



# Word of Faith



### KENNETH HAGIN MINISTRIES

Working Together to Reach the World! 1025 W. KENOSHA BROKEN ARROW, OK 74012

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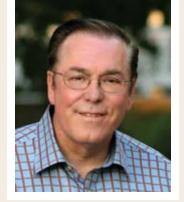
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PLEASE SHARE WITH A FRIEND OR RECYCLE.

# You Can't Hold Back the Dawn!

What does the celebration of Easter mean to you and me today? For many people, it's merely a time to hunt Easter eggs and eat candy—a time to get together with family and friends. But for us as Christians, it represents the dawning of a new day for all mankind through the resurrection of Jesus Christ!

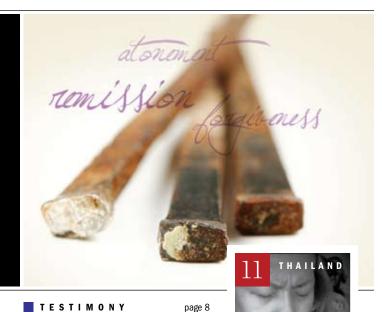


I want you to look with me for a moment into the scenes of history. Go with me to the city of Jerusalem, to a place called the garden tomb. Can you picture the darkness hanging heavy over the garden on that first Easter morning? The soldiers who were standing guard over Jesus' body must have shivered in the cold air. It was almost dawn, but little did they know what was about to happen!

As the first rays of morning light began to break, the dawning of the day of salvation was finally coming to pass. Suddenly the darkness and gloom of night gave way to the rays of that golden ball that we call the sun. But another sun was rising that morning—the Sun of Righteousness with healing in His wings (Mal. 4:2). He was arising to dispel the darkness and gloom of sin, sickness, depression, and despair. And He made victory available for every man, woman, boy, and girl!

What is the message of Easter for *your* life today? You don't have to endure the gloom and darkness of this world. And you don't have to allow those things to spread into your life! Jesus Christ arose on that first Easter morning for your sickness, your disease, your troubles, and your heartache. There are not enough forces in hell or evil men walking the face of this earth to hold back the dawn of the Son of God in your life. Resurrection day is the dawning of *your* day of salvation. Just open your heart and let the light of Jesus Christ arise in you today!

Kennet v. Hagai



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SEED THOUGHTS

FAITH ACADEMY

The Blood Still Speaks KENNETH W. HAGIN

The blood of Christ has been speaking since it was shed on Calvary's hill. But are you doing what it takes to activate it in your life?

16 Forget About Yourself & Remember Me craig w. Hagin

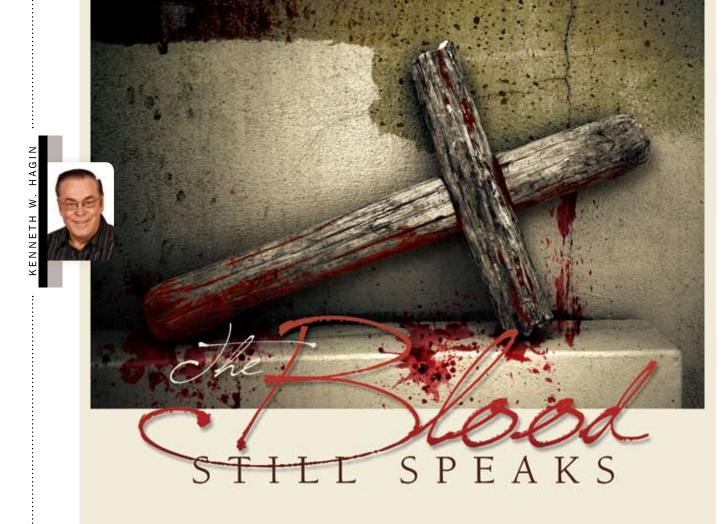
If you'll remember Who is dwelling inside you, you won't get caught up in the cares of life.

19 Three Big Words KENNETH E. HAGIN

Do you know what three of the biggest words in the Bible are? Find out, and discover how they affect your life.

Special Report: INTERNATIONAL RHEMA

Infected with a desire to share the Gospel, Keith and Sharon Higginbotham have devoted their lives to ministering the word of faith in Southeast Asia.



BEFORE HIS CRUCIFIXION, JESUS AGONIZED IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE.

"O MY FATHER," HE PRAYED,

"IF IT BE POSSIBLE, LET THIS CUP PASS FROM ME" (MATT. 26:39).

BUT GOD'S ONLY BEGOTTEN SON ACCEPTED THAT CUP AND WENT ON TO CALVARY'S HILL AND SHED HIS BLOOD. THE SPOTLESS  $Lamb\ of\ God$  took upon himself the sins of the world. He was made to be sin (2 cor. 5:21), and he was judged so that we would not have to be judged.

WITH HIS LAST BREATH, Jesus uttered, "It is finished." His head slumped to His chest, and the penalty for sin was satisfied. Before Jesus' death on the cross, we stood guilty in God's sight. We were doomed—condemned. We were without hope. But that changed when Jesus shed His blood. And that blood now speaks on our behalf.

