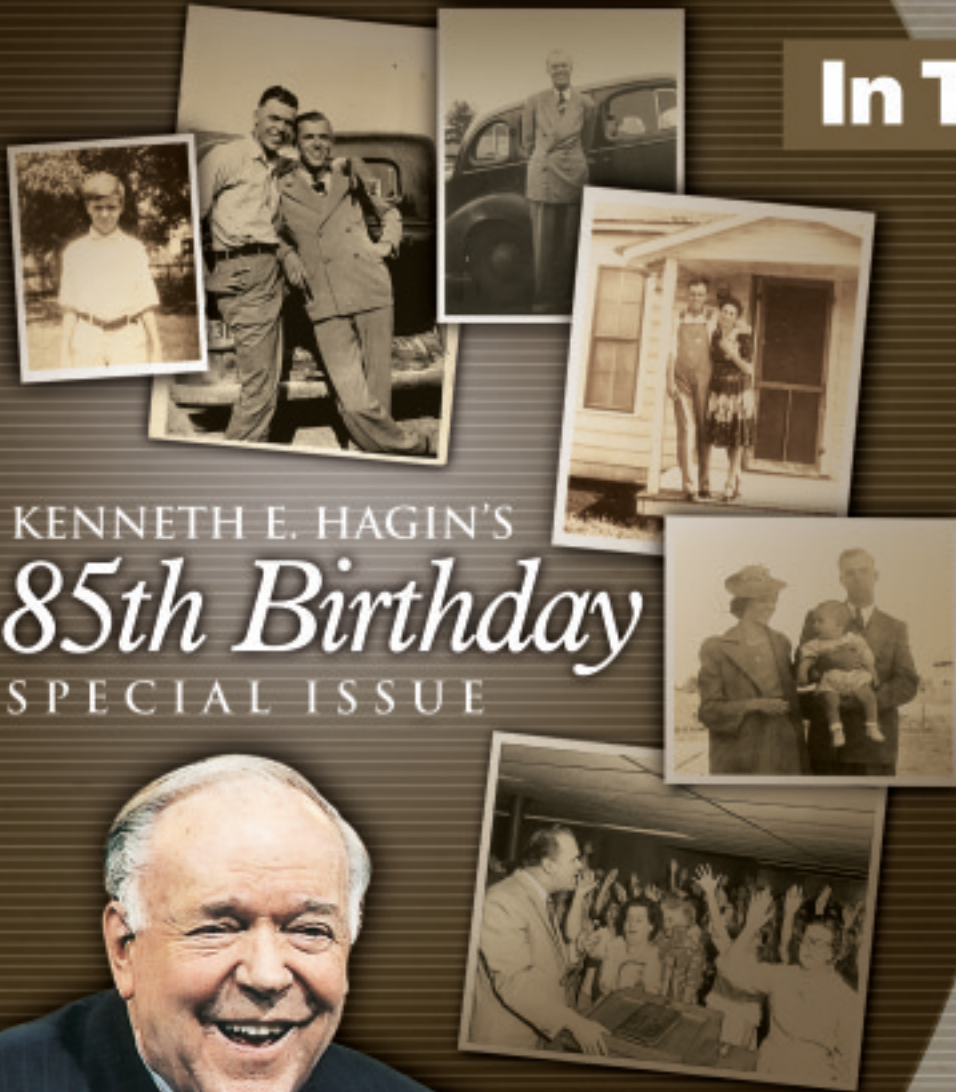




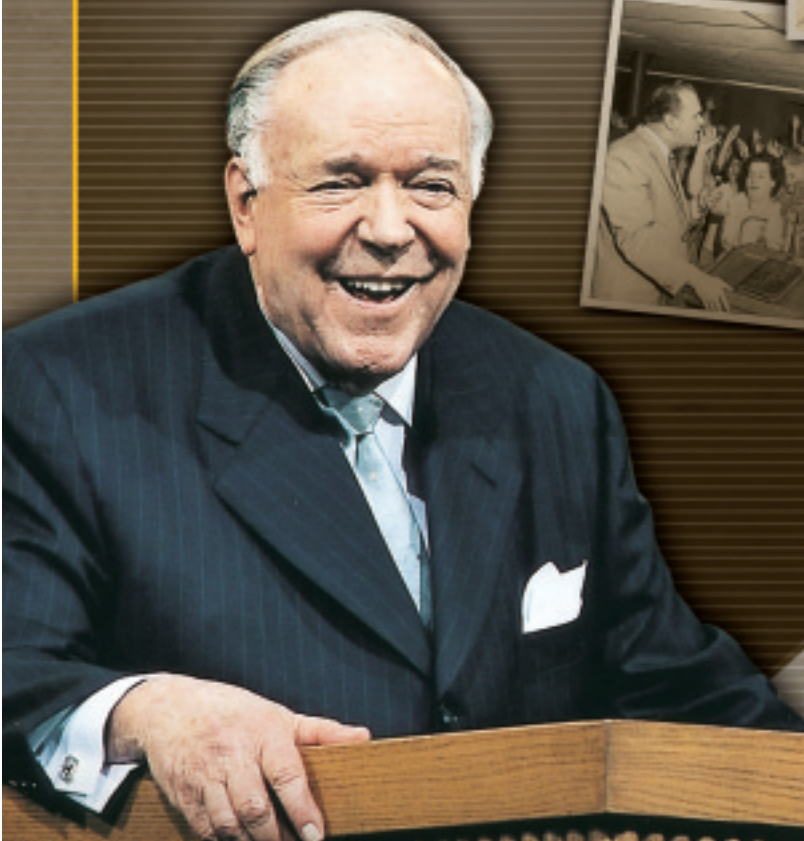
THE Word of Faith

AUGUST 2002

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES



KENNETH E. HAGIN'S
85th Birthday
SPECIAL ISSUE



In This Issue:

ARTICLES

- *God's Love Never Fails*
- *Defeat the Giants in Your Life*

FEATURES

- *RMAI Church Guide*
- *Seed Thoughts From Lynette*
- *From the Archives*



Kids' Page



Happy Birthday, Dad!

This "Heart to Heart" will be quite different this month, as I ask you to join me in honoring a man who had a big part in giving me birth.

Of course, I'm talking about my father, Kenneth E. Hagin! Through the years, people have often asked me what it's like to be the son of Kenneth Hagin. My answer has sometimes seemed to mystify them when I respond, "He's my dad!" For that's first and foremost what he is to me — my dad!

But because on August 20, 2002, Dad will be 85 years old (and I will be 63 just a few days later on September 3), I have been meditating and thinking about *the man himself*, Kenneth E. Hagin.

