



THE Word of Faith

JULY 2001

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

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Kids' Page

With Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.



It's Time To Step Up to the Plate!

How you approach each day largely determines what you accomplish that day. Now is the time for you to seize every God-given opportunity that comes your way. Using baseball vernacular, it's time for you to step up to the plate!

The game of baseball is in some ways a lot like the game of life.

If you've ever played softball or baseball, you know that when it's your turn to hit the ball, your coach or teammates will tell you, "Hey, step up to the plate; it's your turn to bat."

Well, in life, it's your turn to step up to the plate and bat.

When I played ball, I always found batting exciting. That was my opportunity to show what I could do. And every day you live is an opportunity to show what you can do. Each new day is your chance to step up to the plate.

Opportunities are going to come your way and you need to be ready! When you step up to the plate in baseball, you have to be ready to hit the ball. If you go up there afraid of the pitcher, you won't hit a thing!

Some pitchers can throw curve balls that look like they're coming straight for you. Then the ball will suddenly break right across the plate, and the umpire will yell "Strike!"

When the ball looks like it's going to hit the batter, it takes everything he has to stay in the batter's box! And it's going to take everything you've got to stay in the box, so to speak, when the devil's throwing all of his junk at you.

Many times when batters face a really good pitcher, they will step up to the plate and get called out on strikes because the pitches confuse them. They weren't ready to hit the ball. Well, no matter what kind of pitch — or circumstance — you may be facing, when you step up to the plate, you have to be ready to hit the ball!

Watching a game, you see a lot of batters go to the plate not ready to hit the ball. As the batter stands there with the bat resting on his shoulder, the umpire calls strike one. Then batter turns around and looks at him in disbelief. But it isn't the umpire's fault; he's not the one with the bat in his hand!

If you want to hit, you must be ready and willing to swing! That's what you do offensively. There is also something you must do defensively to hit the ball. It's called "protecting the plate."

When you have three balls and two strikes — a "full count" — called against you, you protect the plate by

not letting anything close to a strike go by. That is the last pitch you're going to get. If you just stand there and watch the pitch, you will either get a fourth "ball" and walk freely to first base, or you will get a third "strike" and have to go sit on the bench. So if you want to hit the ball, you have to swing!

In the game of life, many Christians have a "full count" against them, and they're just standing there watching the pitch — or opportunity — go by. You might strike out doing that. Get ready to hit the ball!

God has given all of us something to do. The real question is not whether opportunities are going to come your way. They will. The real question is, what are you going to do with them when they come?

You've got to step up to the plate believing that you can hit the ball. You may doubt your ability. In a ballgame, that's what the pitcher wants you to do. And in the game of life, the devil also wants you to think that you don't have what it takes to win.

A pitcher will often try to intimidate the batter by throwing an inside pitch that makes the batter jump back in order to avoid being hit by the ball. The pitcher will do whatever he can to unsettle the batter, just as the devil will do whatever he can to try to unsettle and intimidate you in your Christian walk.

You have to stay in the game, knowing who you are in Christ. You must remember that you have God-given talents, gifts, and abilities. And you must use what God has given you to overcome the devil's intimidating tactics.

God is on your side! You don't have to face the devil's intimidation — problems, tests, and trials — all by yourself. God, the Greater One, lives inside you. He will help you with whatever you need to do. So when it's your turn to bat, so to speak, expect to hit the ball!

A big part of success is just believing you can do it. Dream big with God and expect to succeed!

William Carey once said, "Expect great things *from* God; attempt great things *for* God." Many Christians don't have any trouble expecting God to do great things. However, they *do* have trouble attempting great things for God. But Luke 18:27 says, ". . . *The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.*"

You have to believe that. You may not hit a home run every time, but step up to the plate expecting to succeed, knowing that you are stepping up to the plate in the strength and power of the Lord.

— Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.

