

## DEVELOPING A LIFE OF GRATITUDE

KENNETH AND GLORIA COPELAND

NOVEMBER 25-29, 2019

### DAY 1 – THE PRAISE CURE

This is Thanksgiving week in the United States. You should be thankful all the time. Through the renewing of your mind, you can control your thoughts and your words. The first words you speak need to be praise and thanksgiving.

### STUDY IT

- I. This is Thanksgiving week in the United States.
  - According to the national archives, the first act of the first Federal Congress in 1789 was a resolution to have a national day of thanksgiving.
    - President George Washington stated that Nov. 26, 1789, would be the first day of public thanksgiving.
  - We are a nation of thanksgiving.
  - God told us to remind Him and plead our case (Isaiah 43:26).
  - When Brother Copeland prays for the nation, he reminds God that He gave us a place where we can worship Him freely.
  - This nation's Founders established a place where they could love and worship God.
  - Israel was formed because God loved *them*. The United States was formed because people loved *Him*, and He will never forget it.
  - We remember and give thanks.
  
- II. You should be thankful all the time.
  - People who are not thankful have no excuse. They waste time thinking about useless imaginations, and their foolish hearts are darkened (Romans 1:20-21).
  - A heart that grumbles all the time and never thanks God does not bring healing.
    - If your hand hurts, give thanks to God that the rest of your body doesn't hurt, and soon your hand will be healed.
  - Back in 2004, Brother Copeland twisted his back and ruptured a disk. He immediately felt terrible, awful, horrible pain.
    - Doctors David and Lynn Weeter and Dr. Don Colbert went to his house, prayed and began to work on his back. They wrote out an agreement of prayer for him.



- The pain in his back stopped, but he still had a lot of pain down his leg.
  - Brother Copeland began to shout praises to God as loud as he could. While he was praising, his leg stopped hurting. When he stopped praising, the pain came back.
  - He began to praise God for the trees, the birds, the weather and his family; and as long as he was praising, the pain subsided.
  - Develop a grateful life.
  - The dark side comes when you don't acknowledge God, you're not praising and you're not thankful.
  - God said, "I place before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life!" (Deuteronomy 30:19).
- III. Through the renewing of your mind, you can control your thoughts and your words (Romans 12:2).
- When you're surrounded by pressure or pain, you have to practice the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving so that thanksgiving will come to your mind and mouth first, not complaining or cursing.
  - Once, Brother Copeland hit his toe against a large ottoman. He heard his toe pop and knew it was broken. The first words he spoke were, "Glory to God! Praise God, I'm healed."
    - In a moment when you are startled, you don't have time to filter your words. You mean what you say. If your heart is full of fear, it will come out in your words.
  - Faith is fear in the wrong direction.
    - The force of fear will come out of your mouth, but it's more powerful for praise to come out of your mouth.
  - The next morning, his hurt toe was throbbing in pain. Brother Copeland got up praising God.
    - The devil said, "Look at it; it's black and blue." Brother Copeland refused to look. He put his socks on without looking.
      - Brother Copeland and Gloria are very intentional about how they speak about what they agree on—on both the curse and THE BLESSING side.
    - He told Gloria that he had kicked the ottoman, but that he was healed. She said, "I agree," and prayed for him.
    - He went to an appointment at the airport, and before he finished, his toe was completely healed with no pain.
- IV. The first words you speak need to be praise and thanksgiving.
- Brother Hagin called it "the praise cure." Develop a heart of gratitude.
  - Say this: "I have a gratitude attitude. I'm strong in The LORD and in the power of His might" (Ephesians 6:10).





- “Do not be anxious or worried about anything, but in everything [every circumstance and situation]...” (Philippians 4:6, AMP). *Everything* means “everything.”
- “...by prayer and petition with thanksgiving....” Don’t fret! It’s a command.
- You can make your wants known to God by griping or by thanking Him. You choose.