The blood of Jesus speaks of eternal life. Before the Cross, we were on the outside looking in where God is concerned. We were living in sin and degradation. But when we accepted Jesus as our Savior and the blood was applied to our hearts, we became children of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ (Rom. 8:17). And Jesus' blood says we are

entitled to all of the promises of God.

The blood of Jesus accomplished what we could not accomplish for ourselves. We could not extract ourselves from bondage to sin. We could not reconcile ourselves to God. But because the blood of Jesus speaks, we have been reconciled to God.

That blood speaks of who we are and what we

have. It speaks to us of righteousness. We cannot stand before God in self-righteousness. But we can stand before Him in the righteousness that Christ obtained for us at the Cross.

Because blood flowed from Jesus' hands, feet, and side, when we accept Him as our Savior, our past no longer exists. Old things have passed away

# That blood speaks of who we are and what we have.

and everything has become new (2 Cor. 5:17). And now there is no condemnation for us in Him (Rom. 8:1).

### ACTIVATING THE BLOOD

Revelation 12:11 says, "They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony." The power in the blood is activated in our lives when we speak the Word of God. To walk in victory, our words must agree with what the blood says.

I grew up hearing the

When the devil accuses us, we need to plead the blood and say what that blood says: "I've been forgiven of all my sins and have been accepted into the family of God." When he tries to put sickness on us, we need to say, "By the stripes of Jesus, I am healed" (1 Peter 2:24).

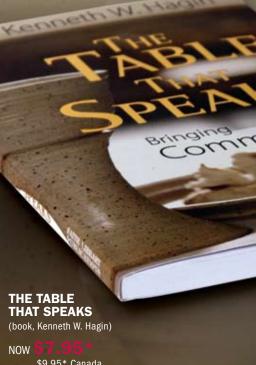
When our enemy accuses us of being unrighteous, we need to say, "I am the righteousness of God in Christ" (2 Cor. 5:21). If he tries to put us in bondage, we need to say, "My deliverance has dawned. I announcing to the world that the supreme sacrifice had been paid. Satan's hold was finished. Now the promises and blessings of God are available to anyone who comes through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let's enjoy every blessing that Christ obtained for us. Let's apply the blood of Iesus and show forth what He has done for us. It's not God's responsibility to see that we receive His blessings. It's our responsibility to activate the promises of God through our words.

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expression "I plead the

## FAITH NUGGET

# The Worst Day of the Devil's Life

If you want to see Satan run, begin talking about the blood of Jesus. You see, he remembers what happened when that blood was shed. The devil thought he had it made. He thought he had captured Jesus, the Son of God. He thought he had thwarted God's plan. But during those three days in hell, Jesus took back the keys of hell and death (Rev. 1:18). He disarmed the powers and principalities and made a public spectacle of them (Col. 2:15 NIV). And instead of being held captive by the forces of darkness, Jesus ascended into Heaven. The blood of Jesus is the power that destroyed all the works of the enemy!

blood." Pleading the blood of Christ is not begging God to do something, and it's not a statement of unbelief or fear.

Pleading the blood is activating what happened through the blood of Jesus Christ on the Cross. It's asking God to provide for us what Jesus' blood has already purchased. It's a statement of faith about what happened at Calvary.

was delivered over 2.000 years ago" (Col. 1:13).

The blood of Jesus is constantly speaking the Word of God. But what are we saying? Are we speaking the Word, or are we saying things like, "What am I going to do?" "I don't know how I am going to make it." "The doctors say there isn't any cure for this disease."

When Jesus said, "It is finished," He was

And when we speak the

Word, we will see all that

God has provided for us

become a reality in our

lives.

To learn more about how your words activate the promises of God, go to www.rhema.org and click on Study Center / Articles / Confession. Or for audio teaching go to www.rhema.org and click on Media / Rhema for Today / and scroll down to the Confession broadcast series.



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# STRESSED?

## Don't Take a Care

### CHARLES COWAN

[Editor's Note: Charles Cowan is pastor of Faith Is The Victory Church in Nashville, Tennessee. This article was adapted from his book *How to Deal With the Cares of Life*.]

AS I LOOK OUT across the world today, the magnitude of stress is one of the most disturbing things I see. People are stressed out with all kinds of circumstances involving their children, their iobs and businesses. and their relationships. Many are dealing with just the nitty-gritty of living, and they are stressed out about it.

Unfortunately, this stress is not only prevalent in the world but in the Body of Christ. Sunday after Sunday, Christians come into churches across America—and around the world—and they sit in the pews with their lives laden with care.

The cares of life, if we allow them to, can cause full-blown stress, which can grow to be overwhelming and can devastate us emotionally, mentally, physically—and financially.

But what does God have to say about that? Should Christians be stressed?

No! God wants us to have joy no matter what obstacles are in our lives.
God wants us to
have joy when the
wind is blowing,
when it's raining, or
when it's thundering—and He wants
us to have joy when
the sun is shining.

