



THE Word of Faith

FEBRUARY 2001

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES



- **Every Believer Can Speak in Tongues**
- **Keep On Talking!**

Now Is Not the Time To Quit!

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

STAND therefore . . .

— Ephesians 6:13,14

Many people begin to believe God for something, but just before their answer comes, they quit believing! However, success comes by standing firm on God's Word.

If you quit standing on the Word and give up, what are you going to gain? But if you keep going, what have you got to lose?

That's the way I look at things. I don't believe in quitting. And, friend, if other people have stood on God's Word and become a success in life for God, you can do it too. But what you achieve both naturally and spiritually is up to you.

People may try to tell you that it's too late for you to succeed in life. But it's never too late with God. Some of your plans and dreams may be buried amidst mistakes you've made, but Jesus is the Restorer. Jesus is the One

who takes what you've messed up and turns it into something good.

Everyone makes mistakes. You don't have to hang your head because of something you did in the past. Instead, thank God for Jesus the Restorer. When you fall, He will pick you up and brush you off, so to speak. He will forgive you and say, "It's going to be all right, My child. Now go on and live for Me. I do not condemn you; go and sin no more."

Thank God for Jesus and His restoration power. He can take all that God has given you — that which you've let lie dormant — and resurrect it into a flame burning bright. And that flame will be what you need to accomplish great things in your community, on your job, in your church, in your home, and wherever you go.

No matter what you've been through or what you're facing today, don't quit! When you're in faith, you are on the brink of your miracle!

There are many examples in the Bible of men and women who wouldn't quit in the face of obstacles. They stood their ground in faith and received their miracle.

In Matthew 15, we find the story of the Caananite woman who came to Jesus asking him to heal her demon-possessed daughter. Jesus told her, "It's not right to take the children's bread and give it to the dogs."

Right then, the woman could have given up and walked away.

But if she had done that, she would have been quitting on the brink of her miracle. Instead, she persisted and said,

"Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from the Master's table." Jesus marveled at her faith, and her daughter was healed at that hour (Matt. 15:22-28).

In Mark 2, we read the story of the paralytic who was brought to Jesus by his four friends. The four friends couldn't get in the house where Jesus was because of the crowd, but they didn't quit on the brink of their miracle. They went on the top of the house, tore a hole in the roof, and let the paralytic down in front of Jesus! And Jesus healed him (Mark 2:3-12)!

Friend, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Heb. 13:8). He said, "I am the Lord and I change not" (Mal. 3:6). Whatever your need, Jesus is the Answer!

I want to encourage you today. You may have been standing and standing for something, and you think it's never going to happen. Friend, don't quit on the brink of your miracle. Payday may not be tomorrow, and it may not be the next day, but payday is coming. Keep standing — your miracle is on its way.

If blind Bartimaeus had sat on the ground and listened to the crowd telling him to be quiet, he would have been blind the rest of his life. But he defied the crowd and persisted in his faith. He stood up and cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And he was healed! (See Mark 10:46-52.)

Friend, there is no god as big as your God! When the devil raises his head and tries to tell you what he's going to do to you, look him in the face, so to speak, and put him in his place. Tell him, "There's no god as big as mine!"

Through Christ, you are a success in God. And your miracle is on its way. So keep standing your ground in faith. Now is not the time to quit!



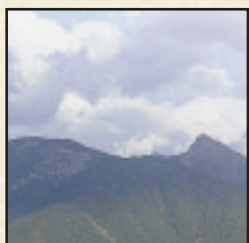
— Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.



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Postmaster: Please send address changes to Kenneth Hagin Ministries, P.O. Box 50126, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74150-0126. THE WORD OF FAITH has no subscription or newsstand price and is supported through contributions from readers worldwide. All gifts to this ministry are tax deductible.
 PUBLICATIONS MAIL SALES AGREEMENT NO. 14666666
 VOLUME XXXIV.....Number 2

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About the Cover
 This wintry view of the Kenneth Hagin Ministries' Administration Building reminds us that "while the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease" (Gen. 8:22).

TONGUES

Helping Others To Receive

There is an experience subsequent to salvation called the baptism in the Holy Spirit. It is an endowment of power from on high available to all believers. And the initial evidence of the Holy Spirit's infilling a believer is that he speaks with other tongues.

