



# THE Word of Faith

FEBRUARY 2003

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

## In This Issue:

### ARTICLES

- *Do You Know The Way to Success?*
- *Examining Actions and Attitudes!*
- *Pastors Speak Out*

### FEATURES

- *Seed Thoughts From Lynette*
- *From the Archives*

Kids' Page



Page 4

## Ministering to One Another in Love

*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.*

— Acts 1:8

It is our responsibility to minister to a lost and hurting world. We may not all stand behind a pulpit in one of the fivefold ministries, but we are all ministers.

When Jesus commissioned His disciples to go throughout the earth and spread the Gospel, He told them to start at home. In Acts 1:8, Jesus commanded the disciples to minister in Jerusalem, in Judea, in Samaria, and in the uttermost parts of the world. But notice that Jesus did not send them into the uttermost parts of the world first. He told the disciples to start in Jerusalem — their home.

Taking that a step further, we are to minister first in *our* own homes. And in our homes, we minister most by our actions, not our words. Did you know you can minister without ever opening your mouth? Many people say one thing, but their actions completely contradict their words. Believe me, their family members, including their children, recognize the contradiction.

Each of us is a minister, and we need to minister first in our own home. Husbands need to minister to their wives. Wives need to minister to their husbands. Parents need to minister to their children. Mom and Dad, if you win the whole world but lose your own family, what have you gained?

We start by ministering in our home, and then we must also minister in our church.

Churches are filled with people who have needs. Yes, we must minister salvation and healing. But we must also heal the brokenhearted. We must heal and help the oppressed. We must minister to the lonely, to those weary from the cares and pressures of life.

We must even minister to those who have made mistakes, lifting them up instead of casting them down. First John 1:9 says, *"If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* If someone has truly repented for his mistake, then we have no right to condemn him. According to Romans 8:1, *"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."*

According to the Word of God, we must extend mercy, grace, forgiveness, and restoration to those who have fallen. Too many times, we want judgment for everyone else and mercy for ourselves. But when a person is genuinely sorry and repents for his mistake, then we should forget his sin, because God has. Psalm 103:12 says, *"As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."*

It is a heart of compassion that forgives. Jesus had that heart of compassion. While it is true that we are to live by faith, we must also remember to be moved by compassion. Jesus was continually moved by compassion to minister to hurting people.

Often, compassion is what a hurting person needs most. Instead of preaching a sermon or lecturing on faith, we must offer the love, mercy, and compassion of God to people in need.

When my son, Craig, was a child, he had emergency surgery to remove a life-threatening brain tumor. I waited in the hospital for twelve hours while the doctors operated. During that time, the greatest ministry I received wasn't the scriptures that people gave to me or the prayers they prayed. Yes, those things helped, but the greatest gift was having people who sat beside me, put their arm around me, and were a friend to me.

That is what real ministry involves. Real ministry is being there for someone to lean on. Real ministry is being a rock when a friend needs something strong to hold on to. Often, what a person needs isn't a sermon or scripture quotations, but a listening ear.

You may say, "I'm not a preacher. I'm not called to ministry." Even though you may not be called to the fivefold ministry, in God's eyes, *you are a minister*. When people around you are hurting, do you pour salt into their wounds, or do you pour in the healing oil of the Holy Spirit?

Before we can minister to a lost and hurting world, we must first minister in our own home — to our own family — and in our own church. We must minister the love of God to everyone around us.

We are called to offer tenderness instead of criticism to people who are hurting. We are called to offer God's mercy, grace, understanding, and help. While we must stand strong in faith and pray according to God's Word, let us remember to be moved with compassion to minister to one another in love.

*Kenneth Hagin Jr.*

— Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.

# in this issue

## articles

Kenneth E. Hagin

4

### The Way to Success

Everyone wants to be successful in life, and many books have been written claiming to teach the path to success. But only one Book holds the true key. Discover God's way to success!



Kenneth Hagin Jr.

10

### Obedience Is More Than an Action

Some people have the *actions* of obedience down pat. They *say* the right things and *do* the right things, but their heart isn't right. Obedience is more than an *action*; it's an *attitude* — a way of life.



13

### Conference Reports

Read coverage and comments from three of RHEMA's special meetings.

16

### A Pastor's Perspective

Three pastors talk about their decisions to attend "Get Acquainted With RHEMA" and RHEMA Bible Training Center and the lasting effect those decisions have had upon their lives and ministries.

## features

18

### Seed Thoughts

Lynette Hagin shares from her heart as she answers questions from readers concerning the issues many of us face in life.

20

### From the Archives

Brother Hagin continues to relate how he had to learn as a teenager to stand in faith to keep the healing he had received by the power of God.

23

### F.A.I.T.H. Academy Kids' Page (Fearless, A-nointed, I-ward-Led, T-rustworthy H-eirs of God)

If you're a kid, this page is for you. We've included Bible lessons, puzzles, and riddles for you to enjoy. Have fun!



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# THE WAY TO SUCCESS

*Everyone wants to be successful in life, and many books have been written claiming to teach the way to success. But only one Book, written long ago, holds the true key.*



*Kenneth E. Hagin*

**T**he Bible is God's plan for man, and it's only when we follow *His* plan that we will indeed make our way prosperous and have good success. What is God's plan for success? He tells us in Joshua chapter 1.

At the start of Joshua's ministry, the Lord said to him, *"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success"* (Joshua 1:8).

The Word of God wasn't given only to Joshua. And what the Lord said to Joshua concerning God's Word doesn't apply only to him. The Word works for anyone who will believe and act on it.

Evidently, God *wanted* Joshua to have good success and to be prosperous, or He wouldn't have

told Joshua how to be successful. To give a natural example, if we didn't want someone to come to our house, we wouldn't tell him how to get there! And if God didn't want us to be prosperous and have good success, He wouldn't tell us the way to success. But He gives us explicit directions in Joshua 1:8.

