



THE Word of Faith

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Reflecting on God’s Goodness

The goodness of God is far greater than we can imagine. John 1:16 (AMP) says, *“For out of His fullness [the superabundance of His grace and truth] we have all received grace upon grace [spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing, favor upon favor, and gift heaped upon gift].”* As you can see, God has heaped upon us spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing, favor upon favor, and gift upon gift.

We know that we don’t deserve God’s blessings. In ourselves, we are nothing. But in Christ, each one of us is precious and valuable to God. And it is only by God’s grace that we can have a relationship with Him—our Heavenly Father—through Jesus.

An old hymn extols the marvelous grace of our loving Lord, a grace that is greater than all our sins. We can never do anything to deserve God’s grace. Nor can we be good enough to receive it. But God mercifully extended His bountiful grace to us and has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus.

Think about how great God’s grace is. We don’t stand before Him on our own merit. But by the blood of Jesus, we can come before God boldly and fearlessly. Because of Jesus, God is our Heavenly Father.

Our blessings flow from the Lord Jesus Christ. He is our source. He is the reason we have received blessing upon blessing and favor upon favor.

Think about it. Jesus chose to accept death on a cross for us. He didn’t have to, but He did it for you and me. We must recognize that everything good in our lives is a direct result of Jesus sacrificing His life to redeem humanity.

Let’s reflect on God’s goodness to us. And let’s especially take time to thank God for the gift of salvation Jesus so freely provided for us.

Kenneth W. Hagin

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PRAYER: THE POWER PLANT OF YOUR LIFE



LYNETTE HAGIN

WHEN BUILDING A new home, an essential element is wiring it for electricity. However, wiring alone isn't enough to turn the lights on. Electric lines run from the house to larger utility lines along the street. Those electric lines eventually reach the power plant, which is what generates the electricity that gives us light.

Prayer is the power plant of our lives and the power plant of churches. Prayer generates the power in our lives.

When things aren't going well for us, our power supply might be weak and need to be recharged. Think of a rechargeable battery. Eventually, all the charge in that battery is used up, and it needs to be plugged into a power source. It's like that with us. Through prayer, we get recharged.

Let me ask you a thought-provoking question. If the electricity in your home were generated by your prayer life, how bright would your lights be? And yet, do you realize that your everyday life is powered by your prayer life?

James 5:16 (NIV) says, *"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."* *The Amplified Bible, Classic Edition* says, *"The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working]."*

Our prayers are powerful. Prayer greatly affects our circumstances and the people around us.

MOSES CHANGED GOD'S MIND

The Book of Exodus tells how Moses was on Mount Sinai for 40 days getting instructions from God. Because He was gone for

such a long time, the Israelites made a calf out of gold and began worshipping it.

Their actions angered God so much that He wanted to destroy them. But Moses interceded for the Children of Israel. He reminded God of His promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to make their descendants as numerous as the stars (Exod. 32:13). Scripture says, *"Then the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened"* (Exod. 32:14 NIV). Never underestimate the power of your prayers.

We see in the Book of Numbers that Moses again interceded for the Israelites. He sent 12 men to spy out the land of Canaan. Ten brought back an evil report, but Joshua and Caleb brought back a good report.

The Israelites were so upset with Joshua and Caleb that they were going to stone them until God came down in His glory to save them (Num. 14:10). But God's anger was kindled, and He again told Moses He wanted to destroy the Children of Israel. Moses once again interceded on their behalf. And God said, *"I will pardon them as you have requested"* (Num. 14:20 NLT).

Moses' prayers changed the mind of God. Why? Because he communed with God. It's important to establish the kind of relationship with God in which you can change His mind.

JESUS' EXAMPLE

While Jesus was on the earth, He lived a life dependent on the Heavenly Father. Day after day, we see Him praying to the Father. If it was important for Jesus to pray to His Heavenly Father, we should pray to Him too.

We are called to a lifestyle of prayer. But often the only time we pray is when we call on our heavenly butler. "Lord, give me this. Lord, give me that." Or we cry out to our heavenly lifeguard.



“God, help me! I haven’t been reading the Word or praying. Now I’m in a mess.” And in His mercy, God helps us and delivers us out of our situation.

OUR ASSIGNMENT

It’s time that we pick up our job of what God has commissioned us to do. Jesus said,

JOHN 14:12–14

12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

Unless we commune with the Father, we won’t have the power to do the greater works. And if we don’t have a relationship with Him, we might not be comfortable asking Him for something.

For example, if we needed to borrow a car, we wouldn’t ask a stranger. We would ask someone we had a relationship with.

For us to be comfortable in asking the Heavenly Father for something, and for Him to be willing to do whatever we ask, we must have a relationship with Him. Joshua had that kind of relationship with God.

The Lord commanded Joshua to study the Law of Moses. He told him, *“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success”* (Joshua 1:8 NKJV).

Joshua obeyed. He did exactly what God had commanded him. He had a relationship with God. And because of that relationship, he could ask God for anything, knowing that his petition would be granted.

‘SUN, STAND STILL!’

Joshua went into battle against five kings. In the midst of the fighting, he called on the Lord.

