

by
Kenneth
Copeland

a WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF FAITH

I'm about to make a statement that may shock you, but according to the Bible it's the absolute truth: As a born-again believer, you have enough faith inside you right now to receive anything God has promised you in His WORD.

That's right. No matter how you feel about it, whether or not you've seen much evidence of it, you already have all the faith you'll ever need. You have faith to receive God's abundant provision. You have faith to walk in His supernatural BLESSING. You have faith to do everything in life He'll ever call you to do, because residing in your reborn spirit at this very moment is the very faith of God Himself. He deposited it in you the moment you received

Jesus as LORD.

The New Testament confirms it. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8). "For...God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith" (Romans 12:3).

As thrilling as it is to have the God kind of faith, however, for that faith to produce results in your life, you can't be content just to "have" it. You must also develop a working knowledge of how it operates.

There's a big difference between those two.

It's like the difference between having a ticket to ride on an airliner and being a pilot. The person with a ticket has access to the airplane, but

**DON'T EVER WORRY
ABOUT ANYTHING LIKE HOW
LONG THIS IS TAKING,
OR IS IT WORKING.**

FAITH RESTS. IT DOESN'T STRUGGLE TO PRODUCE RESULTS BY WORKS.



“
I watched in amazement as [Oral Roberts] used his faith again and again, like a mechanic uses a tool, to set people free from the oppression of sickness.
”



For your faith to produce results, you can't be content just to "have" it. You must also develop a working knowledge of how it operates. Here are some points to help get you there:

1

Agree with God's WORD and declare, "I have within my reborn spirit God's own faith!"

Ephesians 2:8

2

Acknowledge that like every other believer you have the same measure of faith Jesus Himself has.

Romans 12:3

3

Continually strengthen your faith by hearing and meditating on The WORD of God.

Matthew 4:4

4

Put your faith into action with the words of your mouth.

Mark 11:23

5

While you're waiting for what you've believed for to manifest, stay in faith by refusing to fear and by giving thanks to God.

Philippians 4:6-7

THE TRUTH WILL MAKE YOU FREE

by
Gloria
Copeland

Do you ever long to be absolutely free of selfishness? Do you yearn to throw off every fleshly bondage and hindrance so you can walk fully in love?

As amazing as it seems, we can do it!

Jesus told us how: "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free" (John 8:31-32, *New American Standard Bible*).

That's why, again and again, we must meditate on the truths in the Word that tell us we've been made partakers of God's divine and loving nature. We must continually grow in our revelation of the fact that God's love has been shed abroad in our hearts. The more fully and deeply we come to know that truth, the freer we will be!

It simply doesn't work for us to try to free ourselves out of sheer, human self-discipline from our unloving habits and behaviors. It doesn't work when, by the force of our own efforts, we try to make ourselves "act nice." When we do that, we inevitably fail, and get frustrated and discouraged with ourselves. As a result, we end up more irritable and short-tempered than we were before!

The only way we can truly succeed at walking in love is by drawing on the grace of God within us. The only way we can truly love like Jesus loves is by letting His nature, which dwells within our reborn human spirits, flow out through us. The

more we know about His nature, the more we can do that.

As 2 Peter 1:2 says, God's grace is multiplied to us through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord! That's true in every area of the Christian life. We can't receive something from God that we don't know about. We have to hear the truth about it. Then, when we hear it, faith comes. As we believe and begin to act on that truth, we see the power of it go to work in our lives.

So dig into the Word and find out more about the loving nature of God that abides in you. Meditate on it. Confess it and say, "God's love lives in me!" Then, begin to act by faith, and the bondages of the flesh will be broken. You will know the truth, and it will make you free! 🍎

"Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, according as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."
2 Peter 1:2-4

his use of it is extremely limited. All he can do is sit in the back section of the plane and depend on someone else to take him where he wants to go. A pilot, on the other hand, has a working knowledge of the process. If he has access to his own plane, he can set his own schedule instead of being tied to the airlines. He can sit in the front of the airplane and fly it instead of having to just ride along in the back.

When it comes to living by faith, God planned for all of His children to be spiritual pilots! He never intended for us to depend on someone else to do our believing for us. Although, when we're spiritual babies, we may have to ride along for a while on the prayers of more mature believers, God's plan is for each one of us to grow up and develop in our knowledge of how faith functions.

