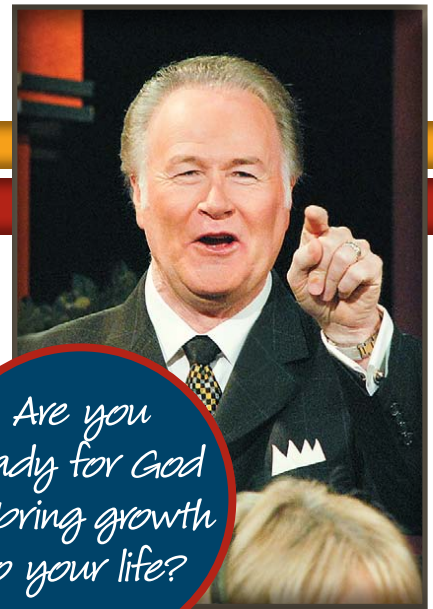


NOW IS THE TIME...

for you to grow daily in the Lord,

strong and enduring and flourishing!



*Are you
ready for God
to bring growth
to your life?*

Dear Partner,

I'm expecting 2010 to be one of the greatest years of your life! I believe God wants you to experience His miracles and to grow stronger and stronger in Him as each day goes by. Are you ready for Him to bring growth into your life? Are you ready for Him to bring you increase in your health, your soul, your finances, your relationships, your understanding of the Word, and more? Then read this letter carefully, because I'm expecting God to use what I've written here to help you grow strong in Him so you can receive everything He has for you in 2010.

What does it mean to grow in the Lord? Psalm 92:12 says, *The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.* The growth of a cedar of Lebanon is a picture of the growth of a righteous person. **When God thinks of you, He thinks of you as flourishing and growing daily.** And He has a very specific picture in His mind of what that means. So let me tell you about the cedars of Lebanon, so you can begin to **see yourself the way God sees you as you walk with Him and grow in Him...**

The majestic cedars of Lebanon were famous in Biblical times. Growing on the mountains, they symbolized strength and magnificence to the people of that part of the world. Their fragrant wood and oil were highly valuable, and they were used to build great ships, the palaces of kings, and temples. Cedar trees are evergreen and extremely resistant to decay and weather. Unlike other trees, cedars don't get eaten by insects. That's why the best closets and trunks are made of cedar... The wood actually repels moths and other insects that bring decay and eat away at our treasures. Cedars have a protective quality that causes them to endure.

Valuable...fragrant...strong...productive...enduring... That's the kind of person God wants you to become as you grow in Him. **He sees you as HIGHLY VALUABLE, STRONG, and ABLE TO ENDURE anything and everything that comes against you.** Through God's grace and power, He wants you to live every day HEALTHY — spirit, soul, and body. He wants you to experience His life flowing out of you continuously, so that you are able to resist adversity, survive hard times, and even flourish. I believe that is God's plan for you—and it sure sounds good, doesn't it? Who wouldn't want that in their life?

(Over)

So, how do you become like a cedar of Lebanon? How do you experience that kind of growth in your walk with the Lord? In the natural realm, there are two elements that a cedar needs more than anything else in order to grow strong and firm and productive. First, the cedar needs deep, rich soil that is full of nutrients. If the soil isn't very healthy, a cedar tree won't grow to its fullest potential. Second, the cedar needs a lot of water. Cedars don't grow in the desert. They grow best in places that have plenty of moisture.

Spiritually speaking, you and I need the nourishment that comes from God. Cedars are rooted firmly in the soil. We, too, are to be rooted firmly in God and His Word. Hebrews 10:23 says, *Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.* The reason you can be rooted firmly in God is because HE IS FAITHFUL. He will do what He has promised to do. **You can ALWAYS rely on Him to be true to His Word.** And because of that, **you can dig your roots deeply into His promises, trusting Him to keep His Word to you.**

You can also drink daily of the water described in Isaiah 12:3—*Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.* This is a picture of the relationship with God that I know you want to have, through your faith in Jesus Christ. I believe **you can draw strength from this relationship** through worshipping Him and taking time to pray and study your Bible, so that you can receive His guidance and strength. As you do so, the Word of God will begin to influence the way you think and act, so that you can live out His will daily, in every situation you face. Spending time with God, praying, hearing and doing the Word...all these things will feed your spirit and keep you growing strong in the Lord.

It's important to realize that growth takes time. It doesn't happen overnight. But slow, steady growth produces cedar trees that are resilient and long-lived. So, when you work at your relationship with God every day, you'll begin to become **a strong, resilient, enduring child of God...able to withstand any adversity and experience the victory of the Lord.**

As you become more and more like a cedar in Lebanon, I believe you'll notice these qualities developing in your life:

- 1.** You'll be **ROOTED FIRMLY IN YOUR FAITH.** Colossians 2:6-7 says, *As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, ROOTED AND BUILT UP IN HIM and ESTABLISHED in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.* God wants you to develop a deep, intimate relationship with Him, so that you will be firmly settled in your faith. When you're rooted deeply in your faith, **you won't be easily shaken** when hard times come. You won't be like the seeds that have no roots and so they wither under the hot sun, as Jesus described in Mark 4:5. Instead, **you'll be like the seed that fell on good ground and yielded a crop that sprang up, increased and produced: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred** (Mark 4:8). **Your good seed sown will produce HARVESTS in your life** because you're firmly established in your faith. And you'll find yourself surrounded with abundance and thanking God for what He is doing in and through you.

