**



“Walking out God’s perfect will starts with the ministry of reconciliation. God’s will is around you all the time—it’s the people you come in contact with. Be an ambassador of Christ and reconcile them to God.” // **DAN TAYLOR**



"Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

—Matthew 18:18–20



WHEN TWO AGREE



JESUS WANTS US to take Him at His Word. I believe He said what He meant and meant what He said. For Matthew 18:19 to work, two people have to agree, and they have to be on earth. That fits us. We just have to agree in line with God's Word as touching anything that we shall ask. When we do, the Bible says it shall be granted to us.

Notice that Jesus said, "*It shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven*" (v. 19). The strongest assertion one can make in the English language is to say "I shall" or "I will." Jesus said in John 14:14, "*If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.*"

The Greek scholar P.C. Nelson said he always did his reading and private devotions from the Greek because he said the Greek language was more beautiful than English. Rev. Nelson said a number of Greek idioms could not be translated into English because the English language didn't have any counterpart for those words.

The translators made the strongest statement they could, but Rev. Nelson said a more literal rendering of John 14:14 in Greek is, "If you shall ask anything in My Name and I don't have it, I will make it for you." It's just more beautiful to say that verse this way!

BINDING AND LOOSING

We usually apply Matthew 18:20 to gathering in Jesus' Name for a church service. Jesus said, "*For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.*" You can do that, but that is not what this scripture is talking about.

Jesus is saying that whenever two people agree in prayer, He is right there to make it good. Jesus is bringing out the fact that whatever we bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven, and whatever we loose on earth shall be loosed in Heaven. Heaven will back us up in what we pray on earth in agreement, as long as our prayer is in line with God's Word. We have the authority to loose and bind.

Instead of using that authority, many folks let the devil bind them. They say they can't help it and that the devil is after them. They seem to think they can't do anything about the devil's attacks.

They *can* do something. Every believer has authority over the devil in Jesus' Name. If you don't know how to use your God-given authority over the devil, then get in agreement with another believer and bind the devil from harassing you.

The prayer of agreement is for us today. What is Matthew 18:19 doing in the Bible if it's not for us to use to get our needs met?

THE PRAYER OF AGREEMENT WORKS

Jesus said if two people agree on earth, anything they ask in prayer *shall* be done for them. He didn't say there was only a *possibility* that it would be done. He said it *would* be done!

Years ago at Christmastime, I was preaching in west Texas. Although I had been there for three weeks, the pastor wanted me to stay for three more weeks. He said he realized I needed extra money at Christmastime since I would not be in meetings during the holidays. But he wasn't sure if his people could give extra.

Nonetheless, I agreed to stay, believing that I would receive sufficient offerings. I wrote my wife, Oretha, telling her that I was going to stay on. I also wanted her to agree with me for a certain

amount of money according to Matthew 18:19. The next Sunday night, I received more than what we agreed on.

I wrote my wife again, telling her to do the same thing the following Sunday afternoon, and I would do likewise. When the week was over, we received above the amount we asked for.

The Sunday night before Christmas, the church had a Christmas program, and I preached for only 15 minutes. After the service, we went to the parsonage, and the pastor and I counted the offering. It was \$20 short of what Oretha and I had claimed.

I suggested that we count the offering again because the money had to be there. I told the pastor how Oretha and I had agreed in prayer. If the prayer of agreement didn't work, I would throw it away! I'm just that honest.

We counted the offering again and still came up short. But then I remembered that someone had bought a Bible from me before church. She also gave me a \$25 offering that I had forgotten about. We again received more money than we had agreed for!

TWO CAN PUT TEN THOUSAND TO FLIGHT

You may be mighty in prayer alone, but you can be mightier with someone joining you. The Bible says that one will put one thousand to flight, but two will put ten thousand to flight. (See Leviticus 26:8 and Deuteronomy 32:30.)

In other words, you can do 10 times as much with someone agreeing with you as you can by yourself. That's a good thought to meditate on. There doesn't have to be a great number of people for the prayer of agreement to work. The prayer of agreement requires two people on earth to agree according to God's Word. It will work for you and any believer who will dare to believe and act on it. ♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin's *Bible Prayer Study Course*.]

