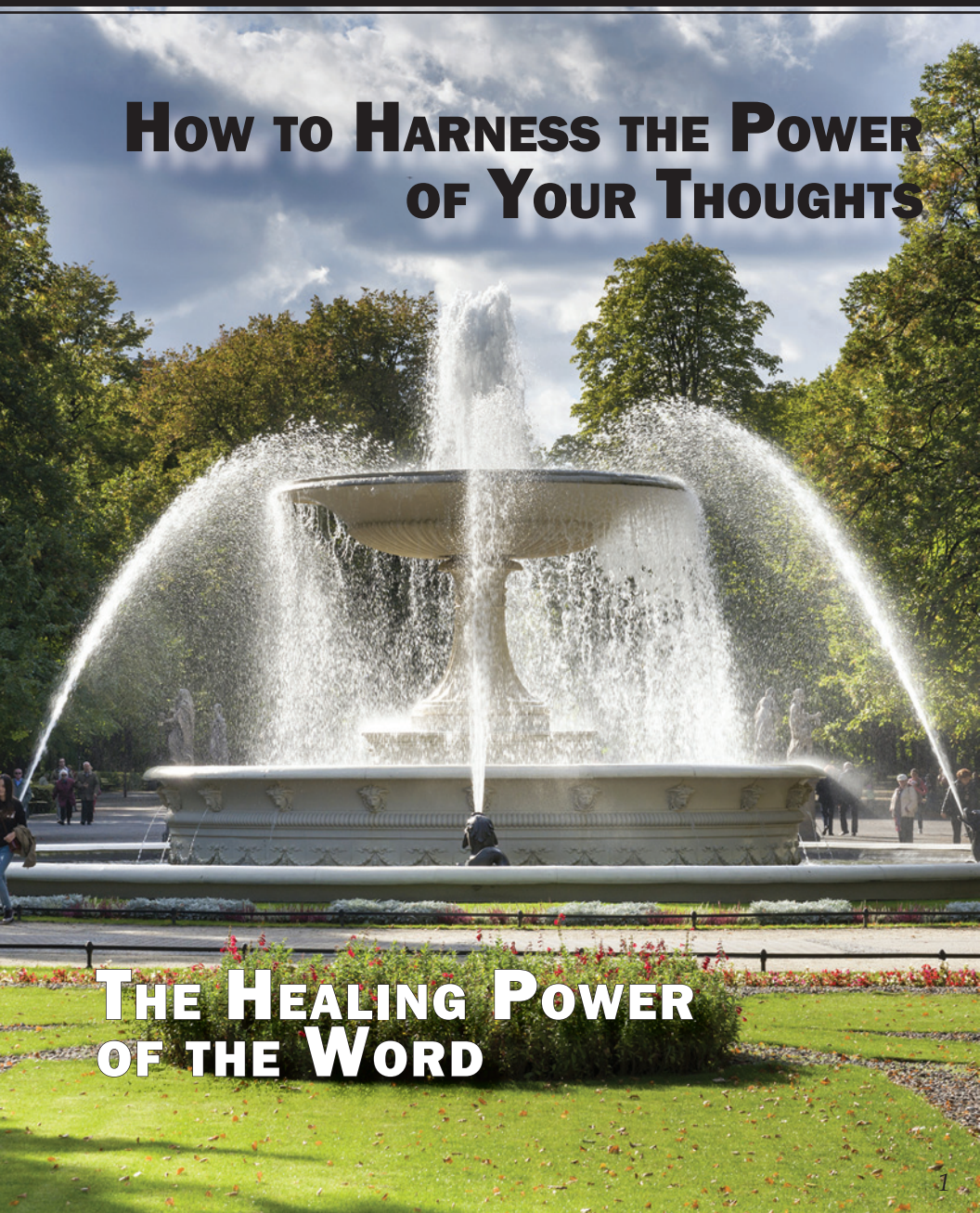
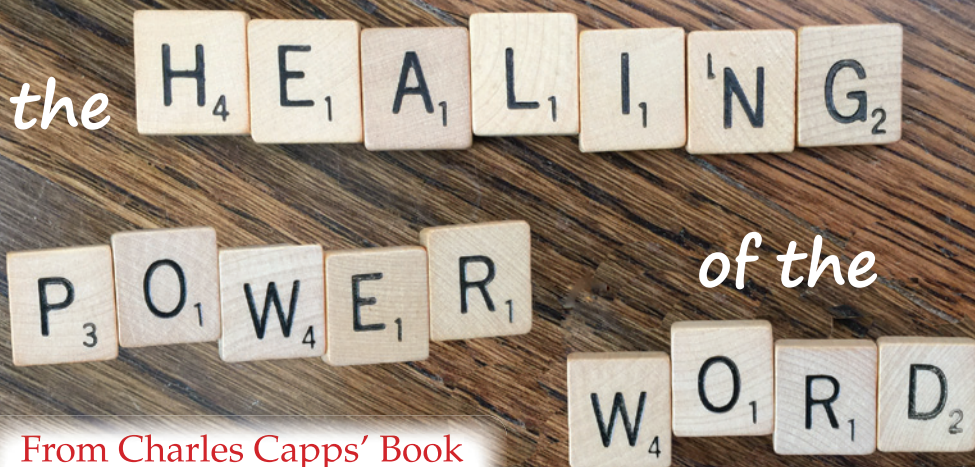