In the New Testament, different terms are used to refer to the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Believers "received the Holy Ghost" (Acts 8:15,19), were "filled with the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:4; 9:17), and were "baptized with the Holy Ghost" (Acts 1:5). These expressions all refer to the same experience.

There are some facts we need to know to be able to help others receive the baptism in the Holy Ghost. First, we need to realize three things: 1) *the Holy Ghost is a gift*; 2) *God has already given Him*; and 3) *it's up to us to receive Him*.

In Acts chapter 1, Jesus Himself talked about this gift of the Holy Spirit.

ACTS 1:8

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Then we see a fulfillment of what Jesus said, beginning in Acts chapter 2.

ACTS 2:1-4

1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4 AND THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY GHOST, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

In the early days of my ministry, as I held meetings in Full Gospel Pentecostal churches, I discovered that, in those churches, more than half of the people were not filled with the Holy Ghost. Some of them had been saved for years. Thank God, I never left a

QUESTIONS:

How to Receive the Holy Spirit

KENNETH E. HAGIN

meeting without a number of these dear folks having been baptized in the Holy Spirit. They had not received before because they weren't accurately taught. They had been taught about the Holy Ghost, and they believed in Him. But they weren't *scripturally* taught how *to receive* Him to experience the fullness of life in the Spirit.

Sometimes folks took Luke 24:49 as a formula to receive the Holy Ghost. There Jesus said to His disciples, ". . . tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Well, if we need to tarry to receive the Holy Spirit, then people ought to tarry for Him in Jerusalem! To tarry means *to wait*. No, in Luke 24:49, the disciples had to wait in Jerusalem until the Day of Pentecost came. After that day, you don't see anyone waiting to be filled with the Spirit. They all received right away.

I can understand those who believe being baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in other tongues is not for us today. I used to believe that too. I was a Christian and even pastored for several years before I saw what the Word of God says on this subject. I was walking down the street meditating on God's Word and talking to the Lord when I saw the truth that the baptism in the Holy Ghost was actually for me today. I sensed a lack of power in my own life, and I knew I needed the infilling of the Holy Ghost.

I saw in Scripture that the Holy Ghost is a gift for all believers. On the Day of Pentecost, during his first sermon, Peter made the following statement:

ACTS 2:38,39

38 . . . Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, AND YE SHALL

RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST.

39 For THE PROMISE IS UNTO YOU, and to YOUR CHILDREN, and to ALL THAT ARE AFAR OFF, EVEN AS MANY AS THE LORD OUR GOD SHALL CALL.

The baptism of the Holy Ghost is a gift just as salvation, or the New Birth, is a gift. And it's up to us *to receive* the gift!

I saw, too, that when I received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, I would speak in tongues just as the early disciples did. Scripture says, "*And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, AND BEGAN TO SPEAK WITH OTHER TONGUES, as the Spirit gave them utterance*" (Acts 2:4).

As soon as I saw that this experience was a gift for me, and that I didn't have to wait for it, I went right down to a Full Gospel preacher's house to receive

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... If you're saved and walking in fellowship with God, then you're ready to be filled with the Spirit right now.

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it. When I got to his house, the first thing he told me to do was wait! His church had an evangelist in to hold revival meetings, so he said, "Wait until the service tonight. When it's over, come to the altar and tarry."

"It won't take me very long to receive!" I said.

The pastor saw that I was eager and ready to receive. I was standing at the door, so he invited me into the living room. The evangelist was there too. I don't remember whether either man gave me any instructions. I just knelt by a large chair in the living room, closed my eyes, shut out everything around me, and lifted my hands to God.

I came to the Lord according to His Word and simply told Him what it said. I said, "Lord, we preach the same water baptism and the same Lord's Supper that these folks experience. Why not have the same Holy Ghost baptism?" Then I said, "I receive the Holy Ghost."

You see, the Word of God says in Acts 8:15 that Peter and John prayed for the Samaritan believers "... that they might RECEIVE the Holy Ghost." And in Acts 19:2, the Apostle Paul asked the disciples at Ephesus, "... Have ye RECEIVED the Holy Ghost ... ?" It's not a matter of God giving the Holy Spirit; it's a matter of our receiving Him.

