

HOW TO
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How To Always Choose Gods Best For You

All you have to do is spend a little time examining God's wonderful creation and you'll start to see a pattern—God uses circles. He must, because nature is full of them.

Drop a rock in a still pond and you'll see rings of circles spreading out. The earth spins on its axis making the sun appear to circle our sky. In fact the whole universe seems to be spinning and dancing in circles.

The other day as I was reading *The Living Bible* paraphrase of the Word, I discovered another amazing circle—one that I believe is God's favorite. It certainly is one of mine: Where is the man who fears the Lord? God will teach him how to choose the best. "*He shall live within God's circle of blessing, and his children shall inherit the earth*" (Psalm 25:12-13, *The Living Bible*).

Most people want to know how to choose the best in life. I know I do. Well, according to this wonderful verse, God Himself will teach us how, if only we will reverence Him and put Him first in our lives (that's what it means to "fear the Lord").

Learn To Choose The Best

I've noticed that for many young believers, one of the biggest obstacles to moving into the good things of God is that they simply haven't learned how to choose the best. I know that was certainly the case when Ken and I were just starting out.

To a large extent, your quality of life today is a product of the choices you made yesterday. And the choices you make today—the words you choose to speak, the thoughts you choose to meditate on, the people you choose to associate with—will determine your quality of life in the future.

It's true! When we put God and His Word first, He begins to show Himself as the One Ephesians 3:20 calls *“him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.”*

God has a plan for every one of us, and it's greater than anything we dare imagine. If back when Ken and I got married you had tried to tell this little 19-year-old baby Christian the things God would have us doing right now, I would have said that's impossible.

The fact is, God has shown Himself to be “the One who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all I can ask or think” so many times I've almost stopped being surprised by what He does. If you've been living by God's Word for any length of time, I'm sure you've begun to experience the same thing.

We need to remember that there are always things in our futures that we couldn't ask or even think. They're coming. And, they are good.

Whatever it may be—God's plan is the highest and the best. And as we put Him first, He's faithful to put us on the road to fulfilling that plan by teaching us to “choose the best.”

A Change Of Address

Those verses we read a moment ago began with a question. They asked, “Where is the man who fears the Lord?” Of course, the next verse gave us the answer. He is living “*within God’s circle of blessing.*”

If you’ve put God and His Word first in your life, you have a new address! No matter where your house is located, you’re living on Blessing Circle. Furthermore, everywhere you go, that circle surrounds you. It’s all around you! It is a zone of increase and protection that encircles you wherever you go.

You can go to the deepest jungle and that circle of blessing will be with you, because it is not based on your external circumstances but rather on the faithfulness of our covenant-keeping God. It ought to be that wherever you go, not only are you blessed, but everyone else around you is blessed because of your presence.

I believe this circle of blessing is what the psalmist had in mind when he wrote: “*For surely, O Lord, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield*” (Psalm 5:12, New International Version).

Do you see it? Can you picture an invisible shield of God’s favor and blessing surrounding you wherever you go?

What does it mean to live in God’s circle of blessing? A look at some of the other translations sheds some light on this benefit. For example, the New International Version says: “*He will spend his days in prosperity, and his descendants will inherit the land*” (Psalm 25:13).

When you live in God’s circle of blessing, you prosper in every area of your life—materially, physically, emotionally and, of course, spiritually.

I also like the way the King James Version expresses it. It says: “*His soul shall dwell at ease....*”

Living in this special place reserved for those who put God first in everything means being able to “dwell at ease.” Of course, that doesn’t mean we don’t work hard. It doesn’t mean we won’t be challenged to go higher and further than we ever thought possible. But it does mean we walk in peace. And it means we have freedom from having to strive or worry about getting our needs met.

The King James Version also carries a wonderful margin note concerning the phrase. It says it can also be translated “His soul shall lodge in goodness.”

I like that! When someone asks where you live, say, “I lodge in the goodness of God. I’ve taken up permanent residence in goodness!”

The Secrets Of His Promises

As you continue reading Psalm 25 in The Living Bible, you'll find another important truth about those who reverence God and put Him first. In fact, it's in the very next verse: *"Friendship with God is reserved for those who reverence him. With them alone he shares the secrets of his promises"* (Psalm 25:14).

What a wealth of rich insights are packed into this little verse! First, notice the special privilege that has been reserved for you as a "God-reverencer." It is nothing less than "friendship with God." Oh, what a thought—to be considered a friend of God, just as Abraham and Moses were!

But that's not the only special privilege we enjoy, is it? This verse also says we'll be part of an elite group—the ones whom He will choose to share "the secrets of His promises."

