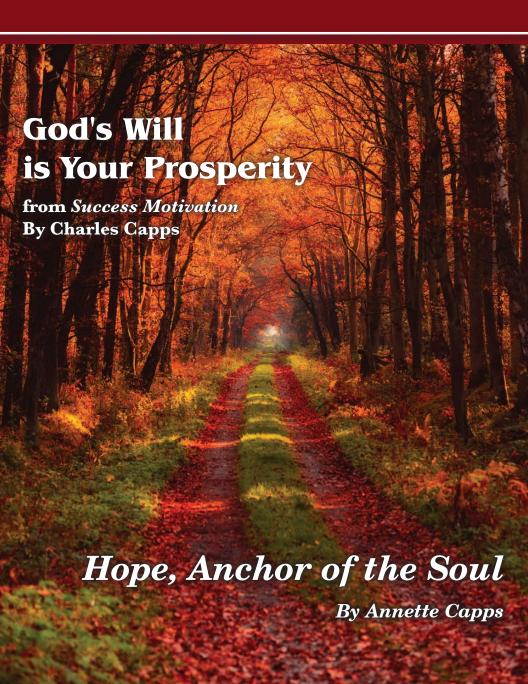
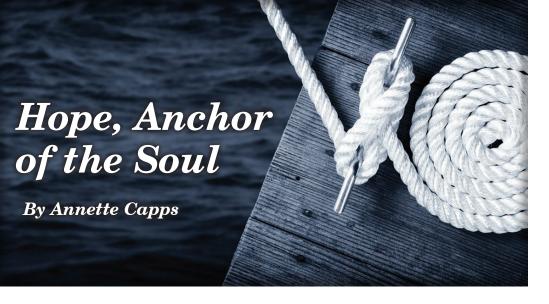
Concepts of Faith





Hope seems to be in short supply in the world today. Discouragement has attempted to latch itself onto everyone, including believers. Looking at the circumstances will do that to you! However, we are instructed to look to Jesus, and look to the Word because within Them is our hope and deliverance.



What is hope? Often we have placed such emphasis on faith that we have ignored hope, however, the Word of God places much emphasis on hope. Hope is confident expectation of good. Do you start each day really expecting good things to happen to you today? Do you have joy and peace while you are standing in faith or is it a constant struggle? Look at Romans 15:13 NKJV, "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." God is the God of hope and He wants you to abound in hope and have joy and peace. If you have lost your hope, then you cannot see good things in store for you. Perhaps you gave up because you were hurt, disillusioned, or became weary in well doing. Maybe you gave up hope and let go when you had your faith on something and it didn't happen fast enough or someone else received their prayers answered and you are still standing.

Hope is the Anchor of the Soul

Hope is an image of good that you see. This image is what holds your mind steady and free of doubt

when time passes and you still haven't seen the manifestation. Hebrews 6:18-19 NKJV tells us, "that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil..." This is where hope comes in. If you can just see an image of the thing you believe and hold it fast in your mind, it will keep your mind from wandering around in doubt and fear. It will cause you to look beyond your circumstances to the goal set before you. Ignoring your circumstances will not change them. Looking beyond them will encourage your faith to change the circumstances. What you are experiencing now is temporary. It will change.



Hope is a Goal Setter

Your faith will have nothing to work for if you have no hope. Hope is the goal that is set for your faith to fulfill. Your faith will become the very substance and reality and fulfillment of your dream. If you have no dream then you have no goal. If you have no goal then hope is missing in your life.

What is your dream? Have you ever had a dream? Have you ever had an idea? Most people have had a dream or a desire in their life

but because of discouragement, lack of education, or lack of funds they have cast away their hope. It is time for God to restore your hope! You can realize your dreams!

Psalm 37:4 NKJV says, "Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart." I always interpreted this scripture to mean that God would give you the things you desire if you delight in Him. I believe that is true but I also believe that it means He will give you the desires. God will create the desires in your heart. Your desires will be His desires. If you lack hope, if you have given up and have no goals or motivation, then ask God to give you a desire. He is working in you. (Philippians 2:13) Ask Him to give you a dream so you will expect good things. Then you will have something for your faith to work for. You will have joy and peace in believing.

I was brought up in a church that taught (incorrectly) that if there was something in life that you did not want to do then that must be the will of God for you. What a miserable existence that would be. I believe God directs us many times by our desires in our heart or spirit. I am not talking about desires of the flesh or the desires of a person who is not delighting in God and His Word. That is not safe. If you are a person who is committed to God and delights in His Word, then you will begin to have godly desires come to the surface. Your desires

and God's will be one and the same. (Proverbs 16:3 Amplified) In this case, as you have been cleansed of ungodly desires, then the thing that you desire most in your spirit will be what God will use to direct you, however, it must agree with God's Word. If your deepest desire is to sell drugs and make money, then that is not from God. It is never God's will to fulfill the desires of the flesh and it is only as you are totally committed to God and His Word that you can trust those desires.



