

The Power of God's Word for Healing

Testimony by Karen Baldwin

(Testimony Given June 16th 2013 During Father's Day Service)

My testimony is about the power of God's Word for healing, and how important it is to **be prepared**. When I read my Bible and I come across a verse that speaks to me, I either highlight it or underline it. But when I wanted to refer back to the verse, I had often forgotten where I saw it. **So I started writing my favorite verses down on index cards a few years ago.** Sometimes, I get them from books I read, or from sermon pamphlets. When I need to recall a particular verse for a situation or need, I will thumb through my index cards to find it fast. Not too long ago, I had to gather all of my healing verses quickly. Most know my daughter, Laura. She is 18 and lives at home with us. Back in April she became very sick, very quickly. She was experiencing generalized itching that was not relieved by any medication. It was so bad, that she hadn't slept during the night for over a week. Soon after, she turned yellow and jaundiced and was admitted to the hospital for testing. We were told that she probably had a liver disease and the results could take over a week to get back. Shock, worry and fear set in us both. We needed answers and help quickly. Pastor Tate came for a timely visit while we were in the hospital. We talked and prayed together and our spirits were strengthened and encouraged. **It was at this point that I realized this was a spiritual battle** that the medical field could not win. I put on my armor and became empowered with my spiritual weapon—the Word of God. I also enlisted the prayers of our church members and prayer chain—my army.

The hardest part was waiting on the doctors for answers, for help, for some kind of relief. **We all know that there is power**

in the spoken word. When we speak it out loud, we give life to it, whether good or bad.

John6: 63 **The Spirit gives life;** the flesh counts for nothing.
The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.”

I refused to let anyone speak anything negative or worrisome around her. I knew this would hinder her healing.

2Cor. 10: 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and **we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”**

At the same time, it was not enough for me to read my verses or pray them in my thoughts. When I spoke them out loud, they came alive to my spirit. I read them out loud every day.

Prov 4: 20 **My son, pay attention to what I say;** listen closely to my words.

21 Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart;

22 for they are life to those who find them and health to a man’s whole body.”

One night early on, when I was sitting by her bed in the wee hours, when she was tossing and turning unable to sleep, I started reading my healing verses out loud over her.

Psalm 30: 2 “O LORD my God, I called to you for help **and you healed me.”**

Jer30:17 But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds,' declares the LORD, 'because you are called an outcast, Zion for whom no-one cares.'"

Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, **a very present help in trouble.**"

I felt helpless not being able to do anything to give her physical relief. In the midst of her suffering, **God sent me peace and assurance that she would be okay.** He had her in the palm of His hands, and told me I could rest.

Psalm 46: 10 "**Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.**"

She quieted down soon after, and told me it was okay for me to go back to sleep. I laid my head on my pillow and felt as if God was holding me safely, like a small child. **God had sent me physical and emotional rest that was desperately needed.** The next day, I told Laura of the reassurance God had given me that she would be okay. It helped to strengthen and calm her also.

Isaiah 26: 3 "**You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.**"

As we waited to see a liver specialist in Philadelphia, her symptoms seemed to grow worse. She was unable to go to school or work. She slept most of the time and had lost her appetite to eat. She was scared and afraid. I told her it was okay to cry, **but she had to let the fear out, and then lay it at God's feet. That was not her burden to carry.**

Mark 5: 36 "**Ignoring what they said, Jesus told the synagogue ruler, "Don't be afraid; just believe."**

Phil 4: 6 **“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.**

7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Her job was to focus on getting better and staying positive. **If I had chosen to focus on her symptoms, I would have said she was dying.** On the contrary, **it was as if my spirit had received my answer for healing and deliverance before her body manifested the healing.** I felt the peace and assurance before she did and before we saw anything.

We took one day at a time, and I praised God for each little thing. At every step of the journey, I would pray for what we needed most at that moment...peace, hope, and sleep, strength, relief, and deliverance. I mostly prayed that her illness would go away as fast as it came, and that I didn't really care if we didn't find out what it was.

We saw the liver specialist and he ordered more tests. There were no real treatments or medicines that would heal her liver, just rest and fluids. I knew that they could remove part of a liver, but short of that, you need a new one. I also knew that you could grow healthy liver tissue. So, I prayed for her to grow healthy new liver tissue.

Matt 19: 26 **“Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”**

Rom 4: 17 (As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—**the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were.”**

Isaiah 43: 18 "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

19 **See, I am doing a new thing!** Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland."

Right after that visit to the specialist on May 1st, **her ship turned silently in the night**. It was a hectic time of with scheduling scans, repeat blood work, etc and waiting for results. A few days had gone by before she realized that she had been gradually sleeping better and the itching was subsiding. **Little by little, she got better**. We were still waiting for test results, **but I didn't rely on them for peace and assurance**. Instead of waiting for a diagnosis or an answer, **we looked for the results to confirm her health and recovery**. With each test that came back negative, I praised God for his faithfulness.

Psalms 33: 4 "For the word of the LORD is right and true; **he is faithful in all he does.**"

The doctors still had no answers, so they ordered more blood work. With the last results that came back, the doctors said that no more tests were needed. **Her recent labs showed that her liver was functioning near normal**. There was nothing to diagnose at this time, no definitive answer. **Her liver had started working better on its own and they had no explanation for her recovery**.

Family and friends say "Isn't that troubling? You didn't find an answer?" I say no. **It was a miracle**. I remembered back to when I prayed that I didn't care what it was, I just wanted it to go away. **God answered our prayers faster than the medical field could come up with an answer**. I'm okay with that. Laura is healthy and well, **the way God intended she be**. All the glory goes to God! The doctors said they will need to follow up with her every few months for a while, and that they don't know if it will happen again. I say, we claimed her health back once and we will

not hesitate to do it again if needed. God has a good track record on His side and we are his spiritual warriors. **You need to be prepared for the battle.** The enemy specializes in surprise attacks. We have overcome with Christ Jesus in us!

Romans 15: 13 “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, **so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**”

Romans 8: 11 “11 And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead **will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.**”

Phil 2: 9 “9 **Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father..**

Postscript by Pastor Tate

Many of the verses in this testimony are verses that have spoken directly to Karen’s heart. It is important to realize that preparation to stand in God’s grace against the fallen symptoms of this world must be personally owned. We don’t live by someone else’s faith and God has no “grandchildren.” We are all sons and daughters of the Most High God and His word penetrates our hearts and makes us alive to see, hear, embrace and experience faith. Faith rests and knows because the Holy Spirit confirms and witnesses to our spirit the truth revealed in His Word for us. We can’t make ourselves believe it is the result and work of God’s word that makes us believers. What God has done for one He has done for all. When we stand in His grace God sees us in faith.

Karen's Testimony is powerful because it reveals that when we stand steadfast in God's Word, even though we may have fears within, that God is faithful. It is a practical testimony, a how to, an example; it shows us that if we do not fade, give up or give in, we shall recover! We often look for immediate results (miracles); however, healing from the scriptures speaks of recovery as in time passing. I love the part when she wrote, "**her ship turned silently in the night.**" There are many testimonies that confirm this truth, "they shall recover." (Mark 16:18)

Recommended Booklets

Looking For Immediate Results?

Healing is a Major Aspect of the Gospel

Why Signs?