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

Determine that the first words you speak each morning are praise and thanksgiving to God. He is worthy! You may want to write a sample declaration you can read each morning as you wake up. Here’s an example:

*I declare that Jesus is my LORD! Jesus has destroyed the works of the devil, and I am thankful that He loves me! Today, I will enjoy worshipping and praising Him for His goodness, protection and provision in my life. In Jesus’ Name. Amen!*



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### DAY 2 – DEVELOPING A GRATITUDE ATTITUDE

To get strong, healthy and wealthy, find out the will of God and do it without deviating and with thanksgiving. We have been redeemed from the curse of the law and sin. Serve The LORD with a heart of joyfulness and gladness for the abundance of all things. The LORD said, “You shall serve The LORD your God...and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.” God is good, and that’s a reason to praise Him.

### STUDY IT

- I. To get strong, healthy and wealthy, find out the will of God and do it without deviating and with thanksgiving.
  - You will have everything your heart desires.
  - Our golden text for this study emphasizes the importance of gratitude and thanksgiving and the destruction that one can bring on himself.
    - “Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened” (Romans 1:21).
  - We are instructed to continue in prayer, supplication and thanksgiving—don’t quit (Philippians 4:6)!
  - Being darkened, or on the dark side, brings no joy; and the joy of The LORD is your strength. If you’re physically weak, you are low on joy.
  - Count it all joy when you encounter trouble (James 1:2).
    - How? By taking every opportunity to praise God in the middle of the whole mess.
    - Instead of focusing on what you don’t have, be grateful for what you do have.
- II. We have been redeemed from the curse of the law and sin.
  - Also, we have inherited THE BLESSING of Abraham (Galatians 3:13-14).
  - Debt is part of the curse.
  - Get out of the curse (Deuteronomy 28:45-48).
- III. Serve The LORD with a heart of joyfulness and gladness for the abundance of all things (Deuteronomy 28:47).
  - You receive that word and every word of God by faith.



- Years ago, we had some financial issues, and The LORD led us to Isaiah 1:19, “If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land.”
  - The LORD said, *Kenneth, you don't qualify for that promise. You have been obedient to do daily television, but you haven't been willing.*
  - Instead of being grateful for the broadcast, Brother Kenneth had complained and griped.
  - Brother Copeland repented to God. Then he began to say, “I love daily television; I love it, I enjoy it.”
  - The Anointing of God and the joy of The LORD came on him to the place that he danced around the table. Daily television wasn't a burden anymore.
  
- IV. The LORD said, “You shall serve The LORD your God...and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee” (Exodus 23:25).
  - Without being thankful, Brother Copeland was aggravating the problem he was having in his back.
  - During the broadcasts with Dr. Avery Jackson, we found out some things that happen when you're not thankful.
  - Gloria said that if you are not thankful, it tends to shorten your fuse. Brother Copeland said, “...and your life.”
  
- V. God is good, and that's a reason to praise Him.
  - “O give thanks unto The LORD, for He is good.” His goodness and wonderful works satisfy and fill us (Psalm 107:1, 8-9).
    - Believe and speak that, and you will get healthy. You'll be on the side of light, not darkness.
  - If you have need of something, read and believe the scripture where God promises to give it to you.
  - Brother Copeland had a callous on his right foot from a pair of workout shoes. It hurt him for several years. He stood on The WORD and thanked God.
    - Recently, he noticed that another callous that had been on his thumb for years was gone.
    - And the callous on his right foot stopped hurting.
  - Praise is also an active force in financial situations.
    - Brother Copeland didn't borrow money when he needed something. He stood on The WORD.
    - Through tithing and sowing, and with faith in God's WORD, they got cars, airplanes, jets, houses and anything else they asked God for.
  - Faith comes from putting your eyes on God's WORD, getting it into your heart, and being grateful.





## MAKE IT PERSONAL

Develop a gratitude attitude by choosing your thoughts and words carefully.

Make a list of things about God that you can praise Him for.

God is:

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Things God has done:

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_





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### DAY 3 – RENEW YOUR MIND TO GRATITUDE AND THANKSGIVING

Develop a life of gratitude and thanksgiving. God sent His WORD and healed you. In your Bible is victory! There's power in praise. When we praise, God enters into our presence. The power of God comes from inside you as you praise Him.