DevelopYour Hope

In order to realize your dream you must develop your hope and encourage your hope until it becomes a reality. I will give you some keys to developing hope on the inside of you.

#1 — Saturate yourself in the promises of God.

"Let your eyes look right on [with fixed purpose], and let your gaze be straight before you." Proverbs 4:25 AMPC

#2 — Make a written list of goals on a "vision" board. Use anything (electronic, paper, photos) that gives you joy and excitement about your hope, vision, or dream.

"Consider well the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established and ordered aright." Proverbs 4:26 AMPC

#3 — Refuse to gaze at external circumstances. Don't get sidetracked!

"Turn not aside to the right hand or to the left; remove your foot from evil." Proverbs 4:27

Our hope is in God Who calls those things that be not as though they were and declares the end from the beginning. (Romans 4:17, Isaiah 46:10) Follow in His footsteps! Develop your hope by searching the Word, add your faith, and call for what does not exist!

(I have a CD teaching entitled Goalsetting – Setting Your Course for Fulfillment - \$8.00/ MP3 download - \$4.00. Also the mini-book *Calling* Things That Are Not - \$2.00.)



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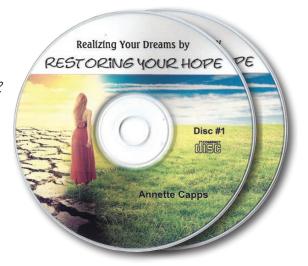


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ANNETTE CAPPS

Faith Builders Church Little Rock Pastors Philip & Michelle Steele 1050 W. Markham St. #110 Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

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od crossed my path with the Charles Capps family in the early part of the 1960's. I was a young widow with two small children: a six-year-old son, and a baby girl. I volunteered in prison ministries at both the Tucker and Cummins Units in Arkansas. The Capps family attended the England Assemblies of God Church, which was located not far from the prisons. One Sunday evening after leaving the prison service, I visited their church and our close friendship began. Annette was around eight years old at that time.

Ten years later, God brought us all back together again when Charles began to travel and teach on faith. I became their Prayer Coordinator and played the piano or organ for many of their seminars. I also worked the book table at many of their meetings and began reading their books. I had an advantage not many had. I not only read the books, but I was blessed to hear Brother Capps, Peggy, Annette, and Beverly teach and minister.

Two books that have really been a help to me are, God's Creative Power® Will Work For You and God's Creative Power® For Healing. These two small books reveal principles from God's Holy Word and lay out instructions on how to apply them to obtain healing and meet the needs of your spirit, soul, mind, and body. I could share testimony after testimony of how these principles from God's Holy Word have healed me and set me free from illnesses, speaking negatively, learning how to speak His Word faithfully over myself, children, family members, friends, etc. Because I pray them daily and have memorized them, when I have had a need arise in my life, these Scriptures come up in my spirit. I proclaim them out loud over my situation and need. This allows God to arise and scatter my enemies! I highly recommend them to ALL. As Brother Capps taught us - "My people can have what they say, but they are saying what they have." I challenge you to begin speaking the Word of God over your circumstances, and you will begin to experience victory in your life.

Learning to hear and obey God's Voice is not as difficult as you might think. My own experiences in learning to hear and obey His Voice have simply come about when whatever He put in my hands to do, I did! When I offered to pray for this ministry, God set me on a journey! In the early days, Annette would stop by my home with a stack of prayer letters. We would pray the prayer of agreement over them. This happened again and again. Eventually, I became their Prayer Coordinator. I prayed over their mail letters and took prayer calls from those needing help from all over the United States and other countries. God blessed me in so many ways there's not enough room to enumerate them in this article. My children were blessed too! We were renting a small home when this journey with the Capps family began. In a short time after our supernatural-divine hookup, we moved into our own home, bought a car, and the blessings of the Lord overtook us!

Do not disregard the blessing of hearing and obeying the still-small Voice of God. Be available. There are fields in this end-time harvest needing laborers! I am still praying God's Holy Word over the Capps Ministries' prayer letters. I turned 80 years old recently and have no intention of quitting! You can be a blessing no matter your age or position.