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Publications Director

Michael Gilbert

Graphic Artists

Lisa Ames

Andrea Dunbar

Jeannie Hoover

Greg Lane

Carolyn Modder

Devon Wenger

Editorial Writers

Kelly Cates

Marissa McLargin

Bob Murphy

Marcus White

Proofreader

Marcus White

Photographer

Phil Anglin

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Canadian partners,

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Box 335, Station D, Etobicoke,
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Australian partners,

please mail your orders to: RHEMA Australia
P.O. Box 70, Bond University,
Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia 4229

Internet Address: <http://www.rhema.org.au>

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Kenneth E. Hagin

Following
GOD'S PLAN
*For Your
Life*

**A vital part of
following God's plan
for our lives is
consecrating ourselves
to His plan for us.**

And he [Jesus] went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless NOT AS I WILL, BUT AS THOU WILT.

And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour?

Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, THY WILL BE DONE.

— Matthew 26:39-42

In this Scripture passage, we can see the Lord Jesus Christ praying the prayer of dedication. These verses give us an example of Jesus' dedication as He consecrated Himself to do the Father's will.

God is looking for believers who will dedicate and consecrate themselves wholly to Him to carry out *His* plan for their lives, just as Jesus did at Gethsemane and throughout His earthly ministry. The Lord's eyes roam throughout the earth to find people whose hearts are dedicated to Him (2 Chron. 16:9). God is looking for

believers who will say as Jesus did, "Not *my* will, Father, but *Your* will be done."

Notice Jesus didn't just pray this prayer one time. He prayed virtually the same prayer three times (Matt. 26:39,42,44).

You see, the prayer of consecration is not a one-time prayer, as is the prayer of faith. You pray the prayer of consecration throughout your life. You will only be able to follow God's plan for your life if you constantly maintain an attitude of consecration and surrender to the Lord's will, whatever it might be.

There seems to be a lack of deep consecration to do God's will among some Christians today. It seems that many believers are willing to lay *some* things on the altar, but not *all*! And as a result, God's plan for their lives is hindered. Many of His blessings are withheld when they don't totally consecrate themselves to do God's will.

Consider your own consecration to the Lord. Consider whether or not you are able to say from your heart, "Lord, I'll do whatever You ask me to do. I'll go anywhere You want me to go. And I'll stay where I am if You tell me to stay. No matter where You lead me, I'll carry the Good News of Jesus Christ to others."

You see, you need to be willing to do *anything* God wants you to do. You need to commit yourself to obey God and do His will every day for the rest of your life.

Since I was first born again at the age of fifteen, I've understood the importance of total consecration to the Lord. I've been a Christian nearly seventy years, and I'm still praying the same prayer of consecration I prayed many years ago. I'm still praying, "Lord, I'll go where You want me to go. If You want me to go to Africa, I'll go. If You want me to stay where I am, I'll stay. I'll do what You want me to do."

That doesn't mean I've never made a mistake in being completely dedicated to do what God wanted me to do. I remember once when I was a young pastor, I attended a Bible

convention. While talking with some of the other pastors about a particular church, I made the statement, "I'll tell you one thing! I would *never* pastor that church."

Guess what I was doing less than two years later! I was pastoring the very church I said I would never pastor!

I learned a good lesson from that experience. I learned that the thing I'm unwilling to do could be the very thing that God in His wisdom may need me to do.

You see, God's thoughts are higher than our thoughts (Isa. 55:9). His ways are above our ways, and He sees the whole picture. So it's a matter of trusting God to know what is best for us.

*We will only
experience the fullness
of God's plan and
the full measure of
His anointing and
blessing on our lives
if we are willing to
obey Him in every
area of our lives.*

After that experience, I determined never again to say, "Lord, ask me to do anything but that. That's one thing I'll *never* do." And I've endeavored to keep my heart consecrated before God.

I remember one of our charter-class RHEMA graduates who learned that same lesson. Before he graduated, this man had told people he would never pastor. And he went through the entire school year at RHEMA convinced that God had called him to be an evangelist.

But at the charter-class graduation ceremony, when I laid hands on this RHEMA student, I received a word from the Lord for him. I began laughing in the Spirit, saying, "You said you would never pastor. But you will!"

Then I laid hands on his wife and once again started laughing in the Spirit. I said to her by the unction of the Holy Spirit, "And you said you would never be a pastor's wife. But you will be, and you'll be so contented and glad that you are!"

