



THE Word of Faith

SEPTEMBER 2024

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

HARVESTING — GOD'S WISDOM —

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the Word of Faith



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The Possibilities of Today

If we're going to accomplish our dreams, we need to learn the value of today. To receive what God has for us, we need to wake up to the truth that God intends for us to accomplish something today. It seems that some people are always putting off what they need to do today until someday. They say, "Someday, I'll go back to school and get my degree." "Someday, I'll start that business." "Someday, I will get healed." The truth is, "someday" never comes. It is an elusive time in the future we never seem to get hold of.

We have to stop longing for someday and start living in today. God gave us promises for today, not for a time off in the distant future. Today is here! And it's time to receive everything that God says belongs to us. Every morning when we get up, we need to ask, "What can I receive from God today?" Every day is filled with the promises of God, not just when you're in church. We can start the day excited, but when obstacles weave through our lives, we can forget what God promised us. But that's when we need to dig in and keep pushing forward.

My motto has always been, "I cannot be defeated, and I will not quit!" Galatians 6:9 tells us we will reap a harvest if we don't quit. But when we relax, the devil takes advantage of us because we're not living in today. We can change our circumstances. We just have to believe that today is the day God's promises will manifest in our lives.

So let's stick with the Word, meditate on God's promises that fit our situation, and keep declaring them until what we are believing God for becomes a reality in our lives. Remember, today has great possibilities!

Kenneth W. Hagin

THIS ISSUE



4 Mind Trap

DENISE HAGIN BURNS

What you think profoundly impacts your life. Learn how to harness your thoughts and line them up with the truth of God's Word.

14 'The Good Fight of Faith': Believing, Saying, and Doing

KENNETH W. HAGIN

Understand three key aspects of our battle to live successfully by faith.

18 The Believer's Authority

KENNETH E. HAGIN

It's through the authority of the believer that Christians are no longer dominated by the devil. When we understand what we have, we will reign in life.

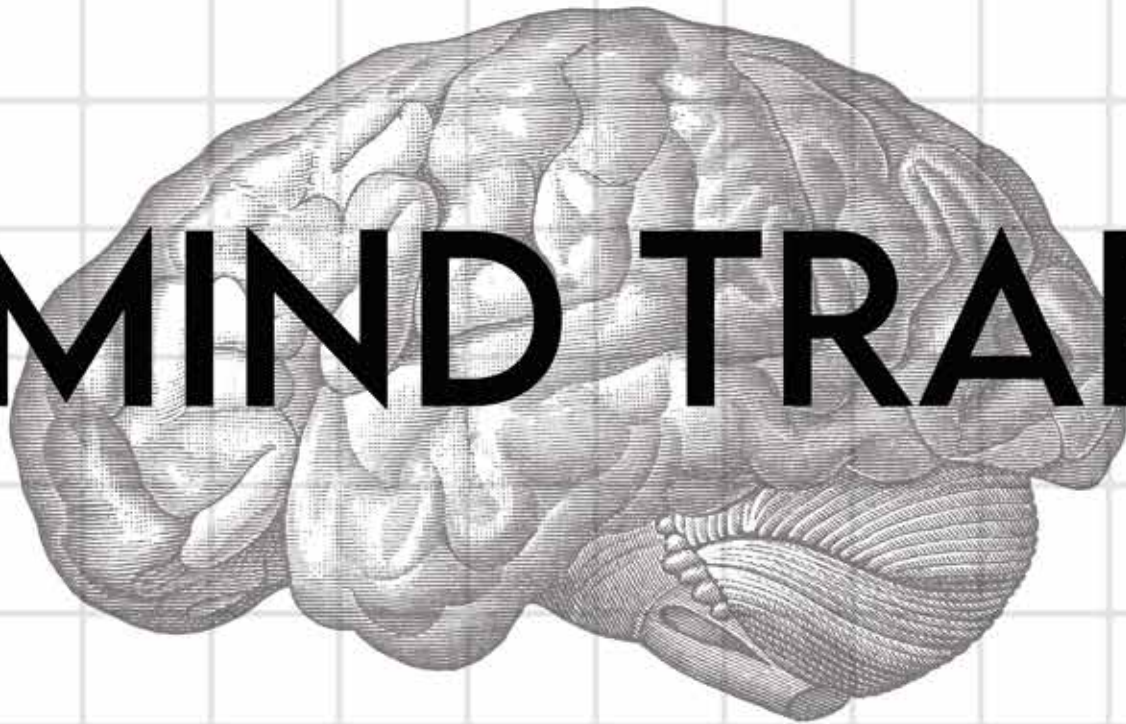


The Joy of Being You

LYNETTE HAGIN

To fulfill God's plan for our lives, we have to learn to be content with who He created us to be and what talents He's given us.

MIND TRAP



OUR THOUGHTS ARE powerful and have a profound impact on our lives. If we don't control them, they will control us.

On average, we think between 30,000 and 50,000 thoughts per day. (I'm convinced that men think 30,000 thoughts each day while women think 50,000. But that's just speculation!)

There are two kinds of thoughts: positive and negative. Positive thoughts are biblically based. They are God thoughts.

Negative thoughts are fear based, lying, and deceptive. They are far from the truth. We have the power to choose which way we think.

The Apostle Paul told us how we should think. He said, "*Keep your thoughts continually fixed on all that is authentic and real, honorable and admirable, beautiful and respectful, pure and holy, merciful and kind. And fasten your thoughts on every glorious work of God, praising him always*" (Phil. 4:8 TPT).

The word *keep* in this verse shows that our thoughts can stray from those that are God-based. If we naturally always thought about what the Bible says about us, Paul wouldn't have needed to instruct us. To think God's way will take a little work, but He has equipped us to do it.