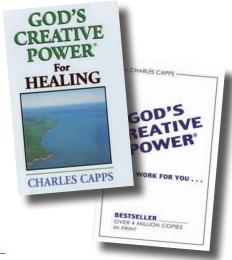
(Wilma is now an Ordained Assemblies of God minister, and past Director of a

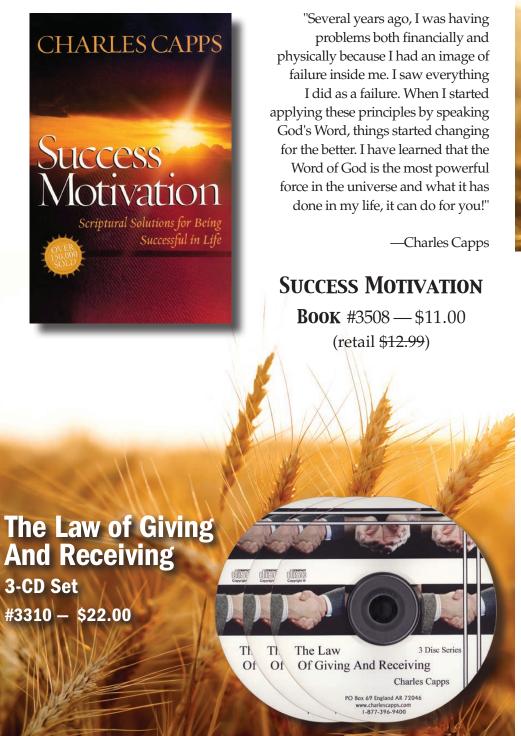
Homeless & Abuse Shelter for Women and Children. She is currently working as the Director's Assistant to the CEO of the Arkansas Workers' Compensation Commission. She is also a grandmother to four grandsons, two granddaughters, and a godmother.)



GOD'S CREATIVE POWER®

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Many books have been written on the subject of positive thinking and success, but most of them deal only with the mental realm and lack a spiritual tie-in. A little power exists in the mental realm and it can change you to some extent; but it takes more than mental assent or a mechanical action for you to prosper abundantly in all areas of your life. God's Word is spiritual motivation to the human spirit. It will build an image within you and bring you success in every area of your lifefinancially, spiritually, physically, and socially. These spiritual truths from the Word of God can change your life.

Diligence in God's System

God said through His prophet Hosea, *My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge*. (Hosea 4:6) In Luke 16:8, Jesus said, *The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light*. This is true, but it ought not be. The children of the world should not be wiser than the children of light! The children of the

world have been diligent to find out how the world's system operates. Then they operate the system. The world's system is plain: "Grab and hold! Whatever you get, keep! Work day and night. Seek for riches. Give yourself totally to your work."

"ONE OF THE PROBLEMS IN THE BODY OF CHRIST IS THAT THEIR SOULS ARE NOT PROSPERING."

God's system is exactly opposite. *Give, and it shall be given.* (Luke 6:38)

...he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. (2 Corinthians 9:6) My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. (Philippians. 4:19)

...godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. (1 Timothy 4:8)

Godly men and women *can and* will prosper as they become diligent in God's system. If you have been obedient to give, then you should

WHAT I LEARNED WAS WRONG, GOD'S WORD WAS CONTRARY TO WHAT I HAD BEEN TAUGHT.

be expecting to receive a better job, a raise, or new direction in business. Down through the years, many Christians have somehow decided that it is not God's will for them to prosper on earth. They all believe it will be wonderful when they get to heaven. But we must deal with the "here and now." God's Word gives us the wisdom for prosperity. To be truly motivated to success, we first must know that it is God's will for us to prosper!

Your Soul Must Prosper

God told Adam to have dominion over the earth. From the beginning it was God's intention for man to prosper. Third John 2 says, *Beloved*, *I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.* The word *wish* in this verse in the literal Greek can be translated "pray," so we could read it this way: *Beloved*, *I* (pray) *above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.*

One of the problems in the Body of Christ is that their souls are not prospering. The soul of man is the inner link that connects the spirit with the body. The soul and the spirit of man are not the same, though for years many thought they were. The Bible divides the two.

So often we hear this statement:

"He has lost his soul." We think of the soul as being the spirit, but the Scriptures tell us differently. Man is a spirit; he has a soul; and he lives in a body. The soul of man is composed of the mind, the will, and the emotions. It is the guidance system for the natural man. Man is a spirit being, having been breathed out of God. In the beginning, God breathed His spirit life into Adam. That spirit life became the human spirit which operates beyond the intellect in the higher realm—the spiritual realm. The gifts of the Spirit come out of the spiritual realm.

The spirit of a man can receive revelation before his intellect becomes involved. Quite often, I have known something in my spirit, but was unable to put it into words. It was real and strong in my spirit before my intellect could grasp it. Some of the things I am sharing in this book became a reality in my spirit several years ago; but it took time for that to be transferred from my spirit to my intellect in order for me to be able to share it with others.

