SPEAK GOD'S WORD WITH THE AUTHORITY OF A BELIEVER

Kenneth Copeland and Professor Greg Stephens

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Day 1: Learn How To Exercise the Authority of a Believer

Do you know the authority that belongs to you as a believer in Jesus Christ? On *Believer's Voice of Victory,* Kenneth Copeland and Professor Greg Stephens reveal what belongs to you as a joint heir with Christ, and why your spoken words that agree with God's Word are required to exercise the authority of a believer. See why the Name of Jesus carries the power to produce results, and how being led by God positions you to minister to others wherever you go. Recognize who you are in Christ, speak God's Word in faith, and begin walking boldly in the authority He has given you!

Introduction

Kenneth Copeland again welcomes his guest, Professor Greg Stephens, an instructor at Kenneth Copeland Bible College and host on Victory Channel.

Study It

I. Authority must be spoken.

- You cannot fight thoughts with thoughts. You accept a thought by saying it.
- Renew your mind according to God's WORD (Romans 12:2).
- Our confidence is based on the authority of God's WORD.
- Authority must be voiced. You cannot simply think it.
- Spiritual authority is similar to military authority.
  - In the same way, when you become a joint heir with Christ, your position in Him does not go away.

II. Make a quality decision to exercise the authority you have been given.

- Brother Copeland defines a quality decision as "a decision about which there is no argument and from which there is no retreat."
- Your decisions should be based on the authority you have as a believer.
- Voting is an exercise of the authority that belongs to an American citizen.
- Esau despised his birthright and surrendered it to Jacob.
  - Do not despise or surrender the authority that belongs to you.
- Walk in authority in every area of life. Make quality decisions concerning your assignment, and refuse to retreat from what God has called you to do.
- God orders your steps and prepares what is needed for His plan to come to pass.

III. As a joint heir with Christ, His authority is your authority.

- A joint heir is not a sub-heir or partial heir.

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    - As joint heirs, what Jesus has, believers have with Him. His authority is our authority.
  - "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ" (Romans 8:17).
  - Jesus taught His disciples about the authority available through His Name.
    - "Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in My Name, He will give it you" (John 16:23).
    - "Ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full" (John 16:24).

IV. Jesus prayed for every believer to be one with Him and the Father.
  - In John 17, Jesus prayed for His disciples and for those who would later believe through their words.
  - Jesus sent His disciples into the world just as the Father had sent Him (John 17:18).
  - Jesus did not pray only for the disciples who were with Him:
    - "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word" (John 17:20).
  - Believers today have believed through the words of those disciples recorded in God's WORD.
  - The same resurrected power that raised Jesus from the dead dwells in the believer.
  - We have not fully realized the authority we carry when we speak what God says.

V. The Name of Jesus carries the authority to produce results.
  - Jesus has given believers authority to speak His WORD and use His Name.
  - Peter and John demonstrated that authority when they went to the Temple at the hour of prayer (Acts 3:1).
    - Then Peter commanded the crippled man, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk" and he was healed (Acts 3:6-7).
  - The Name of Jesus can do anything He did.
  - Be led by the Holy Spirit and expect God to position you to minister to someone.

Make It Personal

The authority Jesus gave you belongs to you, but authority must be exercised. Renew your mind with God's WORD, listen to the Holy Spirit, and make a quality decision to speak what God says without retreating.

Make this declaration:

> *I am a joint heir with Jesus Christ. God has raised me up and seated me with Christ in heavenly places. The Name of Jesus belongs to me, and I have authority to use His Name. I renew my mind with God's WORD and speak what God says. I make a quality decision to exercise the authority He has given me. I listen to the Holy Spirit and boldly obey His direction. In Jesus' Name. Amen.*

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Day 2: Discover How To Use Your Authority In Christ

What changes when you understand what belongs to you because you are in Christ? On *Believer's Voice of Victory,* Kenneth Copeland and Professor Greg Stephens teach how the authority of a believer flows from your identity in Jesus. Discover how being made alive in Christ and seated with Him gives you a new position of authority, why God's Word must become your standard, and how the Name of Jesus equips you to speak and act with confidence. Renew your mind to who you are in Christ and begin exercising the authority you have received from Jesus!

