



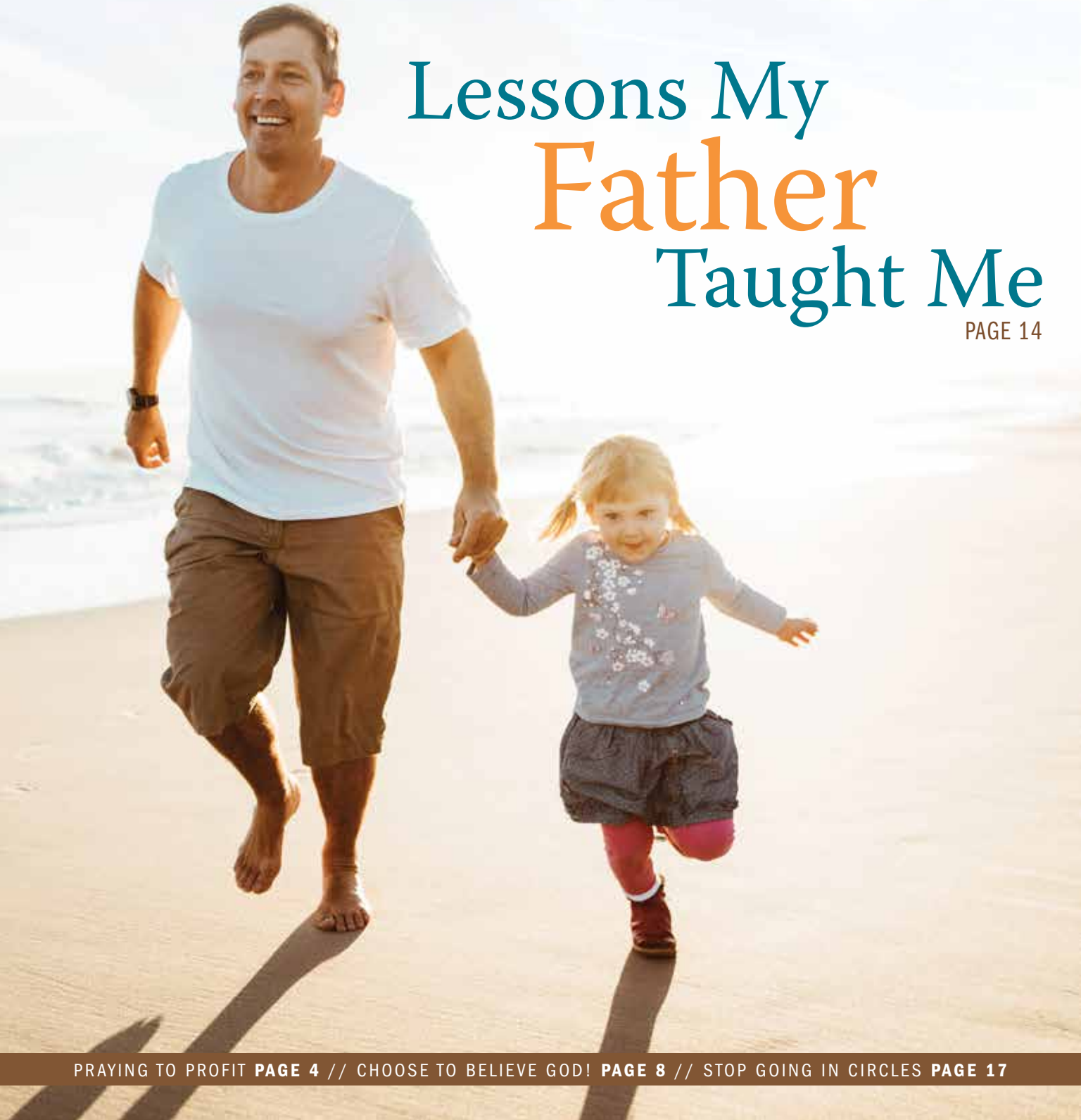
THE Word of Faith

JUNE/JULY 2023

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

Lessons My Father Taught Me

PAGE 14



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Dad's Example

Growing up, I learned so much from my dad—how to believe God, how to catch a pop fly, and how to put everything I had into everything I did. I learned by watching him.

For years, I saw him drive miles in a car to preach the Gospel. I watched him close a meeting on a Sunday night and drive all night so he could eat breakfast with the family. Then he'd get in the car again and drive another 12 or 13 hours to start a meeting. Once he drove 22 straight hours from California on old Highway 66 to be with us for one meal. That kind of endurance—that sacrifice—made me the person I am today.

Although Dad was on the road a lot, he always made time to play with us and build a relationship. When he'd come in, we would go out and hit baseballs. Dad would stand on home plate and send me out to center field. "I don't care where the ball is," he'd say. "You go catch it." Then he'd hit a bushel basket of balls, and I'd throw them in. These are memories he built with me.

Dad also said, "Son, you can do anything you think you can do—anything you want to do. You can do it if you'll keep God first in your life and use your abilities." I don't think there's anything that warms a child's heart like encouragement! When I face obstacles today, I still hear his voice encouraging me.

I treasure the times I spent with Dad. Though he went home to be with the Lord in 2003, his example of faith, his encouragement, and the endurance I saw in him are what I live by today.

Happy Father's Day! We have a wonderful magazine for you this month, so don't miss a single page.

Kenneth W. Hagin

PS. As we and our Canadian neighbors celebrate our nations' freedom this July, let's thank God for the spiritual freedom that was bought and paid for by the precious blood of Jesus.

THIS ISSUE



4 Pray to Get Results

KENNETH E. HAGIN

If your prayers have gone unanswered, it's time for a spiritual checkup. Learn how to pray in line with God's Word so your prayers will always be effective.

8 Believing God

KENNETH W. HAGIN

When we face difficulties, we can either look to God or focus on our circumstances. Be encouraged, no matter the trial, to boldly declare, "Nevertheless, I believe God!"

14 Lessons My Father Taught Me

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Kenneth W. Hagin's daughter reflects on four life-changing lessons she learned from her dad.

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LYNETTE HAGIN

God has exciting assignments for all of us. But we must first hear His voice to know what they are.

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PRAY TO GET RESULTS

GREAT BUSINESSES DO business in order to profit—to get results. Christians must make a business of prayer. Actually, prayer is the greatest business there is. It's *God's* business. And I believe we should pray for results.

