



# THE Word of Faith

MARCH 2004

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

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# Receive **YOUR** HEALING

Special healing articles on pages 4 and 10

### ARTICLES

- *No Matter What, God Is Faithful!*
- *Do You Want to Be Healed?*
- *How Often Do You Breathe?*

S P E C I A L H E A L I N G E D I T I O N

# heart to heart

*with rev. kenneth hagin jr.*

## TURN YOUR EYES UPON JESUS

There will be times in life when you find yourself facing a troubling situation or enduring a painful injustice. As the saying goes, life isn't fair. At these times, we must remember to take our eyes off of others and off of ourselves, and turn our eyes upon Jesus.

Too many times, we look only at the problem or circumstance and we don't find out what God says concerning our situation. The Word of God says, "What is impossible with men is possible with God" (Luke 18:27 *NIV*). When it looks like you're doomed, when it looks like it's all over for you, *look up!* That's where your help comes from.

The Bible gives us clues as to why we may find ourselves in hard times and also keys on how to move beyond the negative situations and injustices of life. Psalm 73 says, "But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked" (vv. 2,3 *NIV*). The psalmist focused his attention on other people. Those who were wicked seemed to have everything and he, the righteous, seemed to have nothing. When he began to envy others, he nearly lost his foothold in life.

*We must take our eyes off of other people.*

We have to guard against blaming others for what's going wrong in our life. Other people aren't responsible for our situation. Our struggle is not with flesh and blood (Eph. 6:12). Our battle is a spiritual battle that is fought through prayer and a strong belief in God's Word.

We must also guard against comparing ourselves with others when we're going through a hard time. Our success in life does not come from what other people do. Our success comes from what we do!

We cannot blame others, compare ourselves with others, or judge others. We must learn to take personal responsibility, compare ourselves only to the Word, and judge only ourselves according to what the Bible says.

However, there is a trap here that we must avoid. While many people have a habit of blaming others, some Christians have a habit of blaming themselves to the point where their attention is totally focused on themselves!

*We must take our eyes off of ourselves.*

If you focus on yourself and insist on finding something wrong with yourself, the devil will accommodate you. He will magnify your flaws, failures, and past sins.

I'm not saying we should ignore our mistakes or pretend that our flaws don't exist. I'm saying that our attention shouldn't be on ourselves. Our attention should be focused on God!

Maybe you have made a mistake or fallen short in an area. But God can turn it around. He is the God of second chances! If you've made a mistake, God is still there for you if you will call on Him. God wants to bring a positive solution to every problem in your life.

*We must keep our eyes on God.*

It's a mistake to look at others and make comparisons. It's a



mistake to look at ourselves and beat ourselves up for what's going on. The real success, the real victory, comes when we keep our attention turned upward and on God.

If you're going to be victorious in this life, you have to continually keep your eyes on God. You can't look at the circumstances, because the circumstances will tell you you're a failure, you'll never make it, it's all over, and you should throw in the towel.

But if you'll keep your eyes on God and listen to His Word, He will say to you, "Keep on going, My child. Joy comes in the morning. Having done all to stand, keep standing. Your answer is on the way."

The final outcome is not determined by what we see in the natural. The final outcome is determined by the supernatural. Whatever you may be going through is temporary. But the Word of God will never pass away. If you're rooted and grounded in God's Word, you will be a success, because God's Word never fails.

No matter how bad it looks, how big it looks, or how wrong it seems — God is bigger! Keep on climbing. Keep on putting one foot in front of the other, and you will find the success and victory you have been looking for. As the old song says, "Turn your eyes upon Jesus; look full in His wonderful face. And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace."

I encourage you this month to take your eyes off of the people around you and off of yourself and all that you are going through, and instead, turn your eyes upon Jesus. Focus your attention on what the Word says, and watch the Almighty God do the impossible in your life!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth Hagin Jr." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.

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## articles

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## Having Faith

# in a Faithful

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, HOW MUCH MORE SHALL YOUR FATHER WHICH I

We can take God at His Word, believe it, and receive His promises as ours. We can have an unshakable faith in God and be fully persuaded that what He has promised, He is also faithful to perform.



Kenneth Hagin Jr.

**A**s a parent, if you tell your children that you're going to give them a gift, and they come to you later begging for what you've already promised them, you might be upset with them. By their actions, they would be saying, "We know you *said* you'd do it, but we don't believe you *will!*" That's basically what we do to Jesus our Healer when we conclude our prayers for healing with the statement, "If it be Thy will." God has already given His Word to us about healing: "With Jesus' stripes, we were healed!" (1 Peter 2:24).

Instead of basing our prayers for healing on the way Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, "If it be Thy will," why not base our prayers for healing on the way Jesus prayed *for healing*? Actually, if you'll notice how Jesus ministered to sick people in His earthly ministry, you'll find that most of the time, He didn't even *pray* for their healing; He just spoke words to that effect, He said, in essence, "Be healed!" and the sick were healed. Jesus did pray, however, when He raised Lazarus from the dead. Jesus said, ". . . *Father, I thank thee THAT THOU HAST HEARD ME*" (John 11:41). Then Jesus commanded, ". . . *Lazarus, COME FORTH*" (v. 43). And if you'll

study the different accounts of healing in the four Gospels, you'll notice that Jesus never refused anyone who came to Him to receive healing. Not one time will you find Jesus praying to God, "Father, heal this person *if* it be Thy will." Jesus never prayed that way because He already knew God's will on the subject of healing!

Of course, opponents of divine healing always cite cases of sick people who were prayed for but didn't receive their healing. When people aren't healed, many automatically conclude, "It must be God's will that I'm sick." But if that's true, then why do they go to the doctor for medicine so they can get well *and get out of the will of God!* If it's not God's will to heal — if it's God's will for His people to be sick — then according to that kind of thinking, sick people shouldn't do things in the natural to be well. And well people should pray to be sick!