Second Corinthians 10:5 is how we keep our thoughts continually fixed on the Lord. It's how we take negative, lying, fear-based thoughts and make them captive to God's Word. That verse says, "*We can demolish every deceptive fantasy that opposes God and break through every arrogant attitude that is raised up in defiance of the true knowledge of God. We capture, like prisoners of war, every thought and insist that it bow in obedience to the Anointed One*" (TPT).



DENISE HAGIN BURNS

I like to say it this way: Anytime a thought is contrary to God's Word, we have to "Second Corinthians 10:5 it." We can have many negative, fear-based thoughts every day that are completely opposite of the Word of God. How do we demolish them?



Identify negative thoughts. What we think about eventually becomes what we believe. We must think about what we're thinking about.

Our thoughts become our beliefs. Our beliefs determine our decisions. Our decisions become our direction. And our direction eventually becomes our lifestyle.

We can't let our minds run wild. The more we think about something—positive or negative—the easier it is to think that way. Let's compare our mind to a forest. In that forest, people have walked on the grass and worn a path. That is what thoughts do in our mind.

The first time we think a wrong thought, we may tell ourselves not to think that way. But the more we think that thought, the more it wears a path in our mind.

It works like this: "Wow, my head really hurts. I wonder what's wrong with me. I'd better Google 'What can cause a headache?' Oh, my! It could be a brain tumor. Or maybe a brain aneurysm. I could die at any second!"

That is how our thoughts go way down the wrong path. It starts with one negative, fear-based, lying thought that is contrary to God's Word.



Determine false core beliefs. If our thoughts are based on a lie, then our beliefs are also based on lies. If there's an area of our life where we don't have a lot of victory, we need to change the way we believe about it. And to do that, we have to change the way we think about it.

Maybe we accepted the thought, “I can’t get anything right. I’m worthless.” We thought that enough to believe it. That belief affected our decisions. And those decisions affected our direction in life, so eventually our lifestyle was based on that lie.

#3

Challenge the lies and false beliefs in our lives. Truth is the only thing that can change a lie. And we get our truth from the Word of God. We must expose negative thoughts and beliefs to the truth of God’s Word. (See “Challenging the Lie” worksheet.)

#4

Establish healthy, Bible-based core beliefs. When our thoughts and beliefs line up with God’s Word, then our decisions will be based on His Word too. And those decisions will determine our direction in life. When our thoughts, beliefs, and direction are based on the Word of God, our lifestyle will please Him.

It’s so important to establish healthy, truth-based core beliefs. And we do that by continually taking our thoughts captive. I believe doing this will completely change our lives.♥

FAITH NUGGET

Common False Core Beliefs

- I have to make others happy.
- People can’t be trusted.
- I am alone.
- It’s not okay to ask for help. If I do, that means something is wrong with me.

Emotionally Healthy Core Beliefs

- I am good enough.
- It’s okay if people don’t understand me.
- God is constantly helping me, protecting me, and meeting my needs.
- Making mistakes is okay. It helps me to grow.

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CHALLENGING THE LIE WORKSHEET

After determining the lie you are believing, write down 10 scriptures that challenge it. Every time that thought enters your mind, say your scripture list aloud. Below is a worksheet to help you get started.

The Lie I’m Believing: _____

10 Truths to Cut Down the Lie

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

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What Children Should Know About FAITH

TEACHING CHILDREN TO trust God and live by faith at a young age is crucial to helping them build a strong spiritual foundation. The Bible says, “*Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it*” (Prov. 22:6 NLT). Children should know that faith is not just for grown-ups. It is something *they* can understand, accept, and practice. If you are a parent or Christian educator, here are seven lessons you can teach your children or students about faith.

Faith Is What Saves

Ephesians 2:8 (NIV) says, “*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.*” From an early age, children must be taught that accepting Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior is how we are saved. Faith in Jesus is what lets us have a personal relationship with God. It’s how we experience His forgiveness and love. Understanding that is key to their spiritual development.

God’s Unconditional Love

Children should learn that God loves them without conditions. It’s important for them to understand that He loves them no matter what they do or how they feel. He loves them constantly. And He wants to have a relationship with them (Rom. 8:38–39).

Parents and teachers can share stories with kids about God’s love. Those include the parables of the lost sheep

and the prodigal son. These stories can help them understand that their Heavenly Father values them. He accepts them and cherishes them. When they know this, they have a foundation to love others the same way.

Trusting in God’s Promises

Teaching kids to have faith in God’s promises is a key to cultivating their faith. They should be taught that God always keeps His Word. By teaching children about God’s promises—such as His promises to always be with them, to provide for their needs, and to give them strength—they can learn to trust and rely on Him. Share stories from your own life to illustrate how God always keeps His promises and how they can rely on His Word.

Prayer and Talking to God

Help children learn to pray. That gives them a powerful way to develop a personal relationship with their Heavenly Father. It also helps them experience His presence. Encourage them to talk with God just like they would their best friend.

Through prayer, kids learn to rely on God’s guidance, seek His wisdom, tune in to His voice, and experience His peace and comfort. Encourage them to make a habit of praying before meals, throughout the day, and before bedtime. Teach your children to pray regularly and to share everything with God—big or small (Phil. 4:6–7).

Trusting in God’s Plan

When things don’t go as expected, it’s a good opportunity to teach your children about trusting in God’s plan. Proverbs 3:5–6 (NKJV) says, “*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.*” Teaching kids to trust God and seek His will in all aspects of life helps them face uncertainties with faith and confidence. Remind them that even when things don’t make sense, God has a purpose and a plan for them.

Faith in Action: Serving Others

Faith isn’t just about believing in God—it’s also about showing His love to others. Jesus emphasized the importance of loving our neighbors as ourselves (Matt. 22:39). One way He demonstrated this was by serving others and putting their needs before His own. Show your children how to help others and be kind to those going through tough times. As you do, you’re teaching them how to live out their faith in a practical way.