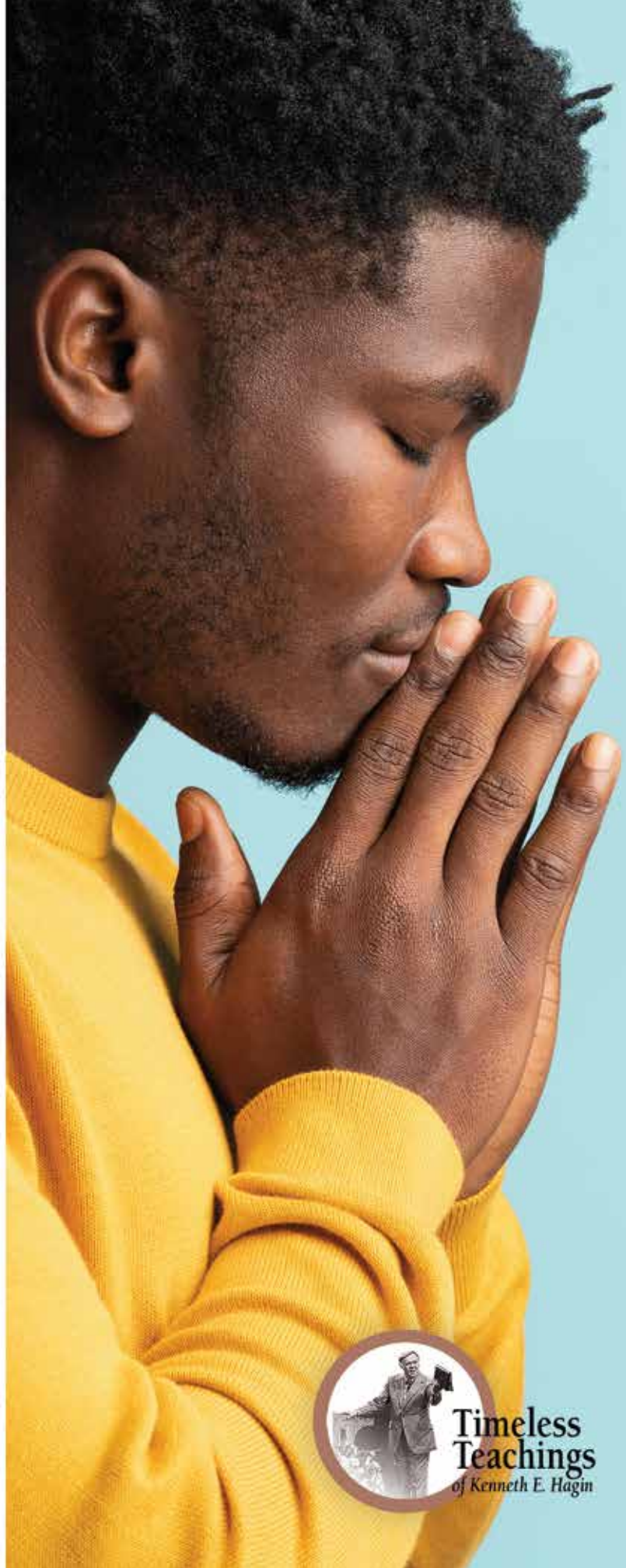
Many people pray, but the results don't prove that their prayers were of any value. If people do not get results from their praying, then they are failing in their prayer life. If we pray, and results have not followed, we should immediately seek to find out why we have not received our answer.

Christianity is a living, supernatural relationship with a living, supernatural God Who hears and answers prayers. If the supernatural isn't happening in our midst, and if adverse circumstances aren't changed by the power of God through our prayers, it shows that we simply have the form of godliness without the power (2 Tim. 3:5).

Everything God has provided for us is offered to us through His Word and through our union with Him. And if we do not have the things in our lives He has freely offered, it may be that we have not made our prayer connection.

We know that God does hear prayer that is based on the Name of Jesus. Many souls have been saved in answer to prayer. We have seen people's finances helped in answer to prayer. Demons have been cast out by using the mighty Name of Jesus. We've seen the miraculous power of God manifested again and again on our behalf because of that wonderful Name.

Thank God, He is still in the business of saving, healing, and setting people free. Yet many times people who pray and seek God go right on praying with no results. If we are not praying for and expecting results, then there is no need to pray.



**Timeless
Teachings**
of Kenneth E. Hagin

If we're not receiving answers to prayer, something is wrong somewhere. Is God untrue? No, He is not untrue! Is the day of praying or the day of miracles over? No! Then we must go to the principles of God's Word and find out where the prayer failure is. We need to find the hindrance in our prayer life, because Jesus is faithful to make His Word good in our lives.

Jesus has become the surety of a new and better covenant than the Old Covenant because the new is established upon better promises. Hebrews 7:22 tells us, "By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament." That means the very throne on which Jesus sits is the authority to back up His Word. Jesus must keep His Word; He cannot go back on it. Yes, He hears and answers prayer!

Miraculous Results Through Prayer in Jesus' Name

I once read a testimony by I.J. Jamison who was formerly a Presbyterian minister. He had been giving some lectures in a western state when a forest fire broke out in the area. The fire was burning out of control and destroying property.

Rev. Jamison was in the barber shop one morning getting a shave when a man came in with a telegram. The man with the telegram didn't know what to do with it. The telegram said, "Pray for rain." The fire had gotten so out of hand that there was no telling what would happen if it didn't rain.

Someone said, "Well, there is a preacher in that chair. Maybe you could give the telegram to him."

About that time, the barber raised the chair, took the towel off Jamison's face, and asked him if he would pray for rain. Rev. Jamison said, "We don't believe in that sort of thing."

Someone in the barber shop spoke up and said, "There is a little tent meeting going on at the edge of town, and they believe in praying for anything."

Rev. Jamison volunteered to take the telegram to the tent meeting. When he got there the next morning, he saw about 20 people. He didn't know which one was the preacher, but he picked out the one he thought might be and tapped him on the shoulder.

The man looked up and Rev. Jamison said to him, "Here is a prayer request that someone asked me to bring to you." The man took it and read it.

Rev. Jamison said the man got up and began to holler for everyone to stop praying. He read the prayer request and asked how many believed God would hear. They all lifted their hands.

