



THE Word of Faith

SEPTEMBER 2025

PUBLISHED BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES



GOD'S PLAN FOR FINANCES

PAGE 8

'WHEN I WAS IN PRISON, YOU VISITED ME.'



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the Word of Faith



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Marching to the Heartbeat of God

If you've ever watched a military squadron during a marching exercise, you know that sometimes the soldiers march in rhythm to the beating of a drum. By listening to the beat of a drum, the soldiers are able to march together in perfect unison.

In much the same way, the Body of Christ should strive to march in perfect harmony with the will and purpose of God for the Church. God's ultimate purpose is to reap an abundant harvest of souls before Jesus returns.

To accomplish this goal takes vision, commitment, obedience, and unity. We must live constantly aware of our commission to share Jesus with the world, and we must be committed to that vision both in our personal lives and collectively as the Body of Christ.

We must find out what God wants us to do and obey that. We must hasten to the harvest confident that we are taking our place in this great work and doing our part to fulfill God's plans and purposes in the earth.

God's plan is a victory plan! We as the Church have only to obey God's voice wholeheartedly and join together to carry out the Master's work. Disputing about doctrinal issues and deviating from the call of God because of spiritual tangents and fad teachings can have no place in the Church if we are to succeed.

Outreach is the heartbeat of the Church because it's the heartbeat of God. Just as the Apostle Paul answered the cry of a Macedonian man to come and help his people (Acts 16:9), let us each be eager to reach out to those in darkness with the good news of Christ. The task before us demands the total efforts of each one of us. So let us march in unison to the heartbeat of God and fulfill the Great Commission to our generation.

Kenneth W. Hagin

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LYNETTE HAGIN

I ENJOY SOME seasons more than others. Autumn is my favorite. It isn't too hot, cold, humid, or rainy. For a few brief months, the weather feels just right.

When my husband felt led to step into a new area of ministry, it required a move to Oklahoma. That was hard for a Dallas girl like me! I prayed, "God, if this is Your plan, give me peace too." And He did. Later, when my husband began to question his decision, I was able to remind him, "We know this is what God told us to do." That's what commitment looks like—being willing to say, "Not my will, but Yours be done," and sticking with it.

Just like the natural seasons change, so do the seasons in our spiritual lives. We don't stay in the same place forever. God moves us from one season to another to prepare us for His purpose.

God doesn't usually show us the whole path ahead. He leads us step by step. He wants us to walk by faith, not by sight. As we do, we'll experience spiritual seasons, and each season has a purpose in God's plan for our lives.

SEASON OF COMMITMENT

The first season we enter is the season of commitment. Jesus lived in full surrender to the Father. In John 6:38 (NKJV), He said, "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me." In the Garden of Gethsemane, knowing the suffering He was about to face, Jesus still prayed, "Not My will, but Yours, be done" (Luke 22:42 NKJV). Jesus didn't come to live for Himself—and neither can we. If Jesus needed to submit His will to the Father, we do too.

This season reveals what's really in our hearts. When God asks us to do something we don't want to do, that's when we find out if we're truly committed.

Years ago I feared that fully committing to God meant I'd end up on the mission field. The missionaries I knew lived in places with no electricity or running water, and I was a city girl! I admired missionaries, but I didn't want that life for myself. Later, a visiting minister at our church said, "You can have a heart for missions without a call to missions." That set me free. God wasn't trying to make my life miserable—He was just asking for my yes. He wanted a surrendered heart. And when you do commit, He gives you the grace for whatever He calls you to do.

Commitment shows up not just in the big decisions but in the daily ones. It's choosing to forgive someone who hurt you, supporting your spouse during a tough season, or saying yes to God when the answer isn't easy. It's choosing His will over yours.

SEASON OF PREPARATION

Once we commit, we enter the season of preparation. James 4:8 (NKJV) says, "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." To follow God's plan for our lives, we must develop a relationship with Him. We have to get close enough to Him to hear His instructions.

It takes time to build that kind of closeness. Just like parents learn to understand their young child's gibberish by spending time with them, we learn to hear God more clearly the more we're with Him. Joshua 1:8 tells us to meditate on the Word day and night, and Matthew 6:33 says to seek first the Kingdom of God.

Sometimes God speaks to us through thoughts. He usually speaks to me this way in the quiet moments—while I'm driving or putting on makeup. I once got so caught up in a conversation with the Lord during my commute, I missed my exit entirely. That's how natural it becomes when we spend time with Him regularly. His voice begins to lead our thoughts, our decisions, and our days.

In this season of preparation, we develop spiritual discipline. We learn to walk by faith—not just by feelings or sight. It strengthens and prepares us for what's next.

SEASON OF WAITING

Closely connected to preparation is the season of waiting. This is often the hardest season because we don't like to wait. We want answers and immediate results. But God isn't in a hurry. He uses waiting to season us—to develop our character and deepen our trust in Him.



Isaiah 40:31 says, “*They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength.*” Waiting isn’t passive. It’s an active season of trust. There will be a time of testing. It’s the testing time that builds our faith and endurance.