# TEAMED UP WITH GOD

It is very important for us, as children of God, to see ourselves as winners when defeat seems to lie before us. We need to see ourselves teamed up with God, and we need to picture ourselves as overcomers.

John 16:33 says, "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." Here Jesus says that despite our tribulation, or difficulties, we can have peace.

Sometimes people only read the part of this verse that says, "In the world you shall have tribulation." They think, Yes, dear Lord, that is true. But that wasn't all Jesus said. Before He spoke of tribulation, He assured us that,

in Him, we can have peace.

Let's look at something else in that verse: "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: BUT BE OF GOOD CHEER; I have overcome the world."

Jesus told us to be of good cheer. We can't be of good cheer unless we have the right picture. Going into a fiery trial, we must see our victory!

When Daniel went to his house, opened his window, looked toward Jerusalem, and prayed to his God, he saw his God bigger than his tribulation. The lions were not even a consideration to him.

The fiery furnace was heated seven times hotter than normal for the three Hebrew boys,

and even the men who threw them in perished; yet the furnace was no consideration to them. The Hebrew children had a party in the *middle* of the fiery furnace, and Jesus showed up for the celebration (Dan. 3:24-25)!

As with Daniel and the three Hebrew children, Jesus is bigger than any of our trials. We will have tribulation—which can be anything that troubles, distresses, worries, disturbs, agitates, or causes us to take the care of it—but Jesus said He has overcome it all, and He is in us (Gal. 2:20)!

# REJOICE AND BE GLAD

Life presents many obstacles that may seem insurmountable, but God wants us to have joy in spite of them. He does not want any of His people burdened with care, so

He commands us in His Word to cast our care over on Him, because He cares for us (1 Peter 5:7).

What do you see concerning the cares you are dealing with today? Do you see God as bigger than your problems? If not, you need to make adjustments immediately. Turn your heart to the Lord and listen for Him to direct you.

Expect the power of God to be with you no matter what your circumstance, situation, or difficulty. Expect God's power in your words and actions to cause every situation of your life to bow its knee to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

It doesn't matter what has happened. This is the day the Lord has made, and He wants you to rejoice and be glad in it (Ps. 118:24)!





"To go from being told I wouldn't be able to play to just being back on the court was amazing."

During a drill, one of Kara's teammates spiked the ball, hitting Kara in the head and knocking her to the floor unconscious. After being revived. she was taken to the team trainer. The trainer asked her a series of questions, none of which Kara could answer. She was also unable to balance herself. Suspecting that Kara had suffered a concussion, the trainer sent her to the hospital.

But October 1, 2010, turned out not to be a typical practice.

A medical examination revealed that Kara had indeed suffered a concussion. "The next thing I remembered after being at practice was waking up in my bed the next day," she said. "I had a really bad headache. My sister, who was at practice that day and took me to

the hospital, told me that I had a concussion."

On top of that news, Kara learned something from her parents that hit her just as hard as the volleyball had the day before. Fearing the risk of another concussion, her parents told her that she wouldn't be allowed to play volleyball anymore, even if the doctors cleared her.

Kara was devastated. Volleyball had been a big part of her life for years. Their team had won state the year before and she really wanted to win it again her senior year. She didn't want to think about never playing again.

For the next few weeks, Kara was still feeling the effects of the concussion. She wasn't able to go to school because she couldn't concentrate. She had to stay inside during the day because the sunlight made her headaches worse. She had a hard time looking at television or a computer screen for the same reason.

Kara's other sister, Heather, a youth leader at RHEMA Bible Church in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, heard about the tough time her sister was having. She bought her a volleyball bear and had the youth group pray over it (Acts 19:12) for Kara's healing before sending it to her.

"I noticed a change after I got the bear," Kara said. "It made me feel a lot better. I think it sped the healing process up. I was able to focus more and the headaches went away."

Even though Kara was doing well, her parents weren't sure that they wanted her to play volleyball again. Her family prayed about the situation, and her father, who was also her coach, agreed that if the doctor cleared her, he would allow her to play.

"My mom and I went to the doctor and he passed me," she said. "I was at practice about five minutes later and playing in regionals two days after that."

Kara and her teammates not only played in regionals—they won, knocking off the number-one-ranked team in the state along the way. The next weekend they played in and won the state championship.

"To go from being told I wouldn't be able to play to just being back on the court was amazing," Kara said. "I was so glad to be out there. I didn't want to let a single ball get past me without giving my full effort. Winning state was just incredible!"