According to one translation of Joshua 1:8, when we meditate on God's Word, we "will be able to deal wisely in the affairs of life." If we couldn't deal wisely in the affairs of life, we couldn't have good success, could we? The entire counsel of God's Word contains keys to having a successful life. And the Word will work for each one of us.

The main reason so many Christians aren't living in success is that they have not received the right diet. They have not been feeding, or meditating, on the Word of God.

In the natural, one reason many people aren't healthy is that they haven't been eating a healthy diet. The right diet can make all the difference in the world. And the same thing is true spiritually.

Many Christians aren't feeding on the Word of God. And the Church as a whole has failed to teach believers who they are in Christ, their rights and privileges in Christ, and how to truly live by faith. Without the knowledge of God's Word, the way to success will be blocked. The key to being successful is to walk in the light of God's eternal Word.

One thing the Word of God teaches us is that we are a three-part being: We are spirit, soul, and body (1 Thess. 5:23). God's Word also teaches us about each part of our nature and about our responsibility concerning each part. When we follow God's instructions concerning our spirit, soul, and body, we will walk in the way of success.

The spirit man, the man on the inside, is the real you. And if you have accepted Jesus as your Savior, your spirit man is already a new creature in Christ Jesus. Second Corinthians 5:17 says, "*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*"

According to Second Corinthians 4:16, the outward man, or the body, is perishing. But when Jesus returns, we shall receive a glorified body. However, the Bible tells us what we are to do with our body while we are here on earth.

The Book of Romans was written to people who had been born again. The Apostle Paul instructed Christians on what to do with their bodies once their spirit had been made new.

#### ROMANS 12:1

**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.**

According to this verse, we are responsible for presenting our body to God as a living sacrifice. Our body is not God's responsibility. He

has imparted eternal life into our spirit. And our spirit, which is the real man, became a new creation in Christ Jesus. What we now do with our body is up to us.

Does it make a difference what we do with our body once we are born again? Yes! If we want to walk in success, we must *present our body a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God.*

The Bible also gives us instructions concerning the third part of our nature — the soul, which includes the mind, will, and emotions.

Romans 12:2 says, "*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.*" James 1:21 says, "*Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive*

why their minds are full of turmoil. In Matthew 11:29, Jesus said, "*Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and YE SHALL FIND REST UNTO YOUR SOULS.*" Many Christians experience unrest in their minds and in their emotions because they have not taken God's yoke upon them and learned of Him. We can only "learn of God" through His Word, the Bible.

Romans 12:2 tells us we are to be transformed by the renewing of our mind. And how are we going to renew our mind? With the Word of God!

We renew our mind by learning to think in line with God's Word. We learn to think in line with God's Word by meditating on it day and night. If we don't know what God's Word says, we can't think in line with it. And if we can't *think*

**If we want to walk in success, we must present our body a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God.**



*with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to SAVE YOUR SOULS.*"

The Book of James was also written to Christians, yet James told them how to save their souls. He wouldn't need to tell them how to save their souls if their souls were born again. We often use the term "soul" loosely, but it is our *spirit*, not our soul, that is born again when we accept Jesus as our Savior.

How do we save our soul? Through meditating on the Word of God!

Psalm 23:3 says, "[The Lord] *RESTORETH my soul . . .*" The Greek word translated "renew" in Romans 12:2, and the Hebrew word translated "restore" in Psalm 23:3 mean the same thing. God wants to *renew* and *restore* our soul. God is able to transform our thinking and save our soul when we meditate upon His Word.

Many Christians aren't meditating on God's Word, yet they wonder

in line with the Word, we can't *believe* in line with it or *act* in line with it.

To be a success, we must train ourselves to think in line with God's Word in every situation. No matter what happens in life, even if an emergency arises, the very first thing we must think of is what God's Word says about the situation.

Too often, Christians think the same thoughts the world thinks. But Romans 12:2 tells us to not be conformed to the world. When we renew our mind with the Word of God, we won't think the way the world thinks anymore. People in the world think naturally, and they don't have any peace. As we begin to think in line with the Word, we will find peace and rest for our soul.

As we meditate on the Word, renewing our mind with the Word, we will begin to think God's thoughts after Him in every situation. Other people may think we

are crazy, because God's thoughts are different from the world's thoughts (Isa. 55:8,9). But, oh, the peace and the joy we will have when we think God's thoughts!

Some Christians think we have to wait until we get to Heaven to have peace and rest. Thank God, we can have peace and rest right now! Romans 5:1 says, "Therefore being justified by faith, we HAVE PEACE . . ." We're not going to get peace. We have peace with God

As we begin to think in line with the Word, we will find peace and rest for our soul.

through our Lord Jesus Christ — right now!

To paraphrase Joshua 1:8, we could say, "The Word of God shall not depart out of our mouth; but we shall meditate on it day and night, that we may observe to do all that it says. For then we shall make our way prosperous, and then we shall have good success."

What are we to meditate on? The economy? Threats of terrorism? Evil

reports? No! If we want to make our way prosperous and have good success, we must meditate on the Word!

All of God's Word is good to meditate on, but depending on what is happening in the world and in my life, I often choose particular scriptures upon which to meditate. I may spend more time meditating on certain scriptures than I do on others, because those certain scriptures are what I need at the moment. But I always meditate and feed upon a

healthy diet of faith and healing.

With all that is happening in the world today, it would help us

to spend time meditating on a passage found in Romans chapter 8.

**ROMANS 8:31-37**

**31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?**

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

**33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth [makes righteous].**

**34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again,**

**who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.**

**35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?**

**36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.**

**37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors though him that loved us.**

Thank God for His Word! *Nothing* can separate us from the love of God! Because of Jesus and His great love for us, we are more than conquerors! If the Bible had just said we were conquerors, that would have been good. But God says we are *more than* conquerors!