# CONCEPTS OF FAITH

## HOW TO HARNESS THE POWER OF YOUR THOUGHTS



## THE HEALING POWER OF THE WORD



From Charles Capps' Book  
*The Tongue A Creative Force*

**L**et's read 1 Peter 2:24, "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."

The WORD says you were healed. Sickness is a curse of the law, and Galatians 3:13 says, "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us..." Matthew 8:17 says, "That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses." He took *your* infirmities and bare your sicknesses. Learn to read the scriptures with a personal identification. Isaiah 53:5 says, "...with his stripes we are healed." With His stripes YOU ARE HEALED.

Someone said, "Yes, but you don't understand. I don't feel healed and I really don't look healed."

That person has been programmed by the world system, the five physical senses. *The WORD is not IN them.* They may know about the WORD, they may even believe the Word is true, but until it becomes a part of them, it is not in them.

Yes, I do understand. You are motivated by your feelings and not by the WORD of GOD.

I have heard some folks say, "Pray for me, I'm taking the flu."

They've got it *termed right*; they are *taking it*. Satan offered it to them. He said, "You've got a runny nose, and a neck ache; now, let's see what you're going to say about it." Then most people will side with the devil

and begin to say the very thing he said. "I am taking a cold."

The WORD says, "...In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established" (2 Cor. 13:1).

You may have a runny nose. You may have aches all over. That is how you feel, but what are you going to *say* about it?

*God's Word is forever settled in heaven*; it is already established there. "For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven" (Ps. 119:89).

The first thing most people do is to go tell their wife or husband, "I believe I'm taking the flu." *You have released faith in sickness. You have established the words of the enemy. And Jesus said you can have what you say.* The WORD, in essence, said the *tongue will cause the healing power to stop.* It will set on fire the wheels of lineage, or that which you have inherited. What you have *inherited* is *natural healing power in your body.* Now don't misunderstand me. I am not talking about *divine healing* at this point, but the *natural healing ability of the human body.* Then all things being level, all things being right, and without Satan involved, any sickness that comes upon your body — your body will cast it off and heal itself.

*That healing ability is in your*

*body.* But Satan has come on the scene, and he distorts these things, and *he has found out that his ability is limited to what he can get you to say.*

*Jesus said you can have what you say. Not many Christians know that, but Satan knows that, and he believes it.*

Just think back to the last time you had a cold or were sick. What was the first thing you wanted to do after you noticed the symptoms?

*You wanted to go tell somebody, "I'm sick." And you probably did. Then you began to get worse immediately if not sooner.* Being unaware, you activated a *spiritual law* that gave the authority you had to dominate your physical body over to the enemy. *You established the words of the enemy instead of God's Word. You have openly proclaimed, I AM SICK.*

## HEALING POWER OF THE WORD

I beg your pardon, *THE WORD SAYS YOU'RE HEALED.* "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed" (1 Peter 2:24). *Not going to be — WERE HEALED —* Jesus already did it two thousand years ago. He's not going to do any more to heal you.