Rev. Jamison said all 20 of them began to pray fervently. Finally the man said to them, "How many of you believe God heard you?" They all raised their hands.

He said, "Then, let's lift both hands and praise God for the answer."

The preacher turned, handed the telegram back to Rev. Jamison, and said, "Here, send a telegram back and tell them it will be raining by 10 tonight."

Rev. Jamison went back to the barber shop and told them what the man had said. The men laughed about it because they had all read the weather report and no rain was in sight for days.

Jamison and his wife were in bed by 9 that evening. His wife had washed some laundry and left it hanging on the line. When he saw the clothes in the moonlight, he remembered what the preacher had said about the rain. He began laughing and told his wife what had happened that day. She said, "I read the evening paper, and it's

not going to rain." They both laughed and fell off to sleep.

After a while, Rev. Jamison was awakened by what sounded like thunder. Before he could get out of bed, it began to rain torrents. He said he got up and turned on the light and it was exactly 10 p.m.

Jamison said, "Then I couldn't go to sleep. I thought, 'Did God hear those people? Do they know something I don't know?'"

Not long after, Jamison began visiting a little Pentecostal church in his home state. After witnessing more miracles as a result of prayer, he said, "If people can pray like that, I'm a candidate." And thank God, he was gloriously filled with the Holy Spirit, speaking with other tongues.

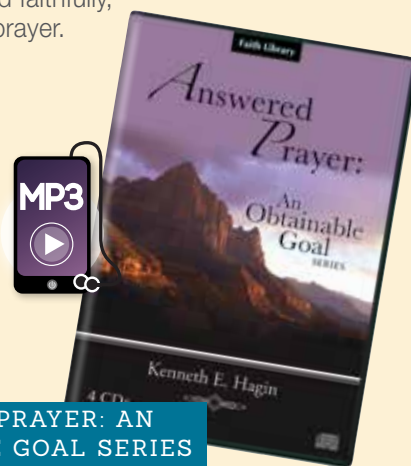
We ought to pray for results! Jesus Christ is the same today, yesterday, and forever (Heb. 13:8). And our Heavenly Father never changes (Mal. 3:6). We have access to the Father in the Name of Jesus just as those people did! Our prayers to the Father in Jesus' Name can be just as effective as those believers' prayers were. So when you pray, pray for results!♥

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

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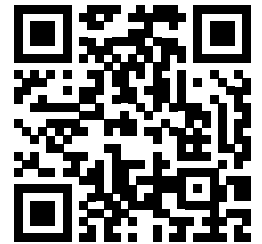
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How to Believe for Healing

DOUG JONES

TO ENJOY HEALING from God, we must first believe that when we pray, *it is God's will to heal all*. Then we must believe that He is a giver.

We are told, *"He that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him"* (Heb. 11:6). A rewarder is simply a giver.

GOD IS A LIBERAL GIVER

Beliefs are the result of an accumulation of knowledge. Since God requires us to believe that He is a rewarder—a giver—we can be certain that there are plenty of scriptural passages we can accumulate to establish this belief within us. One of these passages is in the Book of James.

JAMES 1:5-7

5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

Here is the core thought of this passage: if we do not believe that God is a giver, we cannot expect to receive what we need.

The word *waver* here means "to separate thoroughly; to oppose; to differ; to hesitate." It means "to separate oneself in a hostile spirit; to strive with dispute; to contend with." When we are contending or differing with something, we are arguing with it.

James informs us that if someone differs with the fact that God is a liberal giver, we are to inform the differing person that he is not to think he will receive anything of the Lord.

The individual who asks for wisdom and yet, as he asks, does not believe that God will give it, will not receive. Therefore, he will continue to be driven and tossed by his problems.

Multitudes of people are being driven and tossed by sickness and disease! This is the result of knowing that God is willing for us to be well, but failing to believe that He will give to us upon approach.

GOD IS A RICH GIVER

In Paul's first letter to Timothy, he said, *"Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy"* (1 Tim. 6:17).

Timothy was to inform the rich in his congregation that God is not only a giver but One Who gives richly. Timothy was to encourage them to stop trusting in their riches and put their trust in God.

GOD IS A FREE GIVER

Romans 8:32 says, *"He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"*

THE FATHER DELIVERED UP THE SON UP FOR US ALL SO THAT HE COULD LEGALLY GIVE US ACCESS TO ALL THAT HE HAS. Because He gave up His Son, we are privileged to partake of and enjoy everything the Father has provided for us.

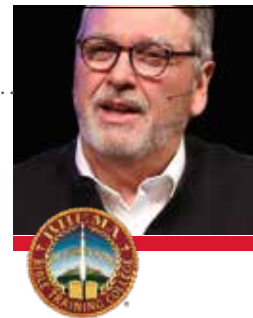
Since the Father loved us to the degree that He sacrificed His Son

for us, how could we ever imagine Him saying no to us when we approach Him for healing?

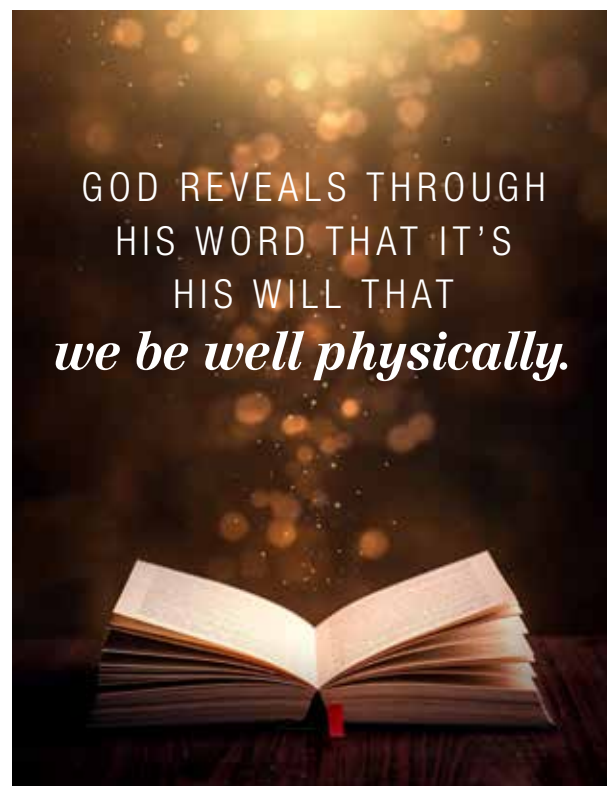
James 4:2 says, *"Ye have not, because ye ask not."* Notice it doesn't say that you have not *because He did not give*. **JAMES IMPLIES THAT WHEN YOU ASK, HE GIVES.**

God reveals through His Word that it's His will that we be well physically. He is really saying, "Upon approach, I will never say to you 'no' or 'wait awhile.'" Since our Father says He is willing for us to be well, you may be assured that you will be given to without hesitation. Our Father is a Giver. 🛡️

[Editor's Note: Doug Jones is the director of Rhema Ministerial Association International and an instructor at Rhema USA. This article was adapted from his book *Positioning Yourself to Receive Healing*.]