Join Kenneth & Lynette Hagin for

# crusades





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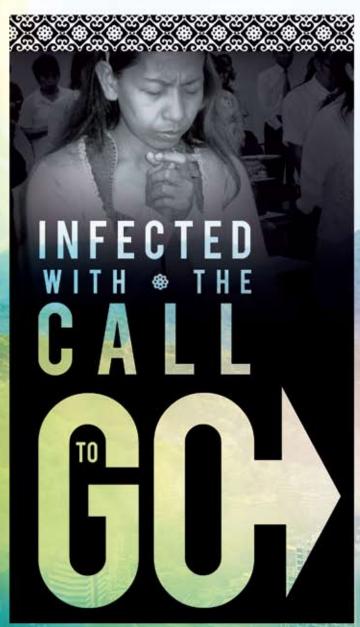


Be an essential piece and make a difference today!



# KEITH AND SHARON () HIGGINBOTHAM

"It all began with a monkey bite," Sharon jokingly laughs. "I was about 8 years old. A missionary came to speak at our church, and he brought along a monkey. The preacher's kid was teasing it. The monkey grabbed my hand and chomped down on my thumb. I've often joked that I must have gotten infected with missions, because now I'm a missionary."



YEARS LATER WHEN Sharon met her husband, Keith Higginbotham, he had also been "infected" with the same desire to travel to the far reaches of the globe to share the Gospel. Sharon and Keith became friends while attending the missions group of their church. Over the course of time, they began to realize that God was dealing with them to get married. So on their first date, they discussed marriage and agreed to spend their lives together on the mission field!

Two years after their marriage, the Higginbothams moved to Thailand. And since 1991 they have been devoted to spreading the Good News throughout this predominantly Buddhist nation. Whether they are ministering to the congregation of RHEMA Bible Church Bangkok or training RBTC students in Thailand or Myanmar, the Higginbothams are changing lives.

RHEMA Bible Church Bangkok began in 1999 and RBTC Thailand opened in 2000. The missionary couple took over the helm of both ministries in 2004.

RBC Bangkok is now in its 11th year. When looking back, it can be easy to highlight the spectacular. But it's really consistent, steady growth that brings the greatest results. And that's what Keith and Sharon have witnessed. Both new believers and those who have been Christians for some time have grown in their faith and seen turnarounds in their lives through the teaching of the Word.

The other facet of the Higginbothams' ministry in Thailand is training students at RBTC Thailand and RBTC Myanmar. "Most of our students are not members of our church," says Keith. "The majority of them are nationals and have come from several different denominational churches, as well as independent and Pentecostal churches."

One part of the RBTC Thailand training is the student practicum. Students are sent out into the community where they preach the Gospel

one-on-one and pray for the sick. They also invite the people they visit with to evangelistic-style meetings.

"One of the most exciting things is to see the beforeand-after pictures of the students," says Sharon. "They come in and as they hear the Word, things start growing in their hearts. Then they go out and share what they have learned with others."

"And they get results." Keith interjects.

"Through the course of this happening over a twoyear period," Sharon continues, "they're different when they graduate. And to see this change in them is so gratifying."

Keith adds, "Every year we hear testimonies: 'I've never shared the Gospel.' 'I always thought it would be too difficult.' 'I was afraid to do it.' And if the students didn't think they could share the Gospel with somebody, they surely didn't expect God to work through them to heal anybody. But they get

to where they will share the Gospel with anybody."

God is using the students mightily. During one practicum, as the students were going house-to-house, they shared the Gospel with a woman who had suffered from Parkinson's disease for 12 years. This woman could no longer walk or take care of herself. After the ill woman prayed for salvation, the students prayed for her healing. She immediately sat upright and then stood up and began walking. But God didn't stop there. Her speech became clear also. When her daughter and son-in-law saw the good things God did in her life, they gave their hearts to the Lord too!

After someone gives his or her life to Jesus, the students immediately begin to disciple that person. These principles of winning the lost, healing the sick, and discipling the converts are designed to be a template the students can follow after graduation to start a cell group or even a church.

Thailand began opening up to outsiders and missionaries around the 1830s, and northeastern Thailand has between 500 and 600 churches. However, 70 percent of the pastors have never had any formal Bible school training.

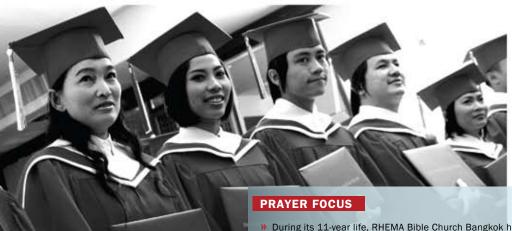
To address that problem, the Higginbothams plan to open extension campuses where those who are already pastoring or in leadership can come to be trained. "We want to focus on the leaders," Keith says. "Then they can help other people." Because they already have an established sphere of influence, what they learn will have an immediate impact as they share these truths with their congregations.

Always looking forward, the Higginbothams aren't content to reach only Thailand with the Gospel. They have a vision for the entire region. God has already miraculously opened doors for an extension campus in the neighboring country of Myanmar. And they also have

their sights set on Laos and Cambodia. They are committed to fulfilling God's vision for RHEMA to "go teach My people faith" and are working tirelessly until that vision is fulfilled in Southeast Asia.