#### STUDY IT

- I. Develop a life of gratitude and thanksgiving.
  - Anyone who says there is no God is a fool (Psalm 14:1).
    - Fools do not acknowledge or praise God. Their minds are darkened (Romans 1:20-22).
  - The key to a successful life in God is to believe that the gospel is the power of God (Romans 1:16).
  - Renew your mind to thank and praise God all the time. Pray unceasingly.
  - It's important to pray in unknown tongues, because with that gift of God you give thanks well (1 Corinthians 14:17).
  - You can say things in tongues that you can't say with your mind. That's supernatural praise.
  - Pray in tongues or in English—praise The LORD together.
  
- II. God sent His WORD and healed you (Psalm 107:20).
  - It's one thing to acknowledge God's healing power, and another to actually receive it and not let go.
  - Let the redeemed of The LORD say so in praise and thanksgiving (Psalm 107:1-2, 8-9). Praise Him!
  - You, the redeemed, have the opportunity to prove His goodness through praise and thanksgiving.
  
- III. In your Bible is victory!
  - "Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ" (2 Corinthians 2:14). That's a victory scripture!



- The Apostle Paul, who suffered physically for his belief in Jesus Christ, wrote that he was triumphant.
    - People in Philippi got upset with Paul and Silas' preaching (Acts 16:22).
    - The Romans arrested them, whipped them almost to death, and put them in prison (Acts 16:23-25).
    - At midnight, Paul and Silas were in chains in prison praying and singing to God.
- IV. There's power in praise. When we praise, God enters into our presence.
- The other prisoners heard them praising. Suddenly there was an earthquake and everyone's bands were loosed (Acts 16:25-26).
  - The Holy Spirit put this account in the book of Acts as a type of our midnight hour.
  - Years ago, on the Sunday night before the Southwest Believers' Convention began, Brother Copeland's son, John, his wife, Marty, and their cousin Nikki and her husband, after setting up, left the convention center.
    - That night John called Brother Copeland and said, "Daddy, Nikki's dead." Their vehicle had been hit by a drunk driver, and she was killed.
    - Brother Copeland shouted the Name of Jesus, cursed death and began to praise God.
  - Instead of whining and crying, fight back against the enemy. Fight with honor and praise to God.
  - Paul and Silas, out the abundance of their hearts, praised and sang to The LORD.
- V. The power of God comes from inside you as you praise Him.
- Paul and Silas praised God until His power rose up so strongly from inside them, it became an earthquake inside the prison in Philippi.
    - The more they praised, the bigger the power of God became until the power shook that place, and their chains were loosed.
    - The earthquake didn't tear the building down, but it loosened the chains of all the prisoners.
    - There was such a presence of God in that jail that no one could escape or even move.
    - The power of God broke the chains, and that power came from God who dwelt inside Paul and Silas.
    - The jailer became the pastor of the church in Philippi, and the first members of his congregation were the prisoners from the jail.
  - When you become God-inside minded, when you realize that the God you are praising is on the inside of you, then His power can come out of you and break every chain!

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

Changing your thinking habits takes practice and determination. You can make a chart of times you will consciously think of God, and perhaps even set an alarm until thinking about God becomes second nature. Consciously think and speak something about God that makes you thankful.

Here is an example of a reminder chart:

8 a.m.: Think about God's love.

10 a.m.: Think about God's protection.

Noon: Think about God's creation, and His creative power.

2 p.m.: Think about God's provision.

4 p.m.: Think about how you can show God's love to others.

6 p.m.: Think about God's joy and laugh out loud.

8 p.m.: Think about God's peace.

10 p.m.: Think about resting in God's mercy and grace.

Make this declaration:

*Every day, all day long, I purpose to be thankful for the goodness of God.*

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### DAY 4 – CONTROL YOUR WORDS WITH GRATITUDE AND THANKSGIVING

The LORD is helping us renew our minds to an attitude of gratitude. Develop a life of thanksgiving—be grateful all the time. Give thanks to God that you are redeemed from the curse. Your words are very important, and you must learn to control them.