Soon after graduation, this man was driving down a country road, praying about the Lord's next step for him. And the Spirit of God said to him, "Go home right now. Within thirty minutes, a man will call you and ask you to come and pastor a church in a small town in Oklahoma. I want you to accept that pastorate."

The man immediately drove home. Soon after he arrived home, the phone rang. Just as the Lord had said, the man on the phone asked this RHEMA graduate to come and pastor the church in that small town. The RHEMA graduate obeyed God and accepted the offer.

This man and his wife began pastoring, and they were blessed for their obedience. They found that they were contented and full of joy as they obeyed God's will, even though it meant doing what they said they would never do!

It's so important for you to be willing to do anything God tells you to do. Unwillingness to obey God can hinder or delay His plan from being fulfilled in your life.

We will only experience the fullness of God's plan and the full measure of His anointing and blessing on our lives if we are willing to obey Him in every area of our lives.

You see, God wants us *fully* surrendered to His will. He knows if we're not willing to obey Him in one area, that unwillingness will carry over into other areas of our lives and will hinder us from running the race He has set before us.

Many Christians are at a crossroad in their lives right now. They must

decide if they are going to consecrate themselves fully to do God's will, no matter what He asks them to do.

Believers who stand at a crossroad can choose to follow the path of their own plans and desires. That path may look wide and bright and stretch straight before them as far as their eyes can see.

But if they continue to lean to their own understanding and disobey God, that straight, wide path will eventually lead them into darkness. In other words, believers who don't choose the perfect will of God will encounter trials in life that God never intended for them to encounter.

On the other hand, the path God has planned for obedient believers may be a narrow one that goes over mountains and through deep valleys. God's path might have bends and curves in it that sometimes obscure their view.

Believers who follow God's way may not always be able to see very far

But despite the difficulties that lie on the path of obedience, such a great future in the Lord awaits those who choose to walk in God's ways!

down the path, because following God is a step-by-step walk of faith and obedience. But despite the difficulties that lie on the path of obedience, such a great future in the Lord awaits those who choose to walk in God's ways!

Pray this prayer of commitment to God from your heart:

Lord, I present myself unto You. May Your will be done in my life. May I never forget that I have surrendered all I am to You.

I commit myself to be one whom You can use — consecrated and separated unto Your purposes. I'll pay the price by denying the flesh. If You call me in the nighttime, I'll get on my knees and pray. If I am never seen of men, and if I always work behind the scenes, still I will be faithful.

I lay aside all personal ambition. I'll be one who walks in the Spirit and in Your perfect will. In Jesus' Name, Your will *shall* be wrought in my heart, in my life, and in my ministry (2 Cor. 5:18; Mk. 15:15). 📖

Whose Plan Are You Following?

God has designed a unique plan for your life. If you are trying to follow someone else's plan, or one of your own choosing, you are missing the mark. In his best-selling book *Following God's Plan for Your Life*, Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin stresses the importance of being sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading and running the race God has set before you.

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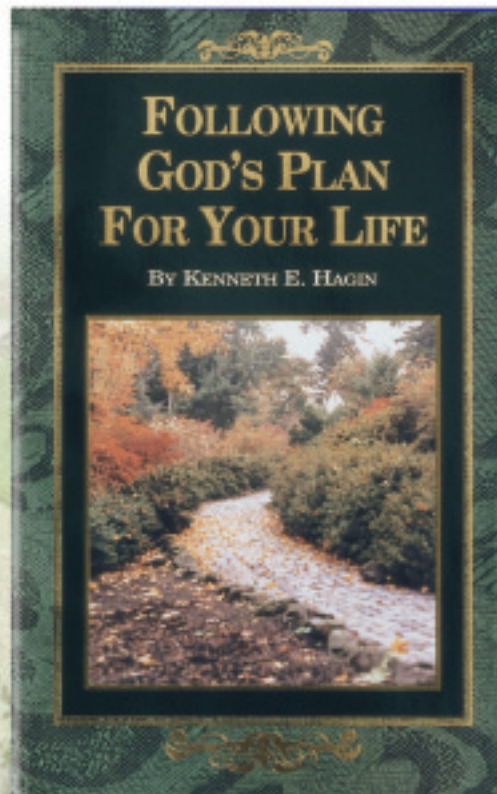
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From the Archives