BECAUSE I HAD AN IMAGE OF FAILURE INSIDE ME, I SAW EVERYTHING I DID AS A FAILURE.

The Apostle John received many things by revelation into his spirit. He wrote, *Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.* (1 John 4:4) He didn't say, "Maybe you'll overcome one of these days." He said, "You have

already overcome because the Greater One is inside you!" This revelation was transferred from God's Spirit to John's human spirit. John said you should prosper, even as your soul prospers. Your soul must embrace prosperity. A prosperous soul will produce a prosperous image inside you.

In the fifth chapter of John's Gospel, Jesus approached a crippled man at the pool of Bethesda and said to him, Wilt thou be made whole? (v. 6) That seems a strange thing to say to a man who is crippled. The man had been lying there for years waiting for the "troubling of the water" so he could go down into the water and be healed. He wanted to be healed, but Jesus asked him, "Will you be made whole?" The first thing the man did was to begin talking about his problem: Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me. (v. 7) Jesus was trying to get him to speak his faith, but the man zeroed in on the problem instead.

A Desire To Prosper

Do you have a will to prosper? Before you can obtain true prosperity, there must be a desire within you.

Proverbs 13:12 says, *When desire cometh, it is a tree of life.* This verse can be interpreted two ways:

- 1. When the thing you desire comes, it is the tree of life.
- 2. When desire is in you, it is a tree of life.

I believe the second is the correct interpretation. In other words, the thing you desire is the thing you will pray and the thing you will say. You will speak in line with your desire and faith comes by hearing. (Romans 10:17) Jesus said, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. (Mark 11:24) He said believe you receive the things you desire, not the things you already have.

THE SPIRIT OF A MAN CAN RECEIVE REVELATION BEFORE HIS INTELLECT BECOMES INVOLVED.



If your soul is not prospering, you will have a bad image—an image of failure and defeat or sickness.

Several years ago, I was having problems both financially and physically. Because I had an image of failure inside me, I saw everything I did as a failure. I often said, "It doesn't make any difference what I do. Nothing will work out anyway." I was disgusted with life because of a bad business deal. I had "put out

a fleece" before God as Gideon had done. It worked for Gideon; but when I did it, I really got fleeced!

"YOUR SOUL MUST EMBRACE PROSPERITY. A PROSPEROUS SOUL WILL PRODUCE A PROSPEROUS IMAGE INSIDE YOU."

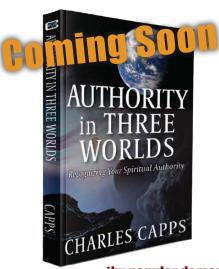
Jesus said when He went away, He would send another Comforter to teach you all things (John 14:26), guide you into all truth...and...shew you things to come. (John 16:13) We don't have to use fleeces today. The Spirit of Truth abiding in us will teach us. When the desire to prosper comes from God's Word, it is truly a tree of life. Then God's Spirit reveals direction. The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the Lord. (Proverbs 16:1)

Religious Tradition— Enemy of Success

Somehow through the years, people have gotten the idea that you can't serve God and prosper. Several years ago I picked up some of that tradition myself. I thought prosperity was for some people; but every time a trouble, trial, or financial problem came along, I thought it was God trying to teach me something! I was learning many things, but I wasn't getting anywhere because what I learned was wrong. I finally realized that it wasn't God at all. but the devil stealing my finances. Then I had to unlearn some things. I found that God's Word was contrary to my thoughts; contrary to many

things I had been taught. I used to think, Surely, if these principles of faith were true, they would have taught them in my church. But they didn't know anything about them in that church! When I started applying these principles by speaking God's Word, things started changing for the better. Results didn't come overnight, but an image began to build inside me.

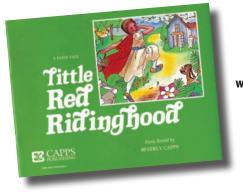
Second Timothy 3:16-17 says, All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. All Scripture is given by God and is profitable for us. Instruction in God's Word will change our preconceived ideas and will teach us to understand prosperity God's way.



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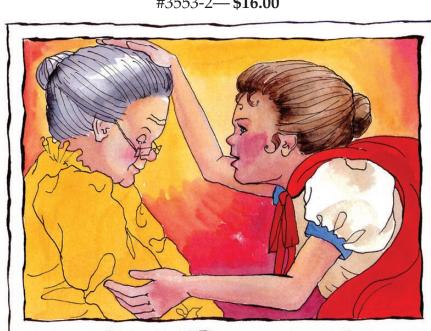




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