So I told the Lord, "I receive the Holy Ghost. And the Scripture says, 'And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, AND BEGAN TO SPEAK WITH OTHER TONGUES, as the Spirit gave them utterance' [Acts 2:4]. So I thank You because I'm filled with the Holy Ghost. And Father, now I expect to speak with tongues. Thank You for giving me utterance. Hallelujah."

I had never felt so "dry and dead" in my life. But I knew the baptism in the Holy Ghost was a gift. So I said, "Hallelujah" about seven or eight times, and

about then it felt to me like someone had built a bonfire down in my spirit. It just seemed like it sort of blazed up. Strange words started blazing up, and I just started speaking them out.

I opened my eyes and saw that it was eight minutes past 6:00 p.m. When I'd knocked at the door, it was 6:00 p.m. I was baptized in the Holy Spirit and talking in tongues in just eight minutes!

Some ministers have had great success in getting believers filled with the Holy Ghost. But *any believer* can get any other believer filled with the Holy Spirit. And he can do it quickly if he'll remember the following facts.

First, as I said, you have to teach believers according to the Word of God that the Holy Ghost — the Spirit of God — is a gift; God has already given Him; and it's up to the individual believer to receive that gift.

Second, you must teach believers that *anyone who is saved is ready to immediately receive this experience*. We see that in Acts chapter 2.

ACTS 2:37,38

37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, AND YE SHALL RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST.

Those who heard Peter on the Day of Pentecost and repented according to his words were immediately ready to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. It is true that unconfessed sin can hinder people from receiving the blessings of God. However, if you're saved and walking in fellowship with God, then you're ready to be filled with the Spirit right now. People often try to earn this gift of the Holy Spirit. But what can wash us clean? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. Could anything else make us any better?

Third, we need to tell people what to expect as they receive the Holy Spirit. Too many folks are seeking God and praying in the dark, so to speak. The Bible says, "*The entrance of thy words giveth light . . .*" (Ps. 119:130).

Tell people to expect the Holy Ghost to move upon their vocal organs and put supernatural words in their hearts, which *they themselves* will have to speak out in cooperation with Him. Acts 2:4 says, "*And THEY were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and [they] began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*" In this verse, "they" is the subject. *They* were all filled, and *they* began to speak as the spirit gave *them* utterance.

The Holy Ghost doesn't take you over, so to speak, and force you to do anything. But you can respond to Him and follow His promptings. In other words, He will give you the utterance, but *you* do the talking.

Fourth, for those who are prayed for and do not receive, there are only two areas to work on: *faith* and *yieldedness*.

One day during a series of meetings I was holding in a Full Gospel church in east Texas, I was riding down the street with the pastor when he pointed out a certain man. "He's the choir director of the largest Full Gospel church in the city," he said, "and he's also their music and Sunday school director. He's been there for twenty-three years and has never been filled with the Holy Ghost."

I thought no more about it. Then that very night he was in the service, sitting nearly in front of the pulpit and next to a woman I assumed was his wife. When I invited people to come to be filled with the Spirit, she tried to get him to come, and, finally, he did. I could tell by the look on his face that he was thinking, *I'm not going to get anything, but I'll go up there anyway just to please you.*

As I went down the line laying hands on people, each one started talking in tongues right away. This man had shut his eyes and lifted his hands. When I reached him and laid hands on him, immediately, I received a word of knowledge concerning him. I knew the devil had lied to him and convinced him that he must have some secret sin that he didn't know about. This man believed that if it weren't for that, he would have received the baptism in the Holy Ghost.

There isn't any secret sin in anyone's life that he or she doesn't know about! That's just a trick of the devil to rob people of God's blessings. No, receiving is a matter of faith and yieldedness.

I said to this man, "Put your hands down and open your eyes." He did, and I said to him, "There is not anything in your life — no secret sin, nothing — that would keep you from receiving or being filled or baptized with the Holy Ghost."

He let out a sigh. "Do you think so?" he asked.