If you’re feeling weary, you need to wait on the Lord. Maybe you’ve been praying for direction or breakthrough and feel like nothing is happening. But just because you can’t see anything happening doesn’t mean God isn’t working. Don’t lose patience. If you stay still and wait on the Lord, you will experience victory.

SEASON OF STRETCHING

Finally comes the season of stretching. This is when God asks us to go beyond what’s comfortable or familiar. It might be stepping into a new assignment, letting go of something we love, or walking in obedience even when it costs us. In this season, we must not waver or start questioning the Lord.

Stretching is where growth happens. It’s uncomfortable, but it’s also where we begin to see fruit. We often pray, “Lord, use me,” but then pull back when the assignment feels too big. Stretching tests whether we’ll trust Him when things don’t go as planned.

I remember telling the Lord, “I’ll go wherever You want me to go”—and I meant it—until He actually asked me to go somewhere I didn’t want to go. That’s when I realized there was still more surrender to give.

This season may require forgiving someone who wronged you, or loving someone who’s hard to love. It might mean staying put when you’d rather leave, or speaking up when you’d rather stay silent. Every act of obedience stretches our faith.

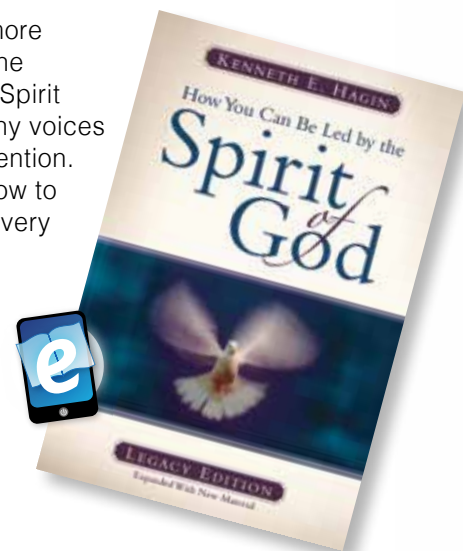
So what season are you in? Are you committing your will to God’s? Are you preparing—learning to hear and follow His voice? Are you waiting for His timing? Or is He stretching you to believe and obey in new ways?

WHATEVER SEASON YOU’RE IN, KNOW THAT GOD IS WITH YOU. He is faithful in every step, every silence, every stretch. Trust Him. Each season is shaping you for the purpose He created you to fulfill. ♥

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How to Walk In Wisdom

MICHAEL CAMENETI



WHEN WE THINK of supernatural events, we often think of healings and miracles. Certainly these are supernatural, but so is wisdom from God. Some people think wisdom is the same as common sense, but wisdom comes from Heaven. First Corinthians 1:30 (NIV) says, “*Jesus . . . has become for us wisdom from God.*”

IF CHRIST LIVES IN US, WE HAVE ALL THE WISDOM WE COULD EVER NEED. We only have to tap into it. And when we hear the Word preached in church, we also store wisdom in our hearts.

However, too often that wisdom lies dormant. If we would learn how to tap into it, our lives would dramatically change.

The Source of Wisdom

The first step is to understand where wisdom comes from. The Bible pinpoints its source and tells us how to access it.

PROVERBS 2:1–2 (NKJV)

- 1 My son, . . . receive my words, and treasure my commands within you,
- 2 so that you incline your ear to wisdom, and apply your heart to understanding;

Here is our responsibility:

1. Receive God’s Word.
2. Treasure His commandments.
3. Incline our ears to wisdom.
4. Apply our hearts to understanding.

The following passage gives further advice.

PROVERBS 2:3–5 (NKJV)

- 3 Yes, if you cry out for discernment, and lift up your voice for understanding,

4 if you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures;

5 then you will understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God.

We have to *desire* God’s Word. Scripture can’t be something we used to love but no longer hunger for. It doesn’t matter how long we’ve been saved or if we’ve read the entire Bible many times. We must still hunger for the Word. There is always more to learn.

Proverbs 2:6 (NKJV) says, “*The Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding.*” Where does wisdom come from? From God’s mouth. What comes out of God’s mouth? Words. And what is the Bible? God’s Word.

All God’s wisdom comes from the Bible. It will bring us long life, prosperity, healing, promotion, and everything else He promised. If we search for wisdom in any other book, we won’t find it.

The next step to accessing wisdom is found in Proverbs 2:10 (NKJV): “*When wisdom enters your heart . . .*” Wisdom from God’s Word has to enter our hearts. When it does, we will begin to prosper and God’s favor will rest on us. His favor causes everything to start going right.

Operating in Wisdom

One way to operate in wisdom is to be a doer of God’s Word. We have to apply what we read to our lives.

Another way to receive God’s wisdom is to ask Him for it. James 1:5 (NKJV) says, “*If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and with-*

out reproach, and it will be given to him.”

