

Letters on the Word

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EFFECTIVE PRAYER

“My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart; for they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. (Proverbs 4:20-22)

Greetings, dear brothers and sisters in the Lord! I have found myself in the school of effective prayer the past few months, asking the Lord to teach me to pray more effectively. It is my desire to pray like our Lord Jesus Christ prayed while he was on earth – to see the results he saw. I desire to pray like John Alexander Dowie, John G. Lake, Smith Wigglesworth ... to see the miraculous

happen routinely. It is my desire to pray like Jodie Osteen – to see the power of God unleashed in my life. I feel led to share in this issue the story of Jodie Osteen’s healing (the mother of Joel Osteen, senior pastor of Lakewood Church in Houston, TX) and the healing scriptures she prayed ever so diligently to secure her release. If one thing can be said of Jodie in this testimony, it is that she gave attention to God’s Words and inclined her ears to His sayings. She did not let them depart from her eyes. She kept them in the midst of her heart. And in finding the Word, she found life. We are blessed to have

access to the Word of God 24/7. I am encouraged by this testimony. You may have heard it. I have read it time and again and shared it at different times. It encourages me in particular because I know that our Lord is no respecter of persons, but in every nation, every one that fears him and works righteousness, is accepted with him (Acts 10: 34-35). Give attention to God’s words and incline your ears to His sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart, for they are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh. Amen.



“ My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart; for they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh.”
Proverbs 4: 20-22

SPEAKING LIFE CHANGING WORDS

In “Your Best Life Now” © 2004, Joel Osteen shares the testimony of his mother, Jodie Osteen. In 1981, she was diagnosed with cancer and given just a few weeks to live. “I’ll never forget what a shock that news was to our family. I had never seen my mother sick one day in all my life,” he recollects. He goes on to describe how his mother was hospitalized for twenty-one days while the doctors run test after test. “They sent her lab work all over the country, hoping to find some key to help her. Finally, they came back with the dreaded report that she had metastatic cancer of the liver. They called my dad out into the hallway and said, “Pastor, we hate to tell you this, but your wife has only a few weeks to live. Not months, weeks ...”” Joel Osteen goes on to describe how their family refused to accept the doctors’ opinions even though they sincerely appreciated both the doctors and the hospital staff for their hard work. “Thank God, you and I can appeal to a higher Authority. We can always have another report. God’s report says, “I will restore health to you and heal your wounds.””

“She refused to speak words of defeat. She didn’t complain about how sick or weak she felt, or how awful her life was, or how hopeless the situation looked. She chose to put God’s words in her mind and in her mouth.”

Joel Osteen describes how his mother never gave up, refusing to speak words of defeat; refusing to complain about how sick or weak she felt, or how awful her life was, or how hopeless the situation looked. She chose instead to put God’s word in her mind and in her mouth. “She started speaking faith-filled words. She started calling in health and calling in healing. All during the day, we’d hear her going through the house speaking aloud, “I

will live and not die, and I will declare the works of the Lord.” She was like a walking Bible! She’d say, “Joel, I am strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.” She pored over her Bible and found about thirty to forty favorite passages of Scripture concerning healing. She wrote them down, and every day, she’d read over them and boldly declare them aloud. We’d see her walking up and down the driveway, saying, “With long life, He satisfies me and shows me His salvation.””

“She mixed her words with God’s Words, and something powerful began to happen.”

Joel Osteen explains that as his mother mixed her words with God’s Words, something powerful began to happen. Her circumstances began to change. Not overnight, but little by little, she began to feel better. She got her appetite back and started gaining weight. And slowly but surely, her strength returned.

“What was happening? God was watching over His Word to perform it. God was restoring health to her and healing her of her wounds. A few weeks went by and Mother got a little better. A few months went by, and she was even better. A few years went by, and she just kept on confessing God’s Word. Today, it has been more than twenty years since we received the report that Mother had just a few weeks to live, and as I write these words, Mother is totally free from that cancer, healed by the power of God’s Word.”

Glory be to God!

And as her son says, “she is still confessing God’s Word. She gets up every morning and reviews those same Scriptures on the subject of healing. She still speaks those words of faith, victory

and health over her life. She won’t leave the house until she does it.”

“She still speaks those words of faith, victory and health over her life.”