Faith in Everyday Life

Finally, children should know that faith is not just for special circumstances. It’s to apply to their daily lives. They can trust God to help them with schoolwork, comfort them in sad times, and guide them with decisions. They need to know that we’re to live by faith continuously (Heb. 10:38).♥



The

Joy

of Being You

To fulfill God's plan for our lives, we have to learn to
**be content with who He created us to be
and what talents He's given us.**

YEARS AGO, MY HUSBAND and I invited our pastoral staff over to our house, and we wound up playing a game that involved drawing pictures. As soon as someone suggested playing that game, my mind went back to the experiences I had in art class during my school days. There were times when I would burst into tears because I simply could not draw.

One of our associate pastors, a pretty good artist, said, "Oh, everybody can draw."

But I told him, "I know my strengths and my weaknesses. Art is not my strength. In fact, it's one of my biggest weaknesses."

When my turn came, I drew my picture and it was pretty bad. Our associate pastor looked at me and gasped, "That's horrible!" You talk about having a poor self-image! After he said that, I *really* had one. But the truth is, art is just not my talent.



LYNETTE HAGIN

Another time when the pastoral staff was at our house, we decided to play a musical game. We were supposed to select a word and then sing a song with that word in it.

When we played *that* game, I always thought of exactly the right song. That's because I knew so many Christian songs from being involved in church all of my life. Later, one of the pastors nicknamed me "The Eternal Songbook," because knowing all of those songs *is* one of my talents.

Be Content With Who You Are

To fulfill God's plan for our lives, we have to learn to be content with who He created us to be and what talents He's given us. Instead of criticizing ourselves and demeaning God's creation, we should say to the Lord as David did, "*Marvelous are Your works*" (Ps. 139:14 NKJV). We should tell Him, "God, You did a good job."

I'm reminded of the parable Jesus told in Matthew 25:14-30 of three servants who were each given a certain number of talents. In that particular story, a talent was a form of money, but the story

GOD MADE YOU JUST THE WAY HE WANTED YOU TO BE.

also illustrates the importance of using the natural talents God has given us.

In that parable, one of the servants was given five talents, and he invested them and brought back 10 talents to his master. One was given two talents, which he also invested, and he brought his master back four talents.

But the servant who was given only one talent dug a hole in the ground and buried it. He hid his talent and didn't use it for his lord. And his master was furious with him.

So many times we're like the servant who was given one talent. We don't do anything with the talent God has given us because we're constantly dwelling on the talents we don't have, or we're focusing on our insufficiencies or what we can't do. In some cases, we're not using our talents because we're jealous of the talents the Lord has given someone else. God wants us to be thankful for the talents He's given us, as well as to appreciate those He's given other people.

Let me give you another example of what I'm talking about here. My husband sometimes thinks I'm weird because I like to organize everything, and I also like to write procedures. He thinks that's weird because doing those things is work to him. He is not an organizer by nature, and he doesn't like procedures.

On the other hand, my husband doesn't mind making decisions, and after he makes them, he doesn't worry about whether people like him. But making decisions and handling conflict stresses me out, because I want everybody to like me.

Each one of us has our own special gifts and talents, and we need to appreciate the gifts God has given us, as well as the gifts He's given to others. We wouldn't be happy being clones.

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God Didn't Make a Mistake With You

God made you just the way He wanted you to be. If you're short, be content with that. If you're tall, be content with being tall. It's important for us not to criticize God's workmanship. He made you perfect according to His specifications. He made you exactly the way you need to be to fulfill His plan.

Now, we still should try to improve ourselves. But the enemy would love for us to focus on our "I can'ts" instead of our "I cans." No. We need to focus on our being "*fearfully and wonderfully made*" (Ps. 139:14). And we need to remember that God is the Master of taking ordinary people and doing extraordinary things with their lives. Besides, it's not about our great characteristics or abilities. It's about our great God!♥

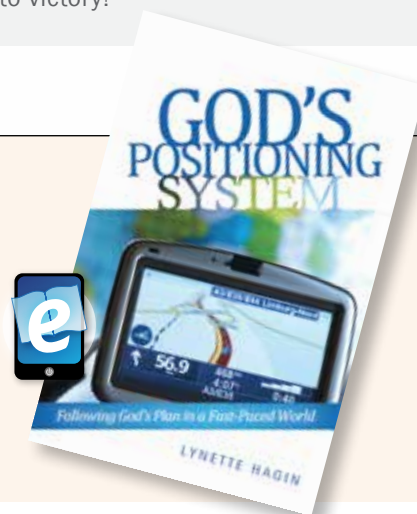
FAITH NUGGET

'Why, Lord, Why?'

One of the biggest obstacles to our contentment is constantly questioning the Lord. God doesn't mind us asking Him for specific answers when we're troubled. But He doesn't want us trapped in the questioning realm.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NKJV) says, "*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.*"

When setbacks and adverse circumstances surround us, instead of asking why, let's put our trust in the Lord. We can't do anything about what has already happened, but we can fix our eyes on God's Word and press into Him. As we do, we will find peace and contentment. And God will bring us through to victory!



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TONY COOKE

Adjusting to the New Reality

WHENEVER WE LOSE a loved one, we are forced to make many adjustments. Some adjustments are practical and external; others are emotional and internal. Some may seem trivial—others monumental. Any adjustment can be difficult, simply because change itself is difficult.

It has often been said that humans are creatures of habit. We prefer to “live, move, and have our being” in our comfort zone. We arrange and situate our life until we’re comfortable, then we like everything to stay put. We don’t want anyone upsetting the apple cart or ruffling our feathers, so to speak. Just the fact that there are so many clichés referring to this tendency of human nature shows how much we don’t like change.