Meditating on God's Word gives us strength, courage, and hope. It provides rest and peace for our soul. God's Word has the power to save us, to renew our mind, and to set us free. When we meditate on God's Word and are careful to live according to what His Word says, then our way will be prosperous and we will have good success in every area of life! ♠

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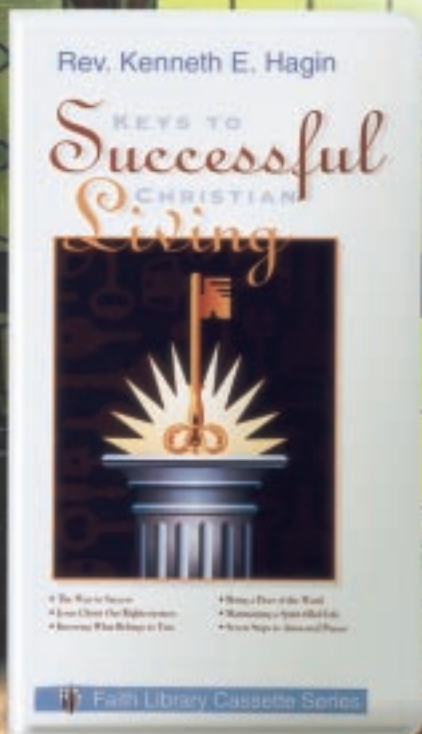
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Some people have the *actions* of obedience down pat.

They *say* the right things and *do* the right things, but their heart isn't right.

Obedience is more than an *action*; it's an *attitude* or way of life.

# Obedience Is **MORE** Than An **ACTION**

**T**here are many Christians today who go to church every time the door opens, read their Bible, and pray, yet it all seems to avail little, *because they themselves are short-circuiting the power of God in their lives through disobedience.* Their disobedience nullifies the rest of their efforts.

Many Christians who think they are living in obedience to God are really living life their own way. In order to walk in the blessings and protection of God, the believer must understand what obedience truly is and walk in it.

The first thing we need to realize about obedience is that it is a life principle. That means obedience isn't just a single act, or even a series of *actions*. Obedience is a whole lifestyle characterized by a spirit of obedience, or a *habitual attitude* of obedience.

Jesus, our Example, demonstrated this attitude and lifestyle of obedience. His entire reason for coming to earth was captured in this one statement: ". . . *Lo, I come to do thy will, O God . . .*" (Heb. 10:9). The principle by which He lived His entire life was obedience. And we, as His Body, fulfilling His will upon the earth, will have to live by this same principle.

In fact, if we're going to accomplish anything in this life for God as Spirit-led, Word-believing, Word-confessing, Bible-toting, children of God, the number-one principle we must live by is obedience.

Yet it seems that when the word obedience is mentioned, some Christians get a long face. Actually, obedience should be the Christian's greatest joy, because God said, "*If ye be WILLING AND OBEDIENT, ye shall eat the good of the land*"



*Kenneth Hagin Jr.*

(Isa. 1:19). It is interesting to note that everyone is willing to eat the good of the land, but not everyone is willing to be obedient.

Another thing we must recognize is that in true obedience, there is an element of humility. An obedient person is also a humble person. Why? Because he puts the will and the desires of the One he serves above his own will and desires.

There are many Christians who will try to prove to you how *humble* they are. And though they may not say it in words, the attitude they portray is, *I'll show you just how humble I am!* But that's not humility.

You see, we need to have the same mind that was in Christ Jesus — Jesus emptied Himself of His mighty glory and power, and took on the form of a servant, humbling Himself to the point of death on a cross. That is how utterly humble and obedient He was.

Philippians 2:5-7 says, *“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery TO BE EQUAL WITH GOD: But MADE HIMSELF OF NO REPUTATION, and TOOK UPON HIM THE FORM OF A SERVANT, and was made in the likeness of men.”*

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, became a servant. He took the servant's role. Yet in Christendom today, there are too many people who do not want the lowly position of the servant. They want an exalted position of recognition and importance. But to have the mind of Christ is to have the humility and obedience of a servant.

Think about that word “servant.” A servant knows his role and position. A servant doesn't ask questions or argue about the commands given to him. He knows he is there only to serve the one in charge.

Having the attitude of a servant is of vital importance to the Body of Christ. But because of the way some people were raised, it is hard for them to understand and adapt to having the attitude of a servant. They are afraid that if they do, it will put them right back into the lowly state from which they came before they were saved. But that was in the devil's kingdom, under his evil tyranny. That is not how it is in the Kingdom of God under the rule of the King of kings.

God's Kingdom is ruled by faith and love. The rule of the tyrant and enemy

Satan is a rule of hate, distrust, and unbelief. In Satan's kingdom, the individual is nothing. But under God's rule, when we become servants, we actually become someone!

When we become subject to God the Father through the Lord Jesus Christ, God Himself lifts us up and seats us with Christ. He “. . . *hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus*” (Eph. 2:6).

Notice that in God's Kingdom, humble obedience allows us to rule with Jesus Christ! And with God, it is that attitude of humility that is so important. So many Christians have the *action* of

Bible carries with it a commitment for *us* to do something. In other words, every time we believe God and make a confession of faith, we are putting ourselves in a position to exercise obedience. It is never a matter of God or His Word failing; it's a matter of whether or not we are in position for His blessings!

An example of this relationship between faith and obedience is found in Mark chapter 11.

**MARK 11:23,24**

**23 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**

**It's not just a one-time confession of faith that gets the job done; it is a lifestyle of *obedience to and faith in* the Word of God that gets the job done.**

humble obedience without the *attitude* of humble obedience. Our attitude is all-important!

To give an example, some Christians are not receiving a return from their giving because the attitude with which they give is not right before God. It isn't that they are failing to give; it's that they are giving with the wrong attitude. Their attitude seems to be, *God, I'm doing this for You, so You owe me!* But God doesn't owe you anything! *You owe God everything, because you are nothing without Him!*

Obedience is more than what some have thought. It is not *just* an act, a series of actions, or something that we do or don't do. Obedience is a complete lifestyle. It is a life principle, an attitude of the heart, by which to live.