Who is he? Besides being a great father, he is the man who has given me a rich heritage of faith — faith in God with no compromise! Who is Kenneth E. Hagin? He is the man who has given you and every member of the Body of Christ that same legacy of faith. Kenneth E. Hagin, the man I call Dad, has also given you and me a pattern of walking in love. And he has set before us a life of prayer and given us volumes of teaching on prayer so that we could have a model to follow in our own lives.

Kenneth E. Hagin is a proven minister of the Gospel, yet he is also a man who enjoys basketball, football, and baseball. He enjoys his grandchildren and great-grandchildren . . . and just enjoys life in general! Sometimes people have difficulty separating the man whom God has called to leave us this great heritage of faith, love, and prayer from the person who is my dad, a man who enjoys life and lives it to the fullest. Dad truly believes the statement made in Bill Gaither's song, ". . . And life is worth the living, just because He lives!"

Who is Kenneth E. Hagin? He is an example of someone who enjoys the life God has given him here on earth while still maintaining a tremendous spirituality and consecration.

Who is Kenneth E. Hagin? He is a man of God who has preached and lived the uncompromised Word of God for more than sixty-seven years.

It is with great emotion that I thank God for giving me the privilege of being the son of Kenneth E. Hagin.

Kenneth Hagin Jr.

Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.



in this issue

articles

Kenneth E. Hagin

4

Love Never Fails
The love of God never fails, so when you put the love of God to work in your life, *you* will never fail.



Kenneth Hagin Jr.

16



Are You a Giant Killer?
Learn from the biblical account of David and Goliath how you can defeat the giants — the overwhelming trials — in your life.

features

8

Birthday Greetings
Enjoy special birthday messages sent to Brother Hagin from ministers around the world and from the International RHEMA Bible Training Centers.

19

RMAI Church Guide

27

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

Kids! Here's a special page designed just for you, with Bible lessons, riddles, jokes, and puzzles. *Enjoy!*



28

Seed Thoughts
Lynette Hagin shares from her heart concerning the issues many of us face in life.

29

From the Archives
Brother Hagin continues his account of how he was healed by the power of God.

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

PUBLICATIONS MAIL SALES AGREEMENT NO.14666666

VOLUME XXXVNumber 8

RHEMA Bible Training Center admits students of any race, color, or ethnic origin.

epa MEMBER EVANGELICAL PRESS ASSOCIATION

THE WORD OF FAITH is published monthly by RHEMA Bible Church, AKA Kenneth Hagin Ministries, a non-profit corporation. Editorial offices: 1025 W. Kenosha, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. © 2002 RHEMA Bible Church, Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or part without written permission is prohibited. THE WORD OF FAITH and logo on the cover are registered trademarks of RHEMA Bible Church, Inc. in the United States and in the foreign countries where THE WORD OF FAITH circulates. Printed in the U.S.A. Send all U.S. mail to: THE WORD OF FAITH, P.O. Box 50126, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74150-0126. In Canada, write to Box 335, Station D, Etobicoke, Ontario, M9A 4X3, and in Australia, P.O. Box 70, Bond University, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia 4229. Or use the Web site address: www.rhema.org.



C E N T E R

Healing School

Healing School classes are conducted twice daily on the RHEMA campus.

Monday-Friday • 9:30 a.m.
Prayer & Healing Center Auditorium

(This class is for those who need physical healing and for those who accompany them *only*.)

Monday-Friday • 2:15 p.m.
SDC 1, Room 1278

(This class is open to the general public.)

For more information, please call (918) 258-1588, Ext. 2280, or write:

Kenneth Hagin Ministries
P.O. Box 50126
Tulsa, OK 74150-0126

Telephone Prayer Lines

If you have a need and would like to have a concerned prayer partner agree with you for your need to be met according to the

Word of God, call Kenneth Hagin Ministries, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (CST) at (918) 258-1588, Ext. 2280.



Love NEVER FAILS

Have you ever wondered how to break free of your frustrations in relationships and your struggle with faith, answered prayer, and your walk with God? He is your answer! God is love, and He never fails. And when you walk in His love, YOU will never fail!

AND NOW ABIDETH FAITH,
HOPE, CHARITY, THESE
THREE; BUT THE GREATEST
OF THESE IS CHARITY.

— 1 CORINTHIANS 13:13



Kenneth E. Hagin

In First Corinthians 13:13, the *King James Version* of the Bible translates the word “love” as “charity.” Actually, it is to be regretted that the word “agape,” the Greek word meaning the love of God or the God-kind of love, was translated as “charity” because it doesn’t really express the full meaning of the Greek word that is used in this verse.

According to the dictionary, the word “charity” means a benevolent goodwill toward or love of humanity. But the actual Greek word that is used here in First Corinthians 13 is *agape*, which means “the love of God.” Elsewhere in the New Testament, the word *agape* is translated “love” instead of “charity.”

For example, in First John 4:8, the Bible literally says, “God is agape.” In other words, God is love. So the word *agape* means the God-kind of love.

What is *agape* or the love of God? Before I answer that, let me show you something interesting about the love of God. The Bible says that love is greater than either faith or hope (1 Cor. 13:13).

Why is God’s love greater than faith or hope?

First of all, faith won’t work without love. In other words, faith is dependent on love in order to work. Galatians 5:6 says, “*For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but FAITH WHICH WORKETH BY LOVE.*”

You can readily see that love would have to be greater if faith won’t work without it. It takes love to make faith work.

Second, faith won’t work without hope. The *New English Bible* translation of Hebrews 11:1 says, “Faith gives substance to our hopes.” You have to hope for something before your faith can give substance to it. So faith is also dependent on hope.

HEBREWS 11:1

1 Now FAITH is the substance of things HOPED FOR, the evidence of things not seen.

You see, if you don’t hope for anything, your faith can’t work because it

has no goal or object for which to believe God. Therefore, faith can't work without hope, and faith is dependent on love in order to work. That's why the Bible says that love is greater than either hope or faith.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-3

1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity [the God-kind of love], I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity [the God-kind of love], I am nothing.

3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity [the God-kind of love], it profiteth me nothing.

The Bible says that even if all the gifts of the Spirit manifested through us, without God's love, it wouldn't profit us anything! It would be as nothing at all. Think about that!

If we understood all mysteries and possessed all knowledge and all faith, but we didn't have God's love operating in us and flowing through us, it wouldn't profit us anything! Even self-sacrifice and giving to the poor are nothing unless we are motivated by love.

Nothing you do will profit you unless it's done from the motive of God's love. You can readily see why the God-kind of love is so important and why the Bible says it's greater than faith and hope.