We would rather the world be a peaceful, tranquil place. But we must come to terms with the reality that it contains a great deal of pain and turmoil. A part of us wants to stay young, and we sometimes hear people longing for the good old days. However, we must deal with the truth that “our outward man is perishing” (2 Cor. 4:16). We may have idealistic dreams of the way we wish

things could be, but ultimately we must face the way life really is.

Everything Changes

Although we do not like or embrace change, it is wise for us to realize that everything pertaining to this earthly realm is subject to change.

None of our earthly relationships are permanent because some of us will leave this earth sooner than others. Thank God that we can be reunited in Heaven. In the meantime, we must remember that we are just “passing through.”

In spite of the very transitory nature of life, we become comfortable having things a certain way. When circumstances change, we can have a challenging time dealing with it. This is true in dealing with the death of a loved one.

When a loved one dies, there is usually much more involved than the person no longer being with us. The added issues make the transition difficult.

Dependency Issues

For example, there are dependency issues—how much did we depend upon that person, and how much did they depend upon us? What role did they

play in our life? Perhaps we found a great sense of self-worth in caring for that person, and now they are no longer with us. Will we find a sense of worth and purpose elsewhere, or will we feel as though we no longer have value?

Perhaps the person was proficient in certain areas—such as managing the finances—so we allowed them to take care of us in those areas. We may have been completely dependent upon our loved one, completely leaning upon their skills. Suddenly, we find ourselves not only without that person, but we encounter new responsibilities for which we may feel very inadequate and unprepared.

Identity Issues

As we adjust to the new reality after suffering the loss of a loved one, we may also have identity issues. Perhaps our goals and dreams were wrapped up in our loved one—and now that person is gone! Will all our hopes and aspirations die with our loved one, or will we be able to discover new purpose and new direction in life? Sometimes the loss is so drastic and devastating that it seems there is no possible way we can go on.

GOD WILL GIVE YOU STRENGTH AND RESILIENCY TO MOVE FORWARD.

Companionship Issues

In addition to dependency and identity issues, there are also companionship issues. It is normal to miss someone when we are no longer able to enjoy their physical presence and company. I remember contacting a middle-aged man whose elderly father had just died. When I asked him how he was doing, he gave an honest answer. He said, "I'm glad my dad is with Jesus and that he's not suffering anymore, but I sure do miss him."

Loneliness is commonly encountered when a loved one dies. Depending on the nature of the relationship, feelings of loneliness can be intense.

Don't be alarmed if you have strong feelings of loneliness when someone you love dearly is separated from you. Just as God gave you the gift of being able to give love to that person and receive love from that person, God will give you strength and resiliency to move forward.

The aching void you feel in your heart is a testimony to the quality of love God allowed you to share with that individual. Although your loved one is gone, God is still with you, and He will never leave or forsake you.

It is important for you to believe that God still has a purpose and a reason for you to be alive. There will never be an

exact replica of what you had with your loved one. But you must believe that God still has good things for you in life and that He will help you adjust to your new reality.

Missing someone you love is a tribute to that person and their influence in your life. Moving forward, making the necessary adjustments, and finding new purpose for yourself is a tribute to God and His influence in your life.♥

[Editor's note: This article was adapted from Tony Cooke's book *Life After Death*.]



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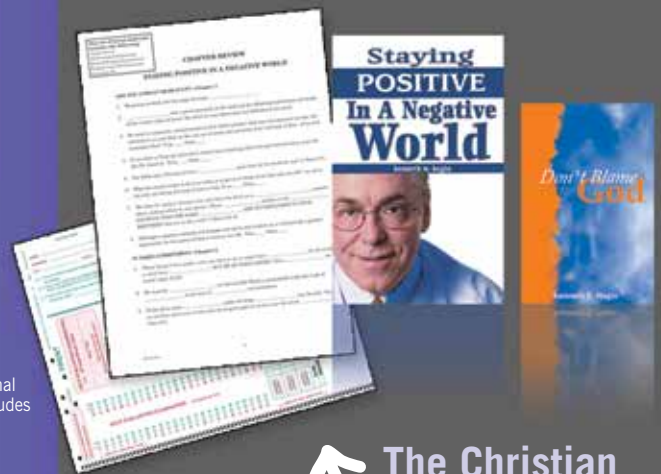
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KIRK DUBOIS

FAITH MUST HAVE a foundation of righteousness to work correctly. We need to understand what righteousness is and who we are in Christ. We can't believe God for something if we don't feel like we're in right standing with Him.

The number one problem I see Christians have is understanding the difference between sin consciousness and righteousness consciousness. Many believers never know from moment to moment if they're pleasing God. I call them nervous Christians. They're saved and filled with the Holy Spirit, but they're not sure they're right with God. And it's hard to believe Him for something without that assurance.

Some Christians still deal with sin consciousness because of their own humanity and failings. They're trying to become righteousness by their performance. But righteousness is not based on performance. It's based on belief.

Romans 10:10 (NKJV) says, *"For with the heart one believes unto righteousness."* We become righteous before God by believing in what He has done, not in what we can do.

Sin-conscious Christians don't receive from God because they're trying to "feel" worthy. But we can't pray hard enough, speak in tongues long enough, or read our Bible for enough hours to make ourselves worthy to receive anything from God. We can't earn what God has already given us.

We simply have to believe in what Jesus has done for us and what God said in His Word. When we believe, God imputes to us

righteousness and all the benefits that come with it.

James 5:16 (NKJV) says, *"The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."* If we are in Christ, we are righteous.

Jesus' righteousness is our badge of authority to get what God has reserved for us. The blood of Jesus is the pathway we walk on, and righteousness opens the door for us to receive everything God wants us as His children to have.

Faith has action, but it's based on what Jesus did. We rest on the work of Calvary.

NO LONGER UNDER THE LAW

Paul wrote the Book of Galatians because Jewish Christians were trying to get the Galatian church to go back under the Law. Paul was reminding them that they were righteous apart from the Law.