You might say, "That sounds ridiculous!" Yes, it certainly does! But I said it to help you see the absurdity of some of the teachings we hear today which try to prove that divine healing is not God's will for us, or that healing is not for us today.

Healing *is* God's will because God's Word says it is, and it is impossible for God to lie (Num. 23:19). It is God's will

for us to be well, whole, happy, and blessed because the Bible says that God is our Heavenly *Father*, and as a father, He loves us and wants only the best for us.

**MATTHEW 7:7-11**

**7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:**

**8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.**

**God**  
S IN HEAVEN GIVE GOOD THINGS TO THEM THAT ASK HIM?

**9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?**

**10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?**

**11 If ye then, being evil [or natural], know how to give good gifts unto your children, HOW MUCH MORE SHALL YOUR FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN GIVE GOOD THINGS TO THEM THAT ASK HIM?**

Many people believe that God afflicts people with sickness and disease in order to discipline them or to teach them a lesson. But how many of you who are parents would discipline your children by making them sick? If you could, would you get some cancer and inject it into your children and tell them, "Now, I'm going to teach you a few things"? Of course not! Besides, if you were to do that, I guarantee, you would spend quite a few years locked up behind bars! Well, the Bible says if natural parents know how to give good gifts to their children, *how much more* does God our Heavenly Father know how to give good gifts to *His* children! Yet our Heavenly Father is accused of giving His children cancer, tuberculosis, and every other kind of malady and sickness you can think of. That kind of reasoning doesn't even make sense!

**JAMES 1:17**

**17 Every GOOD GIFT and every PERFECT GIFT is from above, and cometh down FROM THE FATHER of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.**

We can readily see from this scripture that it is God Who has provided the many ways for us to be helped, healed, and blessed in this natural realm in which we live. God doesn't object to people obtaining healing though natural means — through medical science, for example. But on the other hand, His Word clearly states that He has also provided the means whereby His people can receive divine healing! God is the author of both means of obtaining healing.

God has provided the avenue of medical science through which mankind can receive help and healing for the physical body. We know this because of James 1:17 which says that every good gift and every perfect gift is from God above. And doctors and medical science are certainly a benefit to mankind. So it is God who established the means whereby mankind can be helped through medical science.

Looking in the Old Testament, we also need to realize that it was *God's* idea, not man's, to establish a statute of divine healing for His people. It was then that God revealed Himself as The

**25 And he cried unto the Lord; and the Lord shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them,**

**26 And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God . . . I will put [permit] none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I AM THE LORD THAT HEALETH THEE.**

The Israelites were making their exodus out of Egypt where they had been in bondage to the cruel slavery of Pharaoh and the Egyptians. They were on their way to the Promised Land, and on their journey, they ventured into the wilderness of Shur and sojourned there for three days without any water. Then when they came to Marah and found water, they couldn't drink it because it was bitter. Moses cried to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a tree and told him to cast it into the water. When the tree was dipped into the water, the water became sweet so the children of Israel could drink it (Exod. 15:25).

The tree Moses cast into the waters is a semblance, or a type and shadow, of the tree that Jesus was to die on — the Cross of Calvary. In many places in the Bible, water is representative of *people*. Isn't it interesting that in the same way the tree was dipped into the

**Not one time** will you find Jesus praying to God, "Father, heal this person **if it be Thy will."**

Great Physician — as Jehovah Rapha — "*The Lord that healeth.*"

**EXODUS 15:22-26**

**22 So Moses brought Israel from the Red sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days into the wilderness, and found no water.**

**23 And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah.**

**24 And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink?**

waters at Marah and used to heal the waters, Jesus Christ, Who died on a tree and rose again from the dead, was "dipped into the waters" of humanity, so to speak, to obtain our healing and redemption!

**EXODUS 15:26**

**26 . . . If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put [permit] none of these disease upon thee, which I**

have brought upon the Egyptians: for I AM THE LORD THAT HEALETH THEE.

In Exodus 15:26, God established a statute of healing for His people. Nowhere in the Bible does it say that this statute of divine healing has been

we have a *better* covenant than the Israelites had, established upon *better* promises (Heb. 8:6)!

“Yes, but I know someone who was prayed for and didn’t get healed,” you hear people say. But just because some-

**BEING MIXED WITH FAITH** in them that heard it.

In other words, if we need healing, our faith has something to do with receiving healing from God, because God’s Word will always work when we act on it *in faith*. Just because someone failed *to receive* healing doesn’t change the fact that healing belongs to us and that it’s God’s will that we walk in divine health.

Many times, we don’t understand why some good Christian people become sick and, instead of receiving healing, they die and go on to be with the Lord. We may not understand why things happen as they do, but a lack of understanding on our part does not discredit the Word of God. The Word says, “Believe you receive and you *shall have*” (Mark 11:24).

Regardless of what happens with other people and regardless of what is going on in our physical body, we must continue to have faith in our God because He is faithful. He is faithful to keep His promises and to perform His Word in our life. He is faithful to be Jehovah Rapha — “the God Who healeth thee.” ♡

... It is God who has provided the many ways for us to be **helped, healed, and blessed** in this natural realm in which we live.

revoked, changed, or altered. In fact, Malachi 3:6 says, “*I am the Lord, I change not. . .*” The Lord has never changed His mind or His will concerning the statute of divine healing.

When God makes a covenant, or an agreement with His people, He abides by that covenant until it is revoked, stopped, or superseded by a better one. Therefore, since healing is also found in the New Testament, we know that God’s healing covenant is still in force today. Actually, because of the redemptive work of Christ, the Bible says that

one fails to receive healing doesn’t mean the Word of God is false or that God’s covenant of healing is not in force today. I don’t know why some people receive their healing and others do not. However, I do know that a person must *mix faith* with the Word in order to receive healing or any blessing or promise from God.