That's why Jesus said what He did in Mark 11:22-25:

Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

In those few short verses, Jesus gave us the classic teaching on how to use our faith. It's simple, yet it's extremely powerful. Whether you're just getting started or you've been walking with The LORD for decades, it will help you pilot your faith effectively. It will get you off the ground and keep you on track until you receive the manifestation of whatever you're believing for.

Walking Through the Process

One of the most practical ways I know to illustrate how to apply this classic teaching is by example; by taking a sample situation and mentally walking through it according to the process Jesus described. When I was preaching recently in Florida, for instance, I drew a situation from the life of a couple who were attending the meetings. For years they had wanted to have a baby, but had been unable to conceive.

Imagine, for a moment, you're facing that problem. (You may not be interested at all in having a baby at this point in your life, but just go with me here, OK?) Imagine that you and your spouse want to have a child and you've been told by the doctors that, due to some kind of physical problem, you're not going to be able to have one. You know what the Bible says about believers having children. It promises in Deuteronomy 7:14, "Thou shalt be blessed above all people: there shall not be male or female barren among you."

In that situation, how do you receive the fulfillment of God's promise?

The first thing you do is have faith in God! You put your confidence in Him and say out loud, "I have God's own faith! I believe in Him and I believe what He said. His WORD is my top priority and final authority."

Then you speak to the mountain and pray something like this:

"Heavenly Father, in the Name of The LORD Jesus Christ, I say to this mountain of infertility, 'Be thou removed and be cast into the sea!' I do not doubt in my heart but I believe those words will come to pass. The desire of my heart is for a child to be born into our family, so right now, on this date at this time, I release my faith and I believe I receive a baby.

"As Jesus commanded, I forgive everyone who's wronged me in any way. It's not my will to hold anything against anyone. If I have

any grain of unforgiveness left in my heart, LORD, please reveal it to me and I'll instantly forgive. I know You've forgiven me for any trespasses in my life and I receive that forgiveness now.

"From this point forward, Sir, this is my covenant commitment with You. I will never change. I will never quit. This is my confession: I am healed of infertility and my desire for a baby has been granted. I take it and I thank and praise You for it. Amen."

"Is receiving from God by faith really that simple?" you might ask.

Yes, it is. It's extremely simple.

It's not necessarily easy, however, and here's why: The praying isn't all there is to it. It's only the beginning. To complete the faith process, while you're waiting for the manifestation of what you've prayed and believed

for, you must maintain your faith confession and add corresponding action to it.

That means, in the case of believing for a baby, you wake up every morning saying, "Praise God, we're going to have a baby in this house!" You go to bed every night saying, "LORD, I want to thank You, Sir, that we're going to have a baby!"

Don't ever worry about anything like how long this is taking, or is it working, or I wonder.... STOP IT!

Never, ever, ever put up with fear! The minute you catch it creeping in, kick it out and keep it out with The WORD of God. Look up all the baby scriptures you can find. Read them and meditate on them at every opportunity. The WORD of God is food to your spirit. It feeds and strengthens your faith like bread feeds

and strengthens the physical body. (See Matthew 4:4.)

Trying Isn't Believing

"But Brother Copeland," someone might say, "I have been feeding on The WORD and so far nothing has happened. My spouse and I keep trying and trying but we just can't seem to conceive a child."

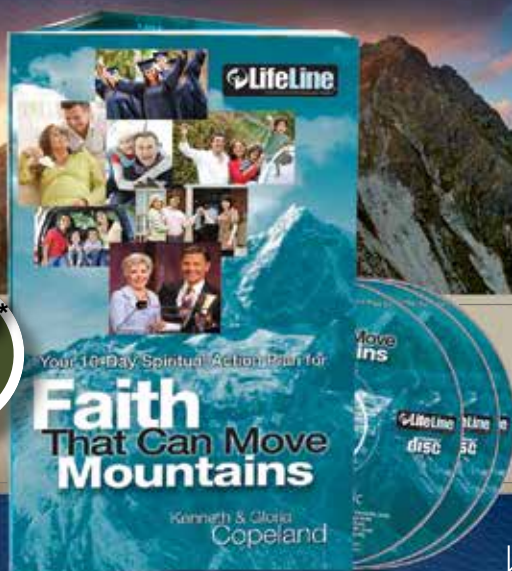
Then quit trying!