You lay hold on what He said and deny that sickness the right to exist in your body. Lay hold upon it by faith, confess the WORD OF GOD over it, and say. "I may hurt, but in the NAME OF JESUS I AM HEALED."

Somebody said, "That sounds like a nut!"

Well, it may, but I'd rather be a well nut than a sick one! It works. It works because God said it would. God tells you in His Word YOU CAN HAVE WHAT YOU SAY.

Most people are having what they say, but they say the wrong things. Now, a lady stood up in the church and said, "Pray for me, I'm taking the flu." Your praying wouldn't do her any good. You're wasting your time praying for her.

*"By His stripes we are healed."*

She believes the wrong thing. By the words of her mouth she has released faith in the ability of the enemy to make her sick. She has no scriptural basis for that belief. She has been motivated by her physical feelings.

The just shall live by faith and not by sight.

We should learn to believe more in what God's Word says rather than our feelings. Feelings change from day to day.

The Word of God never changes. It always stays the same, regardless of how you feel.

How you feel has nothing to do with God performing His Word.

I've seen people ask the pastor to "Come over and pray for me." The pastor would go over and I would go with him, and we would pray for them, and say, "Do you believe you are healed?" And they would say, "Well, I hope so."

Well, they aren't. No need fooling yourself. There was no faith in that. Hoping won't get it. *Hope has no substance.*

The Bible said, "...**The prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up...**" (James 5:15).

Somebody said, "Yeah, but I still hurt after they got through praying."

Their faith was based totally on feelings, not on the WORD. It didn't say the prayer of faith will heal the sick if they don't hurt after prayer. James 5:15(NKJV) says, "**The prayer of faith will save the sick; and the Lord WILL raise him up.**"

We should say, "Thank God they prayed. I believe they prayed

in faith and I know I believed God. Therefore, I'm getting up IN THE NAME OF JESUS."

We have pampered these things.

Now I'm not fighting doctors, don't misunderstand me. If you

*The just shall live by faith and not by sight.*

haven't learned to operate in this, go on to your doctor. He is your very best friend. *Doctors are fighting the same evil with medical means. There is nothing wrong with going to your doctor. But learn to operate in the ABILITY OF GOD. Release the ability of God in you by the FAITH-FILLED WORDS of your mouth.*

James, in chapter 3, said YOU CAN do it. He said if you can control the tongue you would have no trouble with the body. *He said the tongue is to the physical body (THE RULING FACTOR) as bits are to a horse. They are both in the mouth, and they also have control of the physical body. He said, if you would control the tongue, you would not have any trouble with the body.*

**THE BODY WILL OBEY WORDS.**

**THE BODY HAS TO BE TRAINED TO ACT UPON THE WORD OF GOD.**

**YOUR BODY OBEYS THE COMMAND OF YOUR MIND.**

You start saying this, "I don't

desire to eat so much that I become overweight, because this body is the temple of the Holy Ghost; therefore, in the name of Jesus, I do not desire to eat more than this body needs. And in the name of Jesus, I refuse to overeat."

Start confessing that into your diet program. When you start using words to *triumph* instead of allowing them to *hold you in bondage, they will work for you. Your words will work for you.*

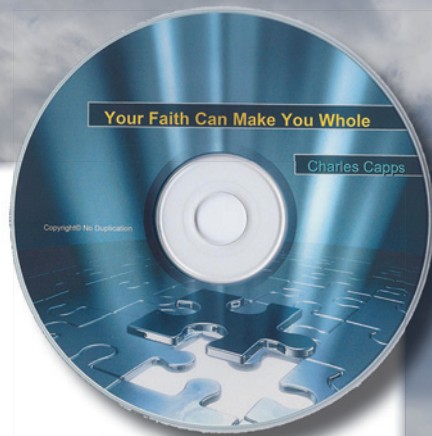
*Now, it won't work because you said it once. I didn't say that. I said start confessing it. Start confessing the things you desire, not the problems that exist.*

Somebody said, "How long do I have to confess it?"