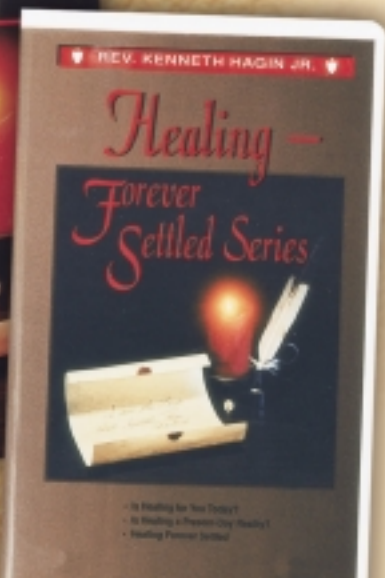
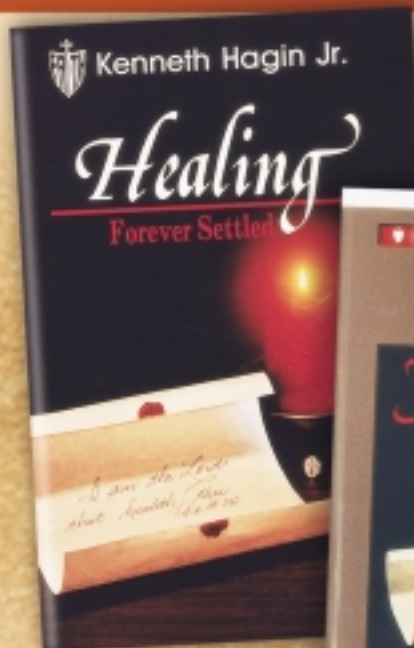
**HEBREWS 4:2**

**2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, NOT**

HEALING: FOREVER SETTLED

*Does God still heal today?*

*Is it God’s will to heal me?*



When it comes to the subject of divine healing, these two questions are probably foremost on most believers’ minds. But God’s will is expressly revealed in His Word. And God’s Word is forever settled on the subject of healing.

If you, or anyone you know, want concise answers to these questions, Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr.’s teaching in his *Healing: Forever Settled* book and audiotape series will settle the issue, once and for all.

Book

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*[Editor's Note: Testimonies have been edited for length and clarity.]*

## Financial Problems Solved

Due to numerous unexpected major vehicle repairs, I was recently unable to cover both tuition and rent (even after working several jobs). I gave the matter over to God and did not talk with anyone concerning the problem. I refused to worry and continued to tithe. When I stood in the long line on "tuition day," I did not know what would happen when I got to the window for my turn. But when my turn came, I was informed that a fellow student had paid several months of my tuition anonymously on my behalf. God is for us — stay the course!

*Clark Hyvonen*

## God Shows Himself Real

I had been praying for someone for some time — that God would show Himself real to her. She is not a Christian and had been having terrible chest pain for a month or so. An opportunity arose for me to ask if I could pray for her. She said I could, so I prayed a simple, quiet prayer from the Word concerning healing for her body. Then I thanked God for the blood of Jesus. The next day she called me and told me that her chest quit hurting in the middle of the prayer. That was three weeks ago, and the pain has not returned! She and her daughter went to church! Thank God for showing Himself real!

*Vickie Lynn*



**Clark  
Hyvonen**

**Vickie  
Lynn**

**Brian  
Whitecalf**

**Sonja  
Ellis**

## Power of Prayer and Confession Delivers Healthy Baby

During my school year last year, I learned that my sister was pregnant again. She had already had three miscarriages, and had begun to have thoughts of suicide. So I began to confess that she would have her baby and that there would be no health problems for her or the child. At times my mother would call, saying my sister was going to lose the baby. So I would begin to pray, and the next day my sister would be okay again. I began to confess that she would gain the proper weight needed to carry the baby to term, and she gained the weight, even when she didn't want to! Hallelujah! My sister was told that she would have the baby in early September, but they waited until October 31. My sister was in labor for 26 hours, but she had a healthy baby boy. He was 5 pounds, 3 ounces — 3 pounds more than what the doctors said he would be. There were no complications for him or his mother! I never had used confession so powerfully before, but I have what I say, and now I have the blessing of a new nephew! Praise God!

*Brian Whitecalf*

## Praying Saved Grandson's Life

I have been soaking up Dean Marvin Yoder's teaching about the Person of the Holy Spirit. Dean Yoder's anointed teaching caused me to hunger for a more intensive walk and relationship with the Holy Spirit. I learned that such a relationship means responding at all times of the day and night as the Holy Spirit

prompts you to pray. Recently, the Holy Spirit spoke to me that I needed to stop what I was doing and to pray. I hesitated for a moment, because I had just fixed myself a sandwich to eat. But the urgency in my spirit let me know that I should pray *now!*

After fervently praying in tongues for a while, I prayed with my understanding to interpret (as Kenneth E. Hagin taught in his book on prayer). However, the Holy Spirit told me it would be more than I could bear to know it all, but He revealed the word "grandchild" to me. Immediately, I began to plead the blood of Jesus and to charge the angels to protect my grandchildren. Eventually, I sensed in my spirit that the burden had lifted.