2. You'll begin to **CONQUER FEAR**. We live in a world where fear tries to grip us daily. But fear limits you... It keeps you from experiencing all that God has for you, and it hinders your growth in Him. Thankfully, **God has given you the ANSWER to fear, and it's faith in Him!** Second Timothy 1:7 says, *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.* Remember, cedars are resilient. They resist decay. They don't get eaten by moths. They endure even in bad weather. **We can be just as enduring when we draw on the true Source of our strength—our great and mighty God—especially during times when we're afraid.**
3. You'll have **STRENGTH IN TIMES OF ADVERSITY**. Psalm 31:24 says, *Be of good courage, and He [God] shall strengthen your heart, all you who hope in the Lord.* We all face times when we just don't have what it takes to get the job done. But God promises to strengthen you in your inner man when you put your trust in Him. It's so reassuring to know that when your skills fail...when your mind fails...when your bank account fails...when other people fail you...even when your very heart fails...**God will NEVER fail you.** **When you put your faith in Him, He will give you all the strength you need** to get through anything life can throw at you.
4. You'll find yourself **OVERCOMING IN TIMES OF TROUBLE**. John 16:33 says, *In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.* Because Jesus has overcome the world, and because you are in Him, **you are an overcomer.** So if you've ever felt you have a mountain standing in your way, this Scripture will encourage you. God will give you the strength and ability to grow and flourish on that mountain, just like a cedar of Lebanon. And He will enable you to climb right over the top of that mountain if you need to.
5. You'll become **A SHELTER FOR OTHERS**. Cedars are highly desirable as shade trees because their branches spread out so widely. They provide refreshing coolness in the hot climate of the Middle East. **God wants you to be a source of refreshing to people around you.** Second Corinthians 2:14 says, *Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.* In other words, you can do more than triumph in your personal life... Although it's good to be an overcomer, God has even more for you than that. He also wants you to carry the pleasant fragrance of His presence and His wisdom... **Everywhere you go, you can bring God to other people.** What a tremendous privilege that is! And what a difference you can make in your world because of it!

Partner, I want you to get this truth into the depths of your heart... **You can FLOURISH EVERY DAY as a result of the enduring, overcoming, life-giving strength that only God can give you.** He truly is more than strong enough to help you through any adversity. Whatever you're facing right now, whatever you need the most, God has the strength to help you break through to the victory you're looking for.

And here's even more good news... God doesn't set limits on your growth in Him. ***You can continue to grow in the Lord every day***, if you'll stay rooted in Him and continue to do the things He has told you to do in His Word...things such as acting on your faith in Him and giving unto Him. I encourage you to **make a commitment that you will act on your faith in Him every day**. Take a moment right now and say this out loud:

Lord, I am determined to commit my daily life unto You. I want to see myself as You see me...valuable, strong, enduring, and victorious over all the storms of life. I ask You to help me to grow into the righteous person You have called me to be... Little by little, day by day, in every area, may I become more and more like You. I'll do my part by praying, studying the Word, and obeying You. I trust You to do Your part and bring increase into every area of my life. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

I'm agreeing with you by faith that you will grow strong like a cedar of Lebanon, just as the Lord desires for you. And I encourage you right now to seal the prayer you just prayed by sowing a seed-faith gift unto the Lord through this healing ministry. Why a seed-faith gift? ... Because **it seals the deal and commitment you're making to the Lord**. This is very important. Don't let another moment go by. Get your seed right now, and sow it while it's fresh on your heart and mind. Don't wait! **A seed not sown is a harvest not received.**

I'm looking forward to receiving your prayer requests, your praise reports, and the seed-faith gift God is laying on your heart. Be sure and use the prayer sheet I've enclosed. I'm going to agree with you in faith for your needs to be met, and for miracles to come into your life as you grow in the Lord this year.

Please answer this letter quickly... I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Your partner for miracles,



A Word from Richard Roberts

Partner,

I'm expecting 2010 to be one of the greatest years of your life! Psalm 92:12 says, *The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.* In Biblical times, cedar wood was prized for its strength, pleasant fragrance, and resistance to decay. God wants you to have those same qualities... **He sees you as highly valuable, strong, and able to endure** anything and everything that comes against you.

God wants you to live healthy in spirit, soul, and body...rooted firmly in His Word... so you can experience His life flowing out of you continuously... He wants you to have what it takes to resist adversity, survive hard times, and even flourish. In fact, **you can flourish every day** as a result of the enduring, overcoming, life-giving strength that comes from growing in God. So, I encourage you to ask Him right now to help you to grow in Him daily. Start seeing yourself as He sees you. I'm believing He will help you grow strong and enduring in your faith this year. —*RR*



I want to grow strong in the Lord in 2010!

Richard, please join your faith with mine as we believe God together that I will grow in the Lord, becoming stronger and more like Him every day. I am believing God to meet my needs and to see His growth and increase in the following area(s):

[Click here to send me your prayer request online.](#)

My Health _____

My Relationship(s) With Others _____

My Job/Income _____

Other (describe) _____

My Family _____

My Home _____

Additional space for prayer requests can be found on the back of this page.

Richard, I believe God has great and mighty plans for me in 2010! And because I believe it, I'm going to do my best to worship God, pray, obey and read my Bible so I can grow strong in Him and see His plans come to pass in my life.

My Relationship With God _____

Signature _____

My Personal "GROWING LIKE A CEDAR" Offering Unto the Lord

Enclosed is my "**Growing Like a Cedar**" offering unto the Lord in the amount of:

[Click here to donate online.](#)

Richard, as a confirmation of my desire to grow strong, enduring and flourishing on a daily basis, I'm sowing an offering that is **PERSONALLY SIGNIFICANT** to me. I'm seeing myself as God sees me—*highly valuable, strong, able to endure anything that comes against me, and flourishing in all seasons of life.*

[Click here to donate online.](#)

I have enclosed a: Check payable to Oral Roberts Ministries Money Order in the amount of my **Growing Like a Cedar** Offering
 Please place my **Growing Like a Cedar** Offering on my debit/credit card. I have provided the appropriate information on the reverse side.