JOSHUA 10:12–14 (NKJV)

12 Then Joshua spoke to the Lord in the day when the Lord delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel: “Sun, stand still over Gibeon; and Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon.”

13 So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the people had revenge upon their enemies. . . .

14 And there has been no day like that, before it or after it, that the Lord heeded the voice of a man; for the Lord fought for Israel.

I want to impress upon you so indelibly that when you commune with your Heavenly Father and pray, He listens to you! There *is* power in your prayers. We have not because we ask not. And you can be certain that whatever you ask in Jesus’ Name will be done for you.♥

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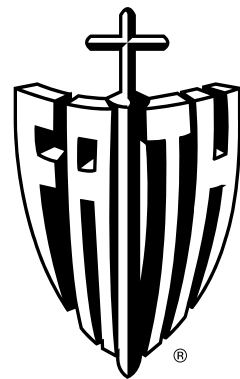
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The Answer to One of Life's Greatest Questions



KENNETH W. HAGIN

IN THE *PEANUTS* comic strip, Peppermint Patty once asked Charlie Brown if he knew any good rules for living. This was his list: “Keep the ball low. Don’t leave your crayons in the sun. Use dental floss every day. Don’t let the ants get in the sugar. And always get your first serve in.”

The Question

Many people today are asking, “What should I do?” Some people who ask that want someone simply to give them a list of things to do. Then they will have someone to blame if everything goes wrong, thereby relieving them of personal responsibility.

Because people have always come to the Church to ask what they should do, many churches have developed a formal list of dos and don’ts. You may have been in a church like that. Most things on the list people wouldn’t do anyway if they just

read their Bible. But for some reason, people prefer to have a list of rules to follow.

In the Old Testament, God gave Moses 613 rules for His people to follow. The Mosaic Law contained many dos and don’ts. When Jesus came, He gave us a new covenant and a new law. No longer do we follow a long list of dos and don’ts. In this New Testament law, the law of love, there are only two commands. Jesus gave them to us in Mark chapter 12.

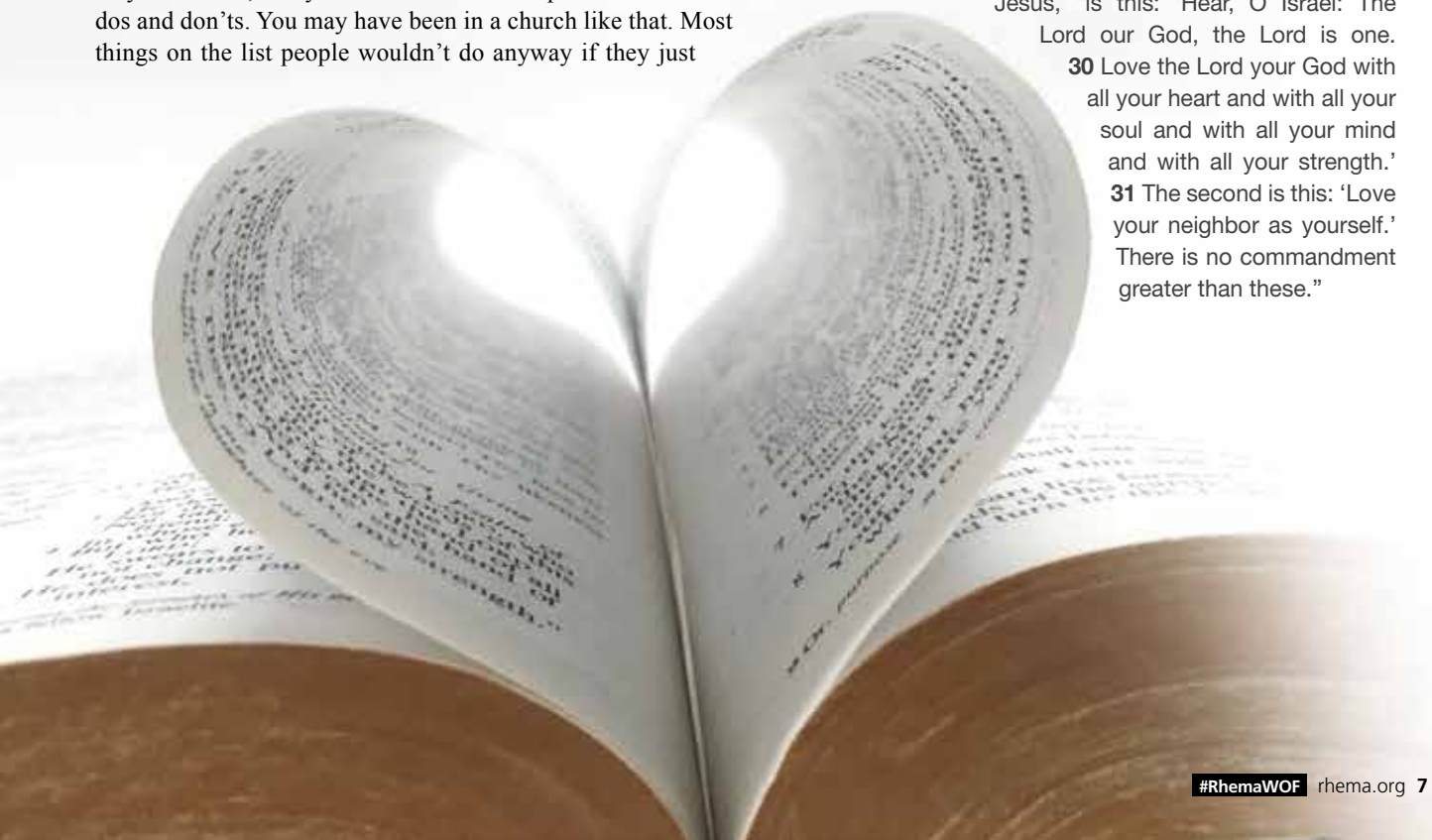
MARK 12:28–31 (NIV)