This principle applies to every area of life. We might need wisdom on how to handle a situation at work. We can ask God, and He will give us the wisdom we need to come through the situation with the best possible result.

Some Christians always ask others for advice on how to handle problems. But they should turn to God first.

James 1:5 is a great verse, but we also should read the first part of verse 6 to put it in context: “*Let him ask in faith, with no doubting*” (NKJV). We won’t receive from God unless we ask in faith.

That’s why we never beg for wisdom. “Please, God, please” prayers don’t work. We must ask in faith, confident that God will do what He promises.

God’s wisdom is already within us through Christ. As we read His Word, ask in faith, and act on what we learn, we unlock supernatural guidance for every area of life. Go ahead and tap into it. Wisdom isn’t just available; it’s waiting to be lived.♥



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God's Plan **for Finances**

DON BURNS

FINANCIAL SUCCESS ISN'T reserved for a lucky few or those born into wealth. It's available to anyone who's willing to learn, commit, and trust God. The Bible is plain: God delights in the prosperity of His people (Ps. 35:27). So why are so many of us stuck in lack? If He wants us to have abundance, yet we don't, maybe it's on us to take the right steps.

Deuteronomy 28:12 (NIV) says, *"The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands."* That means God has all we need and more in His storehouse. But notice the phrase "in season." Just like farmers prepare their land before the harvest, we have to be ready for God's blessings. Are we preparing our finances? Are we managing what He's already given us wisely?

We all love the idea of an unexpected miracle check in the mailbox. But God's Word gives us steps to take. He wants to bless the work of our hands. That means we need to actively participate in His financial plan.

Seek Knowledge About Finances

One of the first steps is growing in financial knowledge. Hosea 4:6 (NKJV) says, *"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge."* Financial literacy is not just a good idea—it's a biblical responsibility. God wants us to be good stewards, and that means learning about money management.

Start by reading books that can help make financial principles clear like *The Total Money Makeover* by Dave Ramsey. Use technology—there are apps that track your



about building a legacy. I think about the people in my family I'll never meet but who will be blessed because of what I do today.

Ask God to show you what wealth looks like for you. Matthew 6:21 (NKJV) says, *"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* When you spend your time and money, is it going to what you really value? Define your "why," and it will be easier to stay on the path.

Develop Financial Discipline

Proverbs 21:20 (NLT) says, *"The wise have wealth and luxury, but fools spend whatever they get."* It's easy to spend everything we make, especially when unexpected expenses come up. But financial success is a marathon, not a sprint. Taking small, consistent steps over time will lead to big results.

A Swedish proverb says, "Stop stealing from your future self." When we spend recklessly, we're making life harder down the road. Know where your money is going by tracking your spending. Be intentional about your finances by creating a budget. And replace idle time with productive work that brings in extra income.

Practice Generosity and Tithing

Proverbs 11:25 (NIV) says, *"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."* Malachi 3:10 tells us to *"bring the whole tithe into the storehouse"* and test God in His promise to bless tithers. We shouldn't wait until we've paid every bill to give to God. We give first, then live on the rest.

Consider creating a generosity plan—ways you can give beyond

spending and reveal your financial habits. And surround yourself with people who are wise with money. Proverbs 13:20 (NIV) says, *"Walk with the wise and become wise."* If you want to grow, spend time with people who are already where you want to be.

Define What Wealth Means to You

Wealth doesn't look the same for everyone. For some, it's about money. For others, it's about freedom and flexibility. For me, it's



the tithe. That may be helping missionaries, supporting nonprofits, or meeting practical needs like buying coats for the homeless or funding a food bank. Use your money to make an impact.

Avoid Debt and Build Wealth Wisely

Not all debt is bad, but you should avoid consumer debt like credit card balances. Proverbs 22:7 (NIV) says, “*The borrower is slave to the lender.*” If you’re covering expenses with credit cards, it’s time to create a debt repayment plan.

The Total Money Makeover suggests starting with your smallest debt and paying it off first (the “snowball” method). Build an emergency fund for unexpected expenses. Then learn about investing and compound interest so your money can grow.

Plan With Eternity in Mind

Proverbs 16:3 (NIV) says, “*Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.*” Matthew 6:19–20 tells us not to

store up treasure on earth, but in Heaven. That means planning with eternity in mind. Set eternal goals. Leave a legacy that blesses others long after you’re gone.

Write a financial mission statement. Ask yourself, “What do I want money to do in my life, in my family, and in God’s Kingdom?” For some, it may start with simply wanting to pay the bills. Then it grows to saving, giving, and investing in others.

Recognize God as Your Source

Ultimately, it’s not just about hard work or strategy—it’s about recognizing God as your source. Deuteronomy 8:18 (NIV) says, “*Remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.*”

Generosity opens the doors for God’s blessing. But let’s never get so focused on the blessing that we forget the One Who blesses. Begin to dream bigger than your current reality, knowing that with God, all things are possible. ♡

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WHAT IS

ZOE?

It's God's life and nature coming into your spirit that makes you a new creature.