Also, the Bible says that it's by love — God's love in us — that all men will know that we are His disciples (John 13:35). The Bible didn't say that it is by faith or hope that all men will know we are His disciples. No, it's by God's love demonstrated in and through us that people will know we are Christians.

JOHN 13:35

35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, IF YE HAVE LOVE ONE TO ANOTHER.

How is the world going to know we are Christians? Because we love one another!

If the God-kind of love is so important, we need to know what it is. You understand, of course, that the God-kind of love is not the same as natural

human love. Natural human love can turn to hatred overnight, but God's love never fails.

We find God's love defined in First Corinthians chapter 13.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-8 (Amplified)

4 Love endures long and is patient and kind; love never is envious nor boils over with jealousy, is not boastful or vainglorious, does not display itself haughtily.

5 It is not conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); it is not rude (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love (God's love in us) does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking; it is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong].

6 It does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness, but rejoices when right and truth prevail.

THE BIBLE SAYS THAT EVEN IF ALL THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT MANIFESTED THROUGH US, WITHOUT GOD'S LOVE, IT WOULDN'T PROFIT US ANYTHING!

7 Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening].

8 Love never fails [never fades out or becomes obsolete or comes to an end]. As for prophecy (the gift of interpreting the divine will and purpose), it will be fulfilled and pass away; as for tongues, they will be destroyed and cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away [that is, it will lose its value and be superseded by truth].

You see, God's love is greater than all these things Paul lists here. It's greater than prophecies, tongues, and knowledge. Why is it greater? Because one day, all those things will vanish and pass away. We won't need them anymore. But God's love will never pass away.

There will be no tongue-talking in Heaven, no prophesying, no word of knowledge or any of the gifts of the Spirit in operation in Heaven. Those things will have passed away. But love — the God-kind of love — will endure forever. It won't pass away, because God is love, and He is eternal!

Not only does God's love endure forever, but the Bible says that God's love endures everything that may come along. What does it mean to endure everything? Verse 7 says, "Love bears up under anything and everything that comes . . ." (Amplified). Its hopes are fadeless, and the love of God will never fail.

I wish believers would take time to let this passage in First Corinthians soak into their minds and hearts. Just walking in the light of these verses would solve so many of their problems.

For example, notice First Corinthians 13:4: "Love endures long and is patient and kind." Now some people endure long, but they're not patient and kind while they're enduring! They endure long just because they have to,

but they let everyone know they're enduring!

For example, sometimes a husband suffers and puts up with things because of his wife, but he's not too kind while he does it. Or sometimes a wife has to suffer and put up with some things about her husband, but she lets him know she's suffering!

However, the God-kind of love endures long and is patient and kind while it endures. And it doesn't weaken, fade out, or come to an end. It never fails.

Closely related to this is verse 7: "Love bears up under anything and everything that comes." You hear some people say, "I just can't love him anymore." Or, "I've had it! I just can't love her anymore." Love can. God's love can bear up under everything without weakening or coming to an end.

And since the love of God is in you if you are a Christian, you can bear up under everything that comes. Maybe you've said, "I just can't take this any longer." Or, "I can't put up with So-and-so any longer." But God's love working in and through you can!

Think about how God is putting up with all of us! I pastored for nearly twelve years, and I know that sometimes it can be difficult to put up with some folks. For example, I remember when I was pastoring, sometimes in the nighttime, I'd get to thinking about

The love of God bears up under anything! Don't misunderstand me. I've been there when I wanted to quit from the natural standpoint. But the love of God on the inside wouldn't let me quit, because it bears up under everything, and it never weakens,

relationship. Husbands and wives need to ask themselves in every situation and circumstance, *What would love do?*

And if each one of us wants to grow and develop in the God-kind of love, before we respond to people, we need to ask ourselves the questions: How would God's love act? What would God's love do?

This is the way we can get the God-kind of love to abound in our lives! The love of God never fails, so when you put that love to work in your life, *you* will never fail.

Make this confession from your heart:

The love of God has been shed abroad in my heart by the Holy Spirit. I shall endeavor to let that love nature dominate me. I have God's love nature in my heart – in my spirit.

Therefore, I'll not let my natural human reasoning dominate me. I refuse to allow the flesh to rule me.

I will make the love of God my great quest in life, for then my love shall abound, and God shall reap the glory. ♡

NATURAL HUMAN LOVE CAN TURN TO HATRED OVERNIGHT, BUT GOD'S LOVE NEVER FAILS.

how God puts up with us, and I'd start laughing about it.

I'd say to the Lord, "Lord, I'm wanting to get impatient with some folks, and here You are putting up with all of us!"

Well, God wouldn't ask us to do something we couldn't do. If He told us to love one another, then we can do it. Why? Because God is love, and we're partakers of His love which has been shed abroad in our hearts.

In fact, the most potent characteristic of God is that He is love. Love is God's nature. And when we were born again, His love was imparted to our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

fades out, or comes to an end.

Therefore, if we will just walk in the light of God's love, we will never weaken, either. We'll be able to just go on loving folks whether our flesh feels like it or not. We are to love people with the same love that God is.

You'll never be able to believe God fully until you understand and walk in the God-kind of love. Why? Because God is love, and the God-kind of faith works by love.

So to believe God fully and to operate in the faith of God, you must walk in the love of God.

The love of God will work in every area of life, including the marriage



The God-Kind of Love

In Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin's powerful "Love: The Way to Victory" video series, you will learn why love is so vital to our lives. Rev. Hagin says, "The answer to so many of life's problems is found in this statement: *God's Love Never Fails!*" Therefore, if *you* learn to walk in the God-kind of love, then you're not going to fail either.

In these videos, you will learn:

- The Benefits of Walking in Love
- How To Love Your Enemies
- Characteristics of the God-Kind of Love
- The God-Kind of Love Forgives
- Failing To Walk in Love Can Affect Your Health

Offer #2857 | \$39.95 (\$54.00 Canada) Plus Shipping and Handling

1-800-543-2484 Or visit our online bookstore at www.rhema.org

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

From the Amazon Jungle to the mountaintops of the Andes, from the many thousands of Spanish-speaking people whom your extended arm of ministry has reached over the years, our birthday prayer for you is that your strength be renewed like the eagle's, that you will mount up with eagle's wings and continue to soar for many years to come, carrying this message of faith which is changing all the earth. Happy birthday!

*Jim and Faye Andrews
And the staff of RHEMA Peru*



*Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin
P.O. Box 50126
Tulsa, OK 74150*

RHEMA Bible Training Center in Singapore would like to thank you for your years of faithfulness to the call of God on your life. People are still being liberated and blessed because you obeyed that call! Happy 85th birthday!



*Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin
P.O. Box 50126
Tulsa, OK 74150*

Tony and Patsy Cameneti
And the staff of RHEMA
Singapore

We at RHEMA Bible Training Centre Italy want to wish you the happiest of birthdays. We want you to know how very special you are to us and to the people of this nation. Your teaching on faith and Mark II:23 and 24 are well known in Italy. Our Bible school students are honored to be counted with the thousands who have graduated from RHEMA.

We know that "the footsteps of a righteous man are ordered of the Lord," and we thank God that you have walked in His Way.

Buon compleanno (Happy birthday) and many, many more!

*Mauro and Connie Girgenti
And the staff of RHEMA Italy*



*Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin
P.O. Box 50126
Tulsa OK 74150*

Happy 85th birthday and greetings from RHEMA Mexico!

It seems as if not a week goes by in which we don't meet someone on the streets of Mexico City or in the small mountain villages of Mexico who has been blessed by your life and ministry. It still amazes us as we travel this country to find people who live in the backwoods and have copies of your books! Each one has an awesome testimony of how they received a Kenneth E. Hagin book and how God used it to change their lives.

Your example has enriched our lives beyond measure, and because of your faithfulness to the call of God on your life, it has inspired us to reach higher, go further, accomplish greater, and give more abundantly for His glory. The truths of God's Word that we have learned through your ministry are life-changing and will impact the nations God has called us to. Thank you for your well-balanced, practical teaching. It has changed us forever! We love you!

*Tim and Rhonda Rogers
And the staff of RHEMA Mexico*

The apostle Paul was convinced that Timothy was filled with genuine faith. It is this same genuine faith that we have seen operating in your life for so many years. Your faithfulness has stirred us to service, your insight into the Word has caused us to study, and your unwavering life has convinced us to persevere. Happy birthday, Brother Hagin. We love and appreciate you!

*Mike and Randa Moorhead
And the staff of RHEMA Australia*



*Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin
P.O. Box 50126
Tulsa, OK 74150*

As you celebrate your 85th birthday, Michelle and I, and all the RHEMA Germany staff, would like to thank you for your many faithful years of ministry. Your relationship with God and your tenacity in fulfilling the will of God have inspired us all to know Him better and to fulfill His will for our own lives. Thank you for the life-changing truth of God's Word! Happy birthday!

*John and Michelle Grunewald
And the RHEMA Germany staff*



*Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin
P.O. Box 50126
Tulsa OK 74150*

We love you and pray that you have a very blessed 85th birthday.

*Glenn and Beth Hardeman
And the staff of RHEMA Thailand*

BIRTHDAY BROTHER HAGIN!

from RHEMA Bible Training Centers
around the world

We want to thank you for being faithful years ago to pay the price to receive the message of faith. We appreciate your consistent example of excellence of character. From the message of faith that you have passed on to us and the help of many of your books that we now have in Portuguese, we have seen thousands and thousands of Brazilians set free. We are honored to be a part of your international outreach in these end times. We wish you the most blessed birthday ever!



Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin
P.O. Box 50126
Tulsa OK 74150

Pattie and I and our kids, along with all the staff here at RHEMA South Pacific, send our heartfelt happy birthday wishes to you. Thank you for your love toward God and us all, and for the offering of your life for the benefit of the Body of Christ. You are truly loved and appreciated by all of us. May this year be loaded with the benefits of God. We will never forget what you said to us, which we now say to you: *The future is bright!*



Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin
P.O. Box 50126
Tulsa, OK 74150

Kelly and Pattie Duinick
And the staff of RHEMA South Pacific

As we send you these birthday greetings, our hearts overflow with thanksgiving to God for you and for your ministry. Your example of faith, love, and integrity has mightily impacted our lives. We love you and pray that God will bless you on your birthday with the things that you are desiring of Him. Happy 85th, Dad!

Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin
P.O. Box 50126
Tulsa, OK 74150

Fred and Judy Lambert,
Josh and Hannah,
And the whole family at
RHEMA Austria

On behalf of Pastor Ray McCauley and all of us at RHEMA Bible Training Centre South Africa, we would like to congratulate you on your 85th birthday. Our prayer is that you and your family will enjoy God's richest blessings!

You are very special and you are a great encouragement to all of us. Your ministry is still affecting many lives through your books, audiotapes, and the videotapes here at RBTC South Africa.

We have deep gratitude to our God and Savior Jesus Christ for the gift that He has placed in our midst. We want to thank Him for the ways in which He has used you.

We pray that God will continue to use you for many years and that you will experience abundant blessing in your personal life and ministry. May you see a harvest of souls like never before!

"Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way . . ." (2 Thess. 3:16 KJV).

Mark Hodgetts
Dean, RHEMA South Africa

RHEMA India wishes you the richest blessings of God on your birthday. You taught us love, faith, the power of the Holy Spirit, and the believer's authority. These teachings have blessed us and the nations of the world.

Wishing you a long life (Ps. 91:16),

Narhari and Lata Thorat
And the entire RHEMA India family



Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin
P.O. Box 50126
Tulsa OK 74150

¡Feliz Cumpleaños de Colombia! We want to thank you for your example of love, integrity, faithfulness, and anointing in ministry. We pray that the Lord will continue to use you to be a blessing to many lives throughout the world. We are an extension of your vision here in Colombia and South America.

John and Alba Romick
And the staff of RHEMA Colombia



Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin
P.O. Box 50126
Tulsa, OK 74150

Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin
P.O. Box 50126
Tulsa, OK 74150

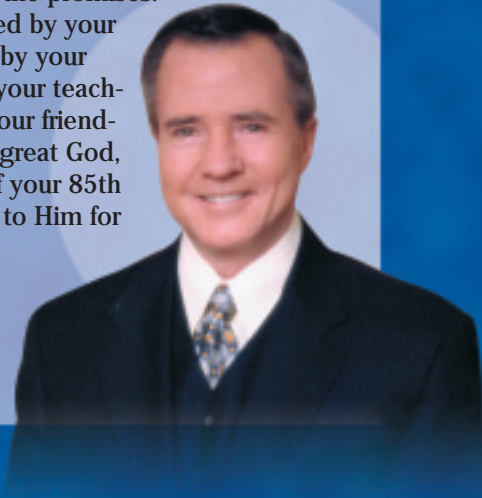
Congratulations

"... How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" — Romans 10:15

On behalf of my entire family and the congregation of Living Word, I extend a heartfelt "Happy Birthday" to you on your 85th birthday. Thank you for being a living example of someone "who through faith and patience has inherited the promises."

I continue to be inspired by your faithfulness, impacted by your integrity, changed by your teaching, and honored by your friendship. We truly serve a great God, and on the occasion of your 85th birthday, I am grateful to Him for your life and ministry.

