



THE Word of Faith

NOVEMBER 2001

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

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With Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.



Abound With Thanksgiving

On November 22, people throughout the United States will gather together with their families and friends to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday.

Thanksgiving commemorates a day our forefather set aside to offer thanks to God for blessing them and bringing them into a new land rich with material provision. For the Christian, however, Thanksgiving is also an opportunity for us to thank God for blessing us and bringing us into a new land rich with *spiritual* provision — the Kingdom of God (Col. 1:13).

Many times, people fail to receive their needs met from God because they fail to offer thanks. Thanksgiving is an important expression of your faith because you cannot genuinely give thanks for something unless you believe you have received something.

The Bible tells us the Father has already blessed us with all spiritual blessings in Christ (Eph. 1:3) and with all things that pertain unto life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3). If you really believe the Word of God is true, you can't help but thank God for blessing you — no matter how bad your situation may seem.

Many times we pray over and over again about the same problem, but we never thank God for the *answer*. If we really believe the Lord has heard and answered our prayer, we will thank Him. But when we continue to pray and pray without thanking God, we aren't even acknowledging that the Lord has *heard* us, let alone *answered* us!

After you ask in faith, thanksgiving will keep you established in faith (Col. 2:7). Instead of talking about what you *don't* have, begin to thank God according to His Word for what you *do* have.

Each time we release our faith by offering praise and thanksgiving to God — not only for what He has done, but also for what we expect Him to do — no power in hell can hinder God's provision on our behalf.

Many years ago, a missionary to China was living in constant defeat because of the overwhelming struggles he faced on the mission field. He prayed and prayed about his situation, repeatedly asking God why he wasn't seeing any results from his missionary

efforts. But no answer came. Depression and discouragement surrounded him. Everything he touched seemed to turn to defeat.

Finally, he decided to leave his station and go deeper into the interior of the country to another mission station so he could seek God without distraction. He determined to get on his face before God and pray until he got an answer.

Does that sound familiar? I've heard people say, "I'm just going to take off and go to the woods (or the barn or the mountains or *somewhere*) and pray until I get my answer!"

When this missionary arrived at the more remote mission station and walked in, the first thing he noticed was a sign hanging on the wall. It said, "Try *thanksgiving*."

Immediately the Spirit of God spoke to his heart and told him *that* had been his problem; he had prayed over and over about his situation and never thanked God for the answer! He had really been praying in doubt and unbelief, and God knew that giving thanks would get him into faith and *keep* him there.

The missionary immediately returned to his own station, thrilled with what God had revealed to his heart. He didn't even spend the night at that interior mission station because he had received his answer from Heaven!

As he journeyed home, he praised God in simple faith that God had heard and answered his prayers. As he did, every bit of depression, disappointment, discouragement, and defeat lifted from him. By the time that missionary reached his own station, he had such revival in his heart that God was able to use him mightily to bring a major revival to that entire area!

If you want your life to abound with the blessings of God, let your heart and mouth abound with thanksgiving to God *continually*! As you overflow with thanksgiving to the Lord, He will pour out blessings greater than anything you could ever imagine. And your thanksgiving will be the key that unlocks the abundance God has already provided for you to receive.

— Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.

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Kenneth E. Hagin

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El Shaddai — The God Who Is More Than Enough

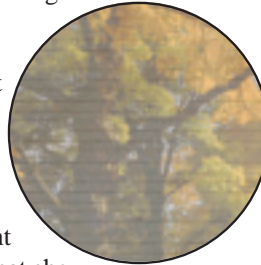
If you are tired of just barely getting by, wondering how you're going to make it through, it's time to meet El Shaddai, the One who is *more* than enough!

Kenneth Hagin Jr.

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If you're a kid, then these jokes, puzzles, Bible lessons, and riddles are just for you!



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

PUBLICATIONS MAIL SALES AGREEMENT NO.1466666

VOLUME XXXIVNumber 11

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El SHADDAI

THE GOD WHO IS MORE THAN ENOUGH



And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

— Genesis 17:1

When the Lord God appeared to Abram, what He actually said in Hebrew was, “I am El Shaddai”

El Shaddai is one of seven covenant names through which God revealed Himself to Israel. In Hebrew, *El Shaddai* means “the All-Sufficient One,” or “the God who is more than enough.”

The translators of the *King James Version* translated *El Shaddai* as “Almighty God.” I like that. Since God is the All-Sufficient One, then He is Almighty — the One who is more than enough.

Throughout the Old Testament, Almighty God revealed and unveiled Himself as the God who is more than enough. He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. At one time, God told Abraham, “. . . *thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;*

SINCE GOD IS THE ALL-SUFFICIENT ONE, THEN HE IS ALMIGHTY — THE ONE WHO IS MORE THAN ENOUGH.