### RBTC MYANMAR

- » An extension campus opened in Myanmar for men and women who are already in ministry. Because it is not possible for these men and women to leave their ministries for nine months at a time, classes are conducted in four-week sessions three times a year.
- » Although travel is difficult in Myanmar, it doesn't deter these hungry students. To get to the extension campus, one man first walked half a day before he was able to hitch a four-hour ride on a cart pulled by a water buffalo. Then he had to hop on a bus for the final leg of his journey. The rugged trip took over a day. At RBTC Myanmar, he and the other students soaked up the Word of God for six hours at a time, and they would have stayed longer if the instructors had kept teaching.
- » In March 2010. 33 students graduated from RBTC Myanmar's two-year training program. Since then, six new house churches have been started throughout the country. The word of faith has come to Myanmar!



- During its 11-year life, RHEMA Bible Church Bangkok has gathered for worship in a variety of buildings and is now meeting in a hotel. RBTC Thailand has been in a separate location since it began. Keith and Sharon Higginbotham would like to change that. "Our greatest need right now is for a new facility for both the church and the school," states Keith. "We want to put them together. It's time to do that."
- » The cost of living is high in Bangkok and real estate is very expensive. Although properties cost less outside the city, the Higginbothams have found that traveling outside of Bangkok is more difficult. Because of that, most people wouldn't make the trip.
- » Pray that a facility in a good location in Bangkok becomes available, and that the funds needed to purchase the building come in.
- » To learn more about the Higginbothams, visit www.AsiaMissions.org.



# RHEMA BIBLE TRAINING CENTER



# **APRIL 15–17**

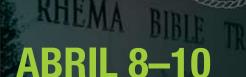
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'I am almost speechless at times when people ask me how RHEMA has impacted my life. I think it actually goes much deeper than people realize. We're talking about a place where your whole spirit, mind, and body are transformed by the Word of God—where people's lives are radically changed, where people's vision becomes so much clearer for their destiny. I will never be the same again because of this school. My vision has always been the world, but now, because of going to this school, my vision is the world and generations. Now I can go back to my country and bring a message that will transform countless lives. And I know it would not be possible for me to get this training if people didn't give so generously like they do."

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"And he said to them, Go into all the world, and give the good news to everyone." — MARK 16:15 (BBE)

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>> IT'S EASY TO GET CAUGHT UP in the cares of life. There are bills to pay. Unexpected expenses to take care of. The cost of living is rising. And a shadow of uncertainty hangs over the economy.

> God promises to "supply all [our] needs according to his riches in glory" (Phil. 4:19). But many of us are so busy worrying about how we're going to make it that we forget about God's promise to supply.

> If we'll put our focus on the Lord and spend time with Him, we'll begin tapping into the glory spoken about in Philippians 4:19. The riches are in the glory, and if we want to get where the riches are, we have to get in the glory. We have to press through our fears and commune with God in prayer. When we do this, we'll see things change in our lives.

> Life is really about a relationship with God. It's about knowing Who our Heavenly Father is, and knowing that He loves and cares about us.

> Usually, when we're worried, the last thing we do is commune with God. But that's when we need to forget about our situation. We need to forget about our bills and the money we need, and focus on God and His great love for us. As we do this, we'll find that we won't care about what we're going through. That's because we'll realize that our circumstances are temporal but our God is eternal. And He is well able to supply our needs.



THE BIBLE HAS A LOT to say about remembrance. One verse most people are familiar with is our Communion scripture.

### 1 CORINTHIANS 11:25 (NKJV)

25 In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

We are told to remember Christ whenever we take Communion.

When Jesus was dying on the Cross, one of the two thieves being crucified next to Him said, "'Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom'" (Luke 23:42 NKJV).

As we go through life's so-called struggles, I believe Jesus is saying, "Hey, remember Me! Remember Who I am. Remember what power

### FAITH IN ACTION

# Think on These Things

Let's face it. When you're going through a hard time, it can be easy to think about your problem constantly. Employees at Kenneth Hagin Ministries were asked how they keep their focus on the Lord during trying times. Here are some of their suggestions.

- REMIND YOURSELF of the times when God came through for you in the past, and know that He'll do it again.
- PRAY in the Holy Spirit and meditate on "in Him" scriptures.
- **PRACTICE** Philippians 4:6-9 by thinking on things which are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, and of a good report.
- **FOLLOW** Jesus' advice. He said, "Take no thought. . . ." In other words, don't accept thoughts that lead to worry, but resist them with the Word.
- Constantly remind yourself of **GOD'S PROMISES**. Write them on index cards and place the cards on mirrors, on the refrigerator, in your car, and so forth.
- **SING** Word-based songs that fit the need.

When things aren't going well, remember Who is in you. Remember who you are in Christ.

you possess because I came. Because I lived. Because I died upon the Cross. Because I defeated the devil."

A lot of Christians remember Jesus as their Savior. They know they are born again and are going to Heaven. And one fine day when the roll is called up yonder, they know they'll be there. But what about what happens between now and then?