What are you speaking over your life? God’s Word is very clear about the power of the tongue. Proverbs 18:21 says that death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

One day, as I was browsing Kenneth Copeland’s website (www.kcm.org), I came across the forty healing scriptures that Jodie Osteen confessed to receive her complete healing. I share these Scriptures with you below. This is God’s Word on Healing. If the healing power of His Word is available to one of His children, it is available to all His children because God is no respecter of persons. He is a respecter of obedience however; and He has told us in His Word that we need to give attention to His Words. The Message Bible puts it this way: “*Dear friend, listen well to my words; tune your ears to my voice. Keep my message in plain view at all times. Concentrate! Learn it by heart! Those who discover these words live; really live; body and soul, they’re bursting with health.*” (Proverbs 4:20-22)

My Bible tells me that Jesus came so that I can have life and have it even more abundantly. (John 10:10) It also tells me that God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all, (1 John 1:5); and that the light shines in the darkness; and the darkness comprehends it not (John 1:5). My Bible tells me that God will hasten His Word to perform it (Jer 1:12). Personalize these Scriptures. Proclaim them for yourself and be blessed by the healing power of God’s Word.

HEALING SCRIPTURES

- (1) Proverbs 4:20-22 – My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart; for they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh.
- (2) Joshua 21:45 – Not a word failed of any good thing which the Lord had spoken to the house of Israel. All came to pass.
- (3) Phil 2:13 – For it is God who works in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure.
- (4) Romans 8:11 – But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.
- (5) 2 Cor 1:20 – For the promises of God in Him are Yes and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.
- (6) Matt 8:2-3 – And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, “Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean. Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” Immediately, his leprosy was cleansed.
- (7) Exodus 15:26 – If you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the Lord who heals you.
- (8) Exodus 23:25 – So you shall serve the Lord your God, and He will bless your bread and your water. And I will take sickness away from the midst of you.
- (9) Deut 7:15 – And the Lord will take away from you all sickness, and will afflict you with none of

the terrible diseases of Egypt which you have known, but will lay them on all those who hate you.

- (10) Malachi 3:10 – Bring all your tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,” says the Lord of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such a blessing that there will not be enough room to receive it.”
- (11) Psalm 103: 1-5 – Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with loving-kindness and tender mercies, who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.



- (12) Psalm 107:20 – He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.
- (13) Psalm 118:17 – I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of God.
- (14) Deut 30:19 – I call heaven and earth as witness today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live.
- (15) Psalm 91:16 – With long life I will satisfy him, and show him My salvation.
- (16) Isaiah 53:5 – But he was wounded for our transgressions, He was

bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

- (17) Jer 30:17 – “For I will restore health to you and heal you of your wounds,” says the Lord, “Because they called you an outcast saying: “This is Zion; no one seeks her.”
- (18) Matt 18:18 – Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.
- (19) Matt 18:19 – Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.
- (20) Mark 11:22-23 – So Jesus answered and said to them, “Have faith in God. For assuredly I say unto you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt it in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.”
- (21) Mark 11:24 – Therefore I say unto you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.
- (22) Isa 43: 25-26 – Even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; and I will not remember your sins. Put Me in remembrance; let us contend together; state your case, that you may be acquitted.
- (23) Mark 16:17-18 – And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.

HEALING SCRIPTURES

(24) John 9:31 – Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him.

(25) John 10:10 – The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

(26) Gal 3: 13,14 – Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

(27) Hebrews 10:23 – Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

(28) Hebrews 10:35 – Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward.

(29) Joel 3:10 – ... Let the weak say, “I am strong.”

(30) Hebrews 13:8 – Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

(31) 3 John 2 – Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as they soul prospereth. (KJV)

(32) James 5: 14-15 – Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the

Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven.

(33) 1 Peter 2:24 – Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness – by whose stripes you were healed.

(34) 1 John 5:15,15 – Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

(35) 1 John 3:21-22 – Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

(36) 2 Tim 1:7 – For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

(37) 2 Cor 10: 4-5 – For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.

(38) Ephesians 6:10-17 – Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

(39) Rev 12:11– And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

(40) Nahum 1:9 – What do you conspire against the Lord? He will make an utter end of it. Affliction will not rise up a second time.

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Have you been blessed by this publication? Feel free to share it with someone else, and to share your testimonies too. Your blessings abound in Christ Jesus!