Mac Hammond



Congratulations to Kenneth Hagin, Sr., a man we have greatly admired for many years and in whose ministry we believe. Upon your 85th birthday, we are honored to help you celebrate this special occasion! On behalf of the Roberts family, we love you, appreciate you, and pray for many more years in God's service!

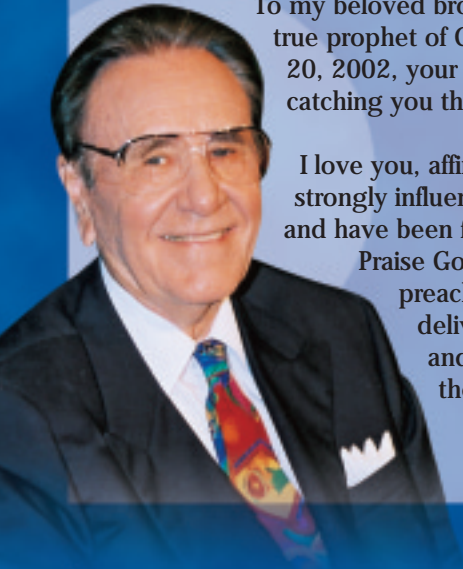
Richard and Lindsay Roberts



To my beloved brother in Jesus, and a true prophet of God, on this August 20, 2002, your 85th birthday! (I'll be catching you this January!)

I love you, affirm you, and am strongly influenced by you in Jesus, and have been for more than 50 years. Praise God you're still alive and preaching, prophesying, and delivering the people — and also teaching them the Word.

Oral Roberts



Congratulations on your 85th birthday! Victoria and I, and all of the Osteen family, honor you on this very special day.

Words cannot properly express the gratitude we have for you. Some of our fondest memories are the times you ministered at Lakewood over the past 30 years. You were always my dad's favorite preacher. I remember going to sleep at night many times hearing Daddy listen to your teaching tapes. As children and teens, we loved to hear you teach, and we still do. You helped my dad build this church on a strong foundation of the Word of God and on faith, and for that, we are forever grateful.

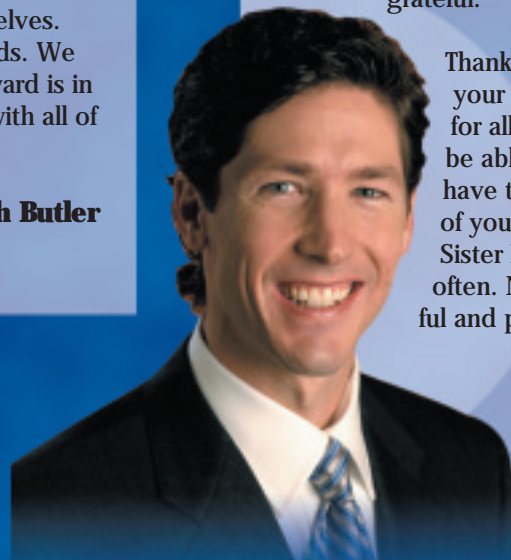
Thank you for your faithfulness and your example to the Body of Christ for all these years. Only Heaven will be able to tell how many lives you have touched and changed because of your obedience. We love you and Sister Hagin, and we pray for you often. May you have many more fruitful and prosperous years.

Joel Osteen

Kenneth Hagin is the man who has most impacted my ministry. He taught Deborah and I how to walk in faith and most importantly how to study the Word for ourselves.

This is true of thousands. We know that a great reward is in store. We love him with all of our hearts.

Bishop Keith Butler



Brother Hagin

on Your 85th Birthday

Jan and I are delighted to send you our love and very best wishes as you celebrate your 85th birthday.

The Apostle Paul declares in Romans 10:15, “. . . How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” Through your message and ministry, you have surely brought us all “glad tidings of good things”! We thank God for the word of faith you have preached — and lived — which has so greatly impacted the Body of Christ through the years.

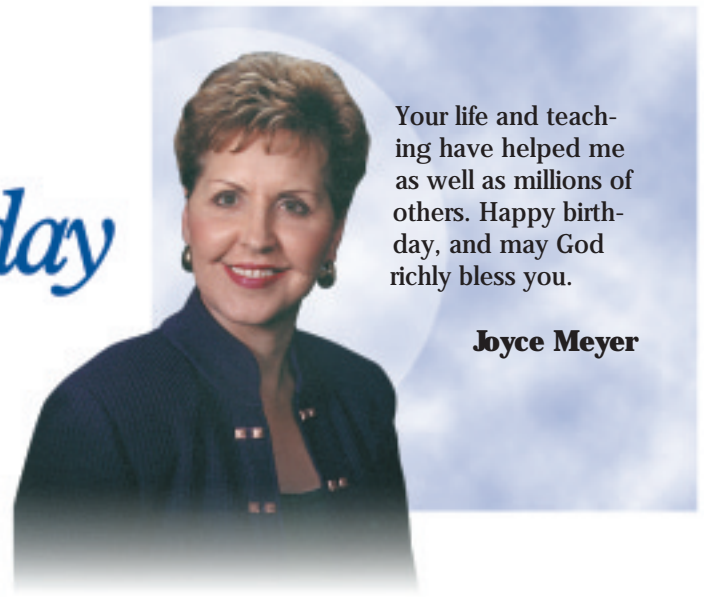
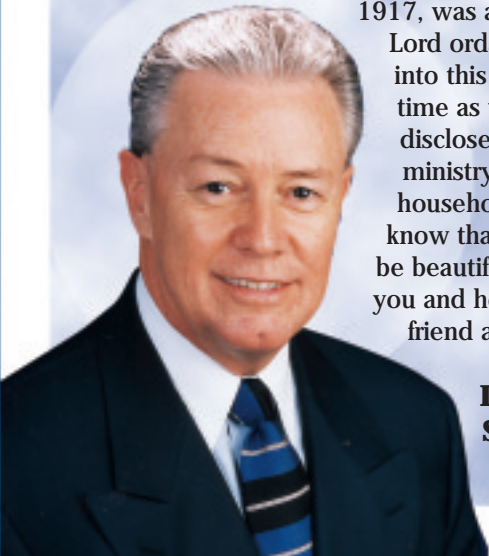
God bless you, Brother Hagin. Jan and I, along with the entire TBN family, join in wishing you a very happy birthday. May the Lord continue to bless and use you in greater ways for the glory of His Kingdom!

Paul E. Crouch



Congratulations and our very best wishes, Brother Hagin, on your 85th birthday! August 20, 1917, was assuredly a day that the Lord ordained for bringing you into this world for just such a time as this. Only eternity will disclose the full impact of your ministry, but as for the Savelle household, we want you to know that your feet will always be beautiful, and that we love you and honor you as a dear friend and “father in the faith.”