28 One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

29 “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.’

30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’

31 The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”



The Answer

If you ever wonder what you should do, or more specifically, what you should do with your future, I will make it simple: Do what the Bible says. “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. And love your neighbor as yourself.”

In any given situation, when you have to decide whether to do something and you wonder if what you might do is right or wrong, examine the situation in the light of the law of love. Ask yourself, “If I do such-and-such, will that be loving the Lord with all my heart, soul, and strength and loving my neighbor as myself?” If you ask yourself that question every time, you won’t have to ask whether the situation is right or wrong. The law of love will never lead you to sin.

If you love God and love your neighbor, you’ll find that everything else

falls into place.

These two commandments are a complete conduct guide for Christians to live by. Most people want to make it complex, but the Bible makes it simple: Love God and love your fellow man.

When you love someone, you don’t steal from them, gossip about them, or lie about them. This is how the law of love guides our conduct. And yet, there is no legalism in the law of love. There is no list of dos and don’ts.

Love can’t be legislated. It isn’t something you can be forced to do. Love is something you begin to do by saying, “I will obey God.” Love is strictly being obedient to do what God said to do.

When my children were growing up, I wasn’t as concerned with how good they acted while I was around as I was with how they acted when I wasn’t nearby. Sure, they would behave as long as Daddy was there. But the mark of whether I did a good job raising them was how they acted when they were away from me.

In the same way, love has to be a part of you. When it’s your way of life, you love no matter who is around. Jesus said that love is to be our rule of conduct. If you love God and love your neighbor, you’ll find that everything else falls into place.

The Code of Love

These two principles—loving God and loving your neighbor—are not a matter only of the heart but of behavior. Love begins in the heart. But when what is on the inside changes the outside, love becomes an action. The way you act toward someone reveals the way you feel about them in your heart.

When we love someone, we do what we can to help them. Jesus gave us a great way to remember how to treat people. It’s often called the Golden Rule, and it’s found in Luke 6:31 (NIV): “Do to others as you would have them do to you.”

What are we to do? We are to love God with all of our heart—everything within us. And we are to love our fellow man, doing to others as we would have them do to us.

Before you say a word or react to someone facing any circumstance, ask yourself, “If I were in their situation, how would I want to be treated?” If you answer this question honestly, it will probably change the way you treat that person.

People who gossip often say, “If I were in that situation, I would never have done anything like So-and-So did!” But you don’t know what you would have done because you’ve never been in that person’s shoes. So instead of passing judgment, follow the Golden Rule and treat others the way you would want them to treat you.

We don’t always see a quick return on the love and kindness we show. But if we sow love, we will reap love (Gal. 6:7).

As Christians, we are to live by the code of love. We are to love God with everything we are and everything we have. And we are to love people in thought, word, and deed.

The answer to “What should I do?” isn’t complex or dramatic. It’s very simple: Love God with all of your heart. Love your neighbor and do to others as you would have them do to you. When you follow the law of love, you will live the abundant life and find joy and peace that you never had before.♥

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God's Peace



CRAIG W. HAGIN

AFTER JESUS' LAST Passover meal with His disciples, He told them He was going away. He also let them know that the Comforter—the Holy Spirit—would come to be with them. The *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition* spells out Who the Comforter is.

JOHN 14:26 (AMPC)

26 But the Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners, Standby), the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My

behalf], He will teach you all things. And He will cause you to recall (will remind you of, bring to your remembrance) everything I have told you.

Jesus went on to tell the disciples that He was leaving them His peace.

JOHN 14:27 (AMPC)

27 Peace I leave with you; My [own] peace I now give and bequeath to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. [Stop allowing yourselves to be agitated and disturbed; and do not permit yourselves to be fearful and intimidated and cowardly and unsettled.]

Jesus wants us to experience that same peace. We often allow ourselves to become intimidated by situations when the answer to everything we need is in us.

Jesus said in John 16:33 (AMPC), *"I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence."* In Christ, we have perfect peace. Out of Christ, we have turmoil. Unfortunately, some believers are experiencing turmoil.

If we don't have peace, we must get back in Christ and in tune with God's Word. And we need to remind ourselves of what belongs to us as God's children.

Peace comes when we allow our spirit to dominate our mind. Focusing on Christ—not on what is around us—brings peace.