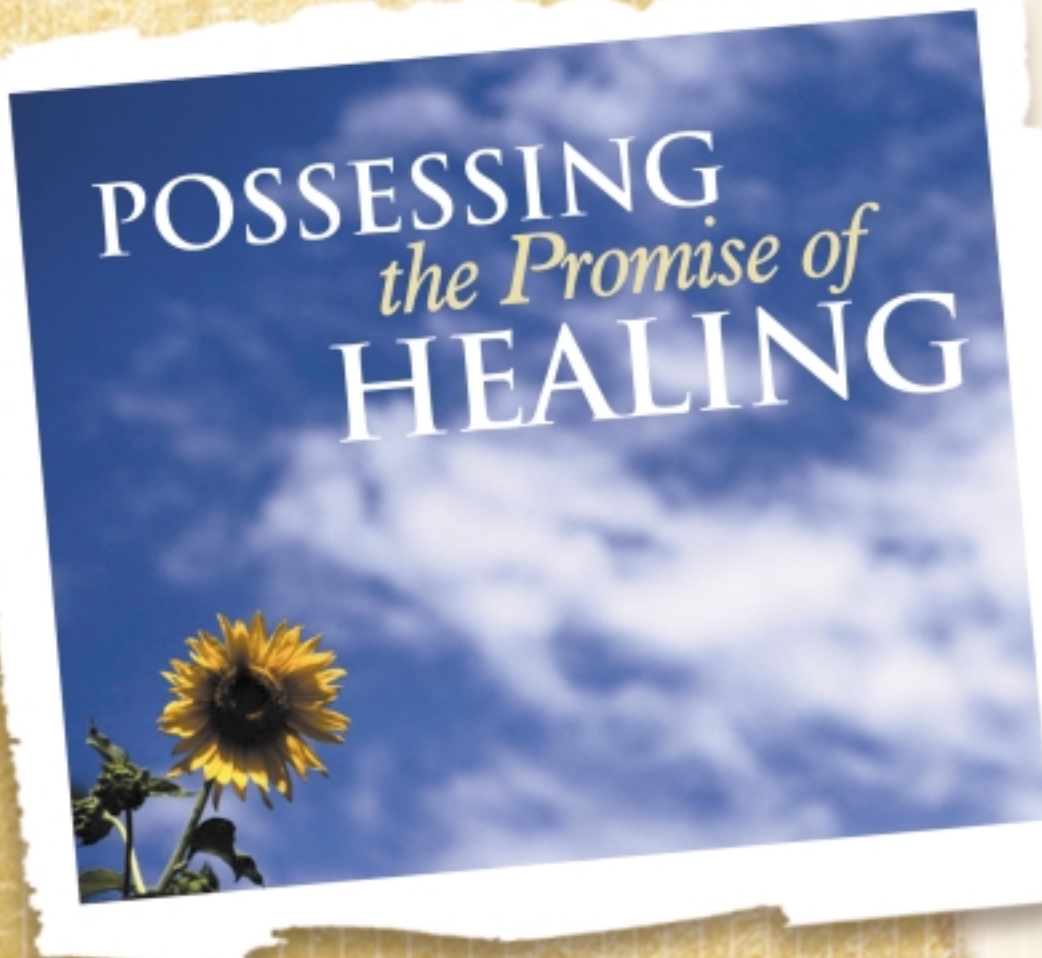
Shortly thereafter, my son called me to tell what had happened to Seth — my three-year-old grandchild. Seth had been playing on the swing set next door with some of the neighborhood children. Some of the older children had placed a rope over the swing set with a noose on the end to swing from it with their legs. Not able to get his legs that high, Seth stood on one of the swings and placed his head into the noose. He then jumped from the swing as he had seen the other children do. The jump and the weight of his body as he swung outward would have broken his neck — except that the rope suddenly snapped in two, and Seth fell safely to the ground! He was left with a rope burn around his neck to testify to the miraculous saving power of God.

Praise God for His Holy Spirit and for His anointed teachers here at RHEMA!

*Sonja Ellis*

If you are interested in attending RHEMA Bible Training Center, see pages 8 and 9 for more information about our special Get Acquainted With RHEMA Weekend designed just for you!





## Divine healing is an accomplished fact.

It is a gift, like salvation, already paid for at Calvary. Have you accepted God's gift of healing? Are you experiencing it in your life in full? If not, it's time for you to possess the promise of healing and enjoy complete health in every area!



"I have prayed and prayed. I have been in healing meetings all over the country and have been prayed for many times, but still I am not healed. Can you help me?"

This plaintive appeal has been heard many times by ministers. They pray for sick persons, but often the sick leave as they came — not healed.

Why is it that some are healed instantly while others trudge from place to place seeking healing, only to be disappointed time after time?

Why is it that some who are pillars in the church often suffer for years while others who are less devout receive a sudden miracle from God?

Is God a respecter of persons (Acts 4:34)? Or have we failed in our approach to healing, lacking a complete understanding of

what God's Word teaches on the subject?

Much emphasis has been placed on the practice of anointing with oil, laying on of hands, and praying for the sick. But there is more to healing than anointing with oil, just as there is more to salvation than prayer.

The anointing oil, the minister's prayer, and the laying on of hands are simply methods, or points of contact. In themselves, they do not heal. They are avenues through which we can release our faith in God's Word.

Much emphasis also has been placed on the gifts of healings (1 Cor. 12:28), which are among the gifts of the Spirit mentioned in First Corinthians

12:8-10: *"For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the GIFTS OF HEALING by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues."*

There will be manifestations of these supernatural gifts when people preach them, teach them, believe in them, and yield to the Spirit of God; but these gifts are not always in operation.

Often new Christians are healed by such special manifestations. Then the next time they are sick, instead of believing God's Word, they expect to be healed in this same way, and they are disappointed when they are not.

I have found in my ministry that supernatural manifestations of healing usually are seen either among sinners or among denominational



people who have not heard divine healing taught. I have seldom, if ever, seen them work for Full Gospel people.

Why? Because gifts of healings and supernatural manifestations are given primarily to advertise the Gospel and to gain the attention of those outside the Church. *The believer should be healed by releasing his faith in the Word of God.*

We must distinguish between healings obtained through supernatural gifts or manifestations and those obtained by exercising faith in God's Word alone.

It also must be understood that an individual does not *operate* these supernatural gifts; they are *manifested* through him. I can't make them operate any time I want to; I can only stay open for the manifestation of the Spirit of God as He wills (1 Cor. 12:11).

We should stay open for the manifestations of the Spirit of God, but we do not have to wait for one in order to be healed. That's good news, friend.

in amazement. Many have failed to receive healing because they have based their faith on prayer instead of on God's Word. They expected prayer to do for them what God's Word will do for them. Prayer is successful only when it is based on the promises in God's Word.