Study It

I. Identify with Christ and what He accomplished for you.
- In the wilderness, The LORD told Moses, "Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole" (Numbers 21:8).
  - Everyone who had been bitten could look at it and live.
- Jesus identified this event with what He would accomplish through His death: "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up" (John 3:14).
- Jesus went to the cross and took the sin of mankind upon Himself.
- Jesus became the Second Adam and took our place.
- Identify with what Jesus accomplished in His death, burial and resurrection.

II. Know God's WORD and the authority that stands behind it.
- Professor Stephens compared exercising authority with his responsibility as the noncommissioned officer in charge of standard evaluation for his military flight unit.
  - He was responsible for making sure the equipment, training, testing and paperwork were in order before a mission.
- Know God's WORD so you know the authority that has been given to you.
- Authority is not based on natural rank, education or ability. It is based on the authority of the one who gave you the authority.

III. Praying in the spirit is communication the enemy cannot understand.
- Pray in the spirit, apply the blood and use the power of the Name.
- Believers have been given the Name of Jesus and the authority that is in His Name.
- Trust God's WORD instead of trying to fix everything yourself.
- Remind yourself:
  - "I am washed in the blood."
  - "I have the power of Jesus' Name."
  - "I don't need to fix this."
- Jesus knows more about authority than you do, and He has given you His WORD.
- Learn to trust God's WORD and exercise the authority contained in it.

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IV. Jesus' authority extends over all the works of God's hands.
- Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever.
- The authority of the believer is not about a feeling; it is about the authority Jesus has now.
- With that authority, you have been made alive and seated together with Christ.
  - He "hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 2:6).
- When you were born again, you became a brand-new person.
  - God did not take the old spirit and remake it.
  - Your spirit became something that had never existed before.
  - "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature" (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- Your inner man was created in the likeness of Jesus.

V. Learn to speak from your new position in Christ.
- Jesus prayed that the world would know the Father loves believers as He loves Jesus (John 17:23).
- Our identity is now in Christ.
- When you were born again, God created your spirit in His image.
- Your authority is not merely something you know in your head.
- Learn how to speak from your new place in Christ.

Make It Personal

Renew your mind to your identity and position in Christ. You have been made alive with Him and seated with Him in heavenly places. Make a quality decision to know God's WORD and speak from your new position of authority.

Understand that your words that agree with God's WORD bring the change you are wanting.

With this new identity and awareness of your authority, what area of your life would you like to see changed?

Write down one thing you want to see changed and what God says about it in His WORD.

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Day 3: Find Out How To Speak With the Authority of a Believer

What happens when you put the authority of a believer to work? On *Believer's Voice of Victory,* Kenneth Copeland and Professor Greg Stephens uncover how your identity in Christ changes the way you think, speak and live. The righteousness of faith speaks, and renewing your mind with God's Word equips you to exercise the authority Jesus has given you. Know who you are in Christ, renew your mind, and speak God's Word with authority!

Study It

I. You must speak what you know to be true from God's WORD.

- Brother Copeland explains in *Speak the Word* that when he preached about who believers are in Christ and the authority that belongs to them, the power of God began to flow when people believed it.
- We've got to learn to speak what we know to be true from God's WORD.
- It does not do you any good to only think it. You have to say it.
  - Other people cannot know what you are thinking until you speak.
- The Spirit of God on the inside of you knows what you are thinking.
- The authority of the believer must move from what you know to what you say.
- Your words carry weight when you know who you are in Christ.

II. The righteousness of Faith speaks.

- Paul taught about "the word of Faith, which we preach" (Romans 10:8).
  - "But the righteousness of Faith speaks in this way" (Romans 10:6, *New King James Version).*
- "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or, 'Who will descend into the abyss?' that is, to bring Christ up from the dead)"
  (Romans 10:6-7, *NKJV).*
- Jesus has already completed the work.
- Psalm 22 prophetically reveals what Jesus would endure.
  - "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken Me?" (Psalm 22:1).
  - His hands and feet were pierced (Psalm 22:16).
  - They divided His garments and cast lots for His clothing (Psalm 22:18).
- God put His WORD in the earth so Jesus could fulfill it.
- Jesus did all of this for us.
- The reason believers can speak The WORD and walk in authority is because of what Jesus accomplished—not because of anything we have done.

III. See yourself in the mirror of God's WORD.

- Brother Copeland shared a story Oral Roberts told him about his oldest son, Ron.
  - After serving in the U.S. Army, Ron wanted to buy a car but could not get a bank loan.