INSTRUCTOR HIGHLIGHT



BELIEVING GOOD

WHAT GOD HAS PROMISED DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY
FALL INTO OUR LIVES. WE MUST FIGHT FOR IT.



KENNETH W. HAGIN

THERE ARE TWO kinds of unbelievers in the world: those who *do not know* what God’s Word says and those who *do know* but refuse to act on it.

We see an example of the latter in the Book of Numbers. When the Israelites came to Kadesh Barnea,

Moses sent 12 men into the Promised Land to spy it out. The spies returned in 40 days and brought back fruit as evidence that the land did “flow with milk and honey” as God had said. But they also brought back what the Bible calls “an evil report”—a report of unbelief. Ten of the spies did not believe they could overcome its inhabitants. Despite God’s promise, they said, “Nevertheless, we can’t do it.”

NUMBERS 13:27–29 (NKJV)

27 Then they [the spies] told him [Moses], and said: “We went to the land where you sent us. It truly flows with milk

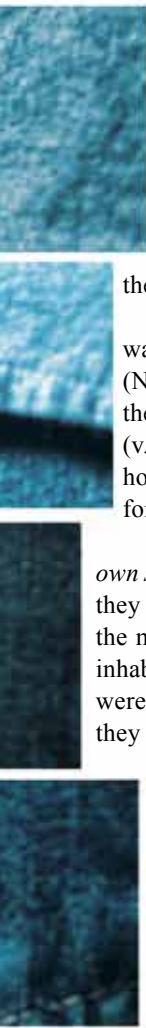
and honey, and this is its fruit.

28 **Nevertheless** the people who dwell in the land are strong; the cities are fortified and very large; moreover we saw the descendants of Anak there.

29 The Amalekites dwell in the land of the South; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites dwell in the mountains; and the Canaanites dwell by the sea and along the banks of the Jordan.”

It should not have surprised the Israelites that the Hittites, Jebusites, Amorites, and Canaanites were in the Promised Land. While the Israelites were still in Egypt, Moses told them that God would deliver them out of slavery and give them the land that was inhabited by these nations (Exod. 13:5).

Moses had chosen one man from each tribe of Israel to spy out the land. All 12 men had been slaves in Egypt. They all had seen how God delivered them from the Egyptians. All of them saw the waters of the Red Sea rolled back (Exod. 14:21–22). Each had witnessed the bitter waters become sweet (Exod. 15:23–25). They



saw how God provided manna for them in the wilderness (Exod. 16:15, 31). And they followed the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night (Exod. 13:21).

These men should have been able to believe God for anything. Over and over again, they witnessed firsthand His supernatural power. But when it came time for them to go into the Promised Land, they let their senses cloud their decision making.

Ten of the spies believed that *part* of what God told them was true—the Promised Land did flow with milk and honey (Num. 13:27). But they did not believe that God would give them the land. They said, “*Nevertheless . . . we saw . . .*” (v. 28 NKJV). They took their eyes off of God and looked at how big and strong the people were. They took note of how fortified the cities were, and they became fearful.

The spies told Moses, “*We were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight*” (v. 33 NKJV). Although they may have felt like grasshoppers, they were putting words in the mouths of the giants. Spies never want to be seen. And the inhabitants of the land of Canaan didn’t know who these men were. Because 10 of the spies greatly feared the men of the land, they imagined those men saw them as grasshoppers.

This is why the Apostle Paul told us to cast down imaginations and everything that tries to exalt itself against the knowledge of God. We are instructed to bring our thoughts into captivity to the obedience of Christ (2 Cor. 10:5).

We can’t allow our senses to dominate our faith life. Our five senses enable us to contact the physical world. They allow us to see, hear, smell, taste, and feel. But they were never designed to help us in the spiritual world.

When we look at our natural circumstances—the economy, our family situation, the doctor’s prognosis—our faith cannot be in what we see or feel. It has to be in the Word of God. **ALTHOUGH WE MUST ACKNOWLEDGE FACTS, WE DON’T HAVE TO ACCEPT THEM AS THE FINAL AUTHORITY.** We may not always *feel* well and things might not always *look* good, but that doesn’t change the Word of God.

God told the Israelites He would give them the Promised Land, but He never told them they wouldn’t have to fight for it. The same is true for you and me. What God has promised does not automatically fall into our lives. We must fight for it.

Our fight is not a literal one in which we roll up our sleeves and begin slugging it out. We are told to “*fight the good fight of faith*” (1 Tim. 6:12 NKJV). We receive what God has promised us through faith.

Now let’s look at a New Testament account of a man who could have been swayed by his circumstances just as the 10 Israelite spies were. But instead, he chose to act on the Word of the Lord. It is one of the greatest stories in the Bible of someone who took God at His Word.

In Luke chapter 5, Jesus was on the shores of Lake Gennesaret when a crowd of people came to hear what He had to say. Since the crowd was so large, Jesus boarded a boat owned by Simon Peter and taught the people from the boat. After He had finished speaking, Jesus told Peter to launch out into the deep to catch fish.

Peter had fished all night without catching anything. He was an experienced fisherman and knew that the best time to fish was at night, not in the morning. But instead of arguing with Jesus, Peter said, “*Nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net*” (v. 5 NKJV).