What is the Word telling us here? The Amplified Bible, Classic Edition sheds some light on the question. It reads: *"The secret [of the sweet, satisfying companionship] of the Lord have they who fear (revere and worship) Him, and He will show them His covenant and reveal to them its [deep, inner] meaning."*

God wants to show us His covenant and reveal its deep meaning to us. Why? Because we have deliverance in His covenant. There is protection in His covenant. There is healing, peace and provision in it, too. It's one thing to have a "head knowledge" that these things are ours, but it's another to truly *know* these things have been provided through the covenant Jesus sealed with His own blood.

God is a good God. The plans He makes for you are good. And as you fellowship with Him, He'll reveal those good plans to you by His Spirit. Isn't that exactly what Paul is saying in this familiar passage: *"Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God"* (1 Corinthians 2:9-10).

As we walk with Him in the fellowship of friendship, God wants to reveal things to us—hidden things—mysteries—"secrets of His promises," as The Living Bible puts it. He wants to *"show us His covenant."*

Isn't that what the Lord has done for us? By His Word and by His Holy

Ghost inspired preachers and teachers, He has been showing us all the benefits that come from being in covenant with Him.

Why did we get them? We got them because we gave God attention and we listened to Him, and we got in the Word, and we read what He said, and we put our ears in places to hear the Word preached. Line upon line, precept upon precept, wisdom came to us—wisdom about how to live, about how to stay well, and about what to do when sickness comes. Wisdom about what to do when your money gets short.

This is the wisdom of God and believe me, very few people in the world know it. You may have noticed not many people give in order to increase. Most people think they need to keep in order to increase. But we know that God says, “Give and it will be given unto you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together.”

Most of the world is unaware that walking in honesty and integrity is a key to getting ahead in business. They think just the opposite is true.

The truth is, when it comes to getting revelation about the benefits of our covenant with God, we’ve only begun to scratch the surface. But more is coming. I know that because I know that time is short. God is going to be revealing many more “secrets of His promises” in the coming days.

A Circle Of Goodness

When you seek God, you find Him. And when you find God, you find His goodness. The truth is, the more you get into the Word of God and discover His true character, the more faith you have in His goodness and His mercy.

Personally, I have gotten a whole new revelation of the goodness of God in the last year. And I expect this time next year to have a revelation that is deeper still. Experiencing the goodness of God has changed my life.

Our lives must be books (the WORD says we are living letters)—books which tell the story of God's goodness. By observing our lives, people in the world ought to see that there is a God, and that He is a good God. By looking at our lives, looking at the way we conduct ourselves, and by seeing the circle of blessing around us, they should be able to observe the glory of God and desire to know Him like we do.

This is nothing new. All through the Old Testament we find God telling Israel that He wanted them to stand out to the rest of the world as a blessed people. Nothing has changed. He still wants that today.

That's why, when we talk to people, we ought to be talking about the goodness of God. I was reminded of this the other day when I came across something I had written in my Bible—something the Lord had spoken to me back in 1998. He had said, "*Preach the goodness of God and fear not the reproach of men.*"

As I read that, it stirred me up in a new way to be diligent about proclaiming God's goodness. It also got me to thinking about the disrespect people heaped upon the men who first began to preach the goodness of God in the previous generation.

When Brother Oral Roberts began to preach, "God is a good God and He wants you well," other ministers began to criticize him.

They would say things like, "It makes me mad when he says that God is a good God." That was because some of their favorite sermons were just the opposite. There was the "Job" sermon and the "Thorn in the Flesh" sermon—both preached without any revelation of the Word of God.

Praise God, he didn't let it stop him. He feared not the reproach of men and

kept saying it until people began to believe it.

Show And Tell Time

I'm convinced that God wants all of us to preach His goodness and don't be afraid of criticism in these last days. From now on we ought to talk about the goodness of God. No one should hear anything from us except faith in God and confidence in His goodness. God is not ever the problem! Not ever! He is always on time! He never misses! He is always right!

I believe it is show and tell time. I believe God is ready and willing to unveil Himself to the unbelieving world. God is going to do some things that will get the attention of the heathen. He is going to show some things to us and through us in this hour.

What kind of people is God going to use to demonstrate His goodness and love? People who are willing to put Him first and honor His Word. People like you and me.

As we honor God, we are going to lodge in His goodness. You see, God uses circles and He loves blessing people. And we are living in His circle of blessing.

To God be all the glory!

Faith Activities

Speak this truth aloud and be confident in who you are in Christ:

Because I reverence and appreciate the Lord, I am always within God's circle of blessing. All parts of my life are protected, and I am guided in every situation by the love and wisdom of God. He is with me at all times, therefore, my life is a witness to all those around me. I choose God's best for every area of my life!