#### STUDY IT

- I. The LORD is helping us renew our minds to an attitude of gratitude.
  - Today is Thanksgiving Day in the United States!
  - In 1789, the first Federal Congress passed a resolution recommending a day of thanksgiving.
    - President George Washington issued a proclamation that the day of public thanksgiving be on Nov. 26, 1789.
  - Brother Copeland prays, “It’s one nation under God. The spirit of strife is broken, and this nation is being reborn. We glorify Your Name for it. Thank You, Jesus!”
    - One of the Copelands’ friends, Rose Wiener, was in a prayer meeting that was praying for the nation. Jesus appeared to her.
    - The LORD said to her, *This is the only nation in history formed by a people who loved Me. I will never forget it.*
  - Brother Copeland continued his prayer, “We remind You of that today, LORD Jesus. Thank You! Glory to God! We thank You for a mighty outpouring of signs and wonders all over this country. We proclaim that both political parties are full of the power of God.”
  
- II. Develop a life of thanksgiving—be grateful all the time.
  - People who do not acknowledge or think about God have hearts that are darkened (Romans 1:21).
  - It’s possible to get so focused on sports or movies, that God is pushed out of a person’s thoughts. Thoughts of praise and thankfulness for God’s grace slip away.
  - It’s a tactic of the devil to distract you with something that replaces God in your life. He knows you will drift off into the flesh and forget about God.



- If you let the devil in the backseat, he's going to take over and drive.
  - Develop praise and thanksgiving, and renew your mind to the things of God. Give God His rightful place in your life.
  - Check yourself by asking, "What is it that I am putting first place in my life?"
  - Don't let the cares of this world choke out God's WORD from your thoughts.
- III. Give thanks to God that you are redeemed from the curse.
- Jesus was made a curse for us, so THE BLESSING could come on the Gentiles (Galatians 3:13-14).
  - Those who cry out to The LORD in trouble receive help. He sent His WORD to heal them and deliver them from their destructions (Psalm 107:1-2, 19-20).
- IV. Your words are very important, and you must learn to control them.
- "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers" (Ephesians 4:29).
    - "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice" (Ephesians 4:31).
    - "Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks" (Ephesians 5:4).
  - Brother Copeland and James Robison have been friends for over 30 years.
    - Once at a gathering of preachers, one man started talking to Brother James about Brother Copeland in an unfavorable way. Brother James called everyone's attention and said, "This brother has Kenneth Copeland on his heart. Go ahead, Brother. Lead us in prayer for Brother Copeland." James Robison is committed to building unity in the Body of Christ.
  - What you say will get in your heart and eventually control your life.
  - Job didn't curse God; He praised. His reward was to get double what he lost (Job 42:12-13)!
  - You can control your mouth by praise and thanksgiving. Don't express yourself by fear.
  - Insist that words of praise come from your mouth.

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

Pray with us:

*Heavenly Father, thank You for bringing me into Your family. I choose to make my words full of gratitude and thanksgiving, and I appreciate who You are and what You do for me. I am BLESSED because of You and Jesus. Help me to continue to praise You. In Jesus' Name. Amen.*





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### DAY 5 – YOU TAKE IT WHEN YOU PRAISE

Live a life of thanksgiving, and develop a grateful attitude that controls your thinking and all that you do. Use your words for thanksgiving. Words are the most powerful things in the universe. Get praise and thanksgiving in your heart and mouth. You take it when you praise! Control the words of your mouth with praise and thanksgiving. The love of God is so strong.

### STUDY IT

- I. Live a life of thanksgiving, and develop a grateful attitude that controls your thinking and all that you do.
  - Foolish people refuse to be thankful to God (Romans 1:21).
  
- II. The book of Ephesians was written to a whole church of born-again Christians and is full of instructions for us today.
  - “This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart” (Ephesians 4:17-18).
  - “That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; and be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness” (Ephesians 4:22-24).
    - We were born again and made the righteousness of God.
  - “Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour” (Ephesians 4:25).
    - Speak and live the truth. For example: If you say you’re going to be there at 9:00 and are late, you have lied.
  - “Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth” (Ephesians 4:28).
    - We are not earning a living; we’re earning to give. Our sowing and giving should be producing our living, not just our paycheck from a job.