## We need to get into the Word of God and find out what belongs to us.

When people come to the altar for prayer, find out what their need is. If a man comes to be saved, you could pray for him for six weeks, but until he acts on what God said in His Word, he will get up and go home unsaved.

Turn to God's Word. Show him what the Bible says. Get him *to*

Word of God. First Peter 2:24 says, ". . . by whose stripes ye WERE healed."

Notice it says, "were," not "going to be." If I believe what the Bible says, then I believe that we *were* healed. Peter is looking back to Calvary. I was healed *then*. I accept that healing *now*.

God laid on Jesus our sickness and diseases; Jesus bore them. He was "stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted" with our diseases (Isa. 53:4). Therefore, Satan has no right to put on us what God put on Jesus.

Someone may say, "It may be the will of God for me to be sick. God may get more glory out of my being sick than if I were well."

What right, then, would God have to put your sickness on Jesus if He wanted you to keep bearing it? There is no need for both of you to bear it. Because Jesus bore it, you are free!

All of God's blessings and provisions are conditional. He gave us His Word to let us know what conditions

The believer should be healed by releasing his faith in the Word of God.

God wants us to be healed, and He has made provision for us to receive and possess healing.

The gifts of healings have been manifested many times in my ministry, but I cannot make them work at will. I can't push a button or pull a lever, so to speak, and make the gifts start working. They operate as the SPIRIT wills. Yet we are instructed not to wait for Him, since He has already done something about our healing at the Cross.

Healing belongs to us. It isn't simply a matter of prayer. It isn't simply a matter of some spiritual gift in operation. *Healing belongs to us because it has been provided for us by the Lord Jesus Christ.*

When I tell people they don't have to pray to be healed, they look at me

*believe* it and *to act* upon it. As far as God is concerned, the man is already saved. From God's standpoint, salvation is already bought and paid for. So it is not a matter of God saving him; it is a matter of his *accepting* the salvation God offers!

Similarly, it is not a matter of God baptizing someone with the Holy Spirit; it is a matter of the person accepting the gift of the Holy Spirit that God offers. Likewise, it is not a matter of God healing an individual; it is a matter of the person accepting the gift of healing God has already provided.

Some say, "Well, I believe God is going to heal me *sometime*. I believe that in God's own good time and in His own way, He will do it." That kind of thinking is out of line with the

must be met in order for us to receive these blessings. They won't just fall on us automatically like ripe cherries fall off a tree. There is a God-ward side and a man-ward side to every battle and to every blessing. God has His part to play, but man also has his part to play. Man's part is to obey God and to receive what He has provided.

Paul said that what happened to Israel happened as an example for us (1 Cor. 10:11). When God led the children of Israel out of Egypt (which is a type of the world), He didn't abandon them in the wilderness; He had a further blessing for them. He had another land for them: Canaan's land.

Canaan is a type of the baptism of the Holy Spirit and our rights and privileges in Christ, which include healing. God promised the children of

Israel repeatedly that He was going to give them that land. When they finally crossed over the Jordan River into Canaan, God said, *“Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses”* (Joshua 1:3). God had said He

They say, “If God ever heals me, then I’m going to believe it.”

I have talked to sinners who had the same idea about salvation: They wanted to leave it all up to God. One man said, “If God wants to save me, He will. I’m just waiting on God.” I

It is not a matter of God’s healing an individual; it is a matter of the person accepting the gift of healing God has already provided.

would give them the land, but the people had to *possess* it.

That’s how it is with our rights and privileges in Christ. *Healing belongs to us*. God has provided it for us. But we have to possess it. Unless we possess the provision, we will not enjoy its benefits.

Many people are waiting for God to do something about their sickness.

couldn’t talk him out of the notion, and, sadly, he died without God.

God’s Word says that it *is* God’s will to save people. He invites them to come: *“... And whosoever will, let him TAKE the water of life freely”* (Rev. 22:17). The responsibility for receiving is on man’s side.

The believer sometimes makes the same mistake when it comes to other

things God’s Word promises. He thinks erroneously, “If God wants me to have this, He will give it to me. If I don’t get it, He doesn’t want me to have it.” We need to get into the Word of God and find out what belongs to us. If something is promised to us, or if it is provided for us in His Word, it is His will. All we have to do then is to possess it!

We need to settle this in our minds, because as long as we waver, we will not receive anything. James 1:6 and 7 says, *“But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.”* Often we don’t receive because we waver.

Healing is a gift, like salvation, already paid for at Calvary. All we need to do is accept it. All we need to do is possess the promise that is ours. As children of God, we must realize that healing belongs to us! ♡

# Healing Belongs to Us

*Healing Belongs to Us* by Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin is a concise, easy-to-understand summary of a believer’s rights concerning healing.

In this insightful book and four-audiotape series, Rev. Hagin reveals:

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# PRAYER:

## Our Spiritual Oxygen



Lynette Hagin

*Lynette Hagin serves as Director of RHEMA Bible Training Center USA, plays a key role in the administration of Kenneth Hagin Ministries, and helps shape the lives of thousands of women through her annual Kindle the Flame women's conference. She assists her husband, Rev. Kenneth Hagin Jr., in pastoring RHEMA Bible Church and with him co-hosts the RHEMA Praise television program. Her "Seed Thoughts" column appears monthly in The Word of Faith magazine. She and her husband travel throughout the United States holding All Faiths' Crusades, during which she teaches on prayer by precept and example.*



**E**ach of us will face trying circumstances in life. We could never win a war without fighting some battles. We're going to have trials, but in our trials we can build our faith. We do not have to be moved by the circumstances in our life. When we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, He will take us from victory to victory.

Many people have asked my husband and I how we are making it now that Brother Hagin has gone to Heaven. We are making it by resting in the Lord Jesus Christ and by the prayers of the saints. We know that people all over the world are praying for us, and we know how powerful prayer is.