Dr. Jerry and Carolyn Savelle and family



Your life and teaching have helped me as well as millions of others. Happy birthday, and may God richly bless you.

Joyce Meyer

Gloria and I became acquainted with Kenneth Hagin Ministries in 1967 while I was a student at Oral Roberts University. For the first time in our lives, we heard the word of faith, and it literally exploded in our innermost beings. It was like the beauty of the first rays of the sunrise on a whole new world of the Spirit. I was traveling with the Oral Roberts evangelistic team hearing Brother Roberts teach those wonderful messages of healing and deliverance. I was privileged to be in the invalid and healing room and watch him use his faith “on purpose,” very much like a mechanic would use a tool. I had never heard or seen anything like that up to that time.

We began hearing Brother Hagin teach and demonstrate what I was seeing Oral Roberts do with his faith. It was glorious.

In 1968 Gloria and I began the first full year in our own ministry. You conducted five 10-day seminars with multiple services. During those meetings, you taught on all the assets of redemption, and Gloria and I did not miss a service. We were there regardless of how far we had to drive or how bad the weather was or whether we thought we had the money to attend. We went anyway. The things we learned revolutionized our lives forever. We learned through you, by the Holy Spirit, the things that became the bedrock of our lives and ministry. Gloria and I and all of our family will be grateful throughout eternity for Kenneth Hagin’s unwavering obedience to God.

Kenneth Copeland



ARE YOU A

GIANT

KILLER?



By Kenneth Hagin Jr.

Don't let the "giants" in your life defeat you. Face these giants and slay them as David did. You can be victorious over every circumstance in your life!

Iwant to look at the story of David and Goliath. In life, we're not likely to have to fight a physical giant as David fought against Goliath. But we will face giants, overwhelming trials, of our own. And if we'll learn how David won the victory over Goliath, we can win the victory over the giants in our life too!

Let's read a portion of the account of David and Goliath.

1 SAMUEL 17:3-7

3 And the Philistines stood on a mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side; and there was a valley between them.

4 And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span [approximately nine feet].

5 And he had an helmet of brass upon his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail; and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of brass [his armor weighed about 125 pounds].

6 And he had greaves of brass upon his legs, and a target of brass between his shoulders.

7 And the staff of his spear was like a weaver's beam; and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron [fifteen pounds]; and one bearing a shield went before him.

Goliath's spearhead weighed fifteen pounds! And that's not counting the

shaft of the spear! And he was strong enough to throw that thing!

I remember a guy in high school who threw the eight-pound shot put. He was six feet, two inches tall and weighed about 250 pounds. He took the shot put and threw it like I'd throw a baseball. That was an impressive feat, and that was only eight pounds. Can you imagine a guy throwing a spear, the head of which alone weighed 15 pounds? I mean, that's a big guy! And he wasn't just throwing it a few feet. He was hurling it 30, 40, and 50 feet!

Let's continue reading in First Samuel.

1 SAMUEL 17:8,9

8 And he stood and cried unto the armies of Israel, and said unto them, Why are ye come out to set your battle in array? am not I a Philistine, and ye servants to Saul? choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me.

9 If he be able to fight with me, and kill me, then will we be your servants: but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye be our servants, and serve us.

I want you to notice that Goliath issued a challenge to Israel's best soldier so that the rest of the army of Israel didn't even have to fight. He was over-confident — arrogant. When you're dealing with the devil — your enemy and adversary — and he brings

things against you, did you ever notice that he is arrogant? This giant, Goliath, was defeating the mightiest of Israel's warriors. He was arrogant because he was undefeated. He thought he wouldn't have any trouble.

Let's read what Goliath said.

1 SAMUEL 17:10,11

10 And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.

11 When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

Goliath taunted Israel, and in doing so, he was taunting God.

Now God had blessed the Israelites many times. Everyone in the army of Israel knew all the great stories of deliverance, even when they were under-manned and under-armed. God always delivered them!

But in this situation with Goliath, everyone in Israel's camp was shaking in his boots, so to speak. They were paralyzed by fear because one man stood up and began to roar. Goliath swaggered back and forth in supreme confidence, intimidating all the Israelites until they became incapable of action.

I want you to realize that there hadn't been a fight yet. No one had drawn a bow or thrown a spear. Yet the army of Israel was talking defeat. They were already defeated, and there hadn't even been a fight! It was their fear of the situation that caused them defeat before the battle ever began.

Many times, the enemy comes at you with difficult circumstances and obstacles. And when you become paralyzed with fear, you're defeated before you ever get in the battle.

Israel forgot all the things God had done for them. They were running in terror and defeat from Goliath.

Let's continue reading in verse 22.

1 SAMUEL 17:22-24

22 And David left his carriage in the hand of the keeper of the carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.

23 And as he talked with them, behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines, and spake according to the same words: and David heard them.

24 And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.

Verse 24 says that when the Israelites saw the man named Goliath, they fled from him and were very afraid. (Sometimes we flee just because the devil sticks his head up.) When this man walked out on the hillside, everyone started running for cover! He hadn't thrown a spear or shot an arrow. All he had done was issue a challenge.

Did you ever notice that the devil is always talking about what he's going to do? He tries to intimidate you, because if he can intimidate you, he knows that you will not think correctly; you will not think in line with God's Word.

Therefore, you'll not believe and talk in line with God's Word. And the devil will defeat you before you ever get to the battle!

But notice that David had a totally different reaction.

1 SAMUEL 17:25,26

25 And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.

26 And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised [ungodly, unrighteous] Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

David had an attitude of righteous indignation. At the sight of injustice and unrighteousness, he was stirred to action. Our attitude should be the same. We should be stirred to action. Instead of feeling fear, David wanted to know, "Who is this ungodly person?"

When the enemy comes at you, you need to take the same approach. You see, the devil is still using the same tactics that he has always used to defeat people and keep them from receiving God's best for them.

David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of Goliath. I will go and fight this Philistine" (1 Samuel 17:32). Goliath was arrogant, but David was confident. The enemy of your soul, the devil, may seem confident in his ability to defeat you. But he is not really confident; he's arrogant! If you listen to him, you'll be deceived and play right into his hands.

But David was confident because his faith was in the Lord. Goliath was arrogant because he was relying on his own strength. No one had ever defeated him. His confidence was in his ability, and that was what made him arrogant and prideful.

In verse 34, David remembered the lion and the bear that he slew because the Lord was with him. Then he went on to say the following to King Saul.

1 SAMUEL 17:36,37

36 Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God.