All too often when things aren't going well, we get caught up in the situation and forget about Christ. I can see Jesus knocking on the doors of our hearts saying, "Hey, remember Me. I'm here on the inside of you."

We also need to remember, the same Spirit that raised Christ from the

dead dwells in us (Rom. 8:11). If that same Spirit *really* dwells in us, then what do we have to be worried about?

While on the earth, Jesus walked on the water and commanded the raging seas to be still. He healed the sick and cast out devils. Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Heb. 13:8). And we carry that same Spirit inside of us. We are the temples of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19). Whether we are in our home, our car, or the office, Christ is with us.

When things aren't going well, remember Who is in you. Remember who you are in Christ. When you remember this, you will realize that you have everything you need.



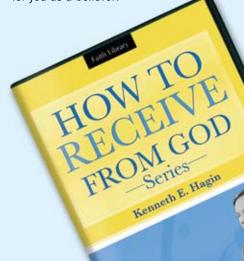
To learn more about Who is in you, go to **www.rhema.org/wof**, find this article in the April 2011 issue, and click on the link to an MP3 recording of Craig W. Hagin's message "Remember Me."



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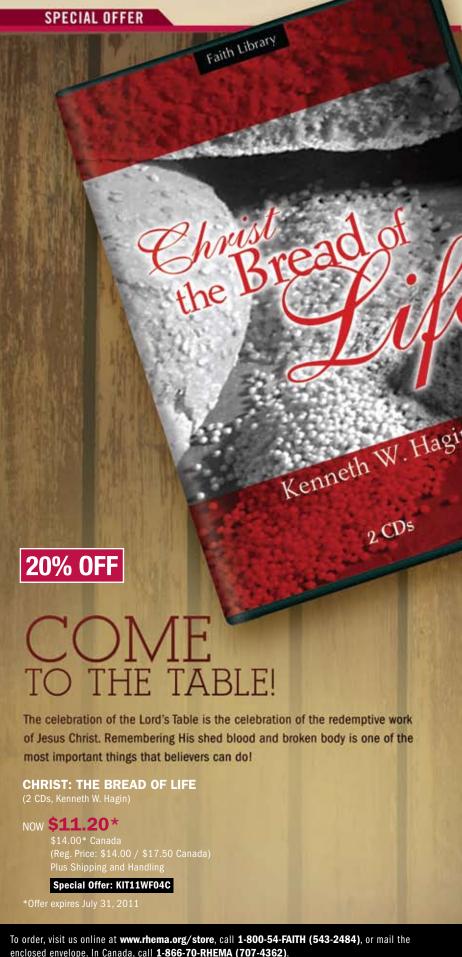


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Have you ever wondered what the three biggest words in the Bible are? People's ideas differ on this. It depends on what they are studying at the moment and where they are in their lives. But probably no one would disagree that the following words are three of the most important in the Bible.

# Atonoment Remission Torgiveness

LET'S TAKE A LOOK at each word and how it affects us.

### **ATONEMENT**

The children of Israel lived under the Old Covenant and followed the Mosaic Law. Whenever they broke the law—which was inevitable—the priests made an *atonement* (or covering) for their sins once a year on the Day of Atonement. The Old Testament describes two

remarkable things that took place on this day.

First. The High Priest carried the blood of an innocent animal into the Holy of Holies and sprinkled it on the Mercy Seat. That blood "covered" the sins the children of Israel had committed the previous year.

**Second.** The priest symbolically placed the sins of the people on the scapegoat by laying his hands on the animal's

head and confessing the people's sins over it. The scapegoat was then turned loose in the wilderness to be devoured by wild beasts.

This sin offering had to be repeated year after year because it only "covered" the Israelites' sins. Their sin nature still remained in them.

Eternal life, the greatest event that can ever take place in any person's life, could not be provided until Jesus, the perfect Sacrifice, had come.

### REMISSION

If a cleaning agent is applied to an ink stain, the stain remover eradicates the ink. The stain wouldn't have to be covered over, because it would be cleansed, or erased. This is a picture of remission of sins. When we receive Christ as our Savior, we become new creatures in Him (2 Cor. 5:17).

To read more articles on the forgiveness we have in Christ, go to www.rhema.org and click on Study Center / Articles / Covenant. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on "Jesus Is Our Advocate."



Everything we've done in our past, and everything we've been, is wiped out. In God's eyes, it no longer exists. We begin again with a clean slate.

Remission means "a wiping out as though it had never been." The word remission is only used in connection with the New because everything he has ever done is wrong!

When we look at ourselves from a natural standpoint, it's obvious that we have the same body that we've always had. Our body doesn't change when we are born again. It's the real man on the inside, or our spirit being, that is born again.

### **FORGIVENESS**

Whenever a person accepts Christ as his Savior, his spirit is recreated and his sins are remitted once and for all. You may

the Christian—the person who is already born again—does not receive remission; he receives forgiveness.

Thank God for that word forgiveness. It is a fellowship word, speaking from a New Testament point of view. When a child of God sins, he breaks fellowship with the Father but he does not break relationship.