And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance” (Gen. 15:13,14).

Four hundred and thirty years went by. God came on the scene and spoke to a man by the name of Moses, who led the children of Israel out of Egypt. As they were leaving, however, Pharaoh’s heart was hardened. He went after them with his soldiers, intending to recapture them and make them his slaves again.

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life." Then He said, "Take Me to his sepulcher." (Lazarus' body had been placed in a cave, which was sealed with a stone.)

When Jesus ordered people to roll away the stone, they protested. "By this time he stinks," they said. But they did what Jesus commanded.

Jesus said, "Lazarus, come forth!" Lazarus came forth, still wrapped and bound in grave clothes. Then Jesus said, "Loose him and let him go!" (See John 11:1-44.)

The God who is more than enough is greater than death!

Outside Jericho one day, Jesus saw a blind beggar named Bartimaeus sitting by the side of the road. When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus of Nazareth was approaching, he began to cry out, "Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me!" (Mark 10:47).

Jesus stopped and said, "What wilt thou that I should do unto thee?" And

Bartimaeus said, "Lord, that I might receive my sight."

Jesus healed Bartimaeus, giving sight to the blind. Why? Jesus is more than enough!

**IF WE BELIEVE
GOD AND
TRUST HIM,
THINGS CAN BE
DIFFERENT HERE
AND NOW IN
THIS LIFE.**

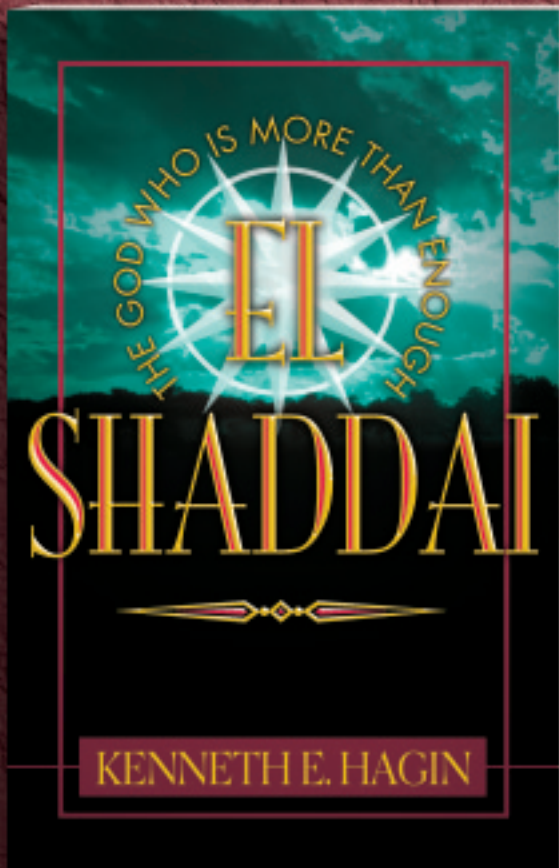
So often we relegate everything to the past. We say, "Oh, it was wonderful back when God did all of those things." Or we skip the present and talk about

what it will be like when we get to Heaven. "Someday all this sickness and pain will be over," we say. Or, "One of these days, I'm going to leave this vale of tears. Here I wander like a beggar through the heat and cold . . .," quoting an old church hymn.

But things can be different *now!* If we believe God and trust Him, things can be different here and now in *this* life. He's the God who *is* more than enough, not "was" or "will be." He *is!*

He *is* the All-Sufficient One. He is not just the God of yesterday; He's the God of *now*. He didn't say, "I'm the God who *was* more than enough." No! And He didn't say, "I'm the God who *will be* more than enough." He said, I AM El Shaddai."

God is El Shaddai today. Let Him be the God who is more than enough in *your* life! ♠



**El
Shaddai**

In his all-time classic book *El Shaddai — The God Who Is More Than Enough*, Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin examines Psalm 91 and boldly proclaims what El Shaddai will do for those who set their love upon Him.

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From the Archives

A nostalgic look at the beginnings of Kenneth Hagin Ministries



A Sobering Vision

On Saturday, September 2, 1950, as Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin conducted a tent revival in Rockwall, Texas, Jesus appeared to him. Here is Rev. Hagin's account of part of that vision.

As I lay under the power of God, it seemed that I stood on a plain and could see for miles. There was no sign of life. I felt so lonely. To the west I saw what appeared to be a tiny dot on the horizon. As I watched, it grew larger. It was a horse with a man upon it, riding toward me at full speed.