How, then, does obedience relate to faith?

People like to talk about faith, yet many times, they do not realize that to have strong faith, they must be obedient to the Word of God. Faith and obedience are inseparable. It's not just a one-time confession of faith that gets the job done; it is a lifestyle of *obedience to and faith in* the Word of God that gets the job done.

Yes, faith is a matter of believing God's Word, but a study of God's Word will show that every promise in the

**believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.**

**24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them and ye shall have them.**

When we read this familiar passage, we usually stop reading after verse 24. But before verse 23 and 24 will work, we will have to *obey* verse 25. We don't read this verse as frequently, because it's not the part that thrills us, but it says, *“And when ye stand praying, FORGIVE, if ye have ought against any . . . .”* That means if you are holding any kind of grudge *whatsoever* against anyone, *forgive* him, “. . . *that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.*”

There are Christians who quote Mark 11:23 and 24, yet nothing happens. Then they wonder why their faith isn't working, or they question why the Word isn't working for them. Often it is because they are holding a grudge or unforgiveness in their heart toward another person.

*We must realize that we cannot move into the area of great faith without walking in the love of God and in complete obedience to His Word.*

Galatians 5:6 says that faith works by love; therefore, our faith will not work when we are not walking in love. The

more I study obedience, the more I am convinced that faith cannot operate without it, and walking in love is an important part of obedience to God. When you love God, the things of God, and the Body of Christ, and when you are in complete obedience to His Word, *there is absolutely nothing that can stand in your way or hinder your faith!* When you are in line with God's

ing God, but are we really servants? A servant will do what his master tells him to do.

When we see Jesus' attitude of serving others, we begin to realize that until we are *willing* and *obedient* to be a good servant as Jesus was, there is no way we can eat the good of the land.

Yes, we can sing about who we are in Christ Jesus. We can sing about

Yes, in Christ, we are someone. Yes, in Christ, we do rule and reign as kings and priests (*see* Romans 5:17). But we also must realize that we are still the *servants* of the Most High. We will never become too important to be a servant. Jesus never stopped serving, and neither should we.

We must realize the high place that being a servant holds in God's sight. His Son was a servant. If those Christians who feel that being a servant is too lowly a position would just pray, "Lord, I want to do Your will; just show me what to do and I will obey," God would give them such joy in obedience. And they would find that obstacles would melt away in their life, and circumstances which seemed as if they would never change would begin to move out of the way.

Remember, the Bible doesn't just say that when you're obedient, you will eat the good of the land. It says you will eat the good of the land when you are *willing* and obedient. So get willing! Confess this, and let your heart agree: "Lord, I will obey You! Lord, I will be Your servant. Lord, I will serve You and I will serve the Body of Christ. I want to follow Jesus' example and serve You in humble obedience all the days of my life!" ♡

## A servant will do what his master tells him to do.

Word and are obeying Him on a daily basis, *then* the good things of God will be able to come to you in abundance. *Then* First Peter 2:24 will become effective in your life on a continual basis. *Then* Philippians 4:19 will become a daily reality to you. *Then* Luke 6:38 will become a permanent part of your life. *All the promises of God's Word will become yours to enjoy as you obey the counsel of God in His Word.*

The whole of God's plan is based on serving God in obedience to *His* will, not our own. We talk a lot about serv-

being kings and priests unto God. We can sing about being adopted into the family of God — and what an exalted position we're in — to be seated in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. We can pray and make our confessions about who we are in Christ and what we have as our Kingdom rights. But until we are willing to be servants just like our Elder Brother, we will not be in complete obedience to God. I'm talking about our spiritual attitude as well as our actions!

# THE LIFE OF OBEDIENCE SERIES



Have you wondered what has kept the blessings of God from coming to you in abundance? Do you want to achieve all that God meant for you to achieve? Do you want to reach your full potential in Christ?

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# Answering 'A Call to Arms'

In the day in which we live, we are surrounded by wars and violence, bombarded with pornography and infidelity, and confronted with dishonest business practice and corporate scandals. Where can men find the strength to do what is right and honorable in the midst of a corrupt generation? Are there men out there who can help one another take a stand in the home, on the job, and around the community?

**The answer is yes!**

**M**en from 35 states and five countries gathered together on Thursday, November 7, and answered "A Call to Arms" by attending Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.'s Men's Conference. The theme for the first "A Call to Arms" conference was "Men of Honor." The conference continued through that Saturday, and men from various backgrounds and professions left feeling refreshed by the anointing, ready to take a stand as mighty men of honor and integrity.

Throughout the weekend, there were dynamic workshops dealing with critical issues confronting men today, such as: "Taking Your Place in Your Family," "Sexual Purity," "Success, Integrity, and Climbing the Corporate Ladder," and several others. There was a special workshop taught by Mrs. Lynette Hagin entitled "What Every Wife Wishes Her Husband Knew About Her." Also part of the conference were services with Pastor Hagin and guest speakers Rev. Reggie Scarborough, pastor of Family Worship Center in Lakeland, Florida; Rev. Jeff

Perry, pastor of Saint Louis Family Church in St. Louis, Missouri; and Rev. Darrell Huffman, pastor of New Life Church in Huntington, West Virginia. Those three days proved to be life-changing for the men who attended!

In the days of the American Revolution, small armies of men would often unite for a specific purpose. These armies were unlike the standard military of that day, and unlike the armed forces of today. To form these armies, a call was sent out for men to come

together with their arms to *defend what they believed in!* And men would come from near and far to fight for the cause.

As Pastor Hagin explained this to the men in attendance, he said, "The Lord began to deal with my heart about men some time ago. I sort of brushed it off at first, not thinking much about it. Then the Lord began to deal with me further, so I said, 'Okay, we'll have a men's conference.'"