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    - After being turned down repeatedly, he asked a banker whether it would make a difference if the banker knew he was Oral Roberts' son.
    - The banker said it would.
    - Ron later told his father, "When I told the banker I was your son, he didn't see me anymore, he saw you."
  - This illustrates the believer's identity in Christ.
  - Jesus told Philip, "He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father" (John 14:9).
  - Jesus also said, "He that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do" (John 14:12).
  - Understand that every part of the spirit world sees you—in Christ.

IV. Renew your mind to your identity and authority in Christ.
  - Present your body to God as "a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service" (Romans 12:1).
    - "Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Romans 12:2).
  - Renewing your mind changes your thinking, ideals and attitudes.
  - It enables you to prove what is the good, acceptable and perfect will of God.
  - Continue renewing your mind until thinking and acting according to God's WORD becomes just as automatic as breathing.
  - Your renewed mind enables you to see yourself according to God's WORD.

V. Make yourself available for The LORD to use.
  - Brother Copeland makes himself available to The LORD each day and offers Him his tongue.
  - He prays in the spirit and allows the Holy Spirit to use him to pray for people he may not know.
  - Making yourself available to God is part of walking in His favor.
  - Walk in authority by allowing The LORD to pray through you and use you to minister to others.
  - Receive with gladness of heart the abundance of all things (Deuteronomy 28:47).
  - Receive the abundance that belongs to you in Christ Jesus and in THE BLESSING of Abraham.

Make It Personal

Pray with us:

Father, the authority You gave Jesus when He was raised from the dead, You now have given to me. I am a joint heir with Jesus. Please teach me to speak in agreement with Your WORD so that I may exercise this authority in the earth and in my life. Thank You, Sir. In Jesus' Name I pray. Amen.

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Day 4: Discover How To Submit to God

Are you following God's chain of command for exercising spiritual authority? On *Believer's Voice of Victory,* Kenneth Copeland and Professor Greg Stephens teach why the authority of a believer begins with submitting to God and His Word. Guarding your heart, refusing anxiety and keeping your thoughts fixed on the Word position you to resist the devil and walk in victory. Submit to God, fill your heart with His Word, and exercise your authority with confidence!

Study It

I. You have a power of attorney to use the Name of Jesus.
- Always stay on God's side of everything and let The WORD fight its own fight.
- The centurion understood authority when he said, "Speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed" (Matthew 8:8).
- Believers have been given the right to use the Name of Jesus.
- Exercising that authority requires understanding God's chain of command.

II. Submit to God before you resist the devil.
- The importance of God's chain of command is revealed in James 4:7.
  - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."
  - To submit means to yield yourself to the will and authority of another.
- That is command authority and chain of command.
- You exercise authority because you have first yielded yourself to God's authority.
- Knowing you're submitted to God is a major key in being able to resist the devil with boldness.

III. Make God's WORD your first and final authority.
- "My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings" (Proverbs 4:20).
- Do not let God's WORD depart from your eyes; keep it in the center of your heart (Proverbs 4:21).
- God's WORD is life to those who find it and health to all their flesh (Proverbs 4:22).
  - The Hebrew word translated *health* also carries the meaning of medicine.
- Keep your eyes looking straight ahead with fixed purpose.
- Consider the path of your feet and establish your ways according to God's WORD (Proverbs 4:24-27).
- "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life" (Proverbs 4:23).
- Guard your human spirit. Protect what you allow to enter your heart.
  - Watch what you see. Watch what you hear. Watch what you say and repeat. Watch where you go.

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IV. Refuse anxiety and fix your mind on God's WORD.
- "Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything" (Philippians 4:6, *Amplified Bible, Classic Edition).*
- In every circumstance, make your requests known to God by prayer, petition and thanksgiving.
- God's peace will guard you and produce a tranquil state of soul.
- Make a list of the things God tells you to think about (Philippians 4:8):
  - Whatever is true. Whatever is worthy of reverence and honorable. Whatever is just and pure. Whatever is lovely and lovable. Whatever is kind, gracious and praiseworthy.
- Fix your mind on God's WORD instead of allowing your thoughts to be controlled by circumstances.

V. Practice what you have learned, received, heard and seen.
- Paul instructed believers to practice the things they had learned, received, heard and seen in him (Philippians 4:9).
- Model your way of living according to the examples God has given you.
- The God of peace will be with you.
- In Christ, you have strength to face every situation.
  - "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13).