- We should use our words for praise, thanksgiving and kindness toward each other for Christ's sake (Ephesians 4:31-32).
    - Words are so important! They are the most powerful things in the universe.
    - Paul didn't say, "for Jesus' sake." He said, "for Christ's sake," for the sake of the Anointed One and His Anointing.
  - Jesus didn't do anything supernatural until He was baptized with the Holy Ghost and power, and anointed with the burden-removing, yoke-destroying Anointing of God.
- III. Get praise and thanksgiving in your heart and mouth.
- Love needs to be praised. God is Love.
    - "And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him" (1 John 4:16).
  - You can be the wife or husband you always wanted to be. Thank God for what you have.
    - "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" (Philippians 4:6).
- IV. You take it when you praise!
- The Greek word for *receive* is "to take," to take ownership.
  - Start the shouting, praising and worshipping now. Don't wait until you have it. Give Him thanks!
  - Believe God's WORD. Cast all your cares on Him for He cares for you (1 Peter 5:7).
  - Brother Kenneth's mother got fed up praying for him to be born again. She said, "If he goes to hell, it's Your fault, God, not mine. I'm not praying for him anymore."
    - Gloria got saved two weeks later and then Brother Kenneth. His mother rolled the care for their salvation onto God.
  - Momma was big on praise. She was a "Thank You, Jesus," woman. When asked for advice, she would say, "Hit it in tongues!"
    - She meant pray in tongues until something happens.
- V. Control the words of your mouth with praise and thanksgiving.
- The Bible says that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8).
    - Jesus did love you; He does love you; and He will always love you. There's nothing you can do to stop Him from loving you.
  - The worst human being in our time was Adolf Hitler. Jesus loved even him.
  - A missionary got permission to speak to the leading Japanese warlord and those under him as they were preparing to be executed by hanging. These men had





done horrible things, and Jesus still wanted to save them. She kept witnessing to them about the love of Jesus, and they all were born again. Their final request was to be baptized in water before they were hung.

VI. The love of God is so strong.

- In 1967, Brother Kenneth read the scripture about God loving him as much as He loved Jesus (John 17:23).
- Brother Kenneth got the revelation of being a new creature.
  - Christ died for the ungodly (Romans 5:6), and His mercy endures forever (Psalm 118). We qualify for that.
  - “By him [Jesus] therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name” (Hebrews 13:15).
- Join us as we praise and worship God! Greater is He that's in me, than he that is in the world (1 John 4:4).

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

It's time for you to take on an attitude of gratitude. It will change your life! [Click here to share your victories with us](#), or [contact us on Facebook™](#).

Our Partners work with us to put the good news of Jesus Christ on every available voice. We are seeing lives changed and victories won! Become our Partner today by calling 1-800-600-7395 to sign up, or visit [kcm.org/Partner](http://kcm.org/Partner).



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### APPENDIX

#### DAY 5 – YOU TAKE IT WHEN YOU PRAISE

Kenneth Copeland delivers a word from The LORD:

“Do you not understand,” saith The LORD, “that greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world? As you praise Me and as you worship Me, particularly in the spirit, you rise up above all of the death and the horror of this world, and you reach out into that space where there is no time, that place in the spirit where there is no time where My presence is King, My presence is full.

But I want you to know that My presence is just as strong right where you are, right in the dirty mess where you are, I’m there. Right in the most terrible place, I’m there.

If you’ll call on Me, I will build a wall around you by THE BLESSING power of Almighty God, that the devil flat can’t get through. I told you in the 54th chapter of Isaiah, that terror would come and oppression would come and fear would come, but not by Me. No weapon formed against you will prosper, because I am your God.

So, give forth praise and give forth thanksgiving and develop a life of thanksgiving and a life of praise, and you’ll see manifestations of great power and significant miracles will be a part of your daily life. Glory to God!