"No, I don't *think* so; I *know* so," I said. "I'd stake my life on it!"

"Boy," he said, "what a relief!"

"Let me tell you something else," I said. (You see, I had to work on his faith.) "I will not have laid hands on you more than three times before you are filled with the Holy Ghost."

"Do you think so?" He asked.

"No, I don't *think* so; I *know* so!" I replied.

The next night he was back, and he was the first one down to the altar. When I got to him, he said, "This is number two."

"That's right," I said.

"You said you wouldn't lay hands on me more than three times," he added.

"That's right!" I said.

"The next time is number three," he reminded me.

"That's right," I said.

Now each morning, instead of holding a regular service, we held a prayer meeting for anyone who wanted to come. That next morning I was kneeling by a chair on the platform praying when, suddenly, someone tapped me on the shoulder. I looked up, and there stood this man. He asked, "Hey, do you still think I'm going to get the Holy Ghost?"

"No, I don't *think* you're going to get the Holy Ghost," I answered. "I *know* you will!"

"Well," he said, "I told them over at my church, 'Brother Hagin said he wouldn't lay hands on me more than three times without me being filled. There's no use waiting until tonight; I'll go over there this morning.'"

"Well, kneel down here," I said, and he knelt down beside me. I laid my

hand on his head and said, "Receive the Holy Ghost!"

Sometimes people starting to speak in tongues will stammer. Isaiah said, "*For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people*" (Isa. 28:11). This man began to stammer a little bit and speak a few words in tongues.

"That's it! That's it! That's the Holy Ghost!" I said. Now we were in east Texas, and I used a colloquial expression that he understood. I said, "Grab it like a dog does a bone and run off with it!" In other words, I told him, "*You lift your voice and talk a blue streak!*"

That fine gentleman lifted his voice and started talking in tongues. He got so thrilled that he danced on his knees all over the platform, still talking in tongues!

Later this man told me what had helped him. He said, "First of all, I see now that I had believed the devil's lies about having some secret sin. When I was released from that, it was as if a heavy burden lifted from me."

Then he added, "And you were so positive. 'Yes,' you said, 'you're *going* to receive.' You got me to believe that I *would* receive." It's a cinch that you're not going to get anyone to believe if you are negative!

Then he said, "When you laid hands on me and the Holy Ghost came on me, I'd been at that same point a thousand times before. I might have said a word or two, or stammered a little bit. But when I'd done that through the years, everyone else would say, 'That's it! That's it! *Let the Holy Ghost talk!* So I'd stop to let Him talk, and that would be the end of it."

But that's unscriptural direction. The Bible says, "*And THEY were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and [they] began to speak with other tongues . . .*" (Acts 2:4).

So you may have to work on a believer's faith or yieldedness to help him receive the Holy Ghost. You'll know by talking with him.

A *fifth* fact we ought to know about receiving the Holy Ghost is this: Speaking with other tongues is not only an *initial evidence* of a believer's being

filled with the Spirit, but also should be a *continuing experience*.

Howard Carter, a pioneer of the Pentecostal movement, was general chairman of the Assemblies of God in Great Britain for nineteen years, and founded the first Pentecostal Bible school in the world. He made the following statement:

"We must not forget that the speaking with other tongues is not only an initial evidence of the Holy Spirit's indwelling, it is a continual experience for the rest of [one's] life to assist in the worship of God. It is a flowing stream that should never dry up, and that will enrich the life spiritually."¹

Paul said in First Corinthians, "*I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all*" (14:18). Then he went on to say, "*Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue*" (v. 19).

If Paul wasn't speaking with tongues in church, where did he do it? He did it *in his own private prayer life*. Now from Scripture, it seems like all the Corinthian church wanted to do was talk in tongues. If Paul spoke in tongues more than they did, he must have talked in tongues when he got up, when he went to bed, and during the time in between. Evidently, that was the most prominent way Paul prayed at that time.