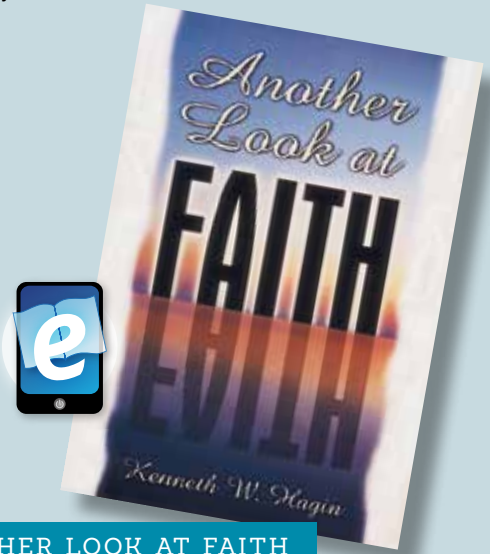
Because he obeyed the Lord, Peter caught so many fish that his net began to break. He had to signal his partners for help. Then they filled both boats with so many fish that the boats began to sink (vv. 6–7)!

Anytime we face difficulties, we have a choice. We can either look to God or focus on our circumstances. Common-sense reasoning or relying on our five senses will rob us of God’s blessings and keep our needs from being met. But taking God at His Word will bring us victory. It’s not up to us to figure out how God will supply or deliver. We simply have to believe that He will do it. When given the choice, let’s boldly declare, “*Nevertheless, we will believe God!*”♥

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WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT . . .

Forgiveness

LET'S FACE IT: Forgiveness isn't easy. But it is not optional for the Christian! Forgiveness is a choice we make—not a feeling. We're never going to feel like forgiving. But when we choose to forgive rather than hold a grudge or retaliate, we will find healing, restoration, and freedom that only God can give.

If there is unforgiveness in your heart, don't let those situations continue to hurt you. Jesus has given us the key—forgiveness. And if you will open the door of your heart and take out all of the junk you've been holding on to, He will restore you.

If you need help forgiving someone, look to the Bible verses below and start practicing forgiveness. Pray for the person who hurt you. Open your heart and choose to forgive today.

PROVERBS 10:12

12 Hatred stirs up quarrels, but love makes up for all offenses.

PROVERBS 17:9

9 Love prospers when a fault is forgiven, but dwelling on it separates close friends.

MATTHEW 5:7

7 "God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy."

MATTHEW 5:23-24

23 "If you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you,

24 leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God."

MATTHEW 5:44

44 "But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!"

MATTHEW 6:14-15

14 "If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you.

15 But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins."

MATTHEW 18:21-22

21 Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?"

22 "No, not seven times," Jesus replied, "but seventy times seven!"

MARK 11:25

25 "But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too."

LUKE 6:37

37 "Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn others, or it will all come back against you. Forgive others, and you will be forgiven."

ROMANS 12:19

19 Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the Lord.

ROMANS 12:21

21 Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.

EPHESIANS 4:32

32 Be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

COLOSSIANS 3:13

13 Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.

1 PETER 3:9

9 Don't repay evil for evil. Don't retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and he will grant you his blessing.



A PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS AND FORGIVING OTHERS

Father, please forgive me for not forgiving others and not walking in love. I choose to forgive those who have hurt me. I choose not to hold on to resentment. I let go of my right to seek revenge, and I ask You to heal my damaged emotions. Lord, help me forget the past so that I can move forward. Thank You for setting me free from the bondage of bitterness. In Jesus' Name, amen.♥

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**FORGIVENESS
IS A CHOICE WE MAKE
—not a feeling.**



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HOSTS

KENNETH W. HAGIN



LYNETTE HAGIN



CRAIG W. HAGIN



DENISE HAGIN BURNS





MARK BINTLIFF

CHARLES COWAN

KENNETH ESTRADA

LYNETTE ESTRADA

EARL GLISSON



SPEAKERS

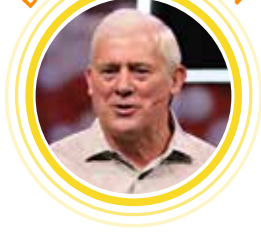
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Lessons My Father Taught Me



*The best dads teach
their children not
only with their words
but also with
their actions.*

THE BEST DADS teach their children not only with their words but also with their actions. It's easy to say the right thing, but it takes a lot of determination and morals to *do* the right thing.

My dad, Kenneth W. Hagin, wasn't a perfect dad, but he was and still is as close to a perfect dad as you can get. Growing up, I learned a lot from his words, but I learned even more from his actions.

As we celebrate Father's Day, I want to pay tribute to my dad and share four of the many invaluable lessons he has taught me over the years. I believe these lessons will be helpful to you too.

LESSON #1: HOW TO FORGIVE

My dad is the most forgiving person I have ever known. His forgiving nature is one of the qualities I admire most about him. When people have publicly humiliated him or have said the most awful things about him, he walks out the scripture in Colossians 3:13 (NLT) which says, *"Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others."*

My dad modeled that fathers forgive, and they forgive quickly. Because my dad has a forgiving nature, I never had a problem knowing that my Heavenly Father would also forgive me.

First John 1:9 (NKJV) says, *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

Some people are scared to go to their Heavenly Father when they mess up because they think He isn't going to forgive them. But we can go to the Father without fear, fully assured that He will always forgive us. It's His nature.



DENISE HAGIN BURNS

LESSON #2: HOW TO FORGET

Forgetting is an often-overlooked skill. We can forgive, but it's not always easy to forget. One definition for the word forget is "to disregard intentionally."

There have been times when my dad and I were out to eat or at the mall, and people walked up to him and said, "Pastor Hagin, I'm so glad I ran into you. I need to ask your forgiveness." He looked at them and said, "For what?" The person recounted what they said or did against him. Then he told them he had no recollection of what they were even talking about!

He knows that to let go of bitterness and be blessed, we must choose to forget on purpose. It's easy to dwell on the negative and grab on to a victim mentality. But we can choose to let go and grab on to a victor mentality. We can do that only by forgetting offenses—the wrongs people have done to us.

LESSON #3: HOW TO FIGHT

I think all dads want their children—male and female—to be able to defend themselves if the situation calls for it. Life is full of hard knocks. Those times may require us to know how to fight physically, but also how to fight emotionally to keep ourselves from feeling defeated.

One of my favorite childhood memories of my dad is when he taught me how to box. We would be in the kitchen with my mom while she cooked dinner, and he would say, "Come on, Denise, let's box."