GALATIANS 5:5-6 (NKJV)

5 For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.

No one becomes righteous through works. What pleases God is "faith that works by love."

Romans 5:1 (NKJV) says, *"Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."* We have peace with God because, while we were sinners, Jesus redeemed us. Romans 5:5 (NKJV) says, *"Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit."*

What does that mean? Our faith works because we understand how much God loves us. He loved us when we were sinners and sent Jesus to redeem us. How much more does He love us now that we are His children?

1 JOHN 3:20-22 (NKJV)

20 For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.

21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.

22 And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

We need confidence for our faith to work. Confidence comes when we understand God's love for us. Fear indicates that we're not perfected in God's love. Love casts out fear because fear has to do with judgment.

Who can condemn us when God has made us righteous? Who can successfully accuse us when Jesus is at God's right hand interceding for us? Who can separate us from God's love? Nobody.

When we understand that God has made us righteous, that He loves us, and that He has forgiven our sins, our faith will be unlimited. Our faith will be unstoppable because we know God is backing us up. ♥

[Editor's Note: Kirk DuBois is an instructor at Rhema USA.]



INSTRUCTOR HIGHLIGHT

Righteousness is not based on performance.

It's based on belief.



'THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH':

Believing, Saying, and Doing



KENNETH W. HAGIN

IF YOU ARE not triumphing over problems and living an unlimited life, it's important for you to understand that God *wants* to answer your prayers. He wants you to renew your mind with His Word and change your mind for the better, thinking *His* thoughts and walking in *His* ways. He wants you to learn to fight the good fight of faith.

1 TIMOTHY 6:12 (NKJV)

12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

By the Spirit of God, the Apostle Paul was urging Timothy (and God is urging *us* today) to fight the good fight of faith.

GOD WANTS YOU TO LEARN TO FIGHT!

Notice Paul called it the *good* fight of faith. The fight of faith is a *good* fight because it's a fight we always win! When we walk by faith in God's Word, we're guaranteed to win in life's tests and challenges. Real faith, *Bible* faith, always ends in victory, leaving defeat and despair behind (2 Cor. 2:14).

I'm not saying walking by faith is easy and won't take effort on our part. Paul called it the *good fight* of faith. This fight is a part of faith. Too many people want to fight with other people, but the Bible says that our fight is not with flesh and blood (Eph. 6:12). Our fight is to stand our ground against the fear, doubt, and unbelief Satan brings. We must fight to *believe*, *say*, and *do* God's Word so we triumph in life's trials.

To fight the good fight of faith successfully, we have to *believe* God's Word, *say* God's Word, and *do* God's Word.

BELIEVE

The first aspect of the good fight of faith is *believing*. We must continually fight to believe God's Word, because the enemy will try to steal the Word from us through thoughts of doubt and unbelief. We must fight to hold on to what we believe. To do that, we have to feed on God's Word until it is so strong in us that nothing can move us from it and no one can talk us out of it.

As we take hold of God's Word with our heart, we should begin to see ourselves with the manifestation of that Word in our lives. We should see it with our spiritual eyes as done.

I'm not talking about just positive thinking. I'm talking about believing in the power of God's Word! I'm talking about being fully persuaded that what God promised, He is able also to perform (Rom. 4:21).

SAY

The second aspect of the good fight of faith is *saying*. We must continually fight to say what the Word says instead of what our problems and circumstances look like. We should

never face the enemy, our trials, or our problems with our mouths shut! Instead, we need to confront them and boldly confess what the Bible says about our situation.

The pattern of “believing and saying” isn’t man’s idea. This is God’s pattern; it’s how He created the world to begin with (Heb. 11:3). God said, “*Let there be . . .*,” and there was (Gen. 1:3–28).

The Bible says we are created in the likeness of God and that we should imitate Him “as dear children” (Gen. 1:26; Eph. 5:1 NKJV). Therefore, we should imitate this pattern of believing and saying in our own lives.

So what should we believe and say? Exactly what God says in His Word. Believing and speaking God’s Word lifts us out of defeat and sets us on the path to victory. It strengthens our spirit, renews our mind, and gives us a new, positive attitude of faith and victory.

The fight of faith is a *good* fight because it’s a fight we **ALWAYS WIN!**

DO

The third aspect of the good fight of faith is *doing*. Some people are confused about what it means to act on the Word of God. Simply translated, it means to act like the Bible is so—because it is.

Have you ever felt like you were “between a rock and a hard place”? Moses found himself in that position when Pharaoh’s army took off in pursuit of the newly freed Israelites. With the Red Sea in front of them and the Egyptians behind them, the children of Israel had nowhere to go.

Moses cried out to God on behalf of the people, and God answered, “Why are you crying to Me? Tell the people to go *forward!*”

Then God told Moses, “Stretch forth your rod over the sea and divide it.”

Moses did as God said, the sea parted, and the Israelites passed through on dry ground (Exod. 14:5–31).

You may be between “the enemy and the sea” in whatever you’re facing. God is saying to you, “Stretch forth your rod and go forward.” In other words, He’s saying, “*You do something!*”

Moses’ rod was a symbol of God’s spoken Word. Today, our rod is our speaking the revelation of God’s Word that’s in our heart. We don’t have a literal rod in our hand to stretch out over our problem, but we do have the Word in our mouth (Rom. 10:8).

Moses’ rod was one of authority. And we as believers have been given spiritual authority. Jesus gave us our authority (Luke 10:19 NKJV). We have been authorized to use His Name and His Word over all the power of the enemy.

Yet many people whine and cry, “I need someone to pray for me. The devil has been after me.”

But the Bible doesn’t say we should have someone else pray that the devil stop attacking us. It says, “*Resist the devil, and he will flee from you*” (James 4:7). In other words, we resist the devil.