To summarize, we can help believers be filled with the Holy Ghost by showing them five facts from Scripture:

1. The Holy Spirit is a gift already given by God, and it's up to us to receive Him.

2. Anyone who is saved is immediately ready to be filled with the Holy Ghost.

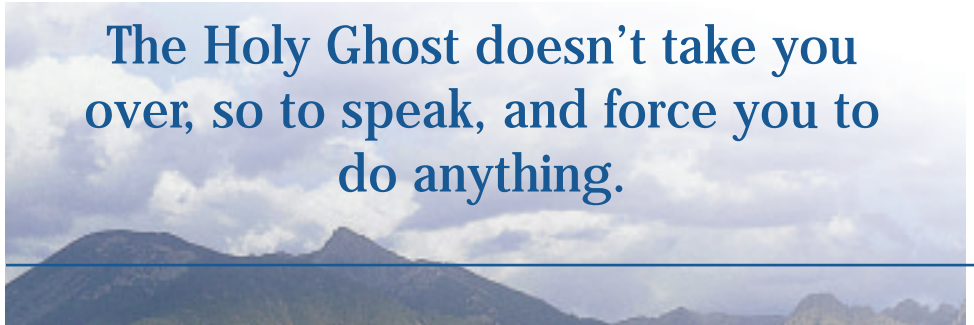
3. Recipients should expect the Holy Spirit to move upon their vocal organs and put supernatural words in their hearts, but *they* must do the actual speaking.

4. Faith and yieldedness are the only areas to work on for believers who do not receive when prayed for.

5. Once filled, believers should *continue* to pray regularly in other tongues.

Remembering these things will help us experience the rich blessings available to us through the indwelling Presence of the Holy Spirit. ♥

¹Howard Carter, *Questions and Answers on Spiritual Gifts* (Tulsa, Oklahoma: Harrison House, Inc., 1976), p. 120.



The Holy Ghost doesn't take you over, so to speak, and force you to do anything.



Keep S

Boldly speak God's Word in the face of your problems. When you declare His Word, you'll discover His power will work for you!

For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

— Mark 11:23

Believers must realize how important it is to continually speak the Word of God. People will simply say, "You can have what you say." But, really, there's more to it than that. You can have what you say *if* it's in line with God's Word. If you say something ridiculous, such as, "I'm believing God for ten million oil wells," you won't get it. First, you don't need that many oil wells. And, second, I'm not sure that believing God for ten million oil wells is in line with His Word. You could believe for prosperity in general, and that would be in line with God's Word. But to try to believe for ten million oil wells is not faith; it's presumption. You must talk and believe in line with the Word of God.

People want to walk with God and yet disagree with His Word. They

don't do it willfully, but they'll say, "Well, now, this is what *my church* believes about this," or, "This is what *I* believe about that." But what does *God's Word* say? How can you walk with God if you disagree with what He says? The Word of God is true regardless of your opinion about it. Therefore, believe and speak in line with the Word of God. Say what it says regarding your situation, and things will begin to happen for you. You'll begin to experience the blessings of God.

It's important to realize that you can never have the blessings and triumphs God intends for you to enjoy as long as you are not speaking in line with His Word. You have to say what God says about your finances, health, strength, and any other blessings.

You also must be willing *to keep speaking* His blessings, power, and promises. When you keep quiet, you get into trouble. There are times to keep quiet, but when it comes to speaking in line with God's Word, you should never keep quiet.

Remember how the Apostle Paul admonished Philemon regarding his faith as a believer.

Speaking God's Word

• K E N N E T H H A G I N J R .

PHILEMON 1:6

6 That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the ACKNOWLEDGING of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.

When you acknowledge something, you usually *say* something. Suppose you were in a theater and someone announced, “We have a check for a thousand dollars for the person sitting in section one, row five, and seat six.” If you were sitting in that seat, I don’t think you’d have any trouble acknowledging that you were who they were looking for. You’d probably jump up and shout, “Hey, it’s me! It’s me! It’s me!”

Well, if you’re going to make God’s Word work for you, you need to jump up, so to speak, and acknowledge what God says about you. The world will try and tell you that you are nothing — that you’re not loved, you don’t have a chance in life, and you’re never going to make it. But you shouldn’t acknowledge what the world says about you. Rather, acknowledge what the Word of God says about you.