VI. Submit to God and follow His direction step by step.
- Brother Copeland recalled hearing the words, "Coming to you from The Revival Capital of the World," while flying into Meacham Field.
- Later, when he first walked onto the property that would become the ministry headquarters, The LORD said, *This is The Revival Capital of the World. You're going to build it.*
- Rather than trying to figure everything out naturally, Brother Copeland followed God's direction one step at a time.
- God already had provision prepared for what He had commanded.
- Submit to God's authority, listen to Him and walk out the steps He gives you.

Make It Personal

Your authority begins with submission. Make God's WORD your first and final authority, guard your heart, and refuse to allow anxiety or contrary thoughts to take root.

Write down some things you can think about that agree with God's WORD. (Example: In Christ, I have authority.)

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Day 5: Learn How To Pray With the Authority of a Believer

What changes when you pray from a position of authority? On *Believer's Voice of Victory,* Kenneth Copeland and Professor Greg Stephens teach you to pray and speak with the authority of a believer. Understand why God's Word is your spiritual weapon, how faith-filled words overcome the laws of sin and death, and what it means to exercise command authority in the Name of Jesus. Stand on God's promises, speak His Word in faith, and use the authority He has given you in the Name of Jesus!

Study It

I. Pray from a position of authority.
- Praying with authority is different from begging God to do something for you.
- Jesus prayed command prayers and expected His followers to walk in the authority He demonstrated.
- "Be strong in The LORD, and in the power of His might" (Ephesians 6:10).
- Draw your strength from your union with Him and put on the whole armor of God (Ephesians 6:11).
- You are not wrestling against flesh and blood, but against spiritual forces of darkness (Ephesians 6:12).
- Take your stand and hold your ground.

II. Faith-filled words dominate the laws of sin and death.
- There is no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus and walk after the Spirit.
- Faith-filled words dominate the laws of sin and death.
- Pray in Faith.
- Laws are stable and predictable.
- Faith works by Love, and God is Love.
- Jesus taught His disciples how to approach prayer.
- You do not have to endlessly beg God or try to get His attention.
- You do not have to convince God how desperate your situation is.

III. Exercise your authority in the Name of Jesus.
- Brother Copeland has used those verses when ministering to the sick.
  - Jesus said signs would accompany those who believe (Mark 16:17).
  - Believers will lay hands on the sick, "and they shall recover" (Mark 16:18).
- The world is waiting to see the signs that accompany believers.
- Renew your mind and develop your spirit to the authority Jesus has given you.
- The signs Jesus described are still part of the believer's command authority.

IV. The answers are in God's BOOK.
- T.L. Osborn was preaching in India with no converts. Their religion had their own book and were not interested in a new holy book.

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    - When Brother Osborn returned and ministered in the power of Jesus through God's BOOK, deaf people received their hearing and blind people received their sight.
    - The signs demonstrated the truth of God's WORD.
- When John the Baptist questioned whether Jesus was the One, Jesus pointed to the works:
    - The blind received their sight. The lame walked. The dead were raised.
- The answers are all in The BOOK.
- God's WORD is filled with exceeding great and precious promises concerning everything that pertains to life and godliness.
- God has already provided what you need through His Covenant promises.
- Come to Him in prayer expecting His WORD to produce results.

V. Guard your heart, and begin and end your day with The WORD.
- Do not allow the news, television or other voices to continually program your spirit.
- Guard your heart with all diligence.
- Fill your heart with The WORD and make yourself available to God each day.

VI. You have the legal right to use the Name of Jesus.
- From the moment you were born again, you had the right to exercise the command authority of a believer in Jesus Christ of Nazareth.
- There is no limit to the wealth and power of God.
- The Name Jesus inherited carries the authority conferred upon Him.
    - Jesus has conferred the right to use His Name upon believers.
- Treat the Name of Jesus and the authority invested in it with reverence.

Make It Personal

We want you to begin exercising your authority as a believer. Pray, believe, speak and receive in Jesus' Name. Please let us know your victories. Contact us on Facebook or by calling +1-817-566-7777.

Brother Copeland prays for his Partners at every meal. We encourage you to become a Partner with Kenneth Copeland Ministries. By joining us, together we will see even more salvations and BLESSINGS around the world. Pray for us as we pray for you.

For more information about partnership and what it can mean to you, go to kcm.org/partner or call us at +1-817-566-7777.

Remember: God loves you, we love you, and JESUS IS LORD!

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