A WINNING COMBINATION

Don’t have the attitude that you’ll wait until you see the answer to your problem before you start believing. Start believing *right now* that God’s Word is true! Start saying *now*, “In Christ, I’m a winner.” Start acting victoriously because that’s how God sees you.

The devil will try to condemn you and weaken your faith. You must stand your ground against him. You’ll have to fight to believe God’s Word, hold on to your beliefs, and continually say what His Word says.

You can rely on God’s faithfulness and His love for you. You can say with Paul, “Nothing can separate me from the love of my limitless God” (Rom. 8:38–39) and “*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me*” (Phil. 4:13 NKJV). You can “*believe, say, and do*” your way to victory!👊

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Men's Conference

SPEAKER HIGHLIGHT

NOWADAYS IT'S not uncommon to hear about wildfires. With so many places experiencing drought, it's easy for a fire to start. When the ground is dry and conditions are right, the smallest spark can start a fire that quickly becomes an uncontrollable blaze. And anything in its path is engulfed in flames.

Spiritually speaking, there's a lot of dry ground throughout the earth. There's a world full of people who don't know the Lord and who never think about God. They don't know how much He loves and cares for them or that He wants to help them with whatever they're going through.

One way to change this is for the Church to be on fire for God and burn so brightly that its flames consume everything it touches.

Kindling Your Fire

A lot of Christians think they're on fire. When the power of God hits them in church, they can't contain it. They'll run, dance, and maybe even do cartwheels! But when they get home and reality hits, their fire is quickly snuffed out.

Reality, however, is that God is always with us. He said that He would never leave nor forsake us (Heb. 13:5). And because He's with us, we can be victorious in everything we face.

Instead of letting their light shine in dark places, many Christians are waiting on God to show up. They're waiting on Him to send the fire. But God is waiting on us. He wants us to stir up the gift that's already in us. He wants us to show His love to those around us and demonstrate His power to a lost and dying world.

Fellowship With God Keeps Us Strong

Because people focus on their talents and abilities, they often feel inadequate to demonstrate God's power. It's not about us, however. It's about who we are in Christ. Everything we are, we are in Christ. And anything Jesus did, we can do also, because the Greater One lives inside us.

Unfortunately, too many Christians don't know what God can do. They don't know who they are in Christ and the power that is already in them. As a result, they're not on fire. And the people they come in contact with don't come close to catching on fire.

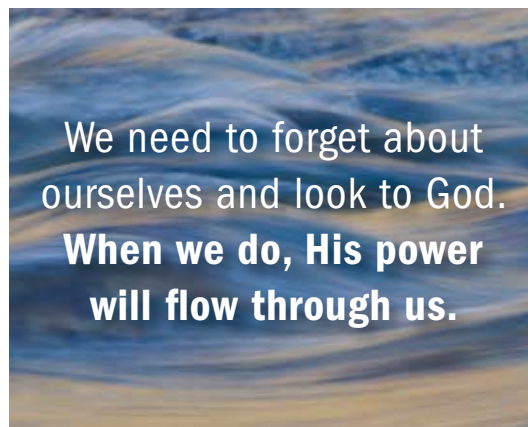
The devil is always trying to put our fire out. It's easy for him to do that when we try to live in our own strength. But when we stay in fellowship with the Lord, our perspective changes. Through our fellowship with our Heavenly Father, we become grounded in who we are in Christ. We get excited about God and about Him living in us. Then, whenever life happens and we get knocked down, adversity won't be able to put our fire out.

Fellowship, however, is a two-way street. And this is where many of us miss it. We're not talking to our Heavenly Father or listening to what He says to us. If we want God to shine through us, we have to spend time with Him.

Follow Paul's Example

The Apostle Paul faced a lot of hardship in his life. But no matter what he experienced, he stayed on fire for God.

Whenever Paul ministered, he never tried to woo the crowd with fancy words or impress them with his wisdom. Instead of trusting in his abilities, Paul always relied on God's power to manifest wherever he was



and in whatever situation he faced. (See 1 Cor. 2:1-5.) Likewise, we need to forget about ourselves and look to God. When we do, His power will flow through us.

Imagine what will happen when we all bring our personal fire to church and worship God in one accord. But remember, the Church is more than a building. Every member of the Body of Christ is the Church. We carry the fire of God with us wherever we go!

So let's let God's power, love, and compassion flow through us to the lost. It's time to burn brightly for God and light up our world with His love, compassion, and power. ♥

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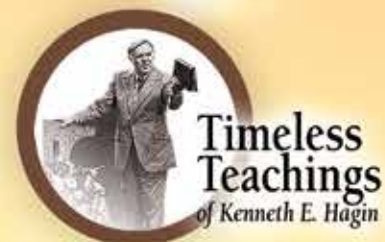


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THE BELIEVER'S AUTHORITY

THE AUTHORITY OF the believer is unveiled more fully in the Book of Ephesians than in any other epistle written to the churches.

Ephesians 6:12 tells us that we “*wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.*” We need to realize that although we wrestle against Satan and demons, we have authority over them through Christ.

Some Christians think only ministers or mighty saints of God have this authority, but it is the possession of every child of God. Authority belongs to us whether we realize it or not. But we can't take advantage of something we don't know about.

On the other hand, we can know about this authority but not act upon it. Knowledge isn't enough. Its knowledge acted upon that brings results.

The devil doesn't want Christians to find out what belongs to them, so he obscures the knowledge of truth. He knows that the child of God who knows their authority in Christ will enjoy victory over him and no longer be dominated by him.

POWER VS. AUTHORITY

Luke 10:19 says, “*Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and*

nothing shall by any means hurt you.” The word power is used in this verse twice. But there are two different Greek words in the verse that are translated as power.