Until you get the desired results. You see, He said control

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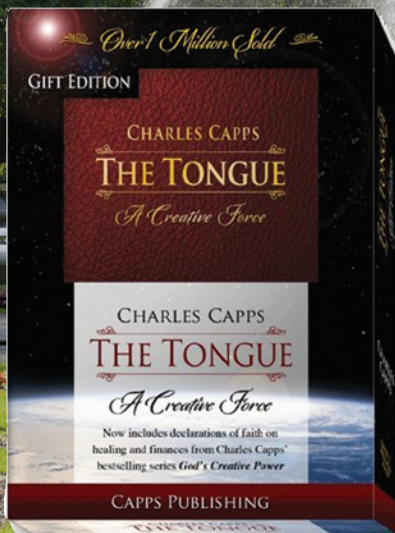
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the words of your mouth.

You have been confessing this, "Oh, I know I've had enough, but I sure DO WANT a piece of pie. I just love pie. I can't do without sweets. I guess I will get as big as a barn."

I have actually heard people say that. You said it with your mouth, "I want a piece of pie." Your body starts desiring it right then. *You build desires with words. Your body may have been trained in this manner. Mortify those desires by saying, "No, in the name of Jesus, I don't desire any more food than I need."*

Somebody said, "Well, that would be lying."

*No, that's the spirit man talking. He is programmed with the WORD OF GOD, and the spirit man says, "I don't desire anything that would be harmful to the body. I know that if I overeat, it will be harmful to the body; therefore, I'm speaking out of the spirit man and saying, 'I don't desire anymore in the name of Jesus!'"*

*Now you have set a law in motion. You have done something to your body. You've said to your body, "Now, just settle down and you conform to the WORD OF GOD, IN THE NAME OF JESUS."*

Yes, talk to it. Now I would advise you to do it quietly when in public, because people will give you

a lot of room if they hear you!

*Jesus always spoke TO the problem. He spoke the desired results, the end results. We would be wise to follow His example.*

I want you to see what Jesus had to say concerning this subject. **"Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit. O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh"** (Matthew 12:33-34).

Now, Jesus told us a profound truth. *You speak out of your mouth what is abundant in your heart.*

The symptoms came and the devil said, "I wonder what you've got?" You said, "I don't know. I wonder what I've got?" He got out his little *flip chart* and said, "Do you believe you've got the *flu*?" "Now, I don't believe I have the *flu*." "Well, do you believe you have a bad sore throat?" "Well, yeah, my throat does feel kind of raw." YOU MUST MAKE A DECISION. Will you be motivated by what you feel, see, or hear, or the WORD? The Word said Jesus bore your sickness. (Matt. 8:17.)

Isaiah 53:5 says, **"...With his stripes we ARE healed."**

You begin to rationalize, "I sure

don't feel healed. I really don't look like I'm healed because my throat looks red. I really don't sound healed; my voice is getting raspy."

*The physical has won out over the WORD OF GOD. "Honey, I'm sick." Your voice penetrates every fiber of your being, even to your heart (spirit). Your tongue, the high authority, the controlling factor of the body and spirit, has declared it to be so and all resistance to that virus ceases. YOU ARE INDEED SICK.*

You may say, "Yeah, but I was feeling bad before I ever said that."

Yes, the symptoms came. *But the enemy can't put anything on you without your consent.* Now he can cause you to feel like it's coming on. See, you go back to feeling there. That's why it's dangerous to live by your five physical senses — what you feel, see, hear, taste, and touch.

### **PROGRAM YOURSELF BY THE WORD**

*Learn to program yourself by the Word.* When you feel bad, say, "Now what does the Word say about that? Well, praise the Lord, the Word says, *'By his stripes, I'm healed.* 'Therefore I won't

receive your sickness, Satan. I just *pass it up*, thank you."