John 16:33 (AMPC) continues, *"[Take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world. [I have deprived it of power to harm you and have conquered it for you.]"* Many people are trying to conquer their world when Jesus has already conquered it. They're asking Him to do something about their situation, but He already did!

When Jesus hung suspended between Heaven and hell, He said, *"It is finished"* (John 19:30). Those words let us know that our struggles, tribulations, sicknesses, diseases, and other bad things no longer have the power to harm us.

Declare Peace

When Jesus rebuked the wind and told the waves, “*Peace, be still*” (Mark 4:39), He gave us an example of how to handle the storms in our lives. In the same way we speak to mountains and tell them to move (Mark 11:23), we can command a trial to stop and rest in God’s peace.

Many Christians have gotten hold of God’s will to heal and prosper us. But many haven’t grasped that Jesus wants us to have peace.

The same Spirit of God Who walked with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego walks with us. They ended up in a fire so hot it killed the guards who threw them in. God’s Spirit not only gave those Old Testament saints peace, He caused them to come out of the fire untouched. (See Daniel chapter 3.)

That same Spirit dwells in us. Isaiah 54:17 (NKJV) says, “*No weapon formed against you shall prosper.*” This verse indicates that weapons will come, but they won’t hurt us.

When adversity arises, we can experience peace that passes all understanding (Phil. 4:7). We can walk through the valley of the shadow of death and fear no evil (Ps. 23:4) when our mind is stayed on God (Isa. 26:3). I like what Psalm 91:7 (NKJV) says: “*A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you.*”

These verses are from the Old Testament. In the New Testament, God’s Spirit is in us. Peace is in us. **WHEN OTHERS ARE STRESSING OUT, WE CAN HAVE PEACE BECAUSE THE STRESS RELIEVER LIVES INSIDE US.**

When our world doesn’t seem peaceful, scripture tells us how to stay in peace: “*You will guard him and keep him in perfect and constant peace whose mind [both its inclination and its character] is stayed on You, because he commits himself to You, leans on You, and hopes confidently in You*” (Isa. 26:3 AMPC). We have to keep our focus on the Word and on Jesus.

Peter walked on water until he took his eyes off Jesus. Looking at the winds and waves caused him to sink (Matt. 14:22–33). Too often, we get our eyes off Jesus. “What am I going to do?” we ask. The answer? Look inside. If we lived life inside out, things would be much better.

If we dwell on the imaginations the devil throws at us, they will become real in our lives. But if we’ll cast them down and lean on the everlasting Rock on the inside, we will experience peace that passes all understanding.

Philippians 4:8 (NKJV) says, “*Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.*” To have God’s peace, we must dwell on these things.

When the world is caving in around you and it looks as though you won’t make it, know that you are standing on the Rock. Keep your mind on the Lord and lean on the Comforter—the Counselor, Advocate, Standby, and Intercessor. The One Who is your ever-present help will get you through the storm in peace. ♥

Casting Your Cares

First Peter 5:7 instructs us to cast our cares on the Lord. When we do, those cares should be gone. Continually casting a care shows we’re not letting go of it. We’re still trying to figure things out.

When fishing, you can drop your line into the water from the side of the dock. Or you can cast the line. No one is complimented when their line lands two feet from the dock. No, a good cast lands far from you.

When some people cast their care on the Lord, they let it drop too close to them. They’re still looking at it, and it’s still bothering them. Don’t do that. Get that care away from you! Throw the rod in too, if you have to. When you fully cast a care on the Lord, you trust Him completely to work it out.

SPECIAL OFFER

Live in Peace

God wants believers to live free from the entanglements of worry. How do we do that? By relying on His love for us. His infinite wisdom and power will make us successful. Never fear. God has your back!

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Men's Conference

SPEAKER HIGHLIGHT

THE BIBLE TALKS a lot about winning—winning battles, winning against evil, and winning the lost. The scriptures contain many stories of people conquering nations, possessing land, defeating their enemies, overcoming odds, and receiving the impossible.

I believe God's plan is for each of us to be a winner. I have never met anyone who didn't have a desire to succeed or win. It is a longing that God creates inside of us.

1 JOHN 5:4-5 (NLT)

4 For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith.

5 And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

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

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

you have never stumped your toe. But you're never a failure until you stop trying.

Jesus said, "*All things are possible to him who believes*" (Mark 9:23 NKJV). He is saying you're a winner and not a loser. The question is, do you want to win? Will you do what it takes to win? When people want something badly enough, they do what it takes to get it.

For Christians, doing what it takes starts with the Word of God. For some that may mean repentance and not yielding to temptations. But there is no success without the Word. To be a winner, you must renew your mind with God's Word and pray.

I've always been competitive. When I played sports, I didn't go out there just to play the game—my goal was to win every time. I took that same mindset into my spiritual life. I made the decision to give it my all and do what was necessary to get a hold of the Word so I could always win in life.

In the heat of a battle, when you're hurting and feel like giving up, you must switch your mindset from a defeated attitude to a winning attitude. Instead of saying "Oh, my. What are we going to do?" you can say, "OK, devil, you want to fight? Come on!" Remind yourself of what the Word says:

ROMANS 8:31 (NKJV)

31 If God is for us, who can be against us?

1 JOHN 4:4 (NLT)

4 But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.

PHILIPPIANS 4:13 (NKJV)

13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Continually speaking the Word and maintaining your will to win are the attitude and actions of a winner.