WHY DID JESUS come? To found a church? To give us a code of conduct? No, He came for one purpose: *“that you might have life and have it more abundantly”* (John 10:10).

The Greek word translated “life” in John 10:10 is *zoe*. It means the God-kind of life.

The eternal life Jesus gave us is God's nature. John 5:26 says, *“For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself.”*

In John 1:4 we get an idea of what this life will do for us: *“In him was life; and the life was the light of men.”* Light stands for development.

In other words, “In Him was life; and the life was the *development* of men.” Or, “In Him was *zoe*; and the *zoe* was the development of men.”

John 5:26 could be translated, “For as the Father has *zoe* in Himself; so has He given to the Son to have *zoe* in Himself.”

There are four Greek words translated “life” in the New Testament. First is *zoe*. Then *psuche*, which means natural life. *Bios* means manner of life. And *anastrophee* means confused behavior.

Strangely, the Church has majored on “manner of life” or “behavior” rather than eternal life, which largely determines the manner of life.

No matter what manner of life or behavior you have, without eternal life it won't amount to anything.

RECEIVING ETERNAL LIFE IS THE MOST MIRACULOUS OCCURRENCE IN LIFE. We call it conversion or the New Birth. Some call it “getting religion,” but that's not what it is. When we received eternal life, God imparted His very nature into our human spirits.

Paul describes this in Second Corinthians 5:17: *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”*

This is the miraculous recreating of man. Paul is not talking about the body or the mind. He's talking about the spirit—the inward man—who is in Christ. God is actually giving birth to a new man.

In the New Birth, our spirits are born of God. Several Old Testament prophets foretold that God would establish a New Covenant with the house of Israel. That covenant is the New Testament. Ezekiel spoke about this covenant.

**RECEIVING ETERNAL LIFE
IS THE MOST MIRACULOUS
OCCURRENCE IN LIFE.**

EZEKIEL 36:26–27

26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Ezekiel was prophesying about the New Birth. The words “heart” and “spirit” are interchangeable. Your heart is your spirit.

When God speaks of the heart of a man, He is referring to the real you. A scripture that illuminates this is First Peter 3:4: *“But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.”*

Peter, talking to Christian wives, mentions the outward adorning of the flesh. He says, in effect, “Don’t spend all your time on your hair and clothes. But see to it that the inward man, or the hidden man of the heart, is adorned first with a quiet and meek spirit.”

In First Corinthians 9:27 Paul says, *“I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.”*

Notice that Paul said, *“I keep under my body, and I bring it into subjection.”* He’s saying, *“I don’t let my body rule me.”* “I” is the person on the inside. If your body were you, Paul would have said, *“I keep myself under.”* He calls the body “it.” Who is “I”? “I” is the real you—the inward man, or the hidden man of the heart.

With most people, their body rules their inward man. That is what makes carnal Christians.

1 CORINTHIANS 3:3

3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?

Paul is telling the Corinthians they are carnal or baby Christians. One translation says “body ruled.” He tells them they are living like people who have never been born again—like mere men.

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Paul says something else interesting in writing to the Romans.

ROMANS 12:1–2

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Paul wasn’t writing to the world. He was writing to the saints in Rome. And he said *you* do something with your body. If *you* don’t do anything with it, nothing will ever be done.

Second Corinthians 5:17 says, *“Therefore if any man. . . .”* What is Paul talking about? Does he mean the outward man? No, it couldn’t be the outward man, because he said, *“If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature.”*

IT’S GOD’S LIFE AND NATURE COMING INTO YOUR SPIRIT THAT MAKES YOU A NEW CREATURE. That is what makes the inward man a new man.

The body is not new. At the coming of the Lord, we will have a new body. This new man, the hidden man of the heart, is to dominate the body. The body is not to dominate you.

Paul not only talks about doing something with the body, but in Romans 12:2 he talks about renewing the mind. He is writing to people who are born again and Spirit filled, yet they need to do something with their bodies and minds.

One of the greatest needs of Christians today is to have renewed minds. Your mind becomes renewed with God’s Word.

We know this then: Man is a spirit. We know he is in the same class with God, because God is a Spirit and because man was made to fellowship with God. We’ve never majored on this fact as we ought. Therefore, we’ve never been able to walk in the light of eternal life as we ought.♥

[Editor’s Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin’s book *Zoe: The God-Kind of Life*.]



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Guard Your Heart

PAUL CAVENAH

I HEARD THAT out of the hundreds of leaders in the Bible, only 30 percent finished strong. Many were sidetracked by abuse of power, pride, moral failure, and the mishandling of money.

Current studies show similar patterns. It's estimated that only 20 percent of modern spiritual leaders reach their full potential. Among Christians not in full-time ministry, just one in five finish well. That's deeply troubling.

How can we overcome and finish strong? I believe we find our answer in Solomon's wisdom.

PROVERBS 4:23 (NIV)

23 Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

The underlying meaning of the word *guard* suggests exercising great care over something. It also means "to post guard," similar to a soldier standing guard at a place of entry.