Romans 10:8 says, “. . . *The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith,*

which we preach.” How does the word of faith work? By speaking what’s in your heart. The word “heart” in this verse does not refer to the physical heart that pumps blood throughout the body. It refers to the innermost part of man, the spirit of man.

When the heart and mouth agree together, faith is operative and victory

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is present (Rom. 10:9,10). But that can’t happen if you’re believing one thing and saying something else. You have to keep on speaking the Word of God.

A lot of people don’t know if they really believe something or not. Some will say the right words just to get other people off their backs, so to speak. But that won’t do them any good. They can listen to other people and “parrot” the right words, and yet what they say is not coming out of their heart. Their words may just be coming out of their intellect — out of their mind. And since they’re not saying what they believe in their heart, faith is not operative.

When faith is operative, you will confidently say, for example, “There is therefore now no condemnation to me for I am in Christ” (Rom. 8:1). If the enemy — the devil — can’t get you any other way, he will try to put you under condemnation regarding something that’s already been covered by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. When the enemy comes to you with condemnation, begin to quote the Word of God to him. Keep on saying what the Bible says! The power that’s in God’s Word will work in every area of your life.

Did you know that it’s difficult to listen to someone else’s words while

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you're talking? If the devil is talking in your ear, condemning and accusing you, start speaking God's Word with your own voice. When you do that, you won't allow the enemy to put negative thoughts into your mind. You can also sing praises and hymns about Jesus, the Word, and the things of God. As you continue speaking this way, you will get in agreement with God.

You can quote Second Corinthians 3:17: "... where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." What do you get when you continue to speak and believe that verse? You get liberty! Liberty means *to be free from cares or any form of bondage*. For example,

pack of burdens and cares, put it back on, and walk away with a long face.

When you cast all your cares on the Lord, you won't walk away with a long face. You won't walk away saying, "I don't know what's going to happen. I don't know how things are going to turn out. We're in such a mess." My friend, if you're talking like that, you are burdened. You're still in bondage and you're not carefree.

Some take being carefree to extremes and get into error. For example, they take being carefree as a license not to work or provide for their family. Some people say, "I'm just going to live by faith," and they quit their jobs, sit down, and do nothing. But the Bible says, "If a man will not

Word about wisdom, what do you get? You get the wisdom to cope with life. Have you ever needed wisdom to cope with life? According to the Word of God, wisdom has been made available to us (1 Cor. 1:30).

Keep speaking God's Word about all that He has done for you. Second Corinthians 2:14 says, "*Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ . . .*" When you believe and speak that, what do you get? *Triumph!* Triumph means victory in all things. God *always* causes you to triumph. Paul didn't say, "God causes us to triumph sometimes." The Bible doesn't say, "If God doesn't answer, you've got to figure it out for yourself and just go through life the best way you can." No, the Word says, "God *always* causes us to triumph."

Let's examine another verse that deals with God's ability in us to overcome.


1 JOHN 4:4

4 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.

When you believe this verse and say, "God in me is greater than he that is in the world," what do you get? You get the power to make your authority and dominion over the works of the devil a reality in your life. You have God the Father on the inside of you. You also have Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit in you. And God is greater than the god of this world.

What else can you speak from God's Word? Psalm 27:1 says, "*The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?*" When you believe that and speak it, you get strength for your everyday tasks. Did you ever notice that when you wake up and start talking about how bad and weak you feel, it's harder to get out of bed? But when you get out of bed saying, "*This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it*" (Ps. 118:24), you get stronger and stronger with each step!

A lot of people say, "I can't do this," or, "I can't do that." But if you're in Christ Jesus and know who you are in Him, you can quote the Word of God that says, "*I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me*" (Phil.



If you're going to make God's Word work, you need to jump up, so to speak, and acknowledge what God says about you.

according to Second Corinthians 4:4, we were once enslaved to the god of this world. But we have been released from that bondage and set free because of the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ that was shed on Calvary. Therefore, we can speak our liberty in Christ and thank God for it.

Along these same lines, you can also say, "I've cast all of my care upon Him, for He cares for me" (1 Peter 5:7). When you believe and continue to speak that, you can enjoy a carefree life. I didn't say you'll never have any problems, but you can live above those things as you trust God to take care of them. Most people pray and ask the Lord to take their burdens and cares away. But when they're through praying, they reach down and pick up their

work, he shall not eat" (2 Thess. 3:10). What we need to do is take the truth of God's Word, stay in the middle of the road with it, and let it bless us as we speak it.

The Word will bless you as you speak it and let your heart agree with it. You will have what you say!

The same applies to your healing. First Peter 2:24 says, "*Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: BY WHOSE STRIPES YE WERE HEALED.*" When you talk about healing in line with God's Word, you don't get sickness and disease as a result. No, when you believe and speak God's Word about healing, you get healing!

When you believe and speak God's

4:13). That's you! You *can* do all things through Him!

During my school years, a teacher and a coach taught me this saying: "If you say, 'I *can't*,' you *can't*. If you say, 'I *can*,' you *can*." People have thought this was just an educational principle someone came up with. But do you know where it came from? It came from the Word of God.

Many of the laws and principles people teach are based on the Bible. Some of the basis for successful salesmanship is from the Word of God. Sales schools teach you to believe in your product before you sell it. If you believe in it, you'll be able to talk effectively about it.

That sounds like a principle from the Word of God — the principle of believing and saying. The only difference is, the natural world will base everything on you as an individual. There is a problem with that, because you as an individual have limitations. You as a person can only go so far. But when you base your faith on God's Word, there's a spiritual foundation that goes beyond human ingenuity — beyond the natural.

Let's talk about something else God has given you. Romans 12:3 says, ". . . *God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.*" You have all the faith you'll ever need to live an overcoming, successful life.

Some people say, "If I just had more faith — if I could just study a little more and get more faith — then I'd be successful." The problem with that is you can't get any more faith than you already have. The Bible says that you have been given the measure of faith (Rom. 12:3)! You strengthen your measure of faith by studying the Word of God and praying. But something else is involved. You have to *work* your faith. How do you do that? *By speaking the Word of God!*

For example, you can read all about health foods and how to eat properly for good health and nutrition. Then you can even act on that information and eat a balanced diet, and your body will respond to that. However, if you're going to build your muscles, you have to work out. You can't rely on nutrition alone. You have to *work* those muscles. You have to lift weights and do some exercises.

The same is true with exercising

your faith. You give your faith a workout by speaking the Word of God. You say, "God has given me the measure of faith." You don't go around saying, "I need more faith." Once you recognize you've been given *the* measure of faith, then you can do something about building up your own measure of faith by reading, believing, and speaking God's Word.

You *have* faith. Now learn to speak in such a way that your faith will

secure in Christ Jesus. Therefore, I have no fear, but I have power, love, and a sound mind."

Always speak God's Word in every situation. The Word of God says, "*But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus*" (Phil. 4:19). Speak the fact that God has a supply for your every need. Someone might ask, "What are you going to do if the food supply gets cut off?" Or, "What are you



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grow. There's not a person I know who looks in the mirror and says, "Man, I don't have any muscles!" No, you might look in the mirror and say, "I've got muscles, but they need some work!" Likewise, you need to develop the faith you have by speaking the Word of God.

You can speak God's Word when dealing with fear. According to Second Timothy 1:7, you can say, "God has not given me the spirit of fear, but He's given me a spirit of power, love, and a sound mind." When you believe and speak that, what do you get? You get freedom from fear. Just say, "I don't have to be fearful about what is going to happen to the economy." Or, "I don't have to be fearful about what's going to take place in government."

Some people are afraid to do anything because they don't know what's going to happen to them. Christian friend, I'll tell you what's going to happen to you. What will happen is exactly what you say will happen according to God's Word. You can boldly say, "I'm

going to do if there's no fuel?" I don't know, but I do know one thing. I'm not going to be fearful about it because I know that my God can take care of the situation and meet all of my needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Let the Word of God flow from your lips continually. The Bible says, ". . . *let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name*" (Heb. 13:15). As you keep speaking God's Word, you'll build yourself up. In the face of impending adverse circumstances, say what God says about your situation. When things are not going the way you think they should, never stop speaking God's Word. Simply keep speaking the promises of God, and your situation will eventually change. As you continue to speak the Word of God, you'll release the power of God to work for you. ♣