A nostalgic look at the beginnings of Kenneth Hagin Ministries



The "Equalizer"

This month, Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin continues an account of his early life. For the past two months, Rev. Hagin has shared details of his birth and infancy he learned from his grandmother and mother. Rev. Hagin was born prematurely on August 20, 1917, in a small house in McKinney, Texas. As a newborn, he was given up for dead. He suffered poor health throughout childhood. His father left the family when Rev. Hagin was six years old.

.....

I don't care how good a person is before being born again. Once he or she gets saved, you should be able to tell a difference. When I was born again at the age of fifteen, you could see that difference in me. Until then, my life was twisted. I was full of hatred. I didn't like anyone. Because I had a heart condition, I couldn't run and play like other little children. I felt cheated, and I was mad at God.

As a child, I was kicked around from pillar to post with no permanent home. I'd go live with some relatives and they'd spit on me and kick me. Then I'd go live with some other relatives and they didn't treat me like a human being. I'm not making this up. I've been cussed at, spit on, and hit. And I couldn't fight back because I was physically handicapped.

Then when I started school (we didn't start until we were seven years

old), I learned that children are prone to take advantage of a weaker child in order to prove how big they are. I couldn't defend myself. I'd try to fight back, and I'd pass out on the school grounds.

I got by pretty well in the first grade. But one time in the second grade, I was unconscious for forty-five minutes, and another time I was out for an hour and a half. The school nurse said she thought they never were going to bring me around.

Many times I'd pass out after exerting just a little bit. I don't mean running and playing during recess like other kids. Just climbing a few stairs would do it. Our whole school was on one level, but there were still a few steps to climb because the school was not on level ground. I'd climb those steps, walk a few more steps to the classroom, sit down at my desk, put my head down, and pass out.

School officials would try to wake me up, and sometimes the first class would already be over before I came to. Just that little bit of exertion would cause my heart not to beat right. The school nurse told me that I turned so blue I nearly looked black. When you live that way, you think God has been better to everyone else than He's been to you.

On top of that, everyone wanted to run over me. I'd be standing there minding my own business and someone would run up, hit me in the face,

and knock me down. Instead of having enough sense to lie there, I'd get up, and they would knock me down again. By the time they had knocked me down three times, I passed out!

So in the second grade, I decided that if I was going to get by, I would have to have an equalizer. One boy in our class was the playground bully. He was three years older than the rest of us because he had failed three grades. He loved running up to other kids and knocking them down. He'd already knocked me down two or three times.

One day I found a two-by-four board about twenty inches long. The next time he hit me, I got the two-by-four, slipped up behind him, and knocked him in the head. He was out for forty minutes. He soon learned to leave me alone.

So I grew up with a twisted mentality and personality. I was mad at the whole world. The only thing that changed me was the love of God. Thank God, I became a new creature in Christ Jesus and old things passed away! The things I once hated, I loved. And the things I once loved, I hated. Thank God for the New Birth! Thank God for His love! Thank God for the power of Christ!

It takes power to change a nature as twisted as mine was. But that power changed me so much that I didn't hate anyone, I didn't want to kill anyone, and I wasn't after anyone anymore. That's what the power of God can do for you!

(To be continued . . .)



What To Do When You Do

What To

**If you don't know
what to do about a
situation you're
facing, listen
to Jesus.
He gave two
simple
instructions that
will help
you determine the
right thing to do
in every
circumstance!**

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

Many people today are asking the question "What should I do?" One reason it's now very popular to ask for advice is because when people act upon advice they've been given and something bad happens, they can just blame the person who gave them the advice. Some people who ask "What should I do?" simply want someone to give them a list of things to do. Then they will have someone to blame if everything goes wrong, thereby relieving them of personal responsibility.

Because people have always come to the Church to ask what they

should do, many churches have developed a formal list of "dos and don'ts." You may have been in a church like that. Most of the stuff on the list you wouldn't do anyway if you just read the Bible. But for some reason, people prefer to have a list of rules to follow.