When we care deeply about something, we exercise great care over it.

Do you remember how much you took care of your first car? Or if you had a newborn, do you recall how often you got up at night to make sure the baby was okay?

Solomon is telling us to exercise that same care over our hearts. Why is this important? Because everything we do flows from our heart. A contaminated heart affects our entire lives.

When I was 16, my family moved into my great-aunt's house. The property had been neglected, so I was cutting down weeds and overgrown shrubs when I discovered a water-softening system on one side of the house. The lid had

fallen off, and the tank had sediment, frogs, and slugs in it.

Imagine your heart being like that tank. If the filter fails, contamination will flow into our lives. Here are four vital areas that we need to "filter," or monitor:

1. The Place We Give the Word of God

For our heart to remain open and uncontaminated, we must have intimacy with God's Word. But it has to be more than a scripture on the refrigerator. When a crisis comes, our response needs to flow from God's Word.

2. Influences in Our Lives

Psalm 1:1 warns us not to walk "in the counsel of the wicked" or sit "in the seat of mockers." Who are the frogs and leeches in our lives—the people who sap our faith and pull us into compromise? Boundary lines are essential: some relationships must be outlets (where we give) rather than inlets (where we receive).

3. Unresolved Hurts

Just as debris settled at the bottom of that water tank, hurt, unforgiveness, and disappointments can collect in our hearts. If they're left there, all that sediment will rise to the surface when adversity strikes. We have to let the Holy Spirit dredge it out.

4. Blind Spots

We all have blind spots. That's why we need accountability—a trusted "band of brothers" who will speak the truth in love and help us see what we can't.

Here's the Paradox:

Guarding our heart begins with opening it. If we've been hurt, it



can be tempting to lock down and keep our heart closed. But doing that will only cause the sediment to harden.

When my wife and I adopted our daughter, I vowed to keep my heart at arm's length for one year. I wanted to stay emotionally distant until the adoption was final because I didn't want to get hurt in case something went wrong and she was taken from us.

But when they placed her in my arms, I melted. I knew I would always love and protect her, no matter what. What am I saying? To guard our heart, we have to open it to God, to healing, to wisdom, and to love. Only then can we filter out what doesn't belong.

Our call is to finish well. Let's guard our hearts with wisdom. Let's keep the Word close, watch our influences, deal with our hurts, and invite trusted people to help us with our blind spots.

Let's be the ones who don't just start the race—let's be those who finish it strong. 🍀

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THERE IS POWER IN THE WORD

The Word is as essential to
our spiritual lives as oxygen
is to our physical lives.



KENNETH W. HAGIN

SEVERAL YEARS AGO, a radio preacher said he didn't feel the need to be in God's Word every day. He figured that after years of studying the Bible, he could go a week or more without reading it.

I don't think he realized what he was missing by not partaking of God's Word daily. Jesus said in Matthew 4:4 (NKJV), "*It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'*"

The Message paraphrase puts it this way: "*It takes more than bread to stay alive. It takes a steady stream of words from God's mouth.*"

Jesus spoke these words when He was being tempted by the devil. He didn't pray, prophesy, or try to cast the devil out. He simply spoke God's Word three times.

The devil has no answer for the Word of God. That's why feeding on that Word every day is the key to living a victorious life. Some people turn to God's Word only when there's a crisis, but we need to feed on His Word all the time—in good times and bad. When we stay full of the Word during peaceful seasons, we'll be ready when trouble comes.

THE WORD OF GOD NEVER CHANGES

We can depend on God's Word. His Word is unchanging truth. Matthew 5:18 (MSG) says, "*God's Law is more real and lasting than the stars in the sky and the ground at your feet. Long*

after stars burn out and earth wears out, God's Law will be alive and working."

When we base our lives on the Word of God, we come through trials victoriously. Jesus told us in John 16:33 that we'll have trouble in this world, but that we have overcome the world through Him.

God's Word is a rock for us to build our lives on. It's a firm foundation. (See Psalm 40:2.) Some people build their lives on experiences—a word of prophecy or a dramatic event. We thank God for experiences, but they aren't a foundation.

People who rely on experiences often live on an emotional rollercoaster. One day they're up—the next day they're down. But those who stand on the rock of God's Word can withstand anything. Yes, we will face problems. But when we stand on the Word and speak it, we can't be defeated.

GOD'S WORD BRINGS LIFE

Proverbs 4:20–22 (NLT) says, "*My child, pay attention to what I say. Listen carefully to my words. Don't lose sight of them. Let them penetrate deep into your heart, for they bring life to those who find them, and healing to their whole body.*"

The Word is as essential to our spiritual lives as oxygen is to our physical lives. Just as we can't live without air, we can't live in victory without the Word. You can survive for a little while without food, but eventually your body will grow weak and die. Spiritually, it's the same. You may last for a little while without the Word, but not very long. Our spiritual man is designed to live by the Word of God. Jesus said we can't live by bread alone.