Trying isn't believing. As long as you're trying, you're not in faith. Faith rests. It doesn't struggle to produce results by works. It relaxes in God's grace.

Now, I'm not suggesting you stop putting action to your faith. Of course not! I'm just saying don't turn what God created to be a pleasure into a job. Stop approaching the marriage bed like you ought to be getting paid by

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the hour, and enjoy yourselves! Instead of “laboring” to make a baby, labor to enter the rest of faith. Talk to each other like you’re already pregnant. Stay in The WORD until the struggle relaxes, and then do what Philippians 4:6-8 says:

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are

lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things (*New King James Version*).

Look again at those verses. They don’t just say, “Don’t be anxious.” They say, “Be anxious for nothing, *but...*” do something else: Let your requests be made known to God. Do as Jesus instructed in Mark 11. Pray and believe you receive.

Once you’ve done that, rather than negating your faith by saying again and again, “Oh God, You know how much we want a baby. Please, please give us one!” continue to make your wants known to God through thanksgiving. Thank Him for answering your prayer,

and stay in peace by keeping your mind fixed on good things. When the devil attempts to get your faith off line and you’re tempted to get anxious over some bad report, focus on the report of The LORD. Think about things that are going right in your life instead of the things that are wrong.

“Well, I’m trying to do that, Brother Copeland.”

No, don’t get off on that trying business again. This isn’t something you “try” to do. It’s a command of God. Don’t sit there night after night watching murder and mayhem on television, and then claim you can’t help thinking negative thoughts. Change your mind by changing the channel. Turn off that fear-inspiring garbage and tune in to the Believer’s Voice of Victory Network or some other faith-building broadcasts.

See With the Eye of Faith

God can’t change your mind for you, and neither can the devil. Your mind belongs to you. You’re the one with the authority to cast down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ (2 Corinthians 10:5). So just do it!

Take charge of what you’re thinking. Follow David’s example in Psalm 103 where he said, “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies” (verses 2-4).

This is how you keep your faith activated and stay in God’s rest! When your mind and emotions start coming apart at the seams, say, “Soul, you just shut up that unbeliefer. You stop forgetting the benefits that belong to you because of what Jesus did on the cross. You remember that



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SEPTEMBER BROADCAST CALENDAR

because of Him, you're BLESSED. You're saved. You're healed. You're a child of God who is crowned with His lovingkindness and tender mercies!"

Such words have an especially powerful impact when you practice seeing what you're saying with the eye of faith. That's what the people in Hebrews 11 did. Verse 13 says, they received God's promises, "*having seen them* afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed..." (italics mine).

Such faith vision doesn't always develop overnight, of course. Particularly if you've been in a particular situation a long time—if you've been barren for years, or living in lack, or sick—you may have to spend some time renewing your mind with The WORD to change how you see yourself on the inside. That's what I had to do when I began believing God for a jet for this ministry. Although I'd flown smaller airplanes for years, a jet was a step up for me. I knew I needed one to do everything God had called me to do, yet I couldn't see myself owning one. Despite what I'd learned about prosperity I still had some poverty thinking following me around like an ornery little dog.

Eventually, though, I got rid of it. I fed and strengthened my faith with The WORD. I fixed my mind on God's promise, saw it with the eye of faith, embraced it and confessed it. Sure enough, before long my faith vision became a reality.

The same kind of thing can happen in your life. Whatever it is you desire—whether it's a baby, healing for your body or a debt-free life—you already have what it takes to receive it. You have The WORD of God; you have God's own faith on the inside of you; and now you have a working knowledge of that faith.

So rise up and use it. Climb up there in the faith cockpit with Jesus...and fly! 📺



George Pearsons



Kellie Copeland

Aug. 29-Sept. 2

Done With Debt!

—Part 2
Gloria Copeland and George Pearsons

Sun., Sept. 4

The Importance of Faith in the Name of Jesus

Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 5-9

Pray in the Spirit

Kenneth Copeland

Sun., Sept. 11

True Stories of Supernatural Protection

Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 12-16

The Greater One in You

Kenneth Copeland

Sun., Sept. 18

How to Pray for Unbelievers

Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 19-23

Faith for Today, Faith for Tomorrow

Gloria Copeland and Kellie Copeland

Sun., Sept. 25

The Power of the Double

Kenneth Copeland

Sept. 26-30

Faith for Endurance

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