Jesus said, “*Behold, I give unto you power.*” The Greek word translated *power* here means “authority.” We could liken this authority to what a police officer uses when directing traffic. The officer doesn't have the “power,” or strength, to hold back the cars. But he has the authority to command someone to stop. Drivers recognize and honor that authority.

Likewise, when Christians use their authority in Christ, the devil recognizes it. And he has no choice—he must obey that authority.

The value of authority depends on the force behind it. Police officers have all the authority of the law behind them. What about Christians and the authority they have in Christ? God Himself is the force behind our authority. Believers who are fully conscious of the divine power behind them can face the enemy without fear or hesitancy.

OVERCOMING THROUGH CHRIST

First John 4:4 says, “*Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.*” The “*them*” this verse is talking about is demons and evil spirits. (See 1 John 4:1–3.)

Notice this verse doesn't say we are *going* to overcome the devil. It says we *have* overcome him, "*because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.*" Jesus Christ, the hope of glory, dwells in us through the person and power of the Holy Spirit. Because Jesus overcame the devil at the cross, we *overcome* him through Jesus' authority.

But again, we must exercise that authority to benefit from it. It's through the authority of Jesus Christ that we will reign in this life by Him (Rom. 5:17).

SEATED WITH CHRIST

Jesus' authority has to be activated through the Body of Christ on earth. And to tell you the real truth about it, the only authority Jesus has on the earth is through His Body. He is the head, and we are His Body.

Ephesians 1:22 says that God "*hath put all things under [Jesus'] feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church.*" Some folks think all things are under Jesus' feet. They're thinking about Jesus, the man. But notice that Paul said "*he gave him to be the head.*" Do you have any feet in your head? No. He was talking about the Body of Christ, and Jesus is head over all things to the Church, His Body.

Although we are on the earth, scripture says we were raised up with Christ. Ephesians 2:6 says that God "*hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.*" That is not something God is going to do. He has already done it.

Jesus is at the right hand of the Father, the place of authority, and we are seated with Him. This fact is overlooked by many churches and Christians. In the mind of God, when Jesus was raised from the dead, we were also raised from the dead.

THE DEVIL
DOESN'T WANT
CHRISTIANS
TO FIND OUT
WHAT BELONGS
TO THEM.

Ephesians 2:6 talks about the conferring of Christ's authority. Notice that the head and the body are naturally raised together. Christ is the Head and the Church is the Body. You see, it's not just the head that is seated at the right hand of God. The body is seated there, too, because the head and the body are one.

When we think of a person, we think of their head and their body. We never think of the head apart from the body. We think of the whole person.

If we as a church ever get the revelation that we are the Body of Christ, we will rise up and do the works of Jesus. When we realize the same authority that belongs to Christ belongs to each individual member of the Body of Christ, our lives will be revolutionized.

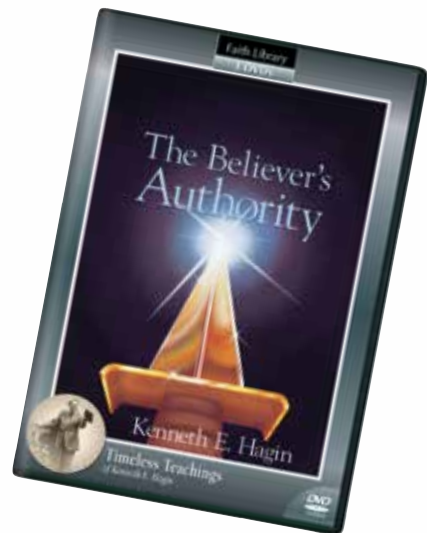
First Corinthians 6:17 says, "*But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.*" We are one with Christ, and we are seated at the right hand of majesty on high. And all things have been put under our feet.♥

[Editor's Note: This article was adapted from The Believer's Authority, a 3-volume DVD series by Kenneth E. Hagin. Go to youtube.com/watch?v=k4FJ4bJkyeo to watch the entire message.]

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The Pearl of Great Price

THE BIBLE TELLS the story of a jewel merchant searching for fine pearls. He found one that was flawless, so he sold everything he had and bought it (Matthew 13:45–46 Message).

Jesus used this story as an example of how precious salvation is. It will cost you everything, but it is worth it. And when you find it, you will do whatever it takes to make it yours.

If someone offered to pay all of your debts, how would that make you feel? It would probably depend on how large your debt was. When

Jesus died on the cross, He paid the debt for every sin that every human would ever commit. To take advantage of what Jesus did for us, all you have to do is admit to God that you've sinned—that you haven't lived right—and ask Him to forgive you, and He will! He will make you a brand-new person, as if you've never done anything wrong. And when your time on earth is finished, He will let you live forever with Him in Heaven.

To receive this wonderful gift God is offering you through Jesus, pray this prayer from your heart.♥

God, I come to You in Jesus' Name. I admit that I am a sinner—that I haven't lived right—and I need a Savior. The Bible says that everyone has sinned. We all fall short of Your glorious standard (Romans 3:23 NLT). The Bible also says, "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9 ESV). I believe in my heart that You raised Jesus from the dead. And I confess Jesus as my Lord and Savior. Therefore, according to Your Word, I am saved. Thank You for forgiving all my sins. Thank You for saving me and giving me a home in Heaven!

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SEED

Thoughts

// LYNETTE HAGIN

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

— ISAIAH 58:11 (NIV)

HARVESTING GOD'S WISDOM

SEPTEMBER IS THE start of the year in our household. I am sure the same occurs with many whose children begin school in September. After Labor Day weekend ends, my mind can do a tilt on me. That's because once summer break is over, a year packed full of projects and activities begins.

Have you ever awakened in the morning and dreaded getting up because of everything that lies ahead of you? Have you ever been tempted to stay in bed because you had too much to do and decided the best solution was doing nothing at all?