I've watched people try to live the Christian life without the Word, but it doesn't work. When we read, study, and meditate on God's Word, it gets inside us. When a sponge full of water is squeezed, what's inside comes out. When pressure comes—when something unexpected happens—the Word should come out of us. Not fear or panic, but God's truth. Out of us should come, "I'm more than a conqueror through Christ Jesus." "I overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of my testimony."

We hear people talk a lot about the Word. But talking about it and reading it isn't enough. We have to practice it—we have to live it. We can talk about vitamins all day, but if we don't take them, they don't help us. It's the same with the Word of God. It must be taken in and acted on. Our spiritual man cannot survive without it.

JUST AS WE CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT AIR, WE CAN'T LIVE IN VICTORY WITHOUT THE WORD.

GOD'S WORD PRODUCES RESULTS

Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) says, *"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."*

The Word is full of power. And when we know the Word, we become full of power. God's Word contains enough power to produce what He promises those who believe—salvation, healing, deliverance, provision, protection, and whatever else we need.

During one windstorm, I was concerned about the trees in our yard. We'd already lost several in past seasons. So my wife and I declared, "According to the Word, we will not lose any of our trees."

After the storm, all we found on the ground were a few little dead branches. Meanwhile, our neighbor's tree, just 20 or 30 yards away, was down, and limbs were everywhere. Someone might say that's just coincidence, but I believe the Word. It says we can speak protection over our lives.

People don't always realize what they hold in their hands when they pick up a Bible. It's comfort for the hurting . . . freedom for the captive. . . love for the rejected . . . medicine for the sick . . . salvation for the lost . . . life from Heaven . . . peace in the storm . . . a refuge in trouble . . . the key to Heaven's resources . . . strength for the weary . . . victory over Satan.

GOD'S WORD IS OUR FOUNDATION

God told Joshua how to be successful. He said, *"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).

That was under the Old Covenant. In the New Covenant, we still must study the Word. Jesus told us, *"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you"* (John 15:7 NKJV).

God expects His Word to be a part of our daily lives. He didn't tell us to spend all day in the Word, but we do need to read it and think about it often. Even when we're doing other things, we can keep our minds on His words.

When we believe God's Word, speak His Word, and act on His Word, we'll see its power working in our lives. The Word of God is our solution in every situation. So walk in it, talk it, and live it, and you'll see that victory is yours.♥

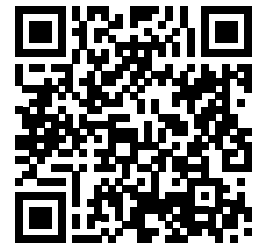
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JUMP IN AND TAKE YOUR HEALING



God moves in many ways.
The method doesn't matter because
the power is the same.



CRAIG W. HAGIN

JOHN CHAPTER 5 records the story of the healing of a paralyzed man. But it's more than a story about a miracle—it teaches us about faith, perseverance, and all that Jesus did for us. It starts at the Pool of Bethesda, where many sick people gathered, hoping to be healed when the water was stirred.

Scripture says that an angel would sometimes stir the water, and the person who got in the pool first would be healed.

In the crowd was a man who had been sick for 38 years. Think about that—38 years! Some people reading this haven't even lived that long. He spent almost four decades waiting. Yet he stayed by the pool day after day. Now that's perseverance!

When Jesus saw him, He asked him a simple question:

JOHN 5:6-7 (NLT)

6 Would you like to get well?

7 I can't, sir," the sick man said, "for I have no one to put me into the pool when the water bubbles up. Someone else always gets there ahead of me.

The man was focused on the water stirring and the race to the pool. But Jesus bypassed all that.

He didn't touch the man. Jesus simply said, "*Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!*" (v. 8 NLT). And the man did!

Many times we read stories like this and we clap. Praise God, the man was healed! But if we look closer, there's a lesson for us today. Jesus didn't need the pool. He *was* the source, and He is still the source of healing today.

Too many believers act like the people at the Pool of Bethesda. They're hoping for the water to stir. They're waiting for a special service when a minister with a healing anointing comes. They believe they'll get healed then.

We have to realize the water has already been stirred—*permanently*. Jesus died on a cross over 2,000 years ago. The stripes He bore on His back have already paid for our healing.

LOWERED THROUGH THE ROOF

Luke chapter 5 records the healing of another paralyzed man. Jesus was teaching in a house that was packed with people. Verse 17 says, "*The power of the Lord was present to heal*

them” (NKJV). That’s “them”—plural. Everyone in the house could have been healed that day. But only one man got healed. Why? Because he had four friends who wouldn’t give up.

When they couldn’t get their paralyzed friend into the house, they came up with another plan. They went up on the roof, tore it open, and lowered the man down in front of Jesus. That’s bold faith!

Verse 20 says Jesus saw *their* faith—not just the man’s faith, but also the faith of his friends. Jesus told the man his sins were forgiven and then told him, “*Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house*” (v. 24 NKJV). Again, Jesus never touched the man. He spoke the word, and the man was healed. (See Luke 5:17–26.)