There's a game to be won. There are buildings to be built, books to be written, and songs to be sung. There's the enemy to overcome and a race to run. There's a family to raise. God's will needs to be done, and souls must be won. Your race affects the outcome of other people's lives.

GOD HAS DESTINED YOU TO SUCCEED IN SOME AREA OF LIFE. He made it possible for you to win by sending Jesus to the cross. You are victorious through Christ.

We are men, and our responsibility is too great for us to fail. This is our time to make a difference. ♡

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The Promise Is Greater Than the Pressure

GARY HENNENFENT

JESUS TOLD HIS disciples in John 16:33 that in this world, they would experience some challenges. He went on to say, “*But be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.*”

TROUBLE SHOULD NEVER BE AN INDICATOR OF WHETHER YOU ARE IN GOD’S WILL. Sometimes the devil sends trouble to move you out of the place God has called you to. The Apostle Paul is a great example of this.

In Acts 23:11 (ESV), the Lord told Paul, “*As you have testified to the facts about me in Jerusalem, so you must testify also in Rome.*” Immediately after Paul received this word from God, he ended up in prison. Paul’s circumstances seemed to counter the promise he received.

Two years later, Paul gave his testimony to Festus and King Agrippa. (See Acts chapter 26.) It seemed that what God said to Paul in chapter 23 would finally happen—he would go to Rome and appear before Caesar.

However, the ship Paul was sailing in was caught in a violent storm. Eventually, everyone on board lost all hope of survival (Acts 27:20). The ship eventually ran aground off the island of Malta, and everyone made it safely to land. However, while gathering firewood, Paul was bitten by a poisonous snake.

Finally in Acts 28:16, Paul arrived in Rome. It took five chapters, a few years, and much adversity before what God had promised came to pass.

It’s interesting that some of Paul’s greatest impact on the Body of Christ came on the other side of that trip to Rome. He faced challenges because he was carrying a supply inside him that we need even today.

SOMETIMES THE CHALLENGES YOU FACE ARE NOT ABOUT YOU. THEY

ARE ABOUT THE SUPPLY YOU CARRY.

And if you will get to the other side of the adversity you face, you will impact your generation and even the following one.

The next time you read Paul’s prayer in Ephesians chapter 1, remember the hardship he endured before he penned those words. He prayed, “*That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints*” (Eph. 1:17–18 NKJV).

I’m glad Paul didn’t give up before he wrote, “*Rejoice in the Lord always*” (Phil. 4:4 NKJV). Or “*To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory*” (Col. 1:27 ESV).

What are you carrying inside of you? Know that there is some kind

of influence on the other side of the pressure you’re facing today.

If the Apostle Paul faced challenges, you will too. And like Paul, anytime you face pressure, you’re going to need a promise. That promise is designed to sustain you and help you reach your destiny so the influence inside you will be released. So whenever you are challenged, release your faith in the promise of God through your words and actions.

Paul tells us in Ephesians 6:13, “*having done all to stand, stand.*” He certainly knew what he was talking about. After being in prison, going through a violent storm, being shipwrecked, and getting bitten by a snake, he kept standing on God’s Word.

No matter what you are going through, don’t let the pressure move you from your position. God’s promise is greater, and it will get you to the other side.♥

[Editor’s Note: Gary Hennenfent is an instructor at Rhema USA.]



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WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT . . .

Protection

In such evil and perilous times, it's important that we claim God's promised protection over our lives. Say the following scriptures and confession over yourself and your loved ones daily. Believe God's promises, and watch His Word become a reality for you.

PSALM 18:2

2 My God is my rock, in whom I find protection. He is my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety.

PSALM 32:7

7 For you are my hiding place; you protect me from trouble. You surround me with songs of victory.

PSALM 34:19

19 The righteous person faces many troubles, but the Lord comes to the rescue each time.

PSALM 119:114

114 You are my refuge and my shield; your word is my source of hope.

PSALM 121:7

7 The Lord keeps you from all harm and watches over your life.

PROVERBS 18:10

10 The name of the Lord is a strong fortress; the godly run to him and are safe.

PROVERBS 19:23

23 Fear of the Lord leads to life, bringing security and protection from harm.

PROVERBS 30:5

5 Every word of God proves true. He is a shield to all who come to him for protection.

ISAIAH 41:10

10 "Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand."

ISAIAH 46:4

4 "I will be your God throughout your lifetime—until your hair is white with age. I made you, and I will care for you. I will carry you along and save you."

ISAIAH 54:17

17 "No weapon turned against you will succeed. You will silence every voice raised up to accuse you. These benefits are enjoyed by the servants of the Lord; their vindication will come from me."

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LUKE 10:19

19 "I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy, and you can walk among snakes and scorpions and crush them. Nothing will injure you."

EPHESIANS 6:11

11 Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil.

2 THESSALONIANS 3:3

3 But the Lord is faithful; he will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one.

HEBREWS 13:6

6 So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper, so I will have no fear. What can mere people do to me?"

1 JOHN 5:18

18 We know that God's children do not make a practice of sinning, for God's Son holds them securely, and the evil one cannot touch them.