He wanted me to know how to defend myself so I would be prepared if I ever found myself in a situation where a little physical action was needed. He told me to never start a fight, but if someone threw the first punch, I was to come back swinging.

My dad knew that fighting was not only a natural principle but also a spiritual one. Just as we learn how to defend ourselves in the natural, we must learn how to defend ourselves spiritually against our enemy—the devil.

Ephesians 6:12–18 teaches us as Christians how to arm and defend ourselves in spiritual battles. One way is by using the sword of the Spirit—the Word of God (v. 17). My dad taught me to never go into a fight with the devil silent. We can knock the devil off his feet in any spiritual battle when we know, believe, and speak God's Word.

I've seen the enemy try to back my dad into a corner many times. But instead of feeling sorry for himself, he took the Word and fought with tenacity, because he knows we always triumph in Christ Jesus (2 Cor. 2:14).

LESSON #4: HOW TO FOLLOW

When I was a little girl, my family and I would go to a place in Oklahoma with huge desert sand dunes to ride three- and four-wheelers. Some of those dunes were very steep. I would tell my dad I couldn't do it; the dunes were just too scary looking. But he promised me that as long as I followed him and didn't let off the throttle, I would get to the top. He asked me to trust him. I did, and I made it to the top.

That was a significant lesson in my life because it taught me how to follow my Heavenly Father. If I could trust my earthly father not to let anything happen to me, I knew I could trust my

Heavenly Father to have my best interests in mind. I could trust Him to take care of me.

For Christians, a successful life comes from following our Heavenly Father. Jesus said, "My sheep listen to my voice . . . and they follow me" (John 10:27 NLT). When life is difficult and scary, and you can't see the future, simply follow the One Who knows the future.

When I was 23, I had an event happen in my life that shattered my entire world. My dad took me aside and reminded me of our times at the sand dunes. He said, "If you'll just trust your Heavenly Father like you did me, I promise you, He will take you to the other side." His words proved true. My dad taught me that the most important lesson in life is to follow my Heavenly Father wherever He takes me.

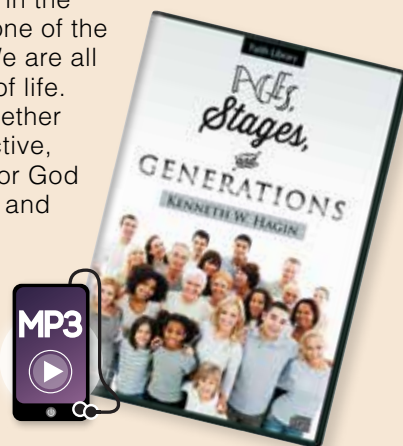
Research shows that young children learn by copying their parents. Fathers, what are your actions teaching your children? What are you teaching them about the Heavenly Father? As an earthly father, you are a reflection of Him. If you feel as if you haven't been doing the best job, it's OK. It is never too late to change.

To all the dads: happy Father's Day! 🍷

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Getting Off Your Roundabout



KINDLE THE
FLAME[®]

SPEAKER
HIGHLIGHT

JULIA POST

WHEN MY HUSBAND and I moved to the United Kingdom in 2017, there were many things we had to adapt to. One big thing is, traffic laws are different. We now drive on the opposite side of the road. And one traffic phenomenon I was not accustomed to is a roundabout.

Some roundabouts are a single lane, and they're pretty self-explanatory. Others are double or multiple lanes. The key to driving a multi-lane roundabout is knowing where to get off before entering, because your exit determines the lane you get in.

If you've ever been stuck on a roundabout, you know the feeling of taking steps but not going anywhere. In life, you can go in circles around the same issues and wonder where the exit is.

CAUGHT 'IN BETWEEN'

David was one of the greatest kings in the Bible. There was a time, however, when he sat on the back row, and no one knew his name. No one knew what he could do, and no one cared—not even his family.

David had a promise from God. Samuel had anointed him to be king of Israel. But time and time again, he found himself in the in-between—in between the promise and its fulfillment. David knew what God had called him to do, but the in-between time challenged him so much that he was tempted to quit.

In your in-between, you might think, “Well, maybe this is my finish line. I thought it would look different, but maybe this is the end.” God wants me to remind you of Jeremiah 6:16 (NLT): *“Stop at the crossroads and look around. Ask for the old, godly way, and walk in it. Travel its path, and you will find rest for your souls.”*

Sometimes traffic rules call for a pause. The culture we live in honors hurry. We're busy. We are Marthas, people who will get the job done. But God is saying, “Stop for a minute. I need you to listen.”

A roundabout is an opportunity. The cool thing about it is, if you're going in the wrong direction, you can change your course. It's easy to turn around. So if you've been moving and not making progress, know that you're in the in-between. Stop and look around to find the good way.

GETTING OFF THE ROUNDABOUT

We can look in the Book of Psalms and see how David got off his roundabout.

PSALM 13:1–2 (NLT)

1 O Lord, how long will you forget me? Forever? How long will you look the other way?

2 How long must I struggle with anguish in my soul, with sorrow in my heart every day? How long will my enemy have the upper hand?

David poured out his heart to God in this psalm. He exposed it all and then shifted to praise.

PSALM 13:5–6 (NLT)

5 But I trust in your unfailing love. I will rejoice because you have rescued me.

6 I will sing to the Lord because he is good to me.

Verse 5 in *The Passion Translation* says, *“I will spin in a circle of joy when your salvation lifts me up.”* When you're caught on a roundabout, God can turn that spin of confusion into a spin of joy and show you where to exit.

Sometimes you can feel as though the circle you've been going around is your destination. But God is saying that it's just your in-between. You won't get off at the wrong exit. He will get you to your place of victory.♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Julia's message at *Kindle the Flame* 2022. Julia and her husband, Rob, pastor GoChurch in Bradford, England.]

“Stop at the crossroads and look around. Ask for the old, godly way, and walk in it. Travel its path, and you will find rest for your souls” (Jer. 6:16 NLT).



HEARING GOD AND FOLLOWING *His*



LYNETTE HAGIN

WE KNOW PEOPLE to varying degrees. For example, we know the people we work with. But we may not know our coworkers as well as some of our friends. We even have friends of varying degrees. But we don't know our friends as well as we know our spouse.

We get acquainted with people by being around them—by talking to them and spending time with them. My

husband and I were married in 1965. Ken was in the army, and we wrote letters to each other for six months before he was discharged. We were married three months after he got back to Texas.