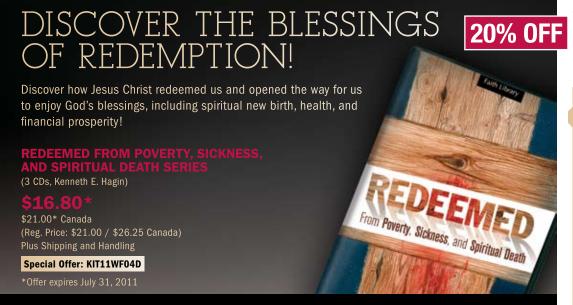
An example of this is when a husband and wife quarrel. They don't break relationship—they are still married. However,

us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." When we do this, we once again stand in the presence of God as though we had never done wrong.

Thank God there is remission of sins and forgiveness. God is in the forgiving business and does not want anyone to be separated from Him. And He provided three big words for all of mankind. Under the Old Covenant, atonement was the biggest word for Israel. Today, remission is the biggest word for sinners. And forgiveness is the biggest word for Christians.

(Editor's Note: This article was adapted from Kenneth E. Hagin's minibook Three Big

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> Birth. Several times in the King James translation of the Bible, the Greek word that should be translated "remission" is translated "forgiveness." A sinner, however, receives remission of sins, not forgiveness. If a sinner had to confess all of his sins to be saved, then he could never be saved. A sinner could never think of everything he has ever done wrong—

wonder, What happens if the person misses it after he is born again? What if he sins?

Any Christian who commits sins receives forgiveness. If he were to receive remission, everything he had ever done in the past-both good and bad-would be wiped out. Even his New Birth would be erased. But that is not the case, because they have broken their fellowship, and they need to ask one another for forgiveness.

Similarly, when Christians sin, their fellowship with God is broken. They are still part of His family. They simply need to ask for forgiveness. Their way back into fellowship is found in First John 1:9: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive

### FAITH NUGGET

# A New Start

The Bible tells us that when we give our lives to the Lord, we become new creations (2 Cor. 5:17). Although our physical bodies don't change on the outside, our spirit beings are recreated. Many people think of themselves as the same old persons after they are born again, but they're not. They may be living in the same old bodies, but they are new persons in Christ Jesus. From a physical standpoint, there may be some scars of sin left. But there are no scars of sin left on our spirit beings-they're gone. The New Birth means exactly that. We're new persons.

# KEEPING IT♥SIMPLE

We could write a clever article about spring just beginning and things

coming back to life and relate it to a new life in Christ. But honestly, it's all about Jesus and what He did for us on the cross. He died in agony in our place. He loved us more than He loved His own life. The Bible says, "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8 NKJV). Jesus' love for us is amazing. But it does us no good until we accept Him as our Savior. To accept Him into your heart today, simply pray the following prayer:

# GOD,

I come to You in the Name of Jesus. The Bible says, "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead. you will be saved" (Rom. 10:9 NKJV). I believe in my heart that Jesus is Your Son and that You raised Him from the dead. And I confess Jesus as my Lord. Therefore, I am saved!

# THANK YOU!

If you prayed that prayer, we have some materials that we would like to give you to help get you started on your walk with God. E-mail us at PartnerService@rhema.org or call us at 1-800-54-FAITH [543-2484].



// LYNETTE HAGIN

"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."

**WE LIVE IN WHAT** I call the microwave age. Everyone wants things to happen in an instant. In fact I even find myself putting a potato in the microwave and becoming impatient if it does not cook thoroughly in five minutes. It used to take an hour to cook a potato, yet I can become impatient with the five minutes.

Just as we can get impatient in the natural, we can bring that same attitude into our relationship with God. We send our requests to God and expect to be accommodated in the next few minutes. I think all of us will agree that life is passing way too fast these days. However, it seems we have adjusted to that mode of living, and that is not exactly the kind of timetable God keeps. Quick and fast-paced is not what God desires in our relationship with Him.

Isaiah 40:31 says, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Many times we ask the Lord to renew our strength or help us in some other way in our endeavors, and sometimes we wonder why it does not seem that He is answering our requests.

The key to it all is "they that wait upon the Lord." *Wait* is not a word we like to hear. We want answers immediately. We want instant gratification. We want immediate financial success. But these things do not come immediately. God is willing and able to help us in every area of our lives, but we need to learn to spend time with Him and listen carefully to His instructions.

In the natural I have seen people criticize those who were successful. They would ask, "Why is that person a success and I am such a failure?" I wanted to say to them, "You were not willing to pay the price." Someone once said, "I know the price of success: dedication, hard work, and a devotion to the things you want to see happen."

Just as success in the natural takes the ingredients of dedication, hard work, and devotion, so does success in the spiritual area of our lives. God is able to bless us exceedingly abundantly, above all we can ask or think (Eph. 3:20). But in order to receive those benefits, we must spend time with Him. We must commune with Him and allow Him to give us wisdom and direction for our lives.