PSALM 91: A PERSONAL CONFESSION

Because I live in the shelter of the Most High, I find rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

I declare that the Lord alone is my refuge and my safe place. He is my God, and I trust in Him. He rescues me from every trap of the enemy and protects me from deadly disease. He covers me with his feathers and shelters me with His wings. His faithful promises are my armor and protection.

I will never worry about an attack of demonic forces at night nor fear a spirit of darkness coming against me. Whether by night or day, demonic danger or powers of evil launched against me will not trouble me. Even in a time of disaster when thousands die, I will remain unscathed and unharmed.

I declare that because God is my refuge and the Most High is my shelter, no evil will conquer me and no plague or disaster will come near my home. He orders His angels to protect me wherever I go.

Because I love the Lord and trust in His Name, He answers me when I call on Him. He is always with me in trouble. He rescues me and honors me. He will reward me with a long life and give me His salvation!♥

Let God **Rebuild** Your Life

MARCI GLISSON



EVERYONE HAS A STORY. It doesn't matter if you grew up in a perfect family. Each of us has had to deal with the effects of sin and the sin nature. From the moment we are conceived, Satan comes to steal, kill, and destroy our lives. Thank God, He sent Jesus to redeem us and bring us an abundant life (John 10:10).

If you're a Christian, you became a new creation in Christ when you received Jesus as your Lord and Savior. Old things passed away and everything became new (2 Cor. 5:17). That means you received a new spirit instantly and became alive to Christ.

But God didn't intend for it to stop there. He also wants to remove the old things in our souls—the hurts, brokenness, insecurities, and deep-rooted emotional issues.

First Thessalonians 5:23 (NKJV) says, *“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

God redeemed us completely through the blood of Jesus. That redemption includes the devastation the enemy caused in our lives before (and after) we received Christ. That devastation affected our souls and emotions and caused us to fall into

a pattern of dysfunction. **BUT JESUS WANTS TO RESTORE EVERYTHING IN OUR LIVES, INCLUDING OUR SOULS AND EMOTIONS.** He came to heal the brokenhearted (Luke 4:18).

I've seen Christians who think, “I'm born again. Everything has become new,” yet they live defeated. Why? Because they haven't been real with God and let Him deal thoroughly with their hearts and emotions and the effects of the sin nature in their lives.

You may be dealing with some form of brokenness. Maybe you've learned to cope with it. God doesn't want you to cope with brokenness and dysfunction. He wants to completely rebuild your life.

Jesus is the Master Builder, and He wants to come in and be your Master Builder. God has plans for you. Contrary to the enemy's lies, you are not here by mistake. God placed a seed in you that holds His purpose for your life. **THE LORD DESIRES TO BRING YOU TO A PLACE OF WHOLENESS AND REBUILD YOUR LIFE TO THE POINT WHERE YOU ARE UNRECOGNIZABLE TO YOURSELF.** But you must let the Holy Spirit deal with the root of your hurts and fix them.

Allowing the Lord to uproot those hurts in your soul is a process. It starts by first

renewing your mind to God's Word. James 1:21 (NKJV) says, *“Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.”* Second, you must learn to follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

Following the Holy Spirit's promptings helped heal me from years of anger, hatred, and resentment toward my father. He divorced my mother and abandoned me when I was 3 years old. I didn't grow up with a father who loved me. As a result, my life was chaotic and dysfunctional for many years. I made life choices rooted in rejection, insecurity, and abandonment. It wasn't until my 20s that I made pivotal choices that brought me healing, freedom, and deliverance.

One of those choices was obeying the Holy Spirit's prompting to forgive my father. That step of obedience opened the door for me to lead my father to Christ and baptize him 20 years after I had forgiven him.

God wants you to know how to yield to His promptings daily. Whatever He prompts you to do, be quick to obey. You don't want to have to deal with the consequences of not obeying God.

The Heavenly Father wants you to experience true healing and freedom. He has given you everything you need to walk in wholeness and see Him build your life into something beautiful. Simply give Him your heart and soul so He can completely transform you. ♥

[Editor's Note: Marci Glisson is a Rhema USA graduate. She and her husband, Earl, co-pastor Anchor Faith Church in St. Augustine, Florida.]

JESUS WANTS TO RESTORE EVERYTHING IN OUR LIVES, INCLUDING OUR SOULS AND EMOTIONS.



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5 Things God Wants to Do for You

Are you in a difficult situation and there seems to be no way out?
God promises you deliverance!



Timeless
Teachings
of Kenneth E. Hagin

IS THERE SOMETHING you want God to do for you? According to His Word, there are several things *God* wants to do for you—good things we all desire. So what’s the catch? You must first set your love upon Him.

PSALM 91:14–15

14 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

In these two verses there are five things *El Shaddai*—the God Who is more than enough—said He will do for the person who sets their love upon Him.

God said, “*Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I . . .*”

1. Deliver him.
2. Set him on high.
3. Answer him.
4. Be with him and deliver him.
5. Honor him.

We must understand the importance of the simple phrase “I will” or “I shall.”

A leading Hebrew and Greek scholar once addressed a group of us young ministers. He was fluent in 32 languages.

When he visited with us, he explained that there are some things in Greek and Hebrew for which we have no English idiom.

“For instance,” he said, “in John 14:13, where Jesus said, ‘*whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do*’

the King James Version says, in effect, ‘*I will.*’” In other words, Jesus said, “I *will* do it.”

This scholar went on to explain, “The translators felt they should use either ‘I will’ or ‘I shall’ because that is the strongest assertion you can make in the English language.” He then read the verse to us in the original Greek. He said, “Now I’m going to translate that literally for you: ‘If you will ask anything in My Name, if I don’t have it, *I’ll make it for you*’”!

Thank God, He can, because He is *El Shaddai*—the God Who is more than enough!

I was reminded of this incident because in Psalm 91:14–15, God says He “will do” the following five things.

1 “I will deliver him.”

The God Who is more than enough is a delivering God!

God told Abraham that his descendants would sojourn in a foreign land for 400 years, but He promised, “I will bring them out with a strong hand.”

God doesn’t forget His promises: 430 years after Israel went to Egypt, God raised up Moses and Aaron to lead them out of bondage—and He brought them out with a strong hand. He is still the same delivering God today.

According to Acts 10:38, “*God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.*”

Satan is the oppressor. Jesus is the deliverer.

2 “I will set him on high, because he has known my name.”

We will look at this when we consider the fifth point.

3 “He shall call upon me, and I will answer him.”

God has always been a prayer-answering God. Throughout the Bible, He said, “I will answer.” Jeremiah 33:3 says, “*Call unto me, and I will answer thee.*”

In Isaiah 43:25 God said, “*I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.*” Then He added, “*Put me in remembrance*” (v. 26). Remind God of His Word. He is faithful to bring it to pass in your life.

Many New Testament scriptures also prove that God will hear and answer your prayers! He doesn’t want you to worry or be anxious about a thing. Philippians 4:6 (AMPC) says, “*Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything, by prayer and petition (definite requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God.*”

Why shouldn’t you fret or have anxiety? Because God is the All-Sufficient One, the One Who never changes and never fails (Heb. 13:8). He is just as able today as He ever was, and He’s concerned about you. That’s why He said, “*Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore . . . I will answer him.*” And when your love is set upon God, you will never ask anything outside His will. His Word is His will.

4 “I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him.”

God didn’t say you wouldn’t have trouble just because you’ve been born again and filled with the Spirit. In fact, He infers that you will have trouble *because* you’re a Christian.

The world will persecute you, talk about you, and speak evil of you. And the devil, who is the god of this world, will pressure you at every turn. No, God didn’t say we would never have troubles. But He did say, “I will be with him in trouble.” And Psalm 34:19 says, “*Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.*”

5 “I will honor him.”

God said, “I will honor him” (Ps. 91:15). This is similar in meaning to “I will set him on high,” the second thing God wants

to do for us (v. 14). He said He would do these two things for the person who has set his love upon Him.

Are you in a difficult situation and there seems to be no way out? *God promises you deliverance!* Have you been crying out to God about problems in your life? Thank God, *He will answer you when you call upon Him!*

No matter what you are going through, *God will be with you in trouble.* And He will not only be *with* you, He will also *deliver* you!

When you set your love upon God and know His Name, He will honor you and set you on high. I don’t know about you, but I want to be set on high where the devil and circumstances and problems of this world can’t touch me!

If your love is set upon God, begin to thank Him for these five promises that He’s given you in His Word. Thank Him and praise Him for delivering you, for setting you on high, for answering you when you call, for being with you in trouble and delivering you, and for honoring you. Thank God for *all* He is doing in your life!♥

[Editor’s Note: This article was adapted from the article “5 Things God Wants to Do for You,” which previously appeared in the November 2003 issue of *The Word of Faith*.]

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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)

GOD'S GOT IT!

THE LAST SEVERAL years have certainly been a different season than most of us have ever experienced. The pandemic brought many situations we had never encountered in our lifetime. Employers are still being affected by a shortage of workers and supplies. This interrupts areas we had never thought of before. Since our children are grown, I do not cook as often as I did. It is easier for my husband and me to eat in a restaurant. However, a shortage of workers and even food have impacted that industry.

We have been renovating buildings at Rhema and supply chain issues have caused lengthy delays in that process. Daily challenges such as these can cause us to unknowingly be stressed and anxious. I have known people who had anxiety attacks because of the situations they were encountering.

Handling multiple tasks and making major decisions have been a part of my and my husband's life for many years. We are accustomed to working under tight deadlines and handling emergency situations. However, the other day I sensed myself being a little overwhelmed by some major projects.

I was tempted to stress about it. This was very unusual for me. I have always been a positive person and know the Lord will help me get through whatever situation I face. Of course, I knew it was the enemy who comes with despairing thoughts to endeavor to discourage me.

Suddenly my thoughts went to First Peter 5:7-9 (NLT), "Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Stand firm against him, and be strong in your faith." Then these words came to me: "Whatever you need—God's got it."

Those words so encouraged me. Now when a situation comes up that I do not know the answer to, I say: "Whatever I need—God's got it!"

Over and over in this column, I have emphasized the importance of communing with the Father every day. It is so important to be sensitive and recognize the Holy Spirit's voice who is there to help you with anything you need.

Oftentimes we do not recognize that God is working things out. We attribute it to luck instead of God working on our behalf. It is important to recognize and thank the Lord for what He has done and is doing for us.

I know we must have rain, but I do not like dealing with rain when I'm running errands and have to be in and out of the car. One week several years ago, it had rained all week. It was overcast and gloomy. There had been no sunshine at all. This was my birthday week, so I was getting a little sad about the weather conditions. But when my birthday came, the sun was shining, and it was a beautiful day.

Of course, I was thrilled, but I wasn't thinking God did that just for me. But at 12:01 a.m. the following day, it began raining cats and dogs, as we used to say. I thought, "God, You brought the sunshine just for my birthday!" I began thanking Him and praising Him for being such a wonderful God who cares so much for His children.

I encourage you to quit worrying and trust God in every situation you face. Jesus told us in Luke 12:24-28 (NLT) "Look at the ravens. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for God feeds them. And you are far more valuable to him than any birds! Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? And if worry can't accomplish a little thing like that, what's the use of worrying over bigger things? Look at the lilies and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. And if God cares so wonderfully for flowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith?"

Remember, when the temptation comes to stress or worry about situations in your life, just say as I do, "Whatever I need—God's got it!" ♥

Lynette





Kids' Page

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

Faith "Gets By" With a Little Help From Its Friends



We all know that faith is very important to the Christian. Remember that the Bible says, "Without faith it is impossible to please God" (Heb. 11:6 NIV). But just like you need the help of friends sometimes to get a job done, the same holds true for faith. The New Testament tells us about three very important "friends" of faith. One of them is found in James 2:17. His name is **ACTION**. Let's read about it: "Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead" (NIV). How important is it for action to be with your faith? Well, without it, your faith dies! Here are a couple of important actions that will help your faith: 1) Confess God's Word in each situation you face. 2) Obey God's Word and do what it says to do. Well, the other two friends of faith still remain a mystery. Do you think you can figure out their names? **Unscramble the two words below to discover the names of the two other friends of faith. (Answers found in Galatians 5:6 & Hebrews 6:12)**

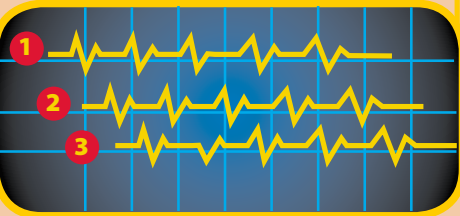
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THE VITAL SIGNS OF FAITH

Faith gets healthy much the same way your heart gets healthy...with good nutrition and exercise. So partake of the Word of God daily and exercise by doing what it tells you to do. Then your "faith monitor" should look like this one.



Only one of the faith monitor blips below matches the one above exactly. Can you pick out the exact match?



Find the Bible Names

Find the names of 12 Bible characters cleverly hidden in the paragraph below. Names may have spaces in between the letters.

I went to the Supermarket and played a video game called "Zulukenny." Funmart has a game just like it. It is a most intriguing game. A bell rings when you save a damsel in distress. Zulukenny is the bravest hero of all. Some video games are real evil and violent, but not Zulukenny. To tell the truth, I have a habit of playing video games too long. But I'm getting a lot better now.

Did you find the 12 names? Maybe this will help you. Here are the names you are looking for:

Abel, Adam, Ahab, Amos, David, Esther, Levi, Lot, Luke, Mark, Martha, Ruth.

jokes & riddles



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

What does the winner of a race lose?
His breath

What lies on its back 100 feet up in the air?
A dead centipede

What starts with T, ends with T and is full of T?
A teapot

Why do bees have sticky hair?

Because they have honeycombs

Why were the teacher's eyes crossed?

She couldn't control her pupils

Where was King Solomon's temple?
On his forehead

Finish the Rhyme

Read the Bible lesson at the top of the page. Then try to complete the rhymes below.

You might read your Bible daily,
And believe every word that it said.
If you read it but do not obey it,
Your faith, without action, is _____.

Faith is a gift sent from Heaven,
But a greater gift comes from above.
Because Galatians 5:6 has told us,
Our faith will not work without _____.

Faith is important to Christians,
Go ask the disciple named Thomas.
But if you have faith without patience,
You will not inherit the _____.

ANSWERS:

Find the Bible Names
I went to the Supermarket and played a video game called "Zulukenny." Funmart has a game just like it. It is a most intriguing game. A bell rings when you save a damsel in distress. Zulukenny is the bravest hero of all. Some video games are real evil and violent, but not Zulukenny. To tell the truth, I have a habit of playing video games too long. But I'm getting a lot better now.

Faith "Gets By" With a Little Help From
Hebrews 6:12 says that "through faith and patience" we inherit God's promises.

Vital Signs of Faith
Answer: 2
Finish the Rhyme
Love & Patience.
Galatians 5:6 says that "faith works by love, love & patience."
dead, love, promise



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