Do you sometimes go through the day in neutral, never quite getting into gear? Just thinking about the responsibilities and commitments of the day can fatigue me. Sometimes I get frustrated because I have said yes to something I should have said no to—but I didn't want to hurt someone's feelings.

Often I've committed to something I thought I would have time to do. But when the time came for the job to be completed, my calendar became full of unexpected emergencies. I found myself burning the midnight oil to get the task accomplished.

And then I began grumbling to myself and my husband. I became cranky with everyone I came in contact with. Sometimes I think it would be great to have one day a week that nobody knew about. A day that I can get caught up, organized, and rested without any interruptions.

Regardless of your age or stage in life, time management is an essential element. One person said, "Time management? You must be crazy. I don't need that. I have no time of my own to manage. Everybody's got a piece, and there is not one single minute left for me!"

Sometimes I feel like a baseball player. The day delivers a hard, fast pitch. It curves into my life. I bunt and begin dashing from place to place. Out of breath, I skid between this and that. At the end of the day, nearly falling down, I slide into home.

Many times I don't want to look at what I have to do tomorrow, much less the next week or month. Sometimes I feel literally breathless as I go from one project to another. Maybe you've felt as I have—if breathing took any time out of my day, it would have to be eliminated.

Many years ago, the above thoughts were constantly in my mind. I often consoled myself by saying, "Let's get through this year. Next year will be slower." I said that every year until finally I realized life was not getting slower. It was speeding up. I knew if I didn't do something, I would live a stressful and miserable life.

God does not want us to live like that. He said in Matthew 11:28–30 (NLT), "*Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.*"

The Lord is ready, willing, and able to get our lives under control. The tough news is that we must choose to implement the advice He gave us in His Word. God will not force us to organize our time according to His will. We have the power of choice.

I daily rely on Proverbs 3:5–6 (NLT), "*Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.*" I also like the *Passion Translation*, which says, "*Trust in the Lord completely, and do not rely on your own opinions. With all your heart rely on him to guide you, and he will lead you in every decision you make.*"

My secret to managing my day is talking to God as I am getting ready for the day. I ask Him for wisdom in every decision I must make. I ask for divine favor in every situation I encounter. And I ask Him to redeem my time in every task that is necessary. I encourage you to do the same, and you will find that every day will be a day of peace. Trust God, and let Him direct your daily life.♥

Lynette





Kids' Page

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

What Do YOU Do in the Time of Trouble?



We all go through situations in life that can be very difficult. But the Christian should have a different response to trouble than other people. Take Paul and Silas for instance. They were put into prison just for being Christians! How do you think you would act in their situation? Read the story below and see if you can find the **two things** that Paul and Silas did that all Christians should do in their time of trouble.

"The crowd joined the attack against them. The Roman officers tore the clothes of Paul and Silas and had them beaten with rods again and again. Then Paul and Silas were thrown into jail. The jailer was ordered to guard them carefully. When he heard this order, he put them far inside the jail. He pinned down their feet between large blocks of wood. About midnight

Paul and Silas were praying and singing songs to God. The other prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly, there was a big earthquake. It was so strong that it shook the foundation of the jail. Then all the doors of the jail broke open. All the prisoners were freed from their chains" (Acts 16:22-26 ICB).

WHEN SHOULD WE PRAISE THE LORD?

King David loved to sing and praise God. In the Book of Psalms he tells us "when" we should praise the Lord. See if you

can find the four times he wrote that we should praise the Lord contained in this spiral of letters. It could be in the form of a single word or a phrase.



Get Those Hands Up!

One way we can show our praise to God is by lifting our hands to Him. King David said "I will lift up my hands in thy name" (Psalm 63:4).



ALPHA-CLUES!

Read this riddle. Then read the alphabet clues below and enter the answer to each clue in the correct gray box.

When in a battle
Each earthly soldier
Considers which weapon to choose.
But in spiritual battles
Christians should remember
This weapon Jehoshaphat used.



What was it?

--	--	--	--	--	--

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6.

ALPHABET CLUES:

- CLUE:** Letter 1 is the letter before "Q" and letter 2 is the letter after "Q."
- CLUE:** Letter 3 begins the alphabet.
- CLUE:** Letter 4 is a letter you use when you talk about yourself.
- CLUE:** Without letter 5 "a pest" becomes "a pet."
- CLUE:** Letter 6 is the second vowel in the alphabet.

jokes & riddles



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

What do you get if you cross an owl with a skunk?

A bird that smells but doesn't give a hoot!

What do you get if you cross a centipede with a parrot?

A walkie-talkie!

Why do cows have bells?

Because their horns don't work.

Brother: Wow, sis, you're pretty dirty!
Sister: I'm even prettier when I'm clean!

I have 5 eyes, 3 green ears, and a yellow nose. What am I?

Very Ugly!!!!

Why wouldn't the rooster fight?

Because he was a chicken!

Tongue Twisters

A skunk sat on a stump.
The skunk thunk the stump stunk.
The stump thunk the skunk stunk.

Which wrist watches are Swiss wrist watches?

ANSWERS:
#RhemaWOF rhema.org 23

What Do You Do in the Time of Trouble?
Praying and Singing Songs to God

When Should We Praise the Lord?
(Starting from the Center)
SEVEN TIMES A DAY (PSALM 119:164)
CONTINUALLY (PSALM 34:1)
FROM THE RISING OF THE SUN TO ITS SETTING (PSALM 113:3)
ALL DAY LONG (PSALM 35:28)

ALPHA-CLUES! | Answer: PRAISE



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PSALM 37:23



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\$55 REGULAR REGISTRATION
Begins September 19

RHEMA.ORG/KTF 1-866-312-0972

NOTE: Childcare is not provided. We are asking mothers not to bring their children (including nursing infants). However, your daughters and girls age 16 and above are welcome to attend.