Pastor Hagin said the reason he named the conference "A Call to Arms" was to call men together to stand for the cause of honor and integrity in every area of their lives: before God and His Word, in their homes with their wives and children, in the local community, and in government.

If you are a man, you may be wondering, "Why do I need to attend a men's conference? Why can't I just stand on my own?"

In the "busyness" of everyday life and with the corruption that surrounds men today,

it can be easy to lose sight of your reasons for doing the right thing when ungodly choices may seem easier. The military knows there is strength in numbers. And there is strength in men coming together to defend what they believe in. Pastor Hagin is holding "A Call to Arms" men's conferences to share fresh insight from the Word for men in these last days. What better way to do this than through workshops to provide you with practical ideas to use in your everyday life, and



through anointed services with guest speakers who will challenge you to be all that you can be for God!

Men: whether you've already joined "A Call to Arms" by attending last year's conference, or you're now answering "A Call to Arms" by marking your calendar for this year's conference (November 6-8, 2003), you are taking a stand for God in every area of your life. "A Call to Arms" Men's Conference will help you get away from the pressures and responsibilities of life for a few days to be refreshed by the Word and the Spirit — and then return to your family, your work, and your community strengthened as a mighty man of God!



# CAMP MEETING

— Is for —

# LITTLE PEOPLE'

Too!

If you think that during Campmeeting the Holy Spirit pours out His blessings mainly in the *adult* services, think again.

“The biggest misconception people have about Campmeeting children’s services is that parents just drop off their kids to be babysat while the adults go to the ‘main’ service to be blessed,” said Richard Pilger, Assistant Children’s Minister. “It’s the *same* anointing on both services. We’ve had concentrated worship services where the children didn’t want to stop and services where they just want to keep on praying.” Year after year, the Holy Spirit moves in the children’s services (for three-year-olds through 5th graders) just as He moves in the adult services. “We don’t just entertain your kids,” said Denise Burns, Children’s Minister. “We want the kids to grow up spiritually so that when they leave Campmeeting, and throughout the year, they are praying with someone to get saved and laying hands on the sick.”

In the Wednesday night service during Campmeeting 2002, kids spontaneously made their way down to the altar. Some knelt; others stood and worshipped the Lord without reservation, tears streaming down their faces. Rev. Pilger felt impressed to minister to the children God was calling into the ministry. “I had kids coming up to me telling me, ‘God told me I’m going to pastor,’ or, ‘I’m going to be an evangelist,’ or, ‘I’m going to be a missionary,’” he said. “Having God call them into the ministry while they’re young gives them

more preparation time,” he continued. “They can guard that call and maintain purer lives that will make them even more able to be used by God.”

Every year the preschoolers (3-5 year-olds) are taught on the fruit of the Spirit using different animal characters for that year’s theme. One year they had “Happy the Hyena” in a jungle theme. While Happy the Hyena ministered, the Holy Spirit manifested Himself and kids started laughing and getting drunk in the Spirit and the workers did too! “It was the funniest thing I’ve ever seen!” said Rev. Burns.

Last year 1,102 children were registered at Campmeeting. The children’s services saw 144 salvations, 58 rededications, and 136 baptisms in the Holy Spirit. Those children left Campmeeting 2002 different from the way they came. Every year there are adults who come back to Campmeeting thanking the Children’s Department

because they were saved or filled with the Holy Ghost there as a child. As an example, Rev. Burns related the following testimony. Last year a first-grade boy from Arkansas was filled with the Holy Ghost during Campmeeting children’s services. His mother said he had been struggling with learning disabilities and was placed in special classes at school. After being filled with the Spirit, he went home and the rest of the summer prayed every day in tongues. By



the time he started school that fall, his mom said, he had completely changed! His mind was sharper and he was placed in regular classes. He’s a totally different boy, and he still gets up every morning and prays in tongues before going to school.

When children grow up hearing the message of faith, they will benefit from that as they become adults. But as children attend special services like those at Campmeeting where they can encounter God personally, their young lives are impacted *forever*. God becomes real to them. “Sometimes kids piggyback on their parents’ faith, but in services like these, when the kids realize this is a life *they* have to live, the light goes on. It’s head faith verses heart faith,” Pilger shared. “Before that, the children may have just mentally agreed, ‘Oh, yeah — God, you’re real. Jesus, I believe in you.’ But through services like those at Campmeeting, youngsters can have a spiritual experience with God,” he explained. “It’s the heart change that sticks.”

PKs (preachers’ kids) are especially ministered to at Campmeeting. They are out of the public eye and become just another face in the crowd. They aren’t inhibited as they might be at home where their mom or dad is behind the pulpit. No one has any preconceptions about them; they are allowed to just be kids. At Campmeeting, ministers’ children respond more easily to altar calls and are freer to enter into praise and worship because the pressure is off. This can even affect simple things, like raising their hands, said Rev. Burns. At their home church, ministers’ children might raise their hands during praise and worship because others are watching and expect them to, she said. But at Campmeeting, no one is watching. They are free to praise God and to raise their hands just because they love Him. “It deepens their relationship with Him,” she said.

Children are ministered to differently than adults. They experience contemporary praise and worship, captivating object lessons, exciting puppet skits and dramas, and attention-grabbing children’s sermons that deal with issues kids face every day. Evening services run from 7:30 to 10:00 so a plan for each service is necessary. But if the Spirit of God starts moving, the leaders allow Him to move.

In the last couple of years, a real momentum has been generated, espe-

cially for the kids who return year after year. "Last year the first service on Monday night started with a boom! We hit the ground running!" said Pilger. "It was a real time of worship and consecration and getting on fire for God. Sixty-nine kids were saved and a large number were healed." Pilger has a message for ministers: "Don't leave your kids at home! You are robbing them of a blessing!"