TWO BLIND MEN

We see faith for healing mentioned again in Matthew chapter 9 when two blind men followed Jesus into a house—uninvited.

MATTHEW 9:27–30 (NKJV)

27 When Jesus departed from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, “Son of David, have mercy on us!”

28 And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” They said to Him, “Yes, Lord.”

29 Then He touched their eyes, saying, “According to your faith let it be to you.”

30 And their eyes were opened.

Notice that Jesus didn’t say, “According to *My* power.” He said, “According to *your* faith.”

That is why two people can sit in the same service, hear the same message, and be surrounded by the same anointing. Yet one leaves healed, and the other does not. What’s the difference? Faith. It’s your faith that unlocks the power of God.

FAITH VS. FEAR

Attention Pastors!

Craig W. Hagin is now holding healing rallies. To invite him to minister at your church, email chagin@rhema.org.

Some people think they’re walking in faith when they’re actually walking in fear. They’re afraid to ask for prayer or admit they need help. Sometimes in faith circles, people feel it’s a lack of faith to admit they are battling sickness or disease. They feel embarrassed or judged when they talk about their struggle.

But it’s OK to tell people when you’re battling something. Not because you’re giving up but because you’re bringing in support.

Remember the paralyzed man who was let down through the roof? He needed his friends. He couldn’t get to Jesus by himself. We all need those “rooftop friends” who will do whatever it takes to carry us to Jesus when we can’t walk there ourselves.

MANY WAYS TO GET HEALED

It’s also important not to get stuck on *how* God moves. Some people miss their healing because God moves in a way they don’t expect.

My grandfather, Kenneth E. Hagin, used to lay hands on people for healing during his services. One time many years ago,

instead of laying his hands on people, he had them stand at their seats and lay hands on themselves. He then reached his hands out toward them, and God’s healing power flowed throughout the auditorium. Many people were healed.

Afterward, a man asked me when my grandfather was going to lay hands on people. During that conference, Brother Hagin ministered healing only that one day. Unfortunately, that man missed out on his healing because it wasn’t done “his way.”

God moves in many ways. The method doesn’t matter because the power is the same. What matters is your faith.

Jesus said in Mark 9:23 (NKJV), “*If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.*” On the other hand, if you don’t believe, you won’t receive. Nothing is possible to those who don’t believe.

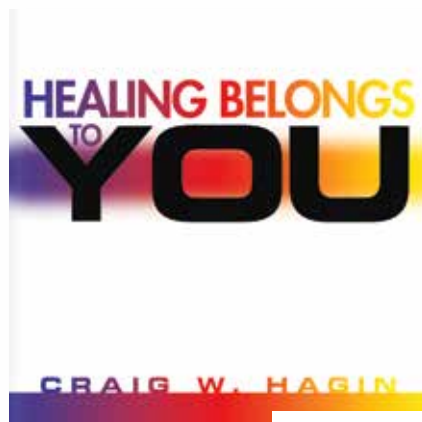
So don’t wait for the right time, the right person, or the right event to receive what belongs to you. Jesus has already paid for your healing. All that’s left is for you to reach out and receive it.

Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!♥

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"I'VE LEARNED HOW TO HAVE A HEART THAT IS MORE GRACIOUS AND COMPASSIONATE."

// Lisa

"Rest in the grace of God. Jesus already paid the price for me, and **THERE IS NOTHING I NEED TO EARN.** I am chosen and called by God."

// Hannah

"Love is a choice, not a feeling."

// Sky

"We need to do what we can in the natural, not because of fear, but because of wisdom. Through the process, **we must maintain our trust in God and have faith that we already have the answer.** God uses both the natural and the supernatural." // Abby

"UNDERSTANDING WHO I AM TO GOD AND HOW HE SEES ME IN CHRIST HAS ALLOWED ME TO REST IN HIS LOVE AND NOT ON MY CONDUCT." // Caleb

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"Our relationship with Jesus is much deeper than I could have ever imagined. **You can actually come to and speak to Him freely,** like a friend or a father."

// Hailey

"The more we focus on God's interests rather than our own, **THE MORE WE WILL FULFILL OUR PURPOSE.** And the more we will truly be successful and have an impact for His Kingdom."

// William

"**One of the most life-changing things I've learned at RBTC** is the revelation of the authority we have as believers. Once you understand the authority you have in Jesus and the rights He has given to you, it affects every area of your life. The Bible is our spiritual constitution—we have freedom from sickness, disease, poverty, lack, fear, and every evil thing

from the enemy. Anytime something in my life does not demonstrate those freedoms I possess because of Jesus, **I have the right to tell the things in my life to line up with the Word of God.** I think that's the most powerful thing any believer can learn and implement in their lives. Once a believer knows their authority and walks in it, it's life-changing."

// Hannah

"WE ARE NOT OUR PAST—WE ARE A NEW BEING IN HIM. I WAS TAUGHT THAT AS A KID, BUT IT REALLY WAS SOLIDIFIED HERE."