My father-in-law, Kenneth E. Hagin, was a prime example of someone who had learned to wait upon the Lord. When my husband and I came to work for Kenneth Hagin Ministries, I was not used to waiting on anything. I was used to a plan being decided upon and my assignment being to make that plan happen. But when we began to work with my father-in-law, he would talk about a plan and then say, "I'm not exactly clear about how this plan needs to go. I'll need to do a little more praying." So I would wait and wait.

Knowing that it would be my responsibility to execute the plan once it was decided upon, I would quite frequently ask my father-in-law, "Dad, are you ready to move on the plan?" Oftentimes he would say, "No, I don't have clarity yet. I've got to wait

upon the Lord a little more." To be quite honest, at the beginning I would get a little frustrated and think, *Why does it take so long to hear from God?* But over time I learned the value of that lesson.

I realized that God does not always give us the answer immediately. I learned to sit back, relax, and know that when God spoke, He certainly knew the timetable. And He would give me the strength, ability, and wisdom to carry out His plan. I also learned that had the plan been carried out prematurely, it would have been headed in the wrong direction—and we would have had to spend extensive time reorganizing the situation.

Now as I give directives to our staff and say to them, "I don't have clarity yet—you'll have to wait a bit," sometimes I see that disparaging look I gave my father-in-law. I know they are thinking, *But don't we have a deadline to meet?* I answer them before they ask with, "God knows our deadlines. He is never late. He will be on time." Remember to "wait on the Lord" and you will come out successfully in every endeavor.

Lynette

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## FIND-A-WORD!

Find these words from Jeremiah 33:3 in the scrambled letters below: CALL • ANSWER GREAT • MIGHTY • THINGS

T H I N T R A L Y S C A G R E A E O T T G C A C I A E W C O H N C A L A N R S G A G I Q L A T L G N E Y I H N R E A L I A T O M T C A L I E E L

# It's Your Call!



These three phones may look the same, but you can really only use one of them to carry on a conversation. Study the pictures carefully to determine which phone you would use. (If you need a hint, look below)

**HINT:** Remember—to communicate with someone you TALK and LISTEN.

# PRAYER: YOUR THONE LINES TO GOD!

What is prayer? Simply put, it is communicating with, or talking to, God. An easy way to understand it is to think about talking on the telephone. If you want to talk to some-

body in another town or far away you simply pick up the telephone, dial their telephone number, and talk to them . . . you talk some and they talk some. It's the same way with prayer . . . you talk some and God talks some. God wants to hear from you and wants to talk to you. In Jeremiah 33:3, God says, "Call to Me and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things." So, call to God today in prayer . . . and be sure to listen to what He has to say!

# What's That Number ?

Look up the verses on prayer below in your Bible by using the letters on these phone buttons to determine the chapter and verse numbers.

### Example:

Jeremiah DE:F = Jeremiah 33:3

- 1. Philippians G:N
- 2. Colossians H:A
- 3. Romans U:BN
- 4. Matthew M:Z
- 5. Matthew Y:EV

1	ABC 2	DEF 3
GНI	JKL	MNO
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
PQRS	7UV	wxyz
7	8	<b>9</b>

# jokes & riddles

"A merry heart does good, like medicine."

Proverts 17:22 (NKJV)

What has 12 legs and runs into things?

**Three Blind Mice** 

model.

The letter "W"

Why did the muffin want to be like the croissant?

Because it was a good ROLL

What's at the end of a rainbow?

Sunday School Teacher: After the book of Deuteronomy comes Joshua, Judges, Ruth... Jimmy: What did Ruth do wrong? Sunday School Teacher: Nothing.

What makes you think Ruth did something wrong? Jimmy: Well, you just said Joshua *judges* Ruth.

Tongue Twister

See if you can say this three times fast:

He sells sea shells; she sells cell phones.

THINTBALYSCA GNEYIHNBEAL GNEY

ANGWEHS:

1. Philippiens 4-6. Colossiens 4-2.

3. Romans 8-5-6. Matthew 6-9. 5. Matthew 9-36.

4. Marth 7-4. S. E. G. Matthew 9-36.

11. C. S. F. S. B. 4. A. S. E. G. Matthew 9-36.

11. S. Your Call—Answer 6.

# What's Your Line?



If your prayer life could be compared to a phone, which one of the "phones" shown above would best represent your prayer life? Match the statements below with the phone above that it goes with.

- 1. I don't take prayer very seriously. I know cute little prayers like "Now I lay me down to sleep," but that's about it.
- 2. I only pray when I'm in trouble or if I have a problem.
- **3.** I like to pray because I love to talk. Oh . . . I'm supposed to listen, too! I'm not a good listener . . . but I do like to talk!
- **4.** It *costs* you time and energy to pray so I don't do it as much as I should!
- **5.** I just don't seem to get a "good connection" when I pray. I want to hear God but everything sounds so unclear.
- **6.** Prayer is my life line! I pray *everywhere I go* and God can reach me any time He needs to talk to me!





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