37 David said moreover, The Lord that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the Lord be with thee.

As David went out to face Goliath, Goliath roared and said, "Am I a dog that you send a kid with some sticks after me?" Then he addressed David: "I'm going to give your flesh to the fowls of the air and the beasts of the field" (vv. 43,44).

David responded, "You come to me with a sword and a spear, but I come to you in the Name of the Lord, the God of the army of Israel, whom you have defied. And this day the Lord will deliver you into my hand" (vv. 45,46). Notice that David didn't talk about what he was going to do. He talked about what the Lord was going to do. You see, it's not our fight. It's God's fight. David said in verse 47, ". . . for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands."

It was their fear of the situation that caused them defeat before the battle ever began.

Let's read what happens next.

1 SAMUEL 17:48

48 And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

David ran toward this Philistine. Too many times when the enemy starts coming toward us, we just stand still and wait for him, or we run in terror. But, if you're in faith and the enemy starts to approach, don't stand and wait for him. Attack him!

Goliath expected David to back down or just stand there. But instead, David charged at him! I think that's one thing that caused Goliath to slow down. And David was able to run

toward the Philistine and smite him right in the middle of his forehead!

1 SAMUEL 17:49-51

49 And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David.

51 Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled [they ran in terror].

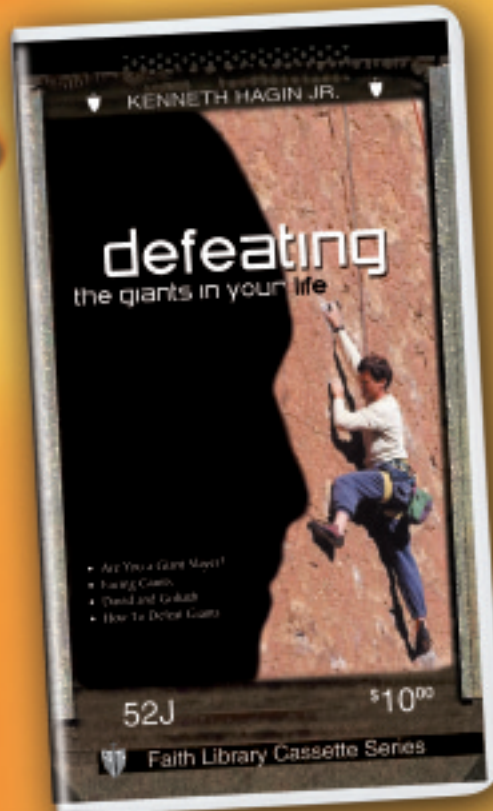
If you're in faith and the enemy starts to approach, don't stand and wait for him; attack him!

I want you to notice something about this biblical account. When one person is willing to stand for God and get the victory, the rest of the people jump on the bandwagon. They say, "Look what we've done!" But they didn't do anything! This teenager, David, went out to fight the Philistine. Only after David killed Goliath did the rest of the army of Israel go into battle.

When the devil comes against you — when you are facing your "Goliath" — I want you to remember not to be intimidated by the devil or the circumstances he brings your way. If you lose your job, if the economy goes bad, if everything turns upside down in your life, keep your faith in God. Keep talking about what God can do. Keep your confidence in God and His Word.

If you'll be like David and run to meet the enemy and the circumstances that challenge you, you can throw the knockout punch and come out victorious on the other side! 🏆

YOU CAN THROW THE KNOCKOUT PUNCH!



Have you ever watched a boxing match and noticed that, many times, one boxer throws the knockout punch that ends the match? Well, the devil is our adversary in life who is always bringing difficult circumstances our way. But we can knock him right out of the ring of our life by throwing him a knockout punch.

In Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.'s new two-audiotape series "Defeating the Giants in Your Life," you will learn how to be a giant killer by realizing that Jesus Christ who lives inside of you is bigger than any "giant" you face in life!

If you are going to be a giant killer, you must learn how:

- To know who you are, where you're going, and how you're going to get there.
- To grow up spiritually.
- To bless and comfort others.
- To have no fear.
- To keep a humble attitude and not become arrogant.

Offer #2858
\$10.00

(\$13.50) Canada
Plus Shipping and Handling

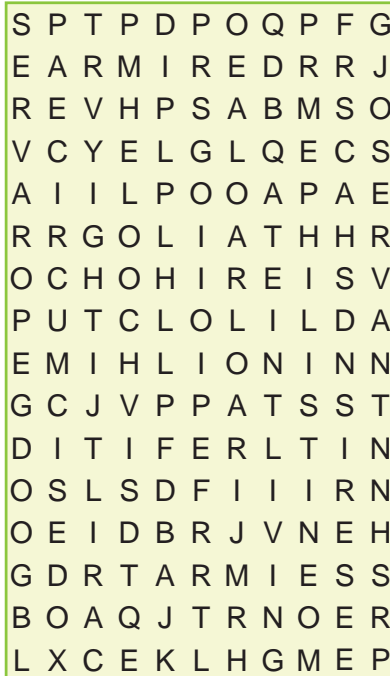


Kids' Page

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

The Bigger They are ...

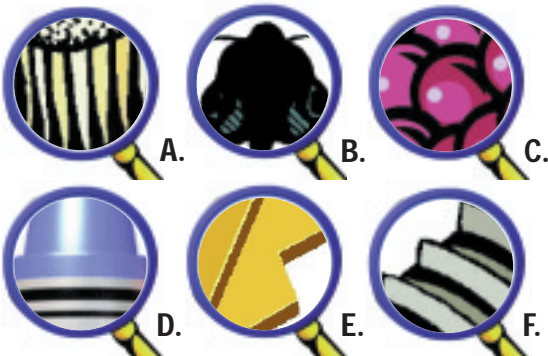
Kids today might think that they can't do anything BIG for the Lord until they get older. But did you know that David was a young boy when he defeated Goliath? And nobody believed that he was BIG enough to do it! David's oldest brother was angry with him for even asking about the battle (1 Samuel 17:28). King Saul told him that he was too young to fight Goliath (1 Samuel 17:33). And Goliath was insulted by the fact that Israel had sent a "boy" to fight against him (1 Samuel 17:42-43). But David didn't think about his age or his size. He knew he could defeat Goliath with God's help. He told King Saul, **"I, your servant, have killed both a lion and a bear! Goliath, the Philistine who is not circumcised, will be like the lion or bear I killed. He will die because he has stood against the armies of the living God. The Lord saved me from a lion and a bear. He will also save me from this Philistine."** David wasn't bothered by how BIG Goliath was ... because he knew that his God was BIGGER!