//Lucy

"Every single class is so rich and thought-provoking, and so full of truth. I love that we consistently search the Word and read scriptures as opposed to just listening to lectures. It means the world to me that the teachers are so invested in us knowing the Word for ourselves." // Whitley

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A Safe Hiding Place

MANY PEOPLE CAN remember exactly where they were when they first heard about the World Trade Center attacks on September 11, 2001. In the days following the terrorist attacks, the United States became united. American flags flew high, and people gave their time, money, and even blood to help those in need. Prayer was common in churches, offices, and schools.

During that time, many people turned to God for comfort and care.

Churches overflowed as people sought God in their moment of need. Psalm 46:1 says, “*God is a safe place to hide, ready to help when we need him*” (Message). God was a shelter to many people in those days. He was right there when they called on Him.

Is God your shelter? Could you run to Him for comfort and care during a trial in your life? If not, we invite you to pray the following prayer to receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

God, I need help with my life. I'm tired of trying to do it on my own. Please help me. The Bible says, “If you declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved” (New International Version). I say out loud that Jesus is my Lord, and I believe in my heart that you raised Him from the dead. You said that if I would do that, I would be saved. So I take You at Your word. Thank You for saving me! I ask you to be my safe hiding place.♥

If you prayed this, let us know that you've accepted Jesus! We want to send you some materials to help you grow in your new life with Him. Email us at PartnerService@rhema.org or call us at **1-800-54-FAITH (543-2484)**.

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)

GOD'S LOVE IN EVERY CONNECTION

FROM SELF-HELP books to "do-it-yourself" culture. Society tells us we should be able to make it on our own. Though the world celebrates independence, the Word of God tells a different story. Scripture teaches us that we were created for connection—with God and with one another. We were never meant to walk this life alone. Friendship is one of God's greatest gifts to us. It is through friends that we experience love, encouragement, and support during life's highs and lows.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (NLT) says, "Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble." God designed friendship to provide support and strength.

When one grows weary, the other can provide strength. Life is full of unexpected challenges—health issues, financial struggles, family problems, and spiritual battles. During these times, God often sends people into our lives not to fix everything, but simply to walk with us. A true friend reaches out to uplift and encourage us. That is why it is vital to surround ourselves with people who share our faith and values.

Galatians 6:2 (NLT) says, "Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ." That law is love. Friends are not just people we have fun with. True friends stand in the gap for one another. They show up when no one else will. They pray when we can't find the words. They offer strength when ours has run out. Recently, I had knee replacement surgery. The surgery went well, but unexpected complications developed that caused some intense pain. I was so thankful for the many friends who wrote me and said, "I'm praying for you." It was encouraging to know that through my dealing with the pain, I had friends who were holding me up in prayer. Prayer changes things!

Helping one another doesn't always mean solving each other's problems. Sometimes it means listening without judgment. Sometimes it's a meal, a kind word, a note of encouragement, or simply sitting in silence and saying, "I'm here." Proverbs 17:17 (TPT) says, "A dear friend will love you no matter what, and a family sticks together through all kinds of trouble." Some friends are what I call "fair-weather friends." When

everything is going great, they are there for you. But when everything is falling apart, they are nowhere to be found.

Friends should be encouragers. Hebrews 10:24-25 (TPT) says, "Discover creative ways to encourage others and to motivate them toward acts of compassion, doing beautiful works as expressions of love. This is not the time to pull away and neglect meeting together, as some have formed the habit of doing. In fact, we should come together even more frequently, eager to encourage and urge each other onward as we anticipate that day dawning."

We are living in difficult times. It is essential to encourage each other continually. Encouragement is spiritual fuel. Words of life can lift a weary soul, bring peace to anxiety, and remind someone of their worth. Think of the people in your life who encouraged you when you were down. What a difference their words made! God calls us not just to receive encouragement but to give it freely. You may not realize it, but your words and your presence might be exactly what someone else is praying for.

It is vital to choose the right friends. Proverbs 13:20 (TPT) says, "If you want to grow in wisdom, spend time with the wise. Walk with the wicked and you'll eventually become just like them." The people closest to us have a profound influence on our thoughts, behaviors, and even our faith. Are your friendships pointing you toward Christ or pulling you away from Him? Are you building others up or tearing them down? Good friends make us better. They challenge us, pray with us, call out sin in love, and help us grow.

While earthly friendships are a blessing, there is one Friend who never changes, never fails, and never leaves us—our Heavenly Father. When everyone else walks away, God stays. When no one understands, He knows your heart. When life breaks you, He carries you.

There will be seasons when even the best of human friends cannot be there. But your Heavenly Father will always be there for you. He listens at 3 AM. He speaks through His Word. He comforts through the Holy Spirit. He never slumbers or sleeps. He is the Friend who sticks closer than a brother (Proverbs 18:24).

Today, cherish the friends God has placed in your life. Be the kind of friend that reflects His love. And most of all, draw near to your greatest Friend—your Heavenly Father. ♥



Lynette



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