When we were first married, we didn't know each other like we do now. It took time for our personalities to merge. But being married as long as we have been, we now know what the other one is thinking before we say anything.

Our relationship with our Heavenly Father should be that same way. His thoughts should become our thoughts. We should be able to hear His voice easily because we've communed with Him so much.

Why do we need to hear the Father clearly when He talks to us?

GOD ASSIGNMENTS

Daniel 11:32 says, *"The people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits."* The word *exploits* means "bold or daring feats."

God has some bold assignments for us. Are you ready to complete yours?

Our Heavenly Father doesn't expect us to sit in church or at home and do nothing with what He has empowered us to do. We need to get up, get going, and get excited about His assignments!

The Great Commission says believers will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover (Mark 16:17–18). Every one of us is in the healing business!

GOD'S PLAN FOR YOU

Being in the ministry, my husband and I understand the importance of following God's plan. But guess what? It's not just ministers God has plans for. He has something for *everyone* to do.

Jeremiah 1:5 (MSG) says, *"Before I shaped you in the womb, I knew all about you. Before you saw the light of day, I had holy plans for you: A prophet to the nations—that's what I had in mind for you."*

God is no respecter of persons. If He had holy plans for Jeremiah, He has holy plans for all His children.

God has some bold assignments for us.

ARE YOU READY TO COMPLETE YOURS?

Before we were born, God had plans for us. But how often do we consult Him and ask, “What are Your plans for me?”

What do we do? We create our own plans but never ask God about them. We make decisions because an opportunity looks good. But every good opportunity is not necessarily a God opportunity.

As Ken and I followed the Lord through the years, some things we knew God wanted us to do did not look like good opportunities.

But later, when storms hit, we didn’t wonder if we had made a mistake. We knew we were on God’s path and He would bring us through those storms.

Psalm 37:23 (NLT) says, “*The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives.*” When we look to God in everything, we grow closer to Him and more sensitive to His instructions. And our lives are happier and stress free.

Many times, people think God cares only about the big things. Do you know that He also wants to help us in the small details?

When I’m out shopping with a long list, I ask God for close parking spots. And I can’t tell you how many times I’ve asked for His help when I’ve misplaced something. The more I concentrated on not being able to find an item, the less I could hear Him tell me where it was. But when I got quiet and prayed, I found what I was looking for! That told me God heard me, He loves me, and He will accommodate me. That’s how you develop a relationship with Him. You work with Him, and He works with you.

HEARING GOD’S VOICE

Years ago, when I was endeavoring to recognize God’s voice, I didn’t want to assume, and I didn’t want to be weird. I would hear people say, “God told me this. God told me that.” But when I listened to them, it didn’t sound to me like something God would say. It sounded more like what they wanted to do.

How do you hear God’s voice? Scripture tells us in First Peter 5:7 to bring our cares to God. And that’s what I do. Every morning, I bring my requests to Him. I say, “Father, I need an answer for this. I need direction on that.”

Usually, God never answers me right away. People often have preconceived ideas about how they want God to answer, so they assume their first inclination is from Him.

I want to be sure I’m hearing from God. So after I pray, I forget about it. Many times, days, weeks, and sometimes months later, something I had never thought of comes to my mind.

God has also answered my prayer with a question. He’s asked, “Have you ever thought about . . . ?” Since I hadn’t thought about

that, it was obviously God’s thought, not mine.

When God was dealing with Kenneth E. Hagin, my father-in-law, about something, he would come into my office and say, “I’m thinking that such and such should” My first instinct would be to make that happen. But he would say, “No, no. I’m just talking it out.”

I came to understand that as Brother Hagin talked something out, the Lord would confirm to him what he should do. Sometimes he “talked it out” three times. Each time what he sensed was a little different. And usually by the third time he knew what God wanted him to do.

God sent the prophet Samuel to Bethlehem to anoint one of Jesse’s sons as king. (See 1 Samuel 16:1–13.) Samuel saw seven of them before David came. Why didn’t God tell Samuel that David was the one? It would have saved a lot of time, but it wouldn’t have been operating in faith. And God wants us to live by faith (Rom. 1:17).

I have also learned to follow peace. I don’t make any decision until I have peace in my heart about it.

God deals with His children in different ways. But know that He will speak to you. Forget about what you think the answer should be. Just let God bring it to pass.♥

SPECIAL OFFER

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“I Received My Healing”

“One evening my husband and I were watching a healing service on Rhema Praise. At the end of the service, Lynette said that someone had an ear, a leg and an eye problem. I had all three and had been believing for healing for quite some time! That night, I received my healing! I was also set free from fear and confusion! We love watching and listening to Rhema Praise and reading the Word of Faith magazine! We love you!”

—Jacqueline

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Thoughts

// LYNETTE HAGIN

"THE LORD WILL GUIDE YOU ALWAYS; HE WILL SATISFY YOUR NEEDS IN A SUN-SCORCHED LAND AND WILL STRENGTHEN YOUR FRAME. YOU WILL BE LIKE A WELL-WATERED GARDEN, LIKE A SPRING WHOSE WATERS NEVER FAIL."

— ISAIAH 58:11 (NIV)

RAISING GODLY CHILDREN

Summer is one of my favorite times of the year. As with most families, our schedule often revolved around our children being in school, which dictated a lot of our schedule. However, summer was a time when we had more family time and enjoyed the company of each other.

I frequently tell parents to enjoy every stage of their children's lives because the stages pass quickly. You will soon find yourself in the "empty nest" stage of life, something my husband and I have been in for many years.

My parents were raised in a generation where children were seen but not heard. My parents told stories of how adults ate first and children got the leftovers. As a child, I thought, "That is not how I want my family to be when I have children."

As a child attending children's services, the teacher often told us Bible stories about the children of Israel. One passage that caught my attention was in Deuteronomy 6:1-7 (NLT).

"These are the commands, decrees, and regulations that the Lord your God commanded me to teach you. You must obey them in the land you are about to enter and occupy, and you and your children and grandchildren must fear the Lord your God as long as you live. If you obey all his decrees and commands, you will enjoy a long life. Listen closely, Israel, and be careful to obey. Then all will go well with you, and you will have many children in the land flowing with milk and honey, just as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, promised you.

"Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up."

These verses became the foundation my husband and I followed to raise our children. Loving God, going to church, and teaching them God's Word was our priority. In fact, my grandchildren laughingly say, "You don't tell NaNa you are not going to church. That is not an option." Too often, I see parents who do not consistently take their family to church. The Word says in Hebrews 10:25 (AMPC), *"Not forsaking or neglecting to assemble together [as believers], as is the habit of some people, but admonishing (warning, urging, and encouraging) one another, and all the more faithfully as you see the day approaching."*

It's interesting that parents never say to a child, "You have the option of going to school or staying home today." That would sound foolish. Children need to attend school to receive an education. But we do not apply the same rule to church. A foundation in God's Word and learning about a loving Heavenly Father who is always there to help them in life is just as important.

In addition to attending church, it is important to apply Deuteronomy 6:7, which says in my words, "Talk about God to your children when you are at home, in the car, when you are getting up, and when you are going to bed."

We always talked about God to our children daily. When they were young, we read *Faith Food Devotions*. At the end of each devotion is a confession of faith. We would read that and then ask the children to make a confession they desired to come to pass in their lives. As they grew and could read, we would daily read *The One Year Bible* after our evening meal. We then discussed what we read.

My husband always drove the children to school. As they were getting out of the car, he would say, "Daddy loves you, God loves you, and with Him you can do all things. Have a great day." It is important to speak positive words into your children's lives. At night, we always prayed with them when they were going to bed and ended the prayer by claiming Psalm 91.

I encourage you to enjoy your children. Have family time together but never forsake placing God as the center of your home. As you do, you have the right to claim

Proverbs 22:6 (NKJV), *"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."*♥

Lynette





Kids' Page

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

PSALM 100

WORD SCRAMBLE

SLEBS
GINRING
IRAPINE
FLANKTHU
KANTHSIGGVIN
SLADNEGS
FLOYJU SOINE

Psalm 100 tells us what our attitudes and actions should be when we enter God's house (the church). Unscramble the words to the left to discover some of these attitudes and actions. Read Psalm 100 (KJV) for help.



These two boys have just been told that it's time to go to church. Now, considering that Psalm 122:1 says, "I WAS GLAD when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord," which of these two boys do you think is really READY TO GO TO CHURCH? If you guessed the boy on the right, then you're right! The Bible tells us in several places what our attitude should be when we're going to "the house of God" (CHURCH).

Here are just a few:

Psalm 122:1 (NKJV)—"I was GLAD when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." (When your parents tell you that it's time to go to church, your attitude should be, "I'm glad we get to go to church!")

Psalm 42:4 (NKJV)—"I went with them to the house of God, with the VOICE OF JOY AND PRAISE." (Never COMPLAIN on your way to church!)

Psalm 100:2 (NKJV)—"Serve the Lord with GLADNESS: come before his presence with SINGING." (If you're not GLAD to serve Him, you may not BE serving Him at all. He wants us to come before Him with joyful songs, so you'd better get a smile on that face and start singing!!!!)

ARE YOU READY TO GO TO CHURCH NOW?

jokes & riddles



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

Where does food go when it commits a crime?

To the Food Court

Which state has the smallest drink?
 Minnesota (Mini-soda)

What did the police officer say to his stomach?

You're under a vest

What's the difference between a schoolteacher and a train?

One says "Spit out your gum!" and the other says "Chew, Chew!"

How do you know when it's raining cats and dogs?

When you step in a "poodle"

Turn the page upside down and you will quickly see the smiling faces. There are 10 of them in all.

Answers:
PSALM 100 WORD SCRAMBLE
 BLESS, SINGING, PRAISE, THANKFUL, THANKSGIVING, GLADNESS, JOYFUL NOISE

FIND THE JOY!

Even when you feel like frowning you can always find a reason to smile. It all depends on HOW YOU LOOK AT THINGS. You've just got to find the joy in life! See if you can find the smiling faces among all of the frowning faces below. How many are there?



Invite Him Into Your Boat

LONG AGO IN the Middle East, a fisherman and his friends were in a boat far from land when a strong wind arose, whipping up the waves. They tried rowing to shore but could make no headway.

Just before daybreak, they saw a man *walking toward them on the water!* “It’s a ghost!” they cried out, terrified.

“It’s me! Don’t be afraid!” the Water-Walker yelled.

The fisherman recognized that voice. It was the man he’d been working for! “Boss,” he hollered, “if it’s really you, tell me to come out there with you!”

“Come!” said the man.

With his eyes riveted on his boss, the fisherman gingerly stepped out of the boat and was amazed to feel the water become firm under his feet! He walked on the waves toward the man. But pounded by wind and drenched by spray, he turned to look at the turbulence. Fear gripped him, and instantly the water, solid enough to walk on, began to give way beneath him.

“Help!” he yelled, battling to stay afloat. His boss reached out and caught him, and they both walked back to the boat. Once they were inside, the wind calmed down.

This is a true account of one event in the life of Jesus and His courageous student Peter. Jesus did amazing things while on the earth. He walked on water, calmed storms, gave sight to the blind, healed lepers, and brought dead people back to life. Most importantly, Jesus died on a cross to pay for the sins that separated all of us from God. Now, whenever people welcome Him into their lives, He gives them power to be children of God and walk safely through the storms of life.

Isn’t it time that you invited Jesus into the boat of your life? If you’ve had enough of being thrown around by life’s howling winds and roaring waves, just accept Him into your heart and turn your life over to Him. Let Him calm the wind and the waves and give you His peace.

The Bible says, *“If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved”* Romans 10:9–10 (NLT).

To welcome Jesus into your life, all you have to do is cry out to Him like Peter did when he was sinking. Just pray this prayer from your heart:

“Jesus, help! I’ve had enough of trying to make it through the storms of life on my own. I want to be right with God, and I want to follow You. I believe God raised You from the dead, and I accept You as my Lord and Savior. Thank You for climbing into the boat with me and saving me. Thank You for giving me Your peace.”

If you prayed this prayer for the first time, welcome to God’s family! You will find He is willing and able to help you through any situation. We’d like to hear that you’ve prayed this prayer. Email us at PartnerService@rhema.org and or call us at **1-800-54-FAITH (543-2484)** and let us know about it. We want to send you some free materials to get you started in your new life with Him.



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