Find the words in red above that are hidden in this puzzle →

Magnify the LORD...not the Problem

Some problems look **BIG** because they **are** big, but some problems look big just because we "**magnify**" them. But the Bible tells us to "magnify the Lord," not our problems (Read Psalms 34:3). Look at these items that are beneath the magnifying glasses and see if you can figure out what they are.



FILL IN THE BLANKS

You will discover a Bible Verse that will help you defeat any giant when you fill the blanks below with the correct letters. Choose from the letters **G,R,S** and **T**.

REAER I HE
 HA I WIHIN
 ME HAN HE
HA I IN
HE WOLD

ANSWERS:

FILL IN THE BLANKS ANSWER: GREATER IS HE THAT IS WITHIN ME THAN HE THAT IS IN

Jokes & Riddles



What state is found inside another state?

Kansas is in Arkansas

What state has 2,000 pounds of dirty laundry?

Washing-ton

Forwards, it is heavy, backwards, it is not. What is it?

Ton

What goes up, but never goes down?

Your age

Why didn't the lady run away from the lion that was attacking her?

Because she heard that it was a "man" eating lion.

The more you feed it
The more it grows high
But if you give it water
It shall quickly die.
What is it?

Fire

Issues, issues, issues, issues, issues, issues, issues, issues, issues, issues.
What do you need next?

If you've got ten issues (tennis shoes), then you'll need socks

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)



We are living in perilous times. The world around us is shifting and shaking. But if you have accepted Christ as your Savior, there is a foundation under you that will never shift or shake. That foundation is the Rock of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I believe with all of my heart that it is time for us as Christians to draw closer to God. James 4:8 says, "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you." These are times when we must place our trust in God, who is able to deliver us from all evil.

As a child, I was taught that God was able to do anything I asked of Him (Matt. 21:22). I made it a practice to pray to Him, and I watched Him move mightily in my life. For many Christians, prayer takes a back seat to everything else. Too many times, we try anything and everything except prayer, then when all else fails, we turn to the Lord. Psalm 34:15 says, "The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry," yet many Christians still do not take time to pray. But prayer is to our spiritual life what oxygen is to our natural life — without it, we will perish.

Psalm 34:17 says, "The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles." The devil knows the power of prayer; therefore he tries to distract us from that powerful tool. It is going to take the corporate prayer of believers to change our world. This is the day to get on our knees and cry out to God. It is time to quit basking in selfish wants and desires and get back to what our true mission in life is — to be an ambassador for the Lord.

Let me ask you some thought-provoking questions. When was the last time you witnessed to a sinner? When was the last time you gave a helping hand to a hurting soul? When was the last time you spent time with a friend in need? When was the last time you placed your spouse's desires above your desires? When was the last time you

basked in the Presence of the Lord, just thanking Him for His goodness and not asking for anything? These are thought-provoking questions for us all. None of us has reached perfection in any of these areas, but let us strive to do better.

Second Chronicles 7:14 says, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." Now is the time for all of us to seek the face of the Lord. It is time to straighten up our act and get our priorities in order.

We wonder sometimes why the formulas for success that we've been taught are not working in our life. It's because we've left out the main ingredient, which is seeking the face of the Lord. When we seek His face, He will give us the answers to all of our questions. He will give us the right formulas for success. He will be with us, and He will deliver us from all of our troubles.

Our only hope in these perilous times is to put our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He will protect us. He will give His angels charge over us to keep us in all of our ways. And He will make us victorious in every situation of life if we will but seek His face.

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.



From the Archives

A nostalgic look at the beginnings of Kenneth Hagin Ministries



Feelings Vs. Faith

In April 1933, at age fifteen, Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin became bedfast. Doctors said he had to die. Sixteen months later, he was healed by the power of God. This month, Rev. Hagin continues his account of how his healing took place.

At this time, I didn't fully understand faith. I prayed and prayed, but I didn't get any results. I was sure that God heard me; I had a good feeling inside me. Yet my heart still wasn't beating normally.

What I didn't know then is that we have to go by faith, not by our feelings. We have to stand on the promises in God's Word and not look at the circumstances surrounding us.

I did improve to the extent that I was able to use my hands. Sometimes Granny would prop me up in bed for a short time. I would reach down and feel my legs. There was no muscle at all, just bone. I was extremely skinny.

I seemed to be making no real headway, and I said, "Lord, I thought You would heal me." I was so sure that He had heard me, but I felt no better. I know now that just feeling better after you pray is no sign that God heard you; likewise, feeling no better after you pray is no sign that God didn't hear you!

For months I struggled this way before I learned that we cannot rely on how we feel. We have to come back to what God's Word says about the matter.

When New Year's Day 1934 rolled around, it was moving day. Grandpa owned several houses in town, and he decided we would move into another one of them. He had told the people who were renting this house that he wanted it for his own use. When they moved, he had it redecorated, and then we were ready to move in.

When the movers came, they moved the furniture from the other parts of the house first, saving the furniture in my bedroom until last. When they came to move my furniture, an ambulance came and moved me.

While I was riding along in the ambulance, one of the attendants remarked that he had heard I had been in bed for about a year now.

"Nine months, to be exact," I told him.

He said that if I felt like it, they would take me for a little ride through the residential areas so I could see the scenery. I was so happy for this chance to see things I had been missing for so many months. The smallest joys, which we so often take for granted, can bring immense pleasure to one who has been deprived of them for so long.

I was able to move my head to look out the window as they drove slowly through the town. Then the ambulance attendant said, "Son, if you feel up to it, we'll drive down to the square. Since it's a holiday, there probably won't be much traffic, and you might enjoy it." How wonderful, I thought, to

get to see that old courthouse again, the stores, and other buildings in this beloved little town of McKinney with its population of 8,000 or 9,000.

I saw the familiar old drugstore on the corner. I saw the J.C. Penney's store. Next to that was a dress shop, and next to that was Woolworth's. Then there was a shoe store, and on the next corner, a ladies' ready-to-wear shop. Then we turned to go down the south side of the square. I drank in all of these sights, not knowing when, if ever, I might see them again.

Just as we turned the corner and started down the south side of the square, I turned and looked at the old courthouse that sat in the middle of the square. I shall never forget that moment as long as I live. In that instant something said to me, "Well, you never did think you would ever see these old buildings again. And you wouldn't have, if it hadn't been for the kindness of the man who is taking you."

Then I remembered the verse in Mark 11:24: "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them," and I recalled the verse that went before it which said, ". . . he shall have whatsoever he saith."

As I said it in that ambulance that day, tears rolled down my face. I didn't understand all that I know now. I had just one small gleam of light. It was like a little light that might creep through a crack in the door, but it was a beginning point for me this first day of January 1934 at about two o'clock in the afternoon.

(To be continued . . .)