Watch And Listen

What does it mean to be a witness to others of God's goodness and blessing?

Share the BLESSING!

The blessing of God in your life should be large enough for you to share with others. Here are some suggestions:

- Smile at total strangers.
- Help someone by opening a door or offering to carry their packages.
- Compliment others on an attribute of God you see in their lives.
- Give a portion of your time to meet someone else's need.
- Express a kind attitude at all times.
- Pray for others by name and as a group.
- Support law enforcement with your words and appreciation.
- Donate gently used clothing and other household items to charitable organizations.
- Let your words be filled with faith and love.
- Tithe and give offerings to preach the gospel to the whole world.

We want to hear your story of peace and satisfaction as you choose God's best for your life. Please send it to us by visiting kcm.org/testify

Prayer For Salvation And Baptism In The Holy Spirit

Heavenly Father, I come to You in the Name of Jesus. Your Word says, “Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Acts 2:21).

I am calling on You. I pray and ask Jesus to come into my heart and be Lord over my life according to Romans 10:9-10: “If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” I do that now.

I confess that Jesus is Lord, and I believe in my heart that God raised Him from the dead.

I am now reborn! I am a Christian—a child of Almighty God! I am saved! You also said in Your Word, “If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: HOW MUCH MORE shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?”

(Luke 11:13). I’m also asking You to fill me with the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, rise up within me as I praise God. I fully expect to speak with other tongues as You give me the utterance (Acts 2:4). In Jesus’ Name. Amen!

Begin to praise God for filling you with the Holy Spirit. Speak those words and syllables you receive—not in your own language, but the language given to you by the Holy Spirit. You have to use your own voice. God will not force you to speak. Don’t be concerned with how it sounds. It is a heavenly language!

Continue with the blessing God has given you and pray in the spirit every day.

You are a born-again, Spirit-filled believer.

You’ll never be the same!

Find a good church that boldly preaches God’s Word and obeys it. Become part of a church family who will love and care for you as you love and care for

them.

We need to be connected to each other. It increases our strength in God. It's God's plan for us.

Make it a habit to watch the *Believer's Voice of Victory* television broadcast and become a doer of the Word, who is blessed in his doing (James 1:22-25).

About The Author

Gloria Copeland is a noted author and minister of the gospel whose teaching ministry is known throughout the world. Believers worldwide know her through Believers' Conventions, Victory Campaigns, magazine articles, teaching audios and videos, and the daily and Sunday *Believer's Voice of Victory* television broadcast, which she hosts with her husband, Kenneth Copeland. She is known for Healing School, which she began teaching and hosting in 1979 at KCM meetings. Gloria delivers the Word of God and the keys to victorious Christian living to millions of people every year.

Gloria is author of the New York Times bestseller, *God's Master Plan for Your Life* and *Live Long, Finish Strong*, as well as numerous other favorites, including *God's Will for You*, *Walk With God*, *God's Will Is Prosperity*, *Hidden Treasures* and *To Know Him*. She has also co-authored several books with her husband, including *Family Promises*, *Healing Promises* and the bestselling daily devotionals, *From Faith to Faith* and *Pursuit of His Presence*.

She holds an honorary doctorate from Oral Roberts University. In 1994, Gloria was voted Christian Woman of the Year, an honor conferred on women whose example demonstrates outstanding Christian leadership. Gloria is also the co-founder and vice president of Kenneth Copeland Ministries in Fort Worth, Texas.

Learn more about Kenneth Copeland Ministries by visiting our website at kcm.org

We're Here For You!

Your growth in God's WORD and victory in Jesus are at the very center of our hearts. In every way God has equipped us, we will help you deal with the issues facing you, so you can be the victorious overcomer He has planned for you to be.

The mission of Kenneth Copeland Ministries is about all of us growing and going together. Our prayer is that you will take full advantage of all The LORD has given us to share with you.

Wherever you are in the world, you can watch the Believer's Voice of Victory broadcast on television (check your local listings), the Internet at kcm.org or on our digital Roku channel.

Our website, kcm.org, gives you access to every resource we've developed for your victory. And, you can find contact information for our international offices in Africa, Asia, Australia, Canada, Europe, Ukraine and our headquarters in the United States.

Each office is staffed with devoted men and women, ready to serve and pray with you. You can contact the worldwide office nearest you for assistance, and you can call us for prayer at our U.S. number, +1-817-852-6000, 24 hours every day!

We encourage you to connect with us often and let us be part of your everyday walk of faith!

Jesus Is LORD!

Kenneth and Gloria Copeland