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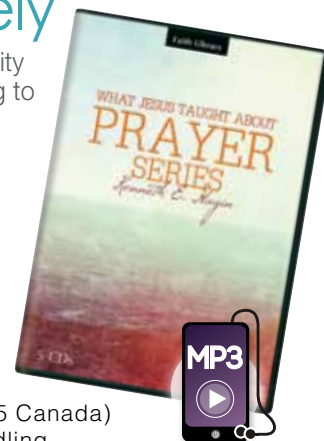
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Mental Health

LIKE THE BODY, the mind can be sick or injured for a variety of reasons. The Bible addresses the topic of mental health by speaking much about a person's emotions, mind, soul, and heart.

Below are scriptures for different mental health challenges. Meditate on them and confess them as true for you. Say them and pray them out loud. God says in His Word that you have authority over the devil. Resist the enemy with God's Word. Satan knows he cannot hold in bondage a believer who exercises their authority over him in Christ.

ANXIETY DISORDERS

PSALM 4:8 (NLT)

8 In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, O Lord, will keep me safe.

PSALM 56:3 (NLT)

3 But when I am afraid, I will put my trust in you.

PSALM 46:10 (NLT)

10 "Be still, and know that I am God! . . ."

JOHN 14:27 (NLT)

27 "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."

PHILIPPIANS 4:6 (NIV)

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

1 PETER 5:7 (NLT)

7 Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.

DEPRESSION & BIPOLAR DISORDER

PSALM 40:1–2 (NLT)

1 I waited patiently for the Lord to help me, and he turned to me and heard my cry.

2 He lifted me out of the pit of despair, out of the mud and the mire. He set my feet on solid ground and steadied me as I walked along.

PSALM 42:11 (NLT)

11 Why am I discouraged? Why is my heart so sad? I will put my hope in God! I will praise him again—my Savior and my God!

ISAIAH 60:1 (AMPC)

1 Arise [from the depression and prostration in which circumstances have kept you—rise to a new life]! Shine (be radiant with the glory of the Lord), for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

JEREMIAH 29:11 (NLT)

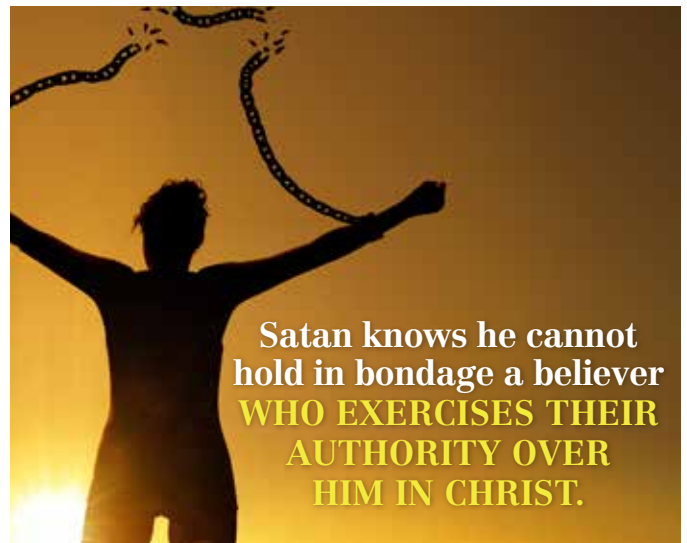
11 "For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."

MICAH 7:8 (NLT)

8 . . . For though I fall, I will rise again. Though I sit in darkness, the Lord will be my light.

MATTHEW 11:28 (NLT)

28 Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. . . ."



POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

LAMENTATIONS 3:21-23 (NLT)

21 Yet I still dare to hope when I remember this:

22 The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease.

23 Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.

PSALM 34:18 (NLT)

18 The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.

PROVERBS 1:33 (NLT)

33 "But all who listen to me will live in peace, untroubled by fear of harm."

PSALM 107:13-14 (NLT)

13 "Lord, help!" they cried in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.

14 He led them from the darkness and deepest gloom; he snapped their chains.

SUICIDAL THOUGHTS

DEUTERONOMY 30:19-20 (NLT)

19 "Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live!

20 "You can make this choice by loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and committing yourself firmly to him. This is the key to your life. . . ."

PSALM 34:17 (NLT)

17 The Lord hears his people when they call to him for help. He rescues them from all their troubles.

PSALM 94:17-19 (NLT)

17 Unless the Lord had helped me, I would soon have settled in the silence of the grave.

18 I cried out, "I am slipping!" but your unfailing love, O Lord, supported me.

19 When doubts filled my mind, your comfort gave me renewed hope and cheer.

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A PRAYER FOR MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALING

Heavenly Father, I come boldly to Your throne of grace in the Name of Jesus. I come to You as the One Who heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. I believe that You are the author of peace and that You are my Healer.