It is very simple to resist the devil, once you have been programmed by the WORD of GOD. *God and His WORD are one. They agree.*

*Learn to rise to the level of God's Word by quoting what God said.* Then you can boldly say, "According to the Word of God, I am not sick. Jesus took my sickness, He bore it for me; therefore *I receive my healing through the Word.*"

*Just as sure as Jesus bore your sins, He also bore your sickness. You have no more right to allow sickness to operate in your body than you do sin.*

### **GOD WANTS YOU WELL**

Say this right now, "GOD WANTS ME WELL" (3 John 2).

Say it again, loud, "GOD WANTS ME WELL."

*Confess God's Word to your body daily. Yes — talk to it. Sometimes your body wants to be sick. Don't let it. Jesus said you can have what you say, so take time to fill your heart (spirit) with God's Word.*

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## **HOW TO HARNESS THE POWER OF YOUR THOUGHTS**

**By Annette Capps**

*Philippians 4:8 "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."*

We all know that we should think on good things that are positive and uplifting. Unfortunately, it was easier for Paul to write than for us to practice. The question is, "How can I habitually think good thoughts?" I've confessed the Word, prayed, and read my Bible but I am still overcome by discouraging and depressing thoughts. I still feel like a failure." I believe there has been a missing link that will enable us to practice this scripture.

As any gardener knows, you must remove the weeds and prepare the ground before you

can grow a good crop. If we are going to have success in our thought life, we must first get rid of the weeds (negative thought patterns). The first step in getting rid of weeds is to be able to identify and recognize what the weeds are. I am convinced that all of us have self-defeating thought patterns that we don't recognize, consequently they continue to grow. For instance when you make a mistake (perhaps in your checkbook) and the bank tells you that you are overdrawn, what do you say to yourself? What thoughts do you have? Recognize any of these? "I am so stupid!" "What an ignorant thing to do!" "I never do anything right!"

These thoughts may not seem significant, but they develop into patterns or habits of thinking. What you think you eventually believe. What you believe, you will feel, and what you feel, you will speak. Your feelings

on discouraging and depressing thoughts. How do you stop the process? Learn to recognize these negative thought patterns, and then *begin to talk back to these thoughts. Let the Christ in you rise up and defend you!*

Let's take a look at the statement (or thought), "I never do anything right!" First of all, is that true? Of course not! You do some things wrong but you also do some things right. That doesn't make you a failure, it makes you human! The devil would love for you to think that you are a failure because you make mistakes. If that's true, all people are failures because all people make mistakes.

Secondly, let Christ in you speak back to those thoughts. Would Jesus stand in front of you and say, "You never do anything right!" No! So when that thought comes, argue your case. Analyze that thought in the light of the truth of God's Word,

then defeat that lie by speaking the truth. "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. There is therefore now no condemnation to

me because I'm in Christ Jesus. I am His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus!" You'll plant a good garden when you root out the weeds!

Let's get things in order by pulling the weeds instead of mixing bad seed with good seed. You can become aware of these twisted thought patterns by recognizing your feelings. I know that we have ignored our feelings because we are to be ruled by faith. But most of your negative feelings come from negative thoughts! If you *feel* down and out, stop and examine what you have been thinking. You'll find out where those feelings came from. You'll harness those powerful thoughts and change your feelings and the course of your life!

## WHAT ARE YOU TELLING YOURSELF?

In the past few years, we have placed great emphasis on the words we speak audibly; however, I would like to bring your attention to the words that you say to yourself (self-talk).

Jesus said, "...for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matthew 12:34). To the Jewish people living at that time, the word "heart" signified the seat of the intellect, mind, and thoughts. What Jesus was saying

was, "Before you say it aloud, you have already said it in your mind."

*What do you say to yourself?* You may not make a *bad confession* by speaking your thoughts out loud, but what are you telling yourself?

Do you tell yourself that nothing ever works out for you? Even if you hold your tongue and don't say it, you are doing immeasurable damage by allowing this to go on inside your head. We need to monitor our self-talk as carefully as we monitor the words we speak with our tongue.

Negative thought patterns lead to a negative attitude, which leads to negative speaking. Most negative thought patterns are illogical and self-defeating.