It's been said that God gave Moses 613 rules to follow. In fact, if you will study the Old Testament, you will find that there are more laws than the Ten Commandments we are accustomed to hearing. The Mosaic Law contained many dos and don'ts.

When Jesus came, He gave us a New Covenant and a new law. No longer do we follow a long list of dos and don'ts. In this New Testament law, there are only two commands. This new law is the law of love.

Jesus gave us this law in Mark, chapter 12. One of the teachers of the Mosaic Law came to Jesus to ask Him a question. Being so familiar with the Law, this man was probably

Don't Know at Do

a Pharisee. He wanted Jesus to tell him which commandment was the most important.

MARK 12:28-34 (NIV)

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

29 "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

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

31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

32 "Well said, teacher," the man replied. "You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him.

33 To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."

34 When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And from then

on no one dared ask him any more questions.

If you ever wonder what you should do with your future, I will make it simple: Do what the Bible says. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. And love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 12:30,31). Now you should never have to ask, "What should I do?"

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

You see, these two commandments — love the Lord your God and love your neighbor as yourself — are a complete conduct guide for Christians to live by. Most people want to make it complex, but the Bible is a very simple Book to understand if you read it with an open heart and not with glasses tinted by man's religious tradition. The Bible makes it simple: Love God and love your fellow man.

That's it!

When you love someone, you don't steal from him, gossip about him, or lie to him. This is how the law of love guides our conduct. And yet, there is no legalism in the law of love. There is no list of dos and don'ts, saying, "You have to do this," or "Don't do that."

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

I can't force you to love God and to love your neighbor. No one can! If I were stronger than you, I could

probably force you *to say* that you loved God and your neighbor, or fellow man. And if I were stronger than you, or had leverage for some reason, I might make you say good things about someone. But you will only say these things as long as I am present and applying pressure. The minute you're away from me, you will say what you want to say and do what you want to do.

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

In the same way, love is something that has to be a part of you. When it's your way of life, you love no matter who is around.

Jesus said that love is to be our rule of conduct. If you love God and love your neighbor, you will find that everything else will fall into place.

We must understand that everything we do is controlled from the inside out, not the outside in. And this is where Christians need to understand some things. Love is the result of an inward transformation. That *inward transformation* causes an *outward reformation*.

Trying to change the inside by changing the outside will never work! The inside has to reform the outside if there is to be any lasting change.

Suppose you went to a ranch where the owners stabled a retired racehorse. In his prime, the horse won two or three races, but then developed a knee problem. He's still a good horse; he just can't

race. And suppose that there was also a donkey stabled at the ranch.

Now you could take that donkey, polish his hooves, give him a bath to clean him up, put oil on his coat, and make him look really good. And you could leave the racehorse out in the pasture to roll around and get dirty. Then you could line both the donkey

If you ever wonder what you should do with your future, I will make it simple: Do what the Bible says.

and the racehorse at a starting gate. When the bell sounds and the gates open, that racehorse will be gone — galloping down the track. The donkey, on the other hand, may run or he may not.

Why will it happen this way? I mean, the donkey looks great on the outside — much better than the horse looks. Yes, but what makes the racehorse a racehorse is not the way he looks, but what's on the inside of him.

In the same way, there are people who look good on the outside. For instance, the New Testament Pharisees were a group of men who “looked good.” To paraphrase in modern language what Jesus told the Pharisees, “You look good. You look like Christians. You smell like Christians. But on the inside, you're still sinners” (Matt. 23:27). Remember, it's what's in the heart that counts.

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

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

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

Before you ever say a word or react to an individual who is facing any circumstance of life, ask yourself this question, “If I were in his situation, how would I want to be treated?”

If you answer this question honestly, it will probably change the way you treat that person.

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

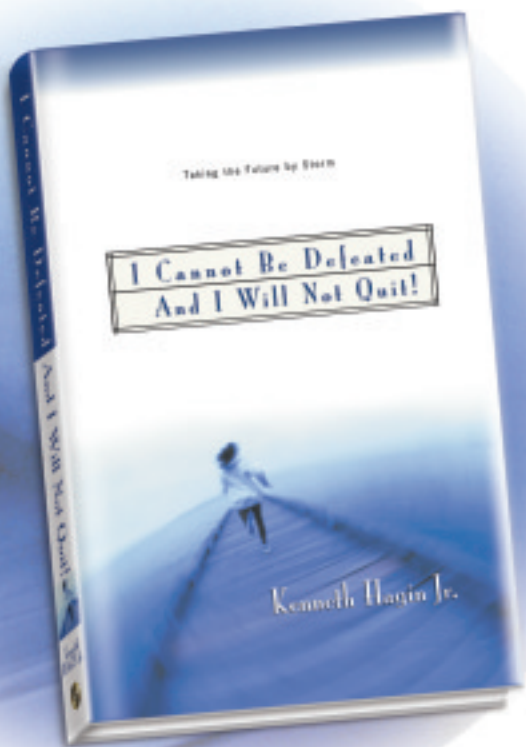
You don't always see a quick return on the love and kindness you show. But if you sow love, you will reap love (Gal. 6:7).

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

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

Love begins in the heart. But when what's on the inside changes the outside, love becomes an action.

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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,

My husband and I are adopting our grandson because of a situation out of our control. This is our first time raising a child as a Christian. We want to raise our grandson for the Lord. When is the best time to begin teaching him about the Lord? When will he understand? Also, since I work, I have such a busy schedule. When is the best time of day to spend some time with the Lord? I feel overwhelmed raising a child again. And I wonder if I am doing the right thing by adopting our grandson.

It is never too early to begin teaching your grandson about the Lord. The minute my husband and I brought our children home from the hospital, we began playing Christian music in our home continually. We wanted them to be surrounded with the Word of God. And the best way we felt we could do that was to surround them with Christian music continuously.


I remember one time a neighbor of ours, who was not a Christian, wanted to know what was different about our home. I asked her what she meant. She said, "When my son comes home from your house, he is always so peaceful." I told her that I played Christian music continually. That caused her to ask me about the Lord. Eventually, she became a Christian.

It is important to begin reading children's books about God to your grandson immediately. At RHEMA Bible Church, when the children are ten months old, we give them a small Bible to hold for a moment. We put the Bible to their cheek and say, "We love our Bible." That gets the child acquainted with a Bible at an early age. We also tell them a Bible story.

One parent told us about an incident that occurred when her child was fifteen months old. The child was walking around the house, apparently trying to find something. When the child located a Bible, she immediately put it to her cheek. Although the child did not talk, she knew what to do with the Bible because she had been taught that at church.

Educators tell us that a child's basic behavioral patterns are established by the age of three. So as you can see, it is very important to begin training children about the things of God at an early age.

I think it is admirable that you are adopting your grandson. Who could love him more than his own grandparents!



Finding time to spend with the Lord in your busy schedule as a wife, mother, and working woman can sometimes be overwhelming. I begin my prayer time immediately when I get out of bed in the morning. Certainly, we should spend solitary times with the Lord, but we can also find time to commune with our Heavenly Father while we're doing other things as well. I pray while I'm taking a shower, getting dressed, combing my hair, and preparing breakfast. I pray when I'm driving to work. You can get a lot of praying accomplished in your daily routine.

Joshua 1:8 says, "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." I endeavor to meditate on the Lord at all times during the day. That keeps me able to hear the voice of God. Another scripture that you can pray concerning the raising of your grandson is James 1:5: "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Raising children can be a little overwhelming. We certainly need wisdom in order to make the right decisions and speak the right words to our children. On a daily basis, confess, "I have the wisdom of God in raising my grandson. I will make right decisions, and he will grow up to love the Lord and serve God all of his life." Begin confessing these things now and watch your confessions become a reality in his life.

Lynette Hagin

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



Kids' Page

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

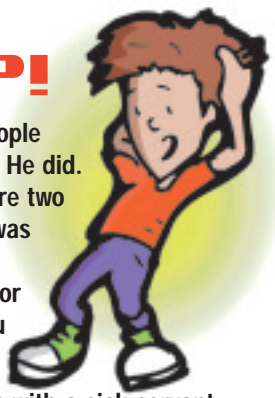
DON'T FORGET!

Psalm 103:1-5 tells us not to forget God's benefits. See if you can find 5 of His benefits contained in these rings of letters.

abctthetforjivesbvneirellknshuehthealsatisfiesgscmmopelck abctthetforjivesbvneirellknshuehthealsatisfiesgscmmopelck

JESUS WAS AMAZED?!

Everywhere that Jesus went, people were amazed by the things that He did. But did you know that there were two times in the Bible where Jesus was amazed by something someone else did? Circle the two people or groups of people below that you think amazed Jesus.



- (A.) Simon Peter
- (B.) The Centurion with a sick servant
- (C.) King Herod
- (D.) Superman
- (E.) The people in His hometown

Read Mark 6:6 and Luke 7:9 in the New International Version to find the answers.

Jokes & Riddles

What do you get when you cross a cocker spaniel with a poodle and a rooster?

A cockerpoodledo

What did the light say when it was turned off?

I'm de-lighted!

Why did Cinderella get thrown off the basketball team?

Because she ran away from the ball.

Why was Cinderella such a poor athlete?

Because her coach was a pumpkin.

Can April March?

No, but August May!

What do you call a hippie's wife?

Mississippi.

THINK ABOUT IT!

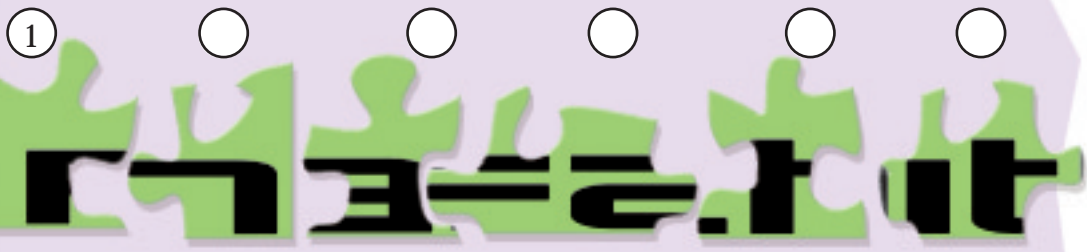
If a person without shoes is called "bare-footed" what is a bear without shoes called?

Can you ever pronounce the word "WRONG" right?

If a poisonous snake bites its tongue, will it die?

THIS IS PUZZLING!

Place the puzzle pieces below in the right order and you will discover a word that no Christian should be without. Write the number order of the puzzle pieces in the circle above each piece. The first piece has already been put in the correct number order.



HAVE SOME FAITH!

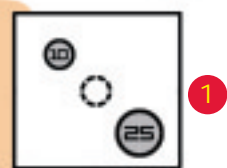
With this little object lesson, you will discover that some things that look like impossibilities really aren't.

1 Get a piece of plain paper and cut it into a square about 6 inches wide by 6 inches long. Find the center of the piece of paper and place a dime in the center and trace around its edges. Cut out the hole in the center with scissors.

2 Show your friends that a dime can easily go through the hole that was cut in the paper. Give them the opportunity to slip the dime through the hole.

3 Then have one of your friends try to put a quarter through the same hole. They will be unsuccessful because the hole is too small. Announce that you can make the quarter pass through the hole without tearing the paper or doing any "hocus-pocus," but you will not do it unless your friends "have some faith" in you.

4 When they show that they have faith that you can do it, simply fold the paper in half and place the quarter into the hole. A small edge of the quarter will appear through the hole. Then hold the folded paper on both ends of the fold and gently bend the edges upward as shown in the picture (4). The hole will widen as it is stretched and the quarter will easily drop through the hole. Tell your friends that Jesus faced a situation just like yours. He had the ability to do things that to others seemed impossible, but He couldn't do it in His hometown because they didn't believe Him.



ANSWERS:

Jesus Was Amazed?! Answer: B. The Centurion with the sick servant - Luke 7:9; E. The people in His hometown - Mark 6:5

"Don't Forget" Answers: forgives, heals, satisfies, redeems, crows you





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