Brother Hagin was known for his strong prayer life. I used to watch him sit quietly in my office, not saying a word to me. But I could see his lips moving, and I knew he was praying in the Spirit. He prayed continually. And we need to pray continually, because prayer changes things!

We have a mandate to continue on, to continue the vision the Lord gave Brother Hagin many years ago — *Go teach My people faith.*

Every one of us must step up a notch and do what God has called us to do. And the most important thing that He's called each and every one of us to do is to pray! Christians are called to have a lifestyle of prayer. In Ephesians 6:18 Paul says, "Pray at all times — on every occasion, in every season — in the Spirit, with all [manner of] prayer and entreaty." (*The Amplified Bible.*)

We often think of prayer as a means of calling upon our heavenly butler, saying, "Give me this. I need that. I want this." Or we think of prayer as calling upon our heavenly lifeguard. "Lord, I'm drowning. Help me! Save me!" But this isn't how we should pray. Prayer should be something we do on a continual basis, not just when we want something or are in trouble. In fact, it should be as automatic to us as breathing.

Taking in oxygen is vital to our life. If we don't continually receive oxygen, we will die! Imagine if on each

Sunday we said, "Okay, I'm going to take my gulp of oxygen for this week." It wouldn't be long before we keeled over! We have to breathe oxygen on a daily basis — every hour, every minute.

Prayer is our spiritual oxygen. We need it continually. But too many times, Christians pray on Sunday and think they don't need to pray any more that week. Or they will pray before meals and think they are all prayed up. Then they wonder why they aren't living a victorious life — it's because they only take one gulp of prayer for the week (or month), and that's not enough to get by on. To be

**Prayer is our spiritual oxygen.  
We need it continually.**

victorious and spiritually healthy, we must live a life of prayer.

Many Christians have been taught about prayer, and we need to be taught how to pray. But we can be taught and taught and taught, and if we don't actually *pray*, we won't really *learn* how to pray.

I remember taking Driver's Education in school. Back then in Texas, taking Driver's Education meant being able to receive a driver's license at age fourteen. I could hardly wait to take those classes, because I wanted to drive so badly! I was in a hurry to drive because I wanted to be independent. I wanted to be able to do what I wanted to do and go where I wanted to go.

During the first two weeks of the class we learned the rules and regulations of driving. We learned about road signs, signal lights, the distance to maintain between us and the car ahead, and so forth. But did knowing the rules qualify us to drive? No. We had yet to actually get in a car and start driving!



It's important to know the rules of driving. But to become a good driver, a person should spend more time practicing the actual driving of a car than they do learning the rules. And it's the same way with prayer. To be successful in prayer, we need to spend more time actually praying than studying the rules of prayer. But so many times, we have it backwards. We spend all our time learning the rules of prayer without actually praying.

Yes, it's important that we learn *how* to pray. But it's even more important that *we pray*. Prayer is not easy. It takes work, and the enemy tries to keep us from praying. He offers so many distractions, trying to consume our time — even with good things! Why doesn't the devil want Christians to pray? He knows there is power in prayer.

In driving school, the more we practiced driving, the better drivers we became. And the more you and I pray, the better “prayers” we will be!

I have liked to pray since I was a child. But I have never wanted to share my prayer life with other people. I have always been very private in my prayers. I wanted to keep my prayer life between God and me. Growing up, I heard other people pray such beautiful prayers. They used all sorts of adjectives and beautiful words, and I'd think, *God, I don't pray like that. You know I just get to the point.* So I've never wanted to let others in on my prayer life.

I told God, “I live such a public life. It seems I've lived my whole life in a glass house. Can't I just keep my prayer life between You and me?”

And He said, “No. You need to help others to develop a relationship with their Heavenly Father.”

To be victorious and spiritually healthy, we must live a life of prayer.

Each minister is used in different areas, and one of the areas in which God seems to have used me is in leading others to pray. God has a plan for each of us, and it's important that we learn to follow the plan of God for our life. How do we follow that plan? We pray out the plan of God!

So I am going to be obedient and share what I have learned and practiced concerning prayer. Lately, when my husband, Ken, and I travel to hold meetings, I have been teaching in the morning sessions on the subject of prayer. But I don't just teach. After the message, we practice what we've learned — *we pray!*

I want to share with you and our other readers the same prayer principles that I have shared in meetings throughout the country. These principles will help you learn about the “rules” of prayer in that they will teach you how to pray. But remember, it's not enough to learn how to pray. You must spend time practicing what you've learned. I encourage you to read these articles on prayer and then to

spend time praying as soon as you finish reading. This will help you put into practice the principles being taught.

God knows how important prayer is; that's why He gave us instructions *to pray* and instructions on *how to pray*. Even the devil knows how important prayer is. Now it's time for Christians to realize its importance and to devote ourselves to a lifestyle of prayer. ♥

See The Word of Faith magazine next month and in future issues to learn more about the power of prayer through Lynette Hagin's teaching articles.

save the date!

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M A Y 2 , 2 0 0 4

*Fishers of Men*  
I N T E R N A T I O N A L  
**RHEMA DAY**  
KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

*J O I N U S I N*

**E q u i p p i n g F i s h e r s o f M e n**

And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. — Matthew 4:19

It's been said, "Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day;  
teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime."

## RHEMA Bible Training Center is preparing fishers of men.

At the Lord's direction, Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin founded RHEMA Bible Training Center in 1974. To date, RHEMA USA has equipped more than 23,000 men and women to take the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to the nations — over 110 nations to be exact. Without the faithful support of RHEMA's friends and partners, this would have been impossible.

International RHEMA Day grew out of Brother Hagin's practice of designating one day during his meetings across North America as "RHEMA Day." The entire "RHEMA Day" offering would go to support RHEMA Bible Training Center.

International RHEMA Day continues to provide an opportunity for not just one church or congregation to help, but for everyone in the RHEMA family to join together in supporting RHEMA Bible Training Center and its God-given vision to train end-time laborers.