Children today face so many pressures at such a young age that they need a spiritual refreshing just as adults do. And that's exactly what they get at Campmeeting! Rev. Burns has a word for parents who might want to leave their children with the grandparents and come to Campmeeting by themselves. "Parents, I know it's a lot of work bringing the kids, but you're missing it 'big time' if you don't!"

In April, the Children's Department at RHEMA Bible Church begins planning for Campmeeting, which will be held this year July 21-26. "Many hours of work go into this



special week, but it's all worth it," says Rev. Burns. "Every year parents tell us how their children are excited and asking every morning 'Can we go to Campmeeting?'"

The RHEMA children's ministers invite you *and your family* to Campmeeting 2003. They want to keep the momentum going. And they have a request for you: when you come, come expecting God to do great things, not only with you, but also with your children! Remember, Campmeeting isn't just for "big" people; it's for "little" people too!

## THE FLAME KEEPS BURNING BRIGHTLY



**T**he second Kindle the Flame women's conference took place on the RHEMA campus four months ago. But September 2002 won't quickly be forgotten. The flame kindled in the hearts of those in attendance still burns brightly. The women left Tulsa, Oklahoma, with a renewed passion — a *holy* passion to be women of faith, balance, and purpose.

If any woman knows the importance of balancing the tasks required of women in careers and as wives and mothers, it is Lynette Hagin. In addition to assisting her husband in the ministry at RHEMA Bible Church, Mrs. Hagin serves as director of RHEMA Bible Training Center and general manager of Kenneth Hagin Ministries. She is the mother of two children and the grandmother of four. Mrs. Hagin's years of experience in balancing the demands of marriage, motherhood, and ministry have uniquely qualified her to minister in many different areas.

With a heart to train an army of women who will fulfill their purpose in God, for the second year Mrs. Hagin hosted a successful Kindle the Flame conference. Speakers included Lynette Hagin; Rev. Patsy Cameneti, missionary and director, with her husband, Rev. Tony Cameneti, of RHEMA Bible Training Center Singapore; Donna Pickens, wife of Rev. Tom Pickens, pastor of Antelope Valley Christian in Lancaster, California, and Victory Christian Center in Victorville, California; and Debbie Varney, wife of Rev. Greg Varney, pastor of Light of the World Christian Center in Topeka, Kansas.

In addition to the spiritual teaching, practical wisdom and advice was shared on a variety of subjects pertinent to everyday living. Workshop topics were as varied as the roles women fill:

- Bon Appetit In Thirty Minutes
- 'Look! I Think I'm Martha' — Entertaining Made Easy
- Beauty or the Beast — Hairstyling, Poise, and Product Knowledge
- A Touch of Class — Showers and Receptions Made Easy
- Let's Get Physical — Health and Fitness Tips
- Getting Your Life In Order — Time Management and Household Tips

Many lives were changed during the special prayer service and through personal ministry times. Countless women found emotional release and felt their burdens lift during praise and worship and at other times throughout the conference. And the unseen forces of this world were put on notice as more than 1,300 women from 42 states and 13 countries made bold proclamation of the following declaration to God:

"We are going to keep the flame burning ever so brightly, not forgetting what God has spoken to us this week. May it ever be written on our hearts. And may we be reminded on a daily basis of the mission that God has for us to accomplish. I vow this night to accomplish that mission. Lord, I will place You first in my life. I will honor You. I will keep my ears open to Your Word. And I will obey what You tell me to do."

*The following is an excerpt from a testimony given by one woman who attended Kindle the Flame and left changed by the power of God.*

**Dear Mrs. Hagin,**

*The conference was such a needed time of renewal for me. I was the last person you ministered to on the last night of the conference. You wrapped me up in a hug that was full of love. I felt so safe there, and I could literally feel the love you were giving to me. Then you looked me straight in the eyes and told me you loved me. That ministered deeply to me. Then you spoke healing and strength into my life. The Lord has poured both of those into my life since the conference. Thank you for everything!*

**L. V.**

**Save the Date!**

**September 25-27, 2003**

**Kindle the Flame  
Women's Conference**

*With Lynette Hagin and  
Special Speakers*



# A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

**Three pastors talk about their decisions to attend "Get Acquainted With RHEMA" and RHEMA Bible Training Center, and the lasting effect those decisions have had upon their lives and ministries.**

**1** **Tim Peterson**, pastor of Heartland Family Christian Center in Omaha, Nebraska, went to "Get Acquainted With RHEMA" to determine if he indeed wanted to attend RHEMA Bible Training Center. At the age of twenty-five, Tim was already in full-time ministry as an associate pastor in Oakland, Iowa. The following is an excerpt of what he shared regarding his decision.

"I remember several things about my time at GAWR. I remember the atmosphere being charged with excitement and faith to accomplish the will of God. What I experienced at 'Get Acquainted' was virtually the same thing I later experienced as a student. In other words, GAWR isn't just a three-day 'show' put on for the prospective students. GAWR shows what really goes on at RHEMA, day in and day out.

"There was a prayer service one night at 'Get Acquainted,' and after that particular time spent with the Lord, my wife and I knew that I was to attend RHEMA. I graduated from RBTC in 1993.

"I would most definitely recommend the 'Get Acquainted With RHEMA' weekend. From a natural standpoint, I believe that GAWR helps people learn more about RHEMA, including the classes, the church, and the community (local schools, jobs, etc.). If you go to GAWR with an open heart to hear from the Lord, He will speak to you.

"'Get Acquainted' solidified in my heart that I should attend RBTC, and had I not attended RBTC, I don't feel that I would be pastoring a church with the degree of success I am enjoying today."

**2** Before **Shane Philpott** attended RHEMA, he was a graphic designer in Des Moines, Iowa.

Shane said, "I was prompted to attend 'Get Acquainted' because there was a void in my heart, a spiritual hunger to do more in this world with what I had been given. I knew at a young age that there was more to life than just being successful in the eyes of others; I knew that if I made everyone happy except God, I had done nothing."