Thank You, Lord Jesus, that You came to destroy the works of the devil. I ask You to destroy every root of fear, anxiety, worry, confusion, depression, and mental infirmity in me.

I ask, Father, for Your Holy Spirit to work in me to bring me to sound mental and emotional health.

Thank You, Lord, for healing me and redeeming my life from destruction. And thank You for promising to keep me in perfect peace as my mind is stayed on You, because I trust in You. In Jesus' Name I pray, amen.

FAITH IN ACTION

May Is Mental Health Awareness Month

If you are dealing with mental illness, the most important thing you can do is renew your mind with God's Word and talk to Him about your feelings.

If stress, depression, and pain have you considering suicide, help is available. Don't be ashamed to seek help from a Christian doctor, therapist, or counselor. God has placed them in their positions for a reason.

If you or someone you know is struggling with suicidal thoughts and needs immediate support, call or text 988 to reach the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

We can pray with you. Our Prayer Center is available at 918-258-1588, ext. 2980 (Monday–Friday, 8:15 a.m.–4:30 p.m. CDT. Voicemail available after hours).

SEED

Thoughts

// LYNETTE

"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)

CELEBRATING MOTHERS

MOTHER'S DAY IN the U.S. has been an official holiday on the second Sunday in May since 1914. Certainly, it is fitting to set aside a day to honor the person who was responsible for us being on the earth. The Bible honors wives and mothers in Proverbs 31:10–30. I particularly like two of the verses in the *New Living Translation*. Verse 11 says, "Her husband can trust her, and she will greatly enrich his life." Verse 28 states, "Her children stand and bless her. Her husband praises her."

Mothers are one of the most important individuals in our lives. A survey conducted among children said they would choose the love and approval of their mother over money, fame, or possessions.

When asked who the most influential person in his life was, Winston Churchill replied, "My mother."

George Washington said, "My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education I received from her."

Motherhood is an awesome responsibility. Unfortunately, there aren't any courses you can take that will prepare you for the joys, challenges, heartache, and laughter that motherhood brings. God created the father as the head of the home. However, the mother is the heart of the home.

A child was asked, "Where is your home?" The little fellow replied, "Where Mother is." As keeper of the home, God has endowed mothers with special traits that qualify her for strenuous and honorable tasks.

She sets the atmosphere of the home, filling it with joy, music, and laughter. Without Mom, no one knows what to wear. She knows what each child needs to wear each day and has it washed and mended.

I'm reminded of an incident that happened years ago after our children were grown. I have always laid out my husband's clothes each night. One week I was out of town, and in the midst of trying to get everything done,

I forgot to pick out his clothes. I got a phone call from my daughter.

"Mother," she said, "did you not pick out Dad's clothes before you left?"

"Denise, I was in such a hurry that I forgot."

"Mother, Dad looks like a clown today."

I laughed so hard. "Denise," I said, "I won't forget again." Since that day, I have always picked out my husband's clothes!

When Mom's not there, a proper diet is never followed. Dads just ask the kids where they want to go. Of course, it is never healthy food. Mom is the only person on earth who can divide her love among many children and still give each child all her love.

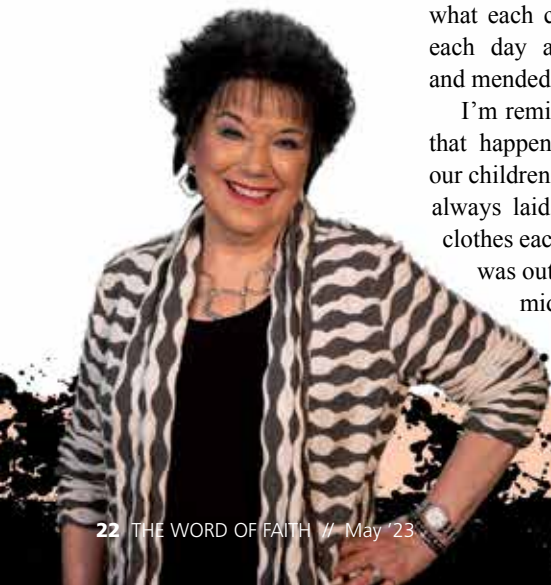
Mothers need to recognize the powerful influence they have on their children. They will learn more about God in the home than in any other place. Our attitudes and the values we live by are teaching our children how important or unimportant God is.

Children usually come to mothers to solve their problems. When my children came to me with issues, I often did not have an answer. However, I knew where to find it. I would pray to the Heavenly Father and ask Him for the answer.