Some of these patterns are: *perfectionism* (having unrealistic, impossible standards); *assumptions* (assuming you know what another person is thinking about you, or what their motives are); *prediction* (believing the very worst is going to happen); *blowing things out of proportion* (making a mountain out of a mole hill); and *invalidating yourself* with the "shoulds" (I should do this... I shouldn't do that... I shouldn't feel this way... I shouldn't be this way).

Do you think Jesus talked to Himself this way? Of course not! And He does not want us to bind



What you think upon will defeat you or make you victorious.

are a direct result of what you think. If you feel discouraged or depressed, then you have been thinking and meditating

ourselves with guilt, rejection, and frustration by talking to ourselves in such a manner.

We are given instruction to acknowledge the *good* things in *us* in Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:6). In the past, you may have acknowledged the bad things in you, but you can start fresh by turning the rudder of your ship in a new direction. Be nice to yourself!

### ANOTHER CONSIDERATION

I would also like for you to be aware that the reverse is also true of the statement "What you think, you will eventually believe and what you believe, you will feel and will speak." If you are in an emotionally toxic environment at work or at home, the negative

energy of that environment will be felt in your mind, emotions, and body. Even though you may be a positive person, being surrounded by that negativity can cause you to feel awful, then you begin to think and believe bad things about yourself. If you are in a situation of verbal abuse anywhere, it will be a detriment to your health, emotions, and sense of self-worth.

God leads us to live peaceably, so if you are being overwhelmed by a toxic environment, it is time to ask God if you are in the right place.

*"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."*

**Philippians 4:7 NKJV**



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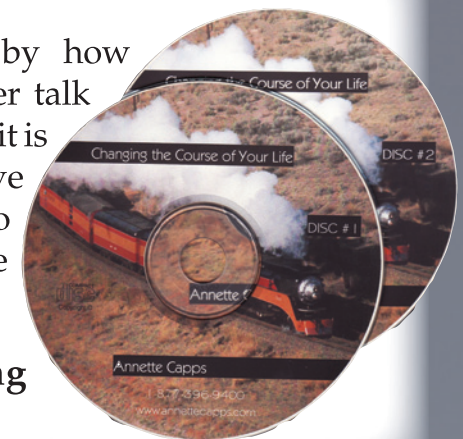
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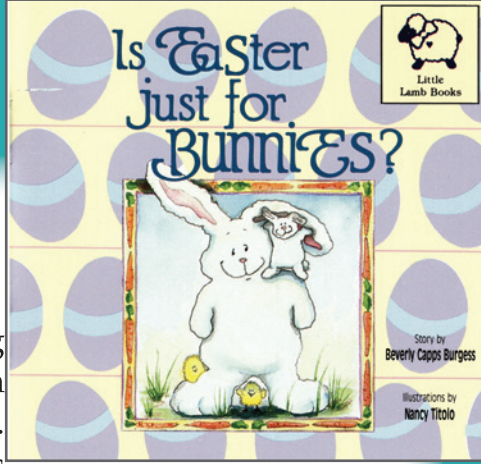
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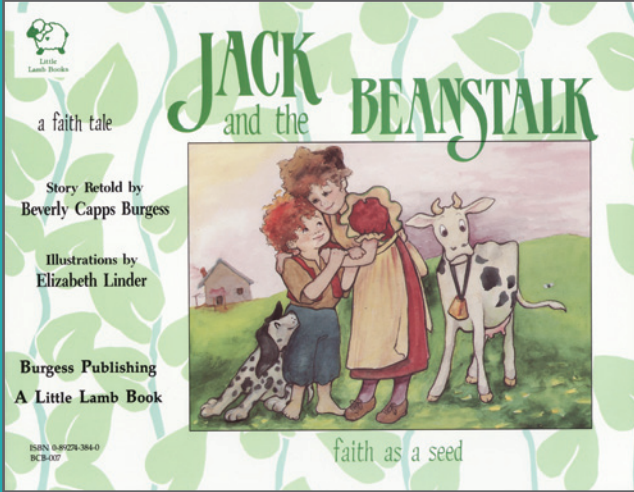
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