When asked if something about GAWR made an impression on him, Shane answered, "There is so much I remember being impressed with at the 'Get Acquainted' weekend. What struck me the most was the campus appearance, the leadership structure, and

IF YOU GO TO GAWR WITH AN OPEN HEART TO HEAR FROM THE LORD, HE WILL SPEAK TO YOU.

RHEMA's vision and purpose in this world."

"Get Acquainted With RHEMA" had such an impact on Shane that he claims it was the single reason he decided to attend RBTC. He explained: "When I stepped onto the campus, saw the green grass and trees, breathed the air, and felt God's presence, I knew something was different at RHEMA. Within three days, I had lost all desire for my other pursuits in life; my purpose for life changed almost overnight. RHEMA captured my soul and never let go."

Shane graduated from RHEMA Bible Training Center in 1990. Today he is the founding pastor of Christian Fellowship Church in Mason City, Iowa. In addition to pastoring, Shane and his wife travel, ministering and helping churches fulfill their divine destiny.

Shane said, "I would recommend the 'Get Acquainted With RHEMA' weekend to others so they can see for themselves RHEMA's excellence, purpose, and passion — so they can have that same excellence, purpose, and passion in their own lives."

AT GAWR, THE CONFIRMATION OF GOD'S WILL WAS VERY CERTAIN AND CLEAR.

**3** Before **Glenn** and **Beth Hardeman** went to RHEMA, Glenn was a police officer and Beth was a registered nurse.

The Hardemans said they chose to attend "Get Acquainted" because they wanted to see RHEMA for themselves and to pursue the possibility of attending RBTC.

Glenn remembers that the people at "Get Acquainted" were very kind and friendly, but what impressed him the most was the ministry time, during which he received confirmation about moving to Oklahoma and attending RHEMA.

Glenn graduated from RHEMA in 1996; Beth graduated in 1997. Today Glenn and Beth are the directors of RHEMA Thailand. They also pastor RHEMA Bible Church Bangkok and Word of Faith Fellowship.

According to Glenn, "Get Acquainted" played a huge part in getting the Hardemans where they are today. He explained, "It was a big change to pack up our family and move from Georgia to Oklahoma. It required a lot of sacrifice, but attending 'Get Acquainted' gave us the confirmation and confidence we needed to make that move. And attending RHEMA then prepared us for our even bigger move to southeast Asia.

"God trained us in so many areas during our time at RHEMA. We received Bible training, an understanding of how to follow God's will for our life, and an impartation of the spirit of faith and prayer. And these things have helped us achieve success in ministry.

"The RHEMA experience has affected the course of our ministry and our life. Our personal lives were changed forever because we learned how to walk in faith and love in our marriage and in our relationships with others. We believe RHEMA gave us the courage and faith to pursue God's perfect will for our lives.

"At GAWR, the confirmation of God's will was very certain and clear. The peace of God permeated the campus and the meetings. Later, when our path became difficult, we could always look back and remember what God said to us at 'Get Acquainted.'"

# SEED THOUGHTS

*From Lynette*

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)



Dear Lynette:

I thank God for what He is doing through you and your husband. In fact, RHEMA has been a great blessing to me and to a host of others I know. My walk with God has been nourished tremendously by materials from your ministry.

I am having a difficult time knowing whom to marry. I really want to do God's will. So could you please tell me some things I need to know so as not to miss it? I desire to have what God has in store for me. Thank you and God bless you.

*Choosing the person you will share your life with is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. The Scripture passage I stood on for finding my mate was Proverbs 3:5 and 6, which says, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."*

*From the time I was a young child, I knew I was called to the ministry. It was very important to me to marry someone who had that same calling. As a child, I said to the Lord, "You know the plan for my life. You said in Mark 11:24, '... What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.' God, I desire to be married. I desire a husband who is called to the ministry. So I trust You to direct my path to the right person."*

*Although God does direct our paths, He does not make the decision for us about whom to marry. He created us to be free moral agents — free to choose whom to marry. If you desire to be married, you do have a part to play. One thing you can do is take advantage of opportunities in which you*



*can meet other single Christians.*

*My husband and I developed our relationship through writing letters. He was in the Army at the time. A mutual friend asked my mother if I would write to him, as he was overseas and receiving very little mail. I could have made the decision not to write and our paths might never have crossed.*

*Many times we want to tell God how to grant our desires. But God will always do it His way. My human reasoning said, "Lord, I will just keep praying about a mate. I expect You to bring him to me." But something on the inside of me (of course, it was the prompting of the Holy Spirit) said, "Write Ken a letter."*

*You see, I had a part to play. James 2:17 says, "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." I did my part, God did His part, and the rest is history. Ken and I have been happily married for thirty-seven years.*

*Because this is such an important subject, I will continue my reply in next month's issue of The Word of Faith.*

*Lynette*

Send your questions to Seed Thoughts, Attention: Lynette Hagin, P.O. Box 50126, Tulsa, OK 74150-0126, or E-mail your questions to: [seedthoughts@rhema.org](mailto:seedthoughts@rhema.org). No personal responses will be given; questions will be addressed in the magazine only. Unfortunately, due to volume, we are unable to answer every question received.

# From the Archives

A nostalgic look at the beginnings of Kenneth Hagin Ministries



## Ten Times Better

On August 8, 1934, Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin was healed by the power of God through faith and prayer after lying bedfast for 16 months. This month, Rev. Hagin continues the account of how he had to learn to stand in faith to keep his healing.

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After I received my healing, my worst struggles came in the night. I can tell you that the devil is a good mathematician. Just after I would get into bed, the devil would say, "Well, boy, you've just got 'so many' days left. Remember Dr. Robason said he would give you ninety days at the most to live." And each night, the devil would tell me exactly how many days were left.

Sometimes for hours in the night, I would struggle, casting down imaginations. It's not always easy, but, thank God, it can be done. "Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ" (2 Cor. 10:5). This simply means to bring every thought into captivity to the obedience of the Word, for the Word is Christ. So I would begin to think in line with what His Word says.