I relied on John 14:16–17 many times. The *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition* says, "And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever. The Spirit of Truth, Whom the world cannot receive (welcome, take to its heart), because it does not see Him or know and recognize Him. But you know and recognize Him, for He lives with you [constantly] and will be in you."

On many occasions, I have called upon the Holy Spirit as my Counselor in handling issues for my children. I would ask Him for the right words to comfort or guide them. Then I would teach them how to listen to the Holy Spirit for themselves.

Mothers are special. Is your Mother still living? If so, express your love for the gift that she gave to you—your life. We often do not take the time to tell those who mean the most to us how much we love and appreciate them. I encourage you to do this frequently.♥



Lynette



Kids' Page

Fearless, A-nointed, I-nward-Led, T-rustworthy, H-eirs of God

THEY WERE GOOD SOLDIERS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS:

1. He is best remembered for his battle at Jericho (Joshua 6:2).
2. He was King Saul's army captain (1 Sam. 14:50).
3. He was a good soldier, but not for Israel . . . he was a GIANT of a man (1 Sam. 17:4)!

4. He is called a "man of war" in Exodus 15:3.
5. He killed 3 ACROSS (1 Sam. 17:50).
6. He killed 1,000 men with a donkey jawbone (Judges 15:16).

DOWN:

1. He was the son of 7 DOWN (1 Sam. 14:1) and the best friend of 5 ACROSS.
4. He defeated the Midianite army with just 300 men (Judges 7:7).
7. He was king of Israel right before 5 ACROSS (1 Sam. 11:15).



Paul told Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:3, "Endure hardship with me as a GOOD SOLDIER of Jesus Christ." There was a GOOD SOLDIER who fought for King David named Eleazar who knew how to endure hardship. He was fighting in one battle for Israel when the enemy seemed to be defeating his army. All of the other soldiers around him grew tired and fearful, so they retreated from the enemy. But he knew the importance of enduring through tough times, and Eleazar held his ground and continued to fight. He single-handedly defeated the enemy!

When the rest of the Israelite army came back to the battlefield, all of their enemies were dead . . . and there sat Eleazar with his sword in his hand.

Second Samuel 23:10 tells us that he fought so hard and so long that his sword was STUCK to his hand when the battle was over! Now, let that be a lesson to all of us who want to be GOOD SOLDIERS in the Lord's army . . . we should all have that firm of a grip on OUR sword (the Word of God, according to Ephesians 6:17). Those who hold on tight to the Word of God will always endure the hardships of life, thus proving themselves to be GOOD SOLDIERS!

CRACK THE CODE!

There is a reason why the Word of God (the Bible) is such a powerful weapon. To find out why, you'll have to "CRACK THE CODE" below. Substitute the letters in the key below with the symbols that represent each letter. The answer is found in Hebrews 4:12.



SYMBOL KEY:

* = A * = D * = E * = G * = H ■ = N □ = O
 □ = P ○ = R ▲ = S ▼ = T ◐ = W

jokes & riddles

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



Why did the teacher marry the custodian?
Because he swept her off her feet
How is the letter "A" like a flower?
A bee (B) always comes after it

When does a cart come before a horse?
In the dictionary

Why did the teacher cross her eyes?
Because she couldn't control her pupils

In what kind of school do you learn how to greet people?
"Hi" School

Sharper Than a Two Edged Sword

CRACK THE CODE!

1. Jonathan 4. Gideon 7. Saul

DOWN:

5. David 6. Samson
1. Joshua 2. Abner 3. Goliath 4. God

ACROSS:

(Crossword Puzzle)
They Were Good Soldiers
Answers:



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701-483-0720
PASTORS LARRY & SALLY PHALEN
WED. 7 P.M.
THURS.-FRI. 10:30 A.M. & 7 P.M.

AUGUST 23-25

**FAITH ALIVE
FELLOWSHIP**

4394 PENNS VALLEY ROAD
SPRING MILLS, PA 16875
814-422-8133
PASTORS CHRIS & IRENE KORN
WED. 7 P.M.
THURS.-FRI. 10:30 A.M. & 7 P.M.

SEPTEMBER 10-12

**THE REMNANT
CHURCH**

4344 U.S. 259
LONGVIEW, TX 75605
903-234-0262
PASTORS RUSTY & ANNA BRADY
SUN. 7 P.M.
MON.-TUES. 10:30 A.M. & 7 P.M.