Whether you are an individual or a church, we need your help to make International RHEMA Day a success. You can join us on Sunday, May 2, 2004, for International RHEMA Day by participating in three very practical ways.

### Here's how you can help:

- 1. Share** with others the opportunity to attend RHEMA Bible Training Center.
  - If you or someone you know might be interested in attending RHEMA Bible Training Center, visit our Web site at [www.rhema.org/rbtc](http://www.rhema.org/rbtc) or call **918.258.1588, Ext. 2238** for information and a **FREE RBTC video**.
- 2. Unite** in prayer for RHEMA Bible Training Center and Kenneth Hagin Ministries.
  - Set aside a certain time on Sunday, May 2, to join in prayer for us and with us.
- 3. Give** your financial support for RHEMA Bible Training Center USA. By giving, you join with us as we continue to equip fishers of men to work around the world for the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - Fill out the envelope in this issue of *The Word of Faith* and mail it with your International RHEMA Day offering enclosed. Or visit [www.rhema.org/ird](http://www.rhema.org/ird) to give your offering on the Web.

Please help RHEMA raise up fishers of men — qualified ministers who will go to the uttermost parts of the earth and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with the lost and hurting. For more about International RHEMA Day or to sign up your church to participate, visit us online at [www.rhema.org/ird](http://www.rhema.org/ird) or call us at 918.258.1588, Ext. 2238.

Remember to mark International RHEMA Day on **May 2, 2004** on your calendar . And thank you for supporting RHEMA Bible Training Center. **Together** we are preparing those who will help usher in the last great move of God's Spirit and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ!





# From the Archives

A nostalgic look at the beginnings of Kenneth Hagin Ministries



FEATURE: FROM THE ARCHIVES

## The Anointing to Teach

*Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin recalls when he received the anointing to teach and how he proved the gift was real. [Editor's Note: This From the Archives is taken from Rev. Hagin's book Understanding the Anointing.]*

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Even though I wasn't a teacher to begin with, I always had the greatest respect for the Word of God and was very studious. I spent hours studying and reading, digging things out for myself in my early years as a pastor, but I didn't teach those things. I had no unction or leading to teach.

As pastor, I did teach a Sunday School class in the church, however. That was the custom in most Pentecostal churches. I never was so glad of anything in my life as I was when that class was over each Sunday morning. I'd lay that teacher's quarterly down and think, *Whew! Now I can relax for another week.*

I so detested teaching that I wouldn't look at the Sunday School quarterly for the whole week. Sometimes I didn't pick it up to study it until just before the class started the next Sunday morning!

I could get by with that because I had developed a unique ability of being able to read something once and never forget it. I didn't have that talent before I got born again. But afterwards I could read a chapter in my high school history book once and recite it word for word for the teacher. I could do that because I learned to walk in the life of God. Walking in the life of God will increase your mentality.

So I could read the teacher's lesson once from the Sunday School quarterly

and rattle it off. Then I'd say, "I'm glad that's over! Now I can get back to preaching!" And I'd preach up a storm, going like an air hammer, waving my arms like a windmill. (I thought it wasn't preaching unless you did that.) I was a preacher, and I loved it. I'd have rather preached than eaten.

I preached for nine years. All I had was the evangelistic message. I never preached anything else. I didn't *have* anything else!

But I remember one Thursday afternoon at three o'clock. (The year was 1943. I had been preaching since 1934.) I walked across the parsonage living room and into the kitchen for a drink of water. As I was coming back across the living room, right in the middle of the room, something just dropped down on me and inside me. It just clicked down on the inside of me like a coin drops inside a pay phone. I stood still. I knew what it was. It was a teaching gift. The anointing to teach had dropped inside of me.

When I received any gift from God, I proved it out first, and I would encourage you to do the same. Prove what you've got from God, and then you can talk about it. But if it's never proven, proclaiming it won't make it so. I never said a word about having the anointing to teach.

We had a little prayer group of seven or eight women who met Wednesday afternoons from two to four at the church. People turned in prayer requests and these women would pray over the requests and about the church and the services for a few hours. My

wife always met with them, and I usually met with them.

I suggested to them that we have a Bible lesson for an hour before our prayer time, but I didn't invite anyone extra to attend. It wasn't an announced meeting.

I started teaching those seven or eight women, and the anointing would come on me. I hadn't known you could stand in one spot and just teach the Word and get that strongly anointed to teach. I thought you were supposed to be hollering at the top of your voice, waving your arms like a windmill, and "spitting cotton"!

But as I just stood there with a handful, teaching them the Word, the anointing would come on me so strongly I couldn't stand it. You talk about getting blessed! It was like getting hold of an electric current. That anointing and the Word flowed out to the women. They went home and told their husbands and others. Still, we never announced the Wednesday afternoon Bible study.

But people started coming Wednesday afternoons in spite of the fact that we had regular Wednesday night services too. The women's husbands would take off from work to get in on the afternoon service. It wasn't long until we filled the building. We had a bigger crowd Wednesday afternoon than we did Wednesday night!

I proved the teaching gift. It worked. I started out by faith and kept going, and the building filled up.

I began to teach more and more until I taught half the time and preached the other half. Now I seldom get the anointing to preach anymore. Thank God for that teaching anointing! It's a little different, but it's still the same Spirit Who anoints you for whatever He calls you to do. ♥

# seed thoughts

by 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)



Several months ago in this column, I began dealing with the issue of time management. I had planned on continuing in the very next issue, but circumstances prevented me from writing on the subject. So I would like to continue on that subject this month.

In that previous column, I talked about the importance of writing a "to do" list. It is much easier to navigate through the day when you have committed your schedule to paper, because you don't have to tax your brain, trying to remember everything you need to accomplish.

Another key to time management is to pray. Proverbs 3:5,6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." The Lord wants to guide our steps each day. He does not want us to be burdened down with the daily decisions we must make. He wants to help us with those decisions.