The horseman came to me, stopped, and handed me a scroll — a roll of paper twelve or fourteen inches long. As I unrolled it, he said, "Take and read." At the top of the page in big, bold, black print were the words, "WAR AND DESTRUCTION." I was struck dumb. He laid his right hand on my head and said, "Read, in the Name of Jesus Christ!" I began to read what followed on the paper, and as the words instructed me, I looked and saw what I read about.

First, I read about thousands upon thousands of men in uniform. Then I looked and saw these men marching, wave after wave of soldiers marching as to war. I looked in the direction they were going, and as far as I could see there were thousands of men marching.

I read the scroll again, then looked and saw what I had just read about. I saw many women — some old with snowy white hair, some middle-aged,

some young, and some teen-aged. Some of the younger ones held babies. All of the women were bowed together in sorrow and were weeping profusely. Those who did not carry babies held their hands on their stomachs as they bowed over and wept. Tears flowed from their eyes like water.

I looked at the scroll again, and again looked up to see what I had read about. I saw the skyline of a large city. Looking closer I saw its skyscrapers were burned-out hulls, and portions of the city were in ruins. It was not written that just one city would be destroyed, burned, and in ruins, but that there would be many such cities.

The scroll was written in the first person; it seemed as if Jesus Himself were speaking. I read, "America is receiving her last call. Some nations have already received their last call and will never receive another." Then in larger print it said, "THE TIME OF THE END OF ALL THINGS IS AT HAND." This statement was repeated four or five times.

The scroll continued, "All the gifts of the Spirit will be in operation in the Church in these last days. The Church will do greater things than even the Early Church did. It will have greater power, signs, and wonders than were recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. We have seen and experienced many healings, but we now behold amazing miracles such as have not been seen before. More and more miracles will be performed in the last days which are

just ahead (referring to the end of the last days), for it is time for the gift of the working of miracles to be more in prominence. We now have entered into the area of the miraculous. Many of My own people will not accept the moving of My Spirit, and will turn back and will not be ready to meet Me at My coming. Many will be deceived by false prophets and miracles of satanic origin. But follow the Word of God, the Spirit of God, and Me, and you will not be deceived. I am gathering My own together and am preparing them, for the time is short."

There were several other exhortations to watchfulness, to awake and to pray, and not to be deceived. Then I read, "As it was in the days of Noah, so also shall the coming of the Son of Man be. As I spoke to Noah and said, 'Yet seven days and I will cause it to rain upon the earth, forty days and forty nights, and every living substance will I destroy from off the face of the earth,' so today I am speaking and giving America her last warning and call to repentance, and the time that is left is comparable to the last seven days of Noah's time.

"Warn this generation, as did Noah his generation, for judgment is about to fall. And these sayings shall be fulfilled shortly, for I am coming soon. This is the last revival. I am preparing My people for My coming. Judgment is coming, but I will call My people away, even unto Myself, before the worst shall come. But be thou faithful and watch and pray." Then the message concluded with the words, "For the time of the end of all things is at hand."

(To be continued . . .)

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Kick *the* Worry Habit



Kenneth Hagin Jr.

The devil doesn't have any authority over you if you're walking in line with the Word — if you're not giving place to him through anxious and fretful thoughts. Discover how to use the Word of God to conquer your thoughts and kick the worry habit!

What is worry? Worry is fear triumphing over faith. Worry is also the misuse of the imagination God has placed within us. Have you ever just sat quietly, thinking and meditating on the Word of God? Did you realize that as you were meditating, you were using your creative imagination?

How does worry begin? It begins with a thought or an imagination. When you dwell on the wrong thing, it gives you a negative feeling and worry begins to set in.

In a test or trial, instead of praying and committing the problem to God, some people will say, "Oh, why did this

happen to me?" They become so involved in trying to figure out why something happened that they actually forget to pray and trust God for the answer! They begin worrying instead of praying and believing God.

Really, in the midst of a test or trial, it shouldn't be a matter of asking "Why did God let this happen?" It should be more a matter of just trusting Him and doing what He said to do in His Word. The Bible says, "*Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding*" (Prov. 3:5). That's how the victory comes — through trust and faith, not through worrying, fretting, and having anxiety.

Worry never accomplishes anything productive. Worry never produces victory because worry is fear triumphing over faith. Worry is the misuse of the creative imagination God has given you. Worry will rob you of God's promises. Worry is the highway that leads from somewhere to nowhere! So don't travel on the highway of worry. Stay off that road!

After you've made the decision to trust God and not worry, the devil will still put thoughts in your mind to try to make you worry and fret. But you have to resist those

thoughts. You have to go back to thinking in line with the Word and seeing yourself blessed.

Someone might say, "Wait a minute! The Bible says, '*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]. And you're telling me to imagine something?"

But let's look at that scripture in its setting.

2 CORINTHIANS 10:4,5

4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

5 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.

Notice that verse 5 says, "*Casting down imaginations, and every high thing THAT EXALTETH ITSELF AGAINST THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD. . .*" In other words, you're to cast down imaginations that tell you God's Word isn't true and you're not going to make it in life. You're to cast down the thoughts that say you can't receive your healing and be made whole.

Those thoughts are contrary to the knowledge of God, because the Word plainly says we can be healed, walk in health, and experience abundant victory in life. So it's the vain imaginations *that exalt themselves against the knowledge of God* that we are to cast down and not think about!

The Bible never said, "Don't imagine." It simply said, "Cast down imaginations that exalt themselves against the knowledge of God."

You see, "the knowledge of God" says, "You're healed" (Isa. 53:5). So you have every right to imagine and see yourself healed. You have every right to believe God for healing, because when you believe for healing, your believing is based on the authority of God's Word.

The Word of God or the knowledge of God also says, "*But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus*" (Phil. 4:19). So, you see, you have the authority to imagine yourself prosperous and with all your needs met.

Because God promised in His Word to meet your needs, you can begin to imagine what you're going to do when the money comes in that you were believing God for! You can begin to see yourself giving more money to missions. You can begin to see yourself in a new suit or dress. You can see yourself with a better car. You can begin to see yourself buying a new house. You can see yourself with the new tires you need for the car you have. Why? Because of God's Word, you can see yourself with *all* your needs supplied!

cannot afford to allow myself to think upon any thoughts that are not in line with God's Word.

We've seen that there is nothing wrong with using our God-given imagination to meditate on God's Word and see ourselves the way God sees us. It's only wrong when we don't use it in line with the Word of God. Second Corinthians 10:5 tells us so plainly in a nutshell what we aren't supposed to imagine: "*Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into*

Worry is the highway that leads from somewhere to nowhere!

We receive those things we need because we have committed everything to God and His plan, and He is in control. We trust and believe Him to meet all our needs and we see it as done!

Imagination that is operating in line with God's Word is like the blueprint for whatever it is you're believing for.

We should give place to God's purposes and plans for us as we meditate and believe God's Word. Those are the kinds of thoughts we are to give place to.

The kinds of thoughts we are *not* to give place to — the imaginations we are to cast down — are thoughts such as, *Oh, what am I going to do now? There's no way I can make it through this problem.* Those thoughts are vain imaginations of worry and fear that need to be cast down and brought under subjection to the obedience of Christ (2 Cor. 10:5).

Christ has said, "I have redeemed you from the curse of the Law. I was made a curse for you that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Me" (Gal. 3:13,14). Now my mind can work with *that!* I can easily meditate and think upon that kind of thought! *I am redeemed!* The Word of God says I am! But I

captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." Therefore, we can know the thoughts we *are* supposed to dwell on and the thoughts we are *not* supposed to dwell on.

It's really very simple. We are only to think thoughts that are in line with the Word.

You see, the Gospel is simple; it's not complicated. Back in the days when Christ lived on the earth, He made serving God simple. It was the religious people who made it hard, because they made serving God nothing more than a bunch of man-made rules and regulations.

It's still the same way today, some two thousand years later. It hasn't changed. Man still has his tradition and his way of doing things. But we are to live our lives by God's Word, not by man's ideas and traditions. And the Bible says that God's Word is full of power (Rom. 1:16). We don't have to live as the world lives, because we have God's Word. We don't have to worry about the things the devil brings our way.

You have the ability and the authority to cast down worry and to resist anxious thoughts. You can use the same energy you've used in the past by worrying and put that energy to better use by casting down vain

imaginations and by casting your care over on the Lord.

Some people spend all of their time and energy worrying about a particular situation instead of casting their cares over on the Lord and trusting Him to work it out. For instance, they'll say, "I just can't see any way out of this situation" or "I don't know how God is going to work

worry? Then *you* worry about it. But my Bible tells me *I* can cast my cares on the Lord, so I'm going to sleep in peace!"

Sometimes I'll say, "I'm not going to worry about something I don't have any control over anyway. I know God has control of everything, and my faith is in Him." Then I quote the scriptures that cover whatever it is I

make God's promises ineffective in your life. The devil uses worry to distract you from the Word and to get you to dwell on anxious, negative thoughts instead of on the Word. Then gradually, you are no longer thinking on the Word at all or trusting God to see you through to victory.

You see, you cannot worry *and* think on the Word at the same time. Likewise, you cannot think on the Word and worry at the same time! Therefore, we know what we are to think upon.

The Apostle Paul said, ". . . *whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on THESE THINGS*" (Phil. 4:8)!

You can kick the worry habit simply by conquering your thoughts and keeping your heart and mind set on God's Word! 🇵

You see, you cannot worry *and* think on the Word at the same time.

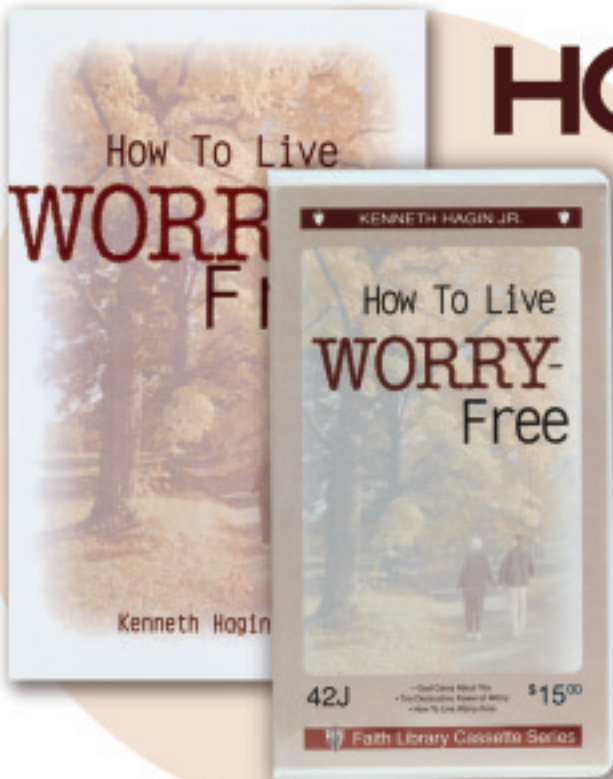
this out. I don't know if everything will turn out all right or not." They lose sleep at night worrying about the problem. But when daylight comes, the problem is still there; nothing has changed.

When the devil tries to work on me with similar thoughts, I say, "All right, Mr. Devil. You want someone to

need. I lay my head down on my pillow, praying in tongues, and I always fall fast asleep. Then I'm fresh the next day. I'm not tired and worn out physically, mentally, and emotionally from worrying, fretting, and having anxiety.

Worry is the enemy's tool to steal the Word of God from you and to

How to live worry-free



Do you want to kick the worry habit? Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr. combines sound teaching from God's Word with practical insights in his book and three-audiotape series that deal with the perils of worry and provide a safe guide into God's haven of peace.

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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)



With the recent terrorist attacks on our country, it is very easy to become gripped with fear. Fear is a spirit that will try to control us to the point where we are afraid to function in our everyday lives. And fear will dominate us if we let it. Each of us has areas in our lives where we have to deal with fear. When I am tempted to be afraid, I find a scripture to hold onto that will dissipate that fear.

Psalm 91 is one of the chapters in the Bible that I stand on for many areas of my life. I especially like the way The Amplified Bible reads. In that version, Psalm 91:1 says, "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty [Whose power no foe can withstand]."

It is important that we place God first in our lives if we want to claim the promise of this scripture. Too many times, we expect God to hold up His end of the bargain when we are not doing our part. God's promises always have attached conditions. If you follow His conditions, then He is obligated to perform His Word.

I used to be frightened when my husband traveled and I was alone at night. Fear would torment me so fiercely that I would literally lay the Bible by my bed, opened to Psalm 91:5, which says, "You shall not be afraid of the terror of the night, nor of the arrow (the evil plots and slanders of the wicked) that flies by day." When I awoke with fear, I read Psalm 91 and went back to sleep, trusting the Lord for His promise.

In the wake of recent events, I think it is important that we all stand upon Psalm 91:5 and boldly proclaim that we will not be afraid of the evil plots and slanders of the wicked. Our confidence is in the Word of the Lord, which continues in Psalm 91:9-11, saying, "Because you have made the Lord your refuge, and the Most High your dwelling place, There shall no evil befall you, nor any plague or calamity come near your tent. For He will give His angels [special] charge over you to accompany and defend and preserve you in all your ways [of obedience and service]."

When fear tries to come on you in any area of your life, boldly proclaim, "No evil can befall me, for my guardian angel is keeping me in all my ways. He is right beside me to protect me and keep harm from coming near me."

If your children are afraid, do as Jesus did when He spoke in parables and speak to them in a way they can understand. Children need to know that God is their Protector. We need to tell them in a way they can relate to and comprehend.

When our daughter, Denise, was around ten years of age, she started waking up at night, crying and saying she was afraid. Each night, my husband would pray for her and

tell her that she did not have to be afraid because the Lord was protecting her. For many weeks, she cried every night and my husband went through the same routine. Finally, one night after praying with her, he seemed impressed to tell her about her guardian angel.

Denise always slept with the stuffed animals her dad brought back to her from his travels. One of her favorites was a large tiger that she kept at the foot of her bed. That particular night as her dad was comforting her and endeavoring to get her to return to sleep, he said, "Denise, you have a guardian angel who sits beside you on your stuffed tiger while you sleep. So whenever you awaken and are frightened, just remember that your angel is here and you do not have to be afraid anymore." Denise was able to relate to that, and from that night on, she was not afraid.

Know that you can live in peace. Isaiah 26:3 says, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." I encourage you to keep your mind fixed on the Lord Jesus Christ, for He is the Prince of Peace.

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. *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.*



IN Perfect Time

Denise Burns was born into a family who lived by faith in God and His Word. By the time Denise was twenty-seven years old, her father, Kenneth Hagin Jr., and her grandfathers, Kenneth E. Hagin and V.E. Tipton, had been successful ministers in their own right for many years. Denise had heard the message of faith her entire life, but did she truly believe it? As it happened, what she believed would soon become a matter of life and death, not only for her, but also for the baby she carried.

In March of 2000, Denise and her husband Don learned that she was pregnant. They were very excited as they shared the news with their family. But when Denise first went to the doctor, he told her something was wrong, and she eventually miscarried. "The miscarriage was very devastating," Denise recalled. "Then the devil came with the thoughts, *There's something wrong with you. You can never have children.* Those thoughts plagued my mind. I was scared. Neither one of us really spoke it to each other, but in our minds Don and I were both wondering, *Is there something wrong with one of us? Can we really have a baby?*"

Before Denise and Don started trying to conceive again, they prayed that when she got pregnant the next time, the baby would be fine and would be born healthy.

During the next few months, Denise fought hard against fear. One scripture she kept going back to was Jeremiah 29:11, which says, " 'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future' " (NIV).

In August of 2000, Denise learned that she was pregnant again. She was thrilled, but at the same time fear gripped her like never before. The devil tormented her, saying, *You're going to lose this one too.* She never expressed her fear to anyone, not even her husband. Fighting those fearful thoughts was such a battle. She felt that if she expressed them, she wouldn't be able to fight anymore.

One day during Denise's devotional time, the Lord impressed her to read the story of Hannah and Samuel.

She had read that story many times before. But it was very strong on her heart, so she turned to First Samuel and started at the beginning.

Denise recalled, "I got to verse 27 of chapter 1, which says, *'For this child I prayed; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him,'* and it was as if the Lord stopped me right there. He said, 'This verse is what I'm saying to you. You prayed for this child, and I've granted you your petition.' It was as if He was saying to me, 'Everything is going to be okay. Don't worry about it.' So I read that scripture every day. It was what I held on to when trouble came."

And trouble did come. One Wednesday twenty-seven weeks into the pregnancy, the baby, usually very active, was suddenly very still. She went to the hospital to be checked out, and while there, she went into premature labor. Several hours and much medication later, she was released. To be safe, the doctor put her on home rest and told her to monitor the contractions.

That night, Denise's dad, pastor of RHEMA Bible Church, asked the congregation to pray. Those prayers blessed Don and Denise beyond words. Church members wrote letters, sent cards, and encouraged them in other ways.

Denise shared, "Being on staff at RHEMA Bible Church, I'm usually the one *ministering*. So it blessed me so much that the people of the church prayed for me. It was so encouraging to know that they were supporting me and my husband in our time of need."

Another minister called to tell Denise that his church had been praying for her. While his church prayed, the scripture that kept coming to him was, *"Bring ye all the tithes And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts"* (Mal. 3:10,11). After some research, the pastor realized that this promise for tithers

refers not only to the fruit of the vine, but also to the fruit of the womb. Denise had been a tither and a giver all her life, so she began to claim this promise as her own. Every day, she and Don prayed and stood firm in faith that their baby would not come before his time; he would be born in his perfect time.

On March 14, at thirty-five weeks, Denise again wasn't feeling the baby move. She didn't want to bother the doctor unnecessarily, but finally called him. He told her to go straight to the hospital. While she was being monitored, the baby's heart rate dropped to 60. In the uterus, a baby's heart rate should never dip below 100.

At the time, Denise's whole family was out of state. Despite treatments, the baby's heart rate would not climb, and Don and Denise found themselves



Denise Hagin Burns at 35 1/2 weeks. Trevor was born three days later.

facing another crisis. Don placed an urgent call to Denise's dad and told him, "You'd better pray. If the baby's heart rate doesn't rise in one minute, they're taking him by C-section."

As Don pushed the "end" button on the cell phone to run back into the hospital room, he heard his father-in-law scream with an authority he had never heard before, *"In the Name of Jesus . . ."* and the call was disconnected. The moment Don opened the door to Denise's hospital room, their baby's heart rate jumped to a stable 140.

Denise was glad she had followed her heart, called the doctor, and gone

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to the hospital. Their baby might have died if she hadn't been there. She shared, "I just thank God for the Holy Spirit who guides us and leads us. I'm thankful that I followed His promptings that day. The doctors had no idea why the baby's heart rate crashed. They just said, 'Thank God you were in the hospital when it did.'"

The doctors ordered Denise back on home rest. And she and Don kept confessing that their child would come in his perfect time.

The following Wednesday morning at the doctor's office, Denise's blood pressure was high and she had gained nine pounds in just one week. She told the nurse she hadn't eaten all that much in the past week. The nurse told her that the weight gain wasn't from eating, and added, "I think you're going to have this baby real soon." Denise could tell from the look on her face that something was wrong.

The doctor pronounced the baby's heartbeat fine. Then he told Denise the situation: "You are showing signs of preeclampsia, and if it escalates to eclampsia or toxemia, it could be really bad for you and for the baby." He sent her immediately to the hospital across the street, and told her, "You're delivering this baby today!"

Don asked the doctor about the possible risks of preeclampsia. The doctor grew very serious, looked at Don, and said, "If your wife doesn't have this baby today, she could die and so could your baby."

Stunned, Don began to prepare for another battle. Denise sat in silence. Once again, she knew she had a choice to make, and she clung to the knowledge that she had prayed for this child. She knew what God had told her from the beginning — that the Lord had

"I had to decide if I was going to believe God's Word, or if I was going to let fear and doubt get in my way. I chose to believe God's Word."

granted her this child just as He had granted Hannah her son Samuel.

Denise and Don stood firm on their faith, believing they had come too far and gone through too much to let something happen to Denise or the child. So they got into their car and drove to the hospital to have the baby.

Denise checked into the hospital at approximately 10:30 a.m. First, she had to stabilize enough to deliver the baby. Around 3 p.m., test results showed a few indicators were slightly abnormal but still within range to deliver.

Denise was only at thirty-six weeks, but because she had been having contractions all along, she was already partially dilated. The doctors decided to break her water.

Except for labor pains, not much was happening, so the doctors gave Denise a drug to help speed up the labor. They began with the dosage they give most women. When they did, the baby's heart rate crashed. The nurses worked to get his heart rate back up, stabilizing him enough to continue the delivery process.

Meanwhile, Denise's blood pressure had skyrocketed. The doctors started the drug again, this time at a very low dose. Denise dilated to nine centimeters, and everything seemed to be going well. Then the nurses gave her more bad news: "He's faced the wrong way; instead of being face down, he's face up. You can't deliver him until he turns, and that could take hours."

Denise didn't have hours. The preeclampsia meant the baby had to be born soon. In the waiting room, Don apprised his parents and Denise's of the situation.

Denise's dad went in to see her and to pray. He spoke to the baby by name — the name Don and Denise had chosen for the son God had given them. Kenneth Hagin Jr. laid his hands on his daughter's stomach and said, "Trevor, turn now in the Name of Jesus."

Thirty minutes later, to the astonishment of the nurses, the baby was on his way. What doctors said would take hours, God did in a matter of minutes. Again, Denise was grateful for the power of prayer and the power in the Name of Jesus.

When the doctor came in, he told Denise that because the baby was being born four weeks early, an Intensive Care nurse would be present. After delivery, she would take him



Donald Trevor Burns at one day old.

immediately to Intensive Care. Denise wouldn't be able to see him until he'd been examined and cleared.

In a typical delivery, the baby's head is delivered first, followed by the shoulders. Trevor's head appeared first, and the nurses were busy cleaning his face when they all started laughing. Denise later learned that instead of his shoulders appearing next, one of his arms popped out and he started waving! The nurses said it reminded them of a politician. Denise and Don think he was praising the Lord.

When Trevor was born, the doctor looked at him, pronounced him perfect, and the Intensive Care nurse left the room without the baby. Baby Trevor was right where he belonged — in his mother's arms. At last, Denise held the answer to her prayers, the petition God had granted her.

Donald Trevor Burns was born on March 22, 2001, at 1:04 a.m. He weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and measured 19 3/4 inches long — very big for a baby born four weeks early. His lungs, heart, and every other organ functioned perfectly. The only signs of prematurity were his footprints. They were smooth, because the ridges on the underside of a person's feet develop last.

Denise recalled, "We call him our little miracle baby. We prayed that he would come in his perfect time. According to my due date, he was four weeks early, but we still say that he was born in *his* perfect time. God knew when he was ready to be born. We thank God for him every day. He is so precious and such a blessing."

Denise hasn't forgotten the ordeal she went through. She knows the truth of God's Word, the power of prayer, and the importance of faith now more than ever before.

She shared, "All my life, I had heard messages on faith, healing, and the authority in the Name of Jesus, but when I was faced with the situation of not only believing for myself personally but believing for another life, it was a whole different ballgame. I had to decide if I was going to believe God's Word, or if I was going to let fear and doubt get in my way. I chose to believe God's Word."

Denise hasn't forgotten the verse God gave her to hold on to. Trevor's room is decorated in airplanes. From the tail of one of the planes painted on his wall streams a banner that reads, "*For this child we prayed; and the Lord hath given us the petition which we asked of him.*" 🙏



Don and Denise Burns, Trevor, and Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Hagin Jr. at Trevor's dedication at RHEMA Bible Church in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, on July 22, 2001.



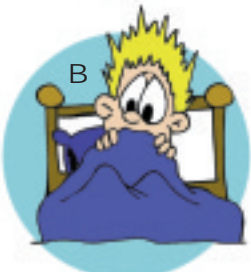
Kids' Page

Fearless, A-pointed, I-nward-led, T-rustworthy, H-airs of God

Know God...No Fear!



If you take a look around you, there seem to be plenty of reasons to be fearful. But the Christian is reminded many times throughout the Bible not to be afraid. Do you know why? It's because fear will keep you from receiving what God promises! When Israel sent spies to the Promised Land, 10 spies came back full of fear and with a bad report, while Joshua and Caleb came back full of faith and with a good report. Because the Israelites believed the bad report, they were filled with fear also and did not receive what God promised. But Joshua and Caleb did receive because they had faith even in the midst of fearful circumstances. When you know God, there's no reason to fear!



The pictures above show some instances when you might be afraid. But you can use the Word of God to battle fear during these times. Match the following memory verses with the picture that each one goes with.

1. You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day. Psalm 91:5 (NKJV)
2. Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and

- scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy. . . Luke 10:19 (KJV)
3. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me. . . Psalm 3:6 (NKJV)
4. When you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet. Proverbs 3:24 (NIV)

Word Search

Find words from the memory verses above hidden within these circles of letters. There are 8 words to find.

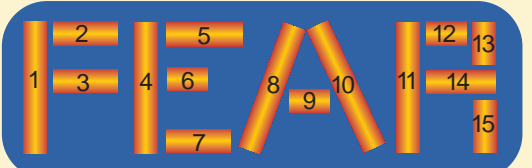
Word Search - Answers: TERROR, NIGHT, POWER, SWEET, THOUSANDS, SLEEP, SWEET, THOUSANDS.

FROM FEAR TO FAITH!

Fear and Faith both start with an "F" and they both "believe" something, but that's about all they have in common. To get from FEAR to FAITH, you've got to stop believing the lies of the devil and start believing the Word of God.

CHALLENGE: See if you can rearrange the bars which make up the letters below to change the word "FEAR" into the word "FAITH."

CLUES: Swap the position of two letters, then remove one horizontal bar, then take two horizontal bars and make them vertical bars. (Horizontal bars go from side to side. Vertical bars go up and down.)



ANSWERS:

Know God...No Fear - Answers: 1. A 2. D 3. C 4. B

From FEAR to FAITH - Answer: Move the letter "A" in front of the letter "E", remove horizontal bar number 12, vertical bar number 4 becomes the letter "T", make the horizontal bars number 6 and 7 into vertical bars which make the stem of the letter "H".

Jokes & Riddles

Teacher: Tommy, you try my patience!

Tommy: No, teacher, you should try mine. I have more of it.

Teacher: What do you call the outside part of a tree?

Student: I don't know.

Teacher: Bark, silly, bark!

Student: Woof, Woof!

Teacher: You missed school yesterday, didn't you?

Student: Not a bit!

Teacher: If you had 5 apples on your desk and the boy next to you took 3, what would you have?

Student: A fight!

What can you break without touching it?

Your promise

What can run but cannot walk?

Water

What kind of lights did Noah have on the ark?

Floodlights

Where do children learn their ABCs?

At LMN-tary school!