"Now, Mr. Devil," I would say, "I appreciate Dr. Robason highly. I appreciate him more than any of my five doctors. He sat down by my bedside one day and told me the truth. He told me there was nothing that could be done by any doctor, and that unless a Higher

Power intervened, there was no hope. [However, it is not a matter of a Higher Power intervening. It is a matter of your believing God.]

"I appreciate that Dr. Robason never charged us a penny and that he would come any time we called him. But I am not going by what *he* said. I am walking in the light of *the Word*. And the Word says that God heard me and that I am healed. The Word says that I have been healed, and I believe the Word."

This is very important. If you want to walk by faith, the Word must be superior to anything and everything else. It must be superior to any knowledge, whether that knowledge is yours or someone else's.

When you trust God with all your heart, a quietness and a peace come into your spirit, because the Word says, "For we which have believed do enter into rest . . ." (Heb. 4:3).

We take God at His Word when we see that He says, "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:19). We simply know in our spirit that everything we need will be supplied, and we don't worry. We have no anxiety. (If we were worrying and being anxious, we would not be believing.)

Our heart takes courage as we read the Word. As we meditate in God's Word, our assurance becomes deeper. This assurance in our spirit is independent of our human reasoning or human knowledge. It may contradict human reasoning. It even may contra-

dict physical evidence. Believing God with the heart means to believe apart from your body or your mind.

Well, after being healed, here I was back in high school. I had missed one school year. Before I was born again, I just barely got by in some classes. Back then, a "D" was a failing grade. And if you failed one subject, you stayed in that grade and took the whole thing over again. Two teachers in two subjects said to me, "We gave you two points or you would have had a 'D.'"

But after I was born again, I never made anything but a straight "A" report card. And I never took one book home to study.

Now I didn't know a thing about the baptism in the Holy Spirit then, but I did know I had the life of God in me!

As I walked down the street to school every morning, I had a conversation with the Lord. Unconsciously, I was being led by the Spirit; my heart told me to do it, and I listened to my heart instead of my head.

I said, "Now, Lord, I read in the Old Testament where Daniel and the three Hebrew children were in school in Babylon, and You gave them favor with the dean of the school [Daniel 1:9]. God, give me favor with every teacher. Thank You for it; I have it now. I also read that when their three years of training were over, the three Hebrew children were ten times smarter than the rest [vv. 18-20]. Lord, I have Your life in me. John 1:4 says, 'In him [Jesus] was life; and the life was the light of men.' Light stands for development. Lord, impart to me knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom that I may be ten times better . . ."

(To be continued . . .)



# Kids' Page

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

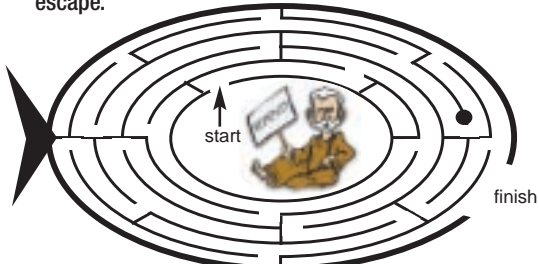
## Find the Differences

See if you can find all seven differences between the two pictures below.



## Out of the Belly of the Whale

Help Jonah find his way out of the belly of the whale through the maze to the whale's mouth so he can escape.



**ANSWERS:**  
 The Bible Wall of Shame - ANSWERS: A. CAIN B. ANANIAS C. JEZEBEL D. ACHAN E. BALAM F. JONAH G. SAPPHIRA H. ADAM  
 Find the Differences - ANSWERS: 1. In A, Jonah has a green hat. 2. In B, Jonah doesn't have a red sash around his waist. 3. The whale's eye is red in A, and blue in B. 4. There are 4 birds in A, and only 3 in B. 5. The whale has no teeth in A, but does in B. 6. There are water drops on the whale's nose in A, but not in B. 7. The wave splashes off of the right side of the picture in B, but doesn't in A.

# Jonah

## the Dude with the Bad Attitude

Most people remember Jonah as the prophet who disobeyed God and got swallowed by a big fish. But even after he changed his mind and obeyed God, Jonah still had a problem . . . he had a bad attitude. He finally **OBEYED** God but he wasn't **WILLING**. Isaiah 1:19 says, "If you are **willing** and **obedient** you will eat the good of the land." Jonah found out that it isn't enough to just obey . . . his attitude had to be right, too! Maybe you have discovered the same thing. If your parents ask you to go clean your room and you obey them but you **STOMP** your feet in anger all the way to your room, chances are that your parents won't be very happy with you! God isn't much different from your parents in that respect. If He asks you to do something, He expects you to **OBEY** and **HAVE A GOOD ATTITUDE** too.

## The Bible WALL OF SHAME

A. NICA	E. MABAAL
B. NIANASA	F. HONAJ
C. BLEZEJE	G. SHAPPIRA
D. CHAAN	H. MAAD

Written above are the scrambled names of Bible characters who are best remembered because of their disobedience or bad attitudes. Unscramble the names above to discover these men and women on The Bible Wall of Shame.

## Jokes & Riddles



Why was the broom late?  
*It over swept!*

Did you hear about the mad scientist who put dynamite in his refrigerator?  
*They say he blew his cool!*

What is a polygon?  
*A missing parrot!*

What kind of car does Mickey Mouse's wife drive?  
*A Minnie van!*

Why did the man take a pencil to bed?  
*To draw the curtains!*

**Son:** Dad, there is a man at the door collecting for the new swimming pool.

**Father:** Give him a glass of water!

**Mother:** Eat up your spinach. It'll put color in your cheeks.

**Daughter:** But I don't want green cheeks!

**Margie:** Were you long in the hospital?

**Sam:** No, I was the same size that I am now!

**Customer:** Waiter, this soup tastes funny!

**Waiter:** Then why aren't you laughing?