You may be thinking, "I don't have time to pray about every single thing!" I agree that we don't always have a time to just bask in the Presence of God uninterrupted. But all day long, we can practice being in the Presence of God through prayer. I make prayer a continuous focus throughout the day. I continually ask God for wisdom. James 1:5 says, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." In each situation I face, I ask God for wisdom. When I have wisdom to make decisions, I can make each decision wisely and quickly.

One thing I've found that causes us to become frustrated with our lack of time is saying "yes" to something when we should say "no." I often commit to do something that I really don't have time to do, simply because I do not want to hurt someone's feelings. It is important to ask the Lord for wisdom on when to say yes and when to say no — and to also ask Him for the courage to be able to say no when you need to.

We must realize that God never asks, expects, or wants us to "do it all." Realizing I couldn't do it all, and that I wasn't supposed to do it all, was hard for me. I love to please people, and I enjoy doing things for others. However, I found that I was overcommitting and overdoing, even at the

expense of abusing my body as well as neglecting my family. I had to learn to be a God-pleaser instead of a man-pleaser, and to allow God to give me the wisdom to know which tasks I needed to commit to.

It is important for us to take time to relax and to get away from the daily routine of life. We all live in a high-pressure, fast-paced world. It is important to take time away from that pressure and to take time to rest.

Even Jesus took time to get away and to rest. In Mark 6:31, Jesus instructed the disciples to go to a deserted place and rest for a while. I have to admit that this has been one of the hardest commands for me to follow. By nature, I tend to be a workaholic. Every fiber in my being wants to push, push, push until there is nothing left to push. I hardly knew what the words "rest" and "relaxation" meant! And yet, I have learned the wisdom of what Jesus was saying — at times, it is necessary for us to get away and rest.

I have often found that as I take time to just get away — time spent thinking about nothing in particular, not even spent in prayer or searching for an answer to a situation — the Lord will reveal to me the exact solution to what I had been praying about and meditating on for months. Just getting away, relaxing, and taking my mind off of everything ("clearing my mind," as my mom puts it) has often provided me with the perfect environment in which to hear

from God. God is able to speak to my heart and to give me solutions for each situation in my life.

So I encourage you to make time to be alone — solitary time, not prayer time — just a time to relax. Find a hobby you enjoy and take time for it. You'll find that in the midst of taking some time for you, you will live a more peaceable life. You will begin to have a positive attitude toward circumstances rather than a negative one. And that positive attitude will help you to successfully navigate through each day of your life.



Lynette



## FIND THE PAIRS!

See how many matching pairs of pictures you can find below. When you have found the matching pairs, see if you can figure out what the pairs have in common.



## WHAT MADE THEM WELL?



Read the 3 accounts of Healing below and see if you can figure out what two words are missing.

Mark 10:51-52 — And answering him, Jesus said, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And the blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, I want to regain my sight!" And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; \_\_\_\_\_ has made you well."

Luke 8:47-48 — And when the woman saw that she had not escaped notice, she came trembling and fell down before Him, and declared in the presence of all the people the reason why she had touched Him, and how she had been immediately healed. And He (Jesus) said to her, "Daughter, \_\_\_\_\_ has made you well."

Luke 17:15-19 — Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, and he fell on his face at His (Jesus) feet, giving thanks to Him. . . . And He (Jesus) said to him, "Rise, and go your way; \_\_\_\_\_ has made you well."

Only one of these answers is the correct answer to fill in the blanks above. Which one is it?

- A. GOD'S POWER
- B. GOD'S GRACE
- C. YOUR FAITH
- D. GOOD WORKS

## MATCH-UP

How much do you know about Jesus' healing ministry? Match the people below with the way that they were healed.

- Blind man of Bethsaida
- Crowd at Peter's house
- Deaf man of Decapolis
- People of Gennesaret
- Man born blind
- Woman with issue of blood
- Jesus laid hands on them
- Jesus used his spit
- Touched Jesus' clothes
- Jesus used clay

## jokes & riddles

A merry heart does good like medicine. — Proverbs 17:22



Why couldn't the pony sing with the choir?

**Because he was a "little hoarse" (horse)**

Johnny: Hey Sam, can you come out to play?

Sam: No, my Mom grounded me because I was dribbling balls in the house.

Johnny: Wow, your Mom sure is tough!

Sam: Well, they were meatballs!

Why did the bicycle quit the race?

**Because it was too tired (two-tired)**

It's raining outside and all the windows in the house are tightly shut, yet one curtain still gets wet . . . why is this?

**Because it's the shower curtain**

What do you get when you cross a rooster with an owl?

**A cock-a-doodle-who!**

What ball still works fine even with three holes in it?

**A bowling ball**

## A-mazing Healing

Draw a line to mark your way through the maze below. Challenge a friend to see who can do it the fastest!

start here



finish here

WHAT MADE THEM WELL? - ANSWER: YOUR FAITH  
 FIND THE PAIRS - ANSWER: THERE ARE FOUR MATCHING PAIRS AND THEY ALL SHOW JESUS HEALING SOMEONE.  
 MATCH-UP - ANSWERS:  
 1. BLIND MAN OF BETHSAIDA - JESUS LAID HANDS ON HIM AND USED SPIT.  
 2. CROWD AT PETER'S HOUSE - JESUS LAID HANDS ON THEM - LUKE 4:40  
 3. DEAF MAN OF DECAPOLIS - JESUS LAID HANDS ON HIM AND USED HIS SPIT - MARK 7:32-33  
 4. PEOPLE OF GENNESARET - TOUCHED JESUS' CLOTHES - MARK 6:56  
 5. MAN BORN BLIND - JESUS USED SPIT AND CLAY - JOHN 9:6  
 6. WOMAN WITH ISSUE OF BLOOD - TOUCHED JESUS' CLOTHES - LUKE 8:44

## ANSWERS: