

July/August 2017

# Transform Magazine

VOLUME I ISSUE 8



Proving what is that good , acceptable and perfect will of God!

## *Stepping Out in* **FAITH**

Getting beyond  
my fears to  
walk in Gods  
Purpose and  
Destiny!



*Coming out of the*

# **BOX**

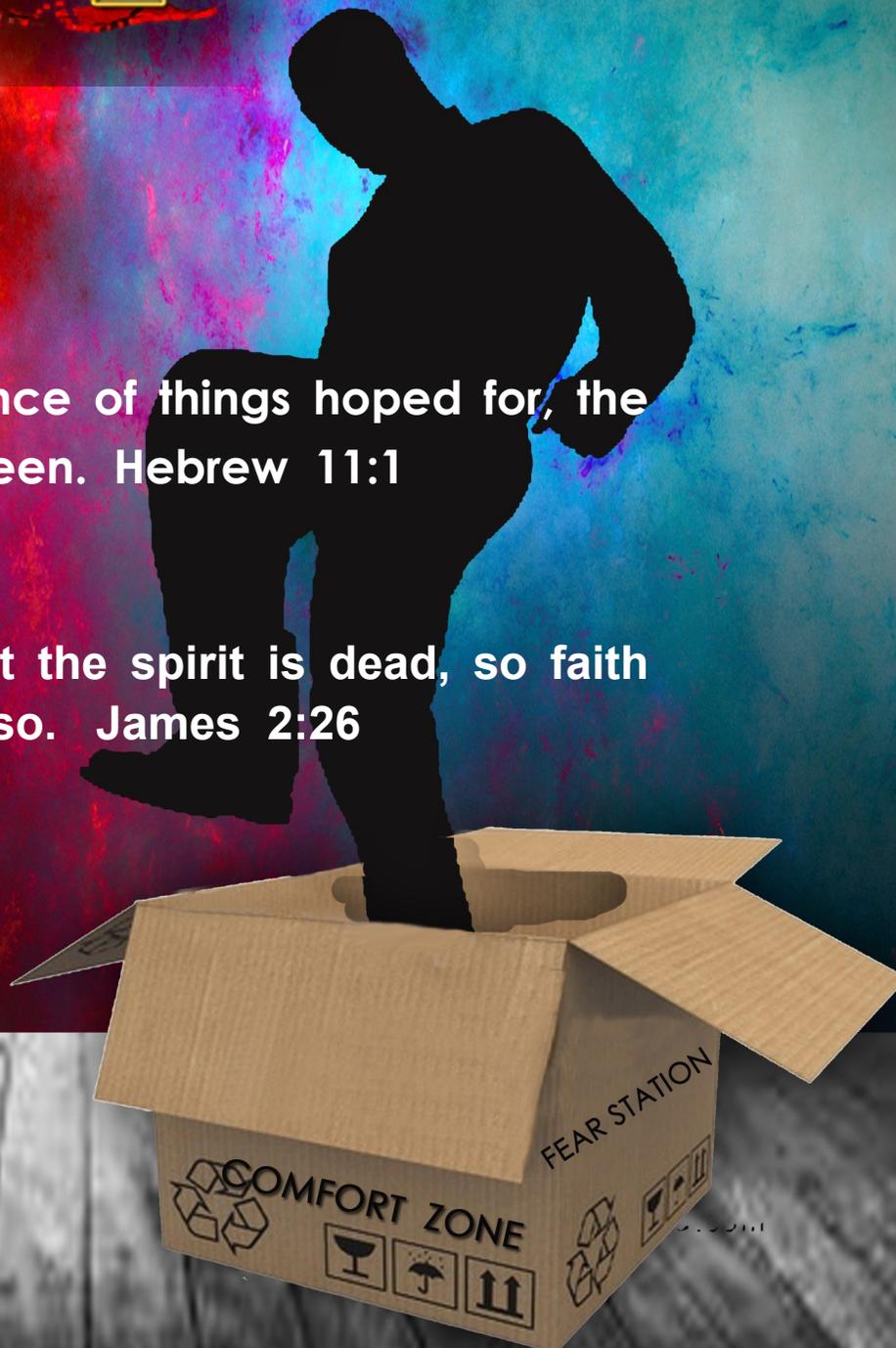
Getting beyond all  
of life's TRAPS, TRADITIONS  
and TURMOIL





**Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Hebrew 11:1**

**For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also. James 2:26**



# Transform Magazine



Magazine Vol. 1 Issue 8 August 2017

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If you are interest in submitting an article to the magazine. Please submit your article and contact information to a local editor to your area for consideration. Thank you for your interest

# Really! Why Not?

The Word of God tells us “We can do all things through Christ that strengthen me!” But the important thing to understand is we have invoke limitations on this very statement. Failing to remember that GOD told us that he would not let his word come back void. Unfortunately we also fail to realize that this is the same GOD who spoke ever thing into existence through his spoken word. It is amazing that he also spoke to us saying “ Faith the size of a the grain of a mustard seed we can move mountains.” All we have to do is speak to the mountain for it to be removed. In saying this I want you NOT to consider the words of your nay sayers but embrace the word of the true and the living God.

LEARN TO SPEAK TO THE  
MOUNTAIN AND SAY BE THOU  
REMOVED!

Sometimes you have to reflect back to those times when God fulfilled these promises. When everything looked like it was working against you but, then GOD stepped in and show his presence. Proving that prayer does change things. We have so many things coming at us so quickly trying and sometimes succeeding to sway our faith. Which allows it to slow us down, drive us backwards or just stop our progress cold. But we have to continually walk by faith and not by sight. Nothing is really never what it seems when you have God and heavens best backing you up. This relationship with GOD is mine and your open door to our true PURPOSE. When you have PURPOSE you have PROGRESS! Hold fast to this because better days are ahead. The Best is yet to come!

Dr. C.A. Dangerfield II

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... brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

2 Peter 1:10

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2 Timothy 2:15

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Ephesians 1:18,19

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## What Are You Prepared To Do? - Min. Mark Dudley

There was a scene from the movie "The Untouchables" I remember so well. Sean Connery portrayed "Malone" a Chicago police officer who was working with Elliot Ness on arresting Al Capone, the head of the crime organization "The Mob" in the early 1900's. Malone is attacked by one of Capone's associates, and he's bleeding profusely and near death when he's discovered by Ness. He has information pertinent to the investigation, and in his dying breath; he grabs Ness and asks him **"What are you prepared to do?"**

In the above scriptures, I believe we are all being asked the same question. God has set before us two ways of living. We can live in the blessing, or we can live under the curse. Then God says, you choose. So, what do you prepare to do to have God's best.

There are two (2) questions that we will be looking at concerning this statement.

### **The Cost Question: Are you willing to pay the price?**

Even though we see all the promises and blessings in the Word of God, they will only be obtained by faith.

#### **Mark 11:22-23(Kings James Version)**

<sup>22</sup> "And Jesus answering saith unto them, have faith in God.

<sup>23</sup> For verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore I say unto you, what things so ever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them".

#### **Hebrews 11:6 (Kings James Version)**

"But without faith it's impossible to please God; for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him".

The Apostle Paul describes faith as a "fight" Why?

**Romans 10:17 "So then, faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."**

### **And that's where the Cost Questions comes to fruition:**

#### **Are you willing to pay the price to seek the Lord in His Word?**

Your mind hates the presence of God, so when you want to study God's word it will bombard you with everything to distract you. Therefore, Paul encourages us to "buffet" our body or putting it under subjection; until the spirit is king, the soul is the servant, and the body is the slave.

**Scripture Reference: 1 Thessalonians 5:23 "And the very God of peace sanctify you whole, and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ".**

Every successful person whether on television, movies, or sports had to pay the price to achieve success in their chosen field of influence. This brings us to the second part of the Cost Question.

**Are you willing to withstand criticism as you pursue God's best in your life?**

**Scripture Reference: Psalm 118:6 "The Lord is on my side, I will not fear. What can man do unto me?"**

The great author and poet Ralph Waldo Emerson made this statement:

**"Whatever course you decide on, there is always someone to tell you that you are wrong.**

**There are always difficulties arising which tempt you to believe that your critics are right.**

**To map out a course of action and follow it to an end requires courage."**

In the book of Genesis, during great wickedness in the land, to the degree that God was going to destroy all mankind, there was one man who found grace in the eyes of the Lord. That man was Noah, and the Lord instructed him to build an ark for the earth would soon be covered in water. Noah started to build this structure as the Lord commanded him. There's been no rain of this kind ever seen on earth. So, imagine the naysayers telling Noah that what he was doing was unnecessary. The rain did come seven days later, and his family, two animals of every kind were saved.

There is evil happening in this generation like we've never seen before, and I believe God is raising up a generation of "Noah's" who will go to the hedges and highways to tell men and women to run to the "ark of safety" which is found in a relationship with Jesus Christ.

The young man received Jesus as his savior at the young age of 8 years old. Preached his first sermon at the age of ten years old, years later along with his wife they began their ministry. The membership grew to 300, and in a bold move one Sunday, the young pastor declared that there would a changed in the ministry directions and teachings. This caused a major spilt in the church, and 277 people walked out that day leaving only 23 members. Determined not to be moved the young man continued ministering the Word of God despite the criticism he received from many - to the point the young man was handcuffed and arrested in his own pulpit during a Sunday morning worship service.

The ministry grew at an incredible rate, soon the ministry had two locations in Houston, and to date that number of locations has increased to six. All because this man I.V Hilliard refused to allow anyone else's opinion to become the final authority in his life.

This is the same attitude we all must have. The abundant life is available to all of us. The Word of God declares in **Jeremiah 29:11** that God's plans for us are to prosper and not bring evil upon us. So, knowing this should propel us to think differently, to believe for that which seems impossible. And not be deterred by the critics that are around us. Never let someone's objection to your taking God at His word be the deciding factor in your life.

Moses, the man who brought the children of Israel out of years of bondage faced constant criticism from the same people who thanked him for delivering them.

**"Your success in life is determined by what you are willing to ignore".**

# A simple truth about Faith

Dr. C. A.. Dangerfield II

Please listen and take heed to wisdom and don't just like the statement but walk in the instruction. This will take away the complaining and bring about results. Faith comes by hearing but it is also an action word. So we have to activate it so we can see the manifestation of God's power! Therefore benefit from it's results in our life!

“We've come this far by Faith!”

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# Trusting God and Stepping out in faith

## I Can Do All Things Through Christ

*Minister Terry Oliver, Sr.*

When I think about stepping out in faith, there are so many things that come to my mind that I don't know where to begin. I have been diagnosed with cancer and the news was very devastating when I heard it. In the flesh I wanted to give up because I thought that my life was over. And if it wasn't for the Holy Spirit stepping in and speaking to that inner man I probably would have given up all hope. But because I realized the God that I serve is a living God and that He said that he will never leave nor forsake me and that he is with me until the end of days, I had something to hold onto. I had to activate my faith and not only be a hearer but a doer of his word. Gods' word of encouragement helped me to keep the faith. I realized that I have to walk this thing out by faith by taking God at his word. Isaiah 53:5 says, "BY HIS STRIPES WE ARE HEALED"! So I believe that I'm healed in Jesus name because of Christ dying on the cross for my sins. Also by faith, I must stand on his word that will not, shall not, cannot return unto him void. Stepping out in faith is a choice that we as individuals must make. We have a choice to do right or wrong on a daily basis. We also have a choice to live for God or not. He's not a forceful God but a loving God that gives us "FREE WILL"! So let us choose "THIS DAY" whom we will serve And I pray Jesus Christ will be your choice. Sickness is not the only thing to step out in faith on, but many other things. For example: Just like getting a new job - we must trust God enough that he will bless us with that job. And if God told you to apply for the job then that means he has better for you. But first you have to come out of your comfort zone. You may have been on the same job for 30 years and may not have been treated fairly the last 5 years. You had been feeling something tugging on you concerning the new job but you were having doubts concerning it. You were afraid of the unknown and allowed it to stop you. I am here to tell you that we have to trust God. If God has taken care of you for 30 years, then realize that he can bless you and take care of you 30 more if you would just step out on faith and believe. All God is asking of us is to step out in faith, and this is an example of stepping out in faith. God Bless!

# “The most important thing we need as a believer is Faith”

*By Eric D. Meadows*

## **Faith**

What is Faith? Why do you believe? These are a couple of questions that are asked. But in order to have faith, you first have to repent. Faith and repentance are inseparable. In Acts 20:21 **“Testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.** (KJV) In other words, Paul was saying he has had one message for Jews and Gentiles alike- the necessity of turning from sin to God through faith in Jesus for what He has done on the cross. If we just repent of sin and fail to exercise our faith in God for reconciliation, then we will end in failure.

## **The meaning of the word Faith**

The root word from which we get **faith**, the noun is PISTIS, and **believe**, the verb is PISTUEO.

FAITH - PISTIS means faith, belief, firm persuasion, assurance, faithfulness.

BELIEVE - PISTUEO means to trust in and rely upon, commit to the charge of, and confide in.

In other words when we grab hold of God’s resources and become obedient to what He has told us to do and put aside all self-interest and relying on our own self, trust God completely. We have to surrender our whole being in dependence upon Him. We have to trust and rely upon Him for all things. Proverbs 28:26 says that **“He that trusts in his own heart is a fool”** but yet we continue to make fools of ourselves by not **“Trust in God with all your heart and lean not to your own understanding”** Proverbs 3:5 for it’s a shame that even the demons believe. James 2:19 says **“You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!”** It is important to have faith, because **it is impossible to be saved without faith and without faith it is impossible to please God.** -Hebrews 11:6.

Our whole salvation is centered around faith. ***“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, and the evidence of things not seen”*** Hebrews 11:1. We have to believe in that which we cannot see. For it is by faith that we overcome opposition and brings us through trials and troubles. We have to believe and respond to the Word of God which will produce in us faith as a ***fruit of the spirit*** -Galatians 5:22 and by this the world will know that we have a relationship with God and truly trust Him. Our relationship and spiritual walk with the Lord gives us confidence to display what we have received. John 15:7 sums it up saying ***“If you abide in Me and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you”***. As a believer we have to lay hold of God’s promises by faith, then the results of that faith are guaranteed.



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# We Walk By Faith, Not by sight

by **Evangelist Ella J. Alexander**

From every angle, faith has been explain and displayed. We have taken faith apart and put it back together. Although many make altar calls to live by faith, preach faith and encouraged people to step out on faith, we first must realize that faith must be present. You can't tell a person without feet to stand flat footed or to put their feet in their shoes and stand upright. That would be impossible to do, right? Exactly.

So here in the second epistle of the Apostle Paul's letter to the Corinthians, he makes a vital statement, he says, "We walk by faith, not by sight", 5:7. He made this statement because there were those who were Christians that didn't quit understand. The Apostle Paul had taught the Romans that Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God, but the Corinthians got the words, We walk by faith, not by sight." What a difference? Were these people around when he taught the Romans? Did they really understand walking by faith; something that can't be seen opposed to something we rely on to see? Hmmm, something to think about.

When Paul said, "Walk by faith", what he was actually saying was that we move, we operate not based on what we see. We move based on the Word of God which is Spirit, which can't be seen. The written word is seen, but the WORD itself is the Son of God whom no one seen. Paul is saying, stop looking at things. Stop relying on your physical eyesight to get things done. Faith is your spiritual eyesight. Faith is your spiritual hands. Faith is the actual movement that is unrestricted, but is most powerful when it is understood and used.

How do we walk by faith? We take God at His word. We believe the works of God. We do what God says do and not ask how. Our natural mind wants to know how we will do it, yet, it will never understand the spirit. Back in the second chapter of the second epistle of Corinthians the Apostle Paul stated, "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned", (2:14). The Word of God and our Spirit should become one – like a team. The word lead and our spirit follow. When we walk by faith, there is no questioning, be believe and do. Nike says it best, "*Just do it!*"

When we step out on faith, it is a display that takes place first in the spirit, but shows up in the natural. Do you ask how to wash your face? No. You just do it. Do you ask yourself, how to swallow food? No. You just chew and swallow. Faith doesn't need your questions, it needs God word. The word of God activates our faith and we begin to operate off of the word of God which is spirit and life.

Don't you think it is time to walk by faith and not by sight? I know you must get tired of seeing the same thing over and over with no changing results. Our theme is

Stepping Out In Faith – Coming out of the box. It is time to come out of your comfort zone of seeing with your natural eye, feeling with your physical hands, hearing with your natural ears. God wants us to step into Him. Stepping out in faith is stepping into the Spirit of God, the anointing of God, the power of God, the love of God; shall I go on? David stepped out in faith that is why he encouraged us in Psalms 34:8 by saying “O taste and see that the Lord is good.” David tried God. David stepped out in Faith concerning God and the things of God’ the very realm of God. You can’t get to God without faith. There are so many things God wants to do and show us, but He is waiting for us to step out. He is waiting for us to come out of our box of doubt and ordinary.

Will you trust God and step out in faith? Will you come out of the box so God can show himself strong and mighty in your life?

If you don’t do achieve anything else in life, achieve walking by faith and not by sight.

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# "Stepping Out On Faith-Coming Out of the Box"

By Deacon Herbert L. Hall

As I sit here in my quiet place, I have taken this opportunity to ponder on my walk as a child of God. Having come through many dangers, toils and snares, I must give honor to God for saving me from myself. He's truly worthy of all praise, honor and glory.

After many years of walking in total darkness, I decided to accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior. It's been the best decision I've ever made. I started attending church after I gave my life to Jesus. A place I needed to be. Attending church wasn't enough, so became active in the church soon after I joined. The church became my sanctuary and my escape from the madness of the world. Fast forward to last year, I was ordained as a Deacon and I was in what I believed to be in a good place. Soon after, I started feeling like I was becoming too complacent. I started doubting my calling and for the life of me, I didn't understand what was going on with me. I began seeking wise and godly counsel and seeking God all the more. I began to get honest with God and myself. I was no longer content with being ordinary and/or content. Something was missing and God began to reveal it to me. I have a heart for the lost, addicted, downtrodden, the abused (sexually and physically), etc. As I was once all of these things myself. I wanted to be a part of the solution in my community that I was once part of the problem in.

At my church, I was the facilitator of a weekly group called Overcomers Through Christ and it's there where the seed was planted for me to start up a ministry called Freedom in Christ Ministries. As I began to procrastinate, I allowed my self-doubt, fear and anxiety to cause me to not follow thru. God allowed some things to take place which forced me to see that if and when God calls us to step out of the usual, He'll also equip us with the ability to follow thru and flourish when we totally depend on Him. Stepping out on faith requires two major components; obedience and faithfulness.

God hasn't called us to be mediocre nor complacent. He's called us to do great and mighty things in the name of Jesus. Just like Peter when Jesus told him to step out of the boat and come to Him. Imagine if Peter would have sat back down and said nah Jesus I'm good right here in this boat.

God is calling each and every one of us to step out of the norm and cast our doubts and fears to the side. If not, we can and will miss some, perhaps many of the blessings that He has with our names on them. Get out of the boat and allow him to use you for His glory. May God continue to bless and keep us as we continue to stay in the race until the day of redemption.

# Prayers For Our Nations' Government, City and Civil Authority, Etc.

**Every Monday:**

**From 7:00pm - 9:00pm**

**Isaiah 56:7**

*"Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people."*

**All Are Welcome**

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# Stepping Out In Faith: Coming Out of the Box

By Elder Diane Harvell

Before one can truly step out in faith and come out of the box you must first be delivered from that which kept you bound. I can attest to this because recently God delivered me from inhibitions, social inactivity and fear. While living with all of these damaging and destructive feelings I wasn't impacting or effecting anything or anyone.

My life had been overshadowed with "business" but nothing was really happening within me or around me. As much as I tried to follow the leader, protocol, work and keep up with the regime of functioning within church, work and home, something was still off and not yet right, and not yet connecting. In my alone times I felt just the opposite of what I was portraying.

So I understand how oh we can put on the Cassock, the Collar, the Robott, the Tibbitt, the Pulpit Robe, or the MITRE. But it's not until we take in Christ it is then when we actually begin to live. In him we truly live, we move and we have our (purpose) and our being. (Acts 17:28) Stepping outside of His plan and not living His purpose is deadly, dangerous and wastes a lot of time.

I was uncomfortable within that box and within the faith or lack of it that I had built around my life but I didn't know what to do, how to approach what I was feeling or who to share it with or how to get out of it! So for years, I stayed inside of my own box which became my own prison.

To the prisoners of such, I am targeting you today. I believe there are many of you who are experiencing these same or similar upheavals. Whatever your hang-ups are, whatever your embarrassments are, whatever your feelings of inadequacy are, whatever you feel you're lacking, whatever your fears are, whatever life has thrown at you, give them all to your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I know that may sound "cliché" or unexciting to you, but I will express what I know of Him to my worst enemy as well as to my best friend.

So that everyone I know can have firsthand experience of His love and have total completeness within!

Everyone has a purpose and a future. But in order to know what they are we must first Step out in faith first believing God because **Hebrews 11:6** says that **“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”** So, reveal to God and tell God about your good, your bad, and your ugly and then He will be able to mold you into whom He created you to be.

He will let you know who you are and how valuable you are to Him and to others and what your purpose is. Then your “gifts will make room for you” and He will “enlarge your territory” because that box you were in will no longer exist!

Thank you Jesus for delivering me!  
Your Daughter,  
Elder Diane Harvell



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The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power...  
Ephensians 1:18,19

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# Stepping Out on Faith- Taking God out of the Box

## Apostle Harriet Nance

**Hebrews 11:1-Now faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things hoped not seen.**

In today's social and economic climate folks even many in the body of Christ are living unsure leading to fear.

Body of Christ God is saying to us today Step Out on faith that the Lord is your Shepherd. Take me, God, out of the box.

How?

Understanding Hebrew 11:1 that your faith must become the confidence/ confirmation/ the title deed of the things we hope for, proof of things we do not see, conviction of one's hopes as reality a fact to what is not revealed to our 5 senses

Take me (God) out of the box One's limited life experience.

**Luke 1:32 "For with God with all things are possible"**

How? Understand who I (God) am through my word.

I am Omnipresence "God forever presence-Psalms 139:7-12

I am Omniscience -"God is all knowing 1 John 3:20

I am Omnipotence- "God is all powerful Jer. 32:17,27

I am Immanence God is in Control of all Creation – Heb. 1:3

I am Immutability "God is unchangeable- Num. 23:19

I am Eternal "God has no beginning and end-Isa. 57:15

I am "Invisible"- John 1:18

I am "Infinite"- 1 Kings 8:27

Stepping out on Faith-taking God out of the box.

Take me out of the box the limitation of your life experience and step out on Faith of who I Am.

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EDDIE JAMES

# Stepping Out in Faith: Coming out of the box

## *The Elephant in the Room*

by Eunice A. Christian

### **Mark 10:33 King James Version (KJV)**

<sup>33</sup>...saying, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be delivered unto the chief priests, and unto the scribes; and they shall condemn him to death, and shall deliver him to the Gentiles....

Every so often, a segment of a sermon comes to mind pertaining to the subject of bondage—or *at least that is what I perceived as the focus of the message*—I heard one evening as a member of a Brownsville ministry located in Brooklyn, NY. I'll never forget one of the statements our guest speaker made. I cannot remember his name, but he made such a positive impact upon me. With robust energy in his delivery, in a seasoned manner, while full fledge in his message, he said: *The last time I saw something with two heads, it killed itself!* Even now, I laugh—and I heard this message about 20 years ago. *God bless him!* However, the focal point of my article is far from a laughing matter. Its direction has been inspired by another aspect of this minister's message that resonated with me during the years. I hope it will speak truth to you, too, and to those who desire help from past and present forms of bondage—whether emotional or spiritual. I hope this article helps you to face what may be or seem to be overwhelming and close to unbearable. It is my anticipation that this message will empower you to increasingly trust in God by demonstrating Holy Ghost boldness in times of struggle and adversity.

### **John 15:18-20 King James Version (KJV)**

<sup>18</sup>If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.

<sup>19</sup>If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

<sup>20</sup>Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.

Needless to share, trials and tribulation do not discriminate. Whether you are a believer or not, wealthy or poor, and skin color does not matter, hardship finds a way to knock on your door, and then say *Hello!* It will then attempt to walk in—and succeed, and attempt to set up residency. Sometimes such experiences stay for long lengths of time; seemingly unending. You seek relief; desiring help from your inner circle; however, you may have learned the hard way that those you seek help from need help themselves, or that their help is not enough. Perhaps your story is that when you believe you are rising out of one dilemma, another one attempts to hold you back. Over and over again, it seems it is one thing after another. You may have asked, *How did I get here? What happened? Why can't I break free!*

#### **Acts 16:25-34 King James Version (KJV)**

<sup>25</sup>And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

<sup>26</sup>And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

As I shared above, during an evening at service, a guest minister spoke, in part, about the plight of captured elephants. *Yes, elephants.* He gave a descriptive account of how hunters (to put it lightly), violated these creatures of the wild by using the most heinous techniques. My personal research confirms that upon capture, such villainous individuals would beat them mercilessly, and remove their tusks. Elephant predators used chains, whips, and electric rods to subdue them; even to the point of inflicting pain upon its genitalia. *Too graphic, too much?* Imagine living it. *On a human perspective, the end result of dying in sin is worse. We need God.*

Now back to the messenger: Our guest minister described a captured elephant's desire to move beyond a small circumference. Over and over again, this majestic creature would stop because it was bound at its feet. *After a while, its torturers took off the restraints that had it bound.* The elephant, being detained and conditioned for so long, would walk a few feet, and then stop, just to turn around, and return to its post. As this man of God spoke, I began to visualize and empathize with this elephant; seeing it focused upon the entrance of a warehouse structure that was right before it; seeing the light of day; walking towards the door, but stopping after taking a few steps. The elephant, without being bound, was now conditioned to remain within its boxed area—*the room*. It was denied the privilege of going

beyond its post—*no longer by the physical restraints—but now by its mind*. Looking at the entraDay after day, week after week, month after month...*year after year*, the elephant would walk nceway, and in spite of its enormous size and strength, although seeing the light of day, the elephant could not cognitively accept or realize it had the power to flee.

to the parameter of its confinement, slow down, come to a stop, and then turn around back to its post. As we know, an elephant's natural habitat is the wilderness with others of its kind. However, in captivity, the elephant was placed inside a room or an outside area, to later serve as a spectacle for humans. The accounts above are real; such horrendous acts actually happened; pray past tense, to elephants in present day (ABC7 I-Team, 1995). *[Note: After writing this article, on its day, I learned that August 12 was designated World Elephant Day, with the focus of ending illegal ivory trafficking (theguardian.com, 2017). That's God.]*

As it pertains to us, the question is: *What can we equate to the heinous acts described above?* Bullying, domestic violence, defamation of character, sexual abuse, to name a few. The outcomes can manifest feelings of isolation, despair, depression, hopelessness, and the worse of all outcomes, suicide—both physical and spiritual. It is my prayer that anyone who carries such burdens will search for someone to talk to, and not carry such burden alone. It is vital to know that there are programs and people out there who desire to help. If this applies to you or someone you know, *please talk to someone. Again, don't carry this burden alone—you do not have to.*

Learning to trust in God by stepping out in faith can help us to get out of the box. Here, the box represents the same for nonbelievers and believers alike who have been deceived into thinking there is no way out from a dilemma; thereby harboring a sense of being forsaken, lost. *There is a remedy:* The box can become weakened by placing faith in God, or by rekindling and strengthening faith in God. On the contrary, by not realizing the power that is in our midst (as in the example of a conditioned elephant), we would not be fully exercising our spiritual power; hence, the box that could potentially contain us—that traps us—becomes stronger.

The Word of God only has power if activated. The bible is life's application. God's Word, supported by healthy fellowship with others can help alleviate our burden. If we do not have someone close, or an associate that we can reach out to, there are other options. We have the ability to reach out to a workforce center, a clinic, or go online to seek out information on 24/7 call centers that will enable us to speak anonymously. We can break free from the box. Seek help; know that we have the power to reach out. We have the power to step out in faith and get out of the box. Everyone's situation is personal and unique, but be sure that there is

someone beyond the box that can identify with what we are going through. Choose to live! Choose to succeed. *Reach out of the box!*

Perhaps you are doing all that you know how to do in Christ Jesus. You've prayed, fasted, attended inspirational services and meetings; yet it appears that your situation is not changing for the better. Maybe getting out of your box requires you to take a different approach in addition to what you are doing. Not to trivialize anyone's situation, but maybe, *just maybe*, it requires you to not open a text, or pick up the phone, from someone who continues to deposit their troubles into you. Perhaps it requires you to stop reading garbage on your social network accounts. Perhaps your box continues to contain you based upon a situation that is not so obvious. Seeking out professional assistance to share what you are going through may shed additional light into your situation that may assist you on your way to a healthy outcome.

On a personal note, I remember working in an environment where I could see one of my coworkers walk in every morning, alongside of a see-through curtained glass partition that separated my workspace from the corridor. My co-worker would cut the corner to enter where two other co-workers and I were located, and then, upon stepping one foot and then the other in the room, let out a loud and long sigh of distress, and then start sharing about what she experienced that did not go well—from her boyfriend on down—for long periods of time. Although she sat behind us and our backs faced her, she was not hindered. We spoke to help her as friendly co-workers would; however, it was as though she would rather deal with the situation that made her miserable. What made this evident? She shrugged off advice. This situation transpired for months. It took a while before I realized how her communications began to negatively impact me.

I was much younger then, and did not think much of it; however, I eventually realized how hearing someone's daily complaints could bring me into a state of anxiety resulting in tension headaches. Simultaneous to what I was going through, I knew someone in my inner circle that was experiencing a similar situation. What I realized was that we both were dealing with unhealthy encounters that we had to acknowledge and address to overcome.

One day I finally spoke with my co-worker, and shared with her how I was feeling, and how I was affected by the daily conversations about her personal life. I was sure to let her know that I empathized with her, but that if she felt she was in a toxic relationship, the best recourse was to do something about it and not tolerate it. She apologized. The very next business day, while working, I noticed her, as usual, walking down the corridor while I sat at my desk adjacent to the curtained glass partition. When she cut the corner, she gave me a look from the corner of

her eye as she passed, and quietly sat down. *You may giggle at this point, that's alright!* Trust me, I know I can share with confidence that I felt like I had the victory! *YEAH!* The constant distractions and stories were over. My situation improved drastically, headaches, anxiety were eventually gone! *(To share, I don't know what happened to her boyfriend, but I have to admit, I was glad I did not have to hear about it as much.)* Furthermore, I'm sure that my other fellow co-workers felt the same, but did not speak up.

The takeaway: You just can't always talk about problems; you have to acknowledge them, and then work them out. If you find yourself experiencing anxiety and stress and do not know why, look at your routine; see if there may be contributing factors; examine the moments that you are hit the hardest. In a healthy manner, try your best to address it; if not alone, with someone close to you that you trust. If necessary, seek professional assistance; i.e., 24/7 hotlines, human resources, your primary physician, community groups—*somebody if you do not want to or cannot do it alone.*

**Dear Reader:** *Do your best to not focus upon the negatives that you cannot control, and learn to accentuate the positives. If you cannot dismiss or eliminate your negatives, learn ways to look at how you can learn from them. Perhaps that might help relieve you from the box you may feel you are in. Don't be that elephant who did not know it was loosed from its chain of bondage because of the lack of focus upon a solution. Think about how you can succeed not only because you would like to, but also because you know deep down inside you can. Right here, right now, try to acknowledge what is trying to keep you in the box, and claim that the bondage hindering you is a defeated foe. Speak its demise into existence. Speak your desired positives into existence, and know that you have the potential to work out a solution!* Do not give up or give in. On a spiritual level, claim you are a child of God. *You are a King's kid!*

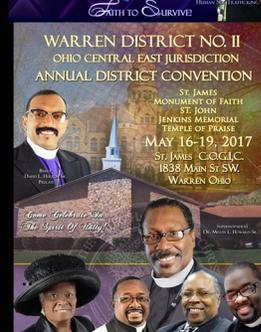
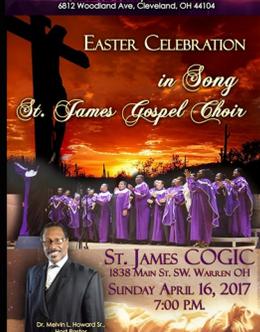
**(To be continued:** Part 2 of 2: *Stepping Out in Faith: Coming out of the Box* in the upcoming issue of Transform You Magazine; September, 2017.)

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Christian, E. (Aug. 21, 2017). *Stepping Out in Faith: Coming out of the Box—The elephant in the room.* Transform You Magazine; August-September, 2017.

Edited August 21, 2017

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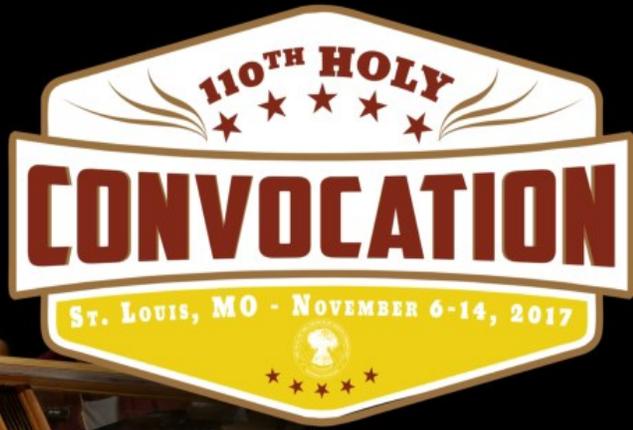
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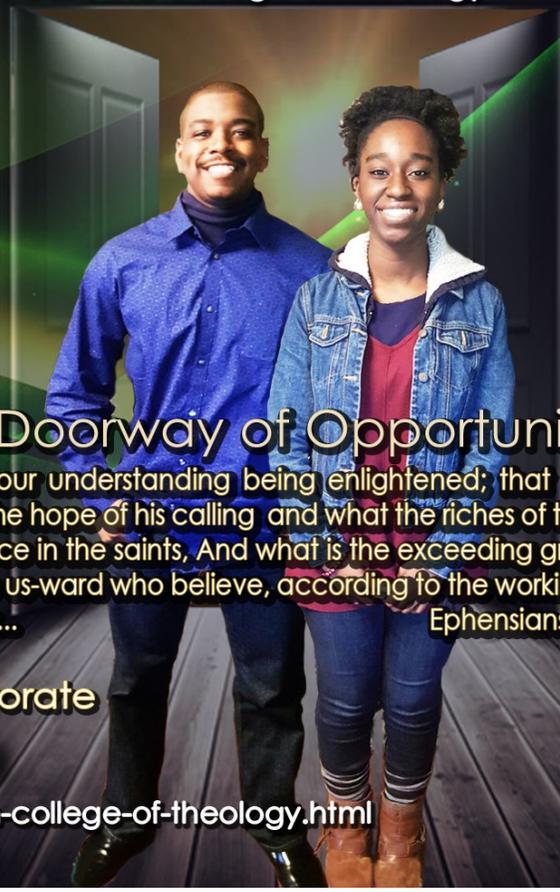
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## **“Maneuvering In the Dark”**

By JoAnn Jackson

I've been saved for almost 30 years now, yet my “JOURNEY” started 25 years ago when God spoke to me and told me to move from Tucson, Arizona to Salem, Oregon. Everything I owned and everyone I was familiar with was there, including 5 children and lots of grandkids, but I obeyed the voice of God. I would never tell anyone it was easy, but my love for God helped me to move forward. Sure, I had family here, but I really had never lived around them. My entire life began to change! When I got here with my youngest daughter, we lived with one of my sisters and her family, where I slept on the floor next to the twin bed that my daughter slept in. I didn't want my baby to have to sleep there, after all, I OBEYED GOD, NOT HER. There were times when the devil would say to me “just go back” and my response was always “go back to what?” This went on for about 6 months, and then my sister came to me tearfully and told me that the property manager said we had to leave. OH GOD, where would we go? I had a younger sister that allowed us to live with her and her family, and once again my daughter slept in the twin bed as I laid on the floor right next to her. There were so many nights that I just laid there and cried. I felt so hopeless and all alone, but I held onto the fact that GOD told me to come. My child and I went through pure hell; she was miserable there and I couldn't do anything about it. I received \$500.00 per month from my ex-husband and tried to help with the household expenses as much as I could... buy clothes for me and my daughter, school lunch money, and the list goes on and on. “GOD, WHY?” I asked, as I remember saying to Him, “I know you didn't have me to leave a 4 bedroom house to come and sleep on someone's bedroom floor twice!” His response to me, “Yes, I did!” As a mother, there were times when I felt like I had let my baby down, but I kept hearing God say, “GO”. As time went on, I got a job. WOW, I was so happy! But the atmosphere in the house began to get worse. The devil came at me from every direction! I remember asking if my daughter could get a ride to the bus stop, but the response was “No, she can walk”. Here in Oregon it's still dark and very cold in the winter, but I would walk my baby to the bus stop, stay there until she got on, and walk back with tears streaming down my face while talking out loud to God “WHY?” I always made sure that the tears were gone by the time I got back to the house just to keep down added friction. I had heard of people stepping out on Faith, but never knew I would have to face “THIS”! We “Yes God” with our mouths sometimes, not really understanding what we're saying. I'll go, I'll say, I'll do whatever You ask me to, but do we really mean it with our hearts? I DID! After working that job for a couple months, my boss helped me to move into my own apartment. My daughter slept on a mattress, but in her own room! I slept on blankets, but in my own room! My boss gave us her brand new living room set because she wanted to buy a new one, but I knew it was GOD! We were finally at HOME! Months later I began to work for the

Marriott in the Salem School district, where I moved up the latter real quickly...GOD!!!! To me, life was finally beginning to return to "NORMAL," then my baby decided to move back to Az. which devastated me. I found myself going through the "Empty nest" syndrome, which was terrible. Once again I felt all alone, not realizing that it was Gods way of getting me closer to Him. The Word of God says that the just shall live by faith and that's what I was finally realizing. My life had been so turned upside down, that I realized I wasn't giving God the quality time He required. I realized that I just didn't like JoAnn and didn't want to be alone with her! That's right, I DIDN'T LIKE ME! But once again God helped me to work through another obstacle in my life. I began to love me so I could love Him and others. Then, the darkest day of my life came, I was injured on the job and they had to retire me. I went from Dr. to Dr. only to experience things getting worse. I remember once again asking God "WHY?" What did I do to deserve this? Now there was no income at all and I'm barely able to walk. I can't stand for more than 20 minutes at a time...WHY? Now, with no income at all how do I pay my bills, I'm going to lose my apartment, what do I do God? I WAS DEVASTATED! God began to speak to me to reassure me that He sees, He hears, He feels me, and He cares. You know, I found out that a lot of us don't put our total trust in God; we put it in our jobs, paychecks, people, and things...leaving Him last. I struggled for over 4 years wondering how I was going to make it, but you know what...I never went hungry, lights and gas stayed on, had a 30 day eviction noticed served to me...BUT GOD!!! GOD said He would supply ALL my needs according to His riches in Glory and He has certainly done that!! He has not only given and met my needs, but given me a lot of my wants. I live in chronic pain, BUT GOD! My finances have been cut in thirds, BUT GOD! I'm yet "Maneuvering in the Dark" with God's Word as a LAMP unto my feet and a LIGHT unto my path. I'll never trip over anything because it's not hidden!! It would take me the rest of my life to go into detail about all God has done and continues to do in my life, but know this...I LOVE HIM! I pray that this blesses someone the way it blessed me, even as I RELIVED IT.

# How Bad Do You Want It? By Evangelist Vincent R. Tillery

Wow! A simple and plain question. It is that one question that should cause one to pause and consider the relation or lack of relationship with the Lord. For everything that we need to succeed, GOD has already provided through son JESUS WHEN HE WALKED the earth in the flesh and made the ultimate sacrifice. And I want to encourage everyone to go back to the basics and make it plain. For a great place to start can be found in (Matt. 6:33) It gives clear and plain instruction what we should do first and we must do it in every situation circumstances. Then once we get that part done we must exercise our faith so that it can grow and we become. Mature Christians - so that we know that we know - That God is always in control and he has our best interest at heart. And in all of this we must also do as 1 TIM. 2:15 instructs us to do. Now, my question still remains the same, "HOW BAD DO YOU WANT IT?"

Do we go about our daily lives in being more concerned about the world views and putting GOD ON THE BACK BURNER AND GIVING HIM OUR LEFTOVERS? Do we allow the enemy to steal our joy and to weaken our faith in JESUS and the power of his might that we have at our command through Christ? HOW BAD DO YOU WANT IT? HOW BAD DO YOU WANT WHAT GOD IS OFFERING TO ALL WHO WILL COME AND REPENT AND EXCEPT HIM AS LORD AND THE HEAD OF OUR LIVES?

Now that I have your attention - allow me to share what we should already know. Faith without work is dead. Are you are in a situation where you need GOD to move immediately? For faith to work we must change our way of thinking which means our mindset may need an adjustment and our verge of what we speak with our mouth has a way of manifesting itself into our lives. So why not WANT it BAD enough to learn to speak life and not death into every situation. Also, get to the point where we have the strength and determination to lean and trust God for everything (HEB. 11:6); you know the scripture and also (Matt.19:26).

I would like to share several Scriptures that we can stand on to continue to strengthen our faith and our relationship with the LORD. (Phil. 4:13; Matt. 17:20; JOHN 3:16; Isa. 41:10; Rom. 8:31; 1Cor. 10:13; Prov. 3:6 and Jere. 32:27).

I want to encourage everyone to trust GOD for anything that you may have need of and if you want what GOD is offering every individual that will come, to put in the work and keep your heart and mind on the things of GOD IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES. I leave you with this last Scripture, (Isa. 55:6-7) THE SPIRITUAL REALM.

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# THE GLORIOUS CHURCH

*“Summer  
Platform  
Fellowship  
Service”*

not having any spot or  
wrinkle or any such thing.

EPHESIANS 5:27

**EPHESIANS 4:17-24, 5:27\***

*\* That he might present it to himself a glorious church,  
not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing;  
but that it should be holy and without blemish.*

**Theme: “Now the Glorious Church”**

**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**Date: Friday - September 8, 2017**

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MAY ALL YOUR FLOCK REJOICE



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## **My Faith – My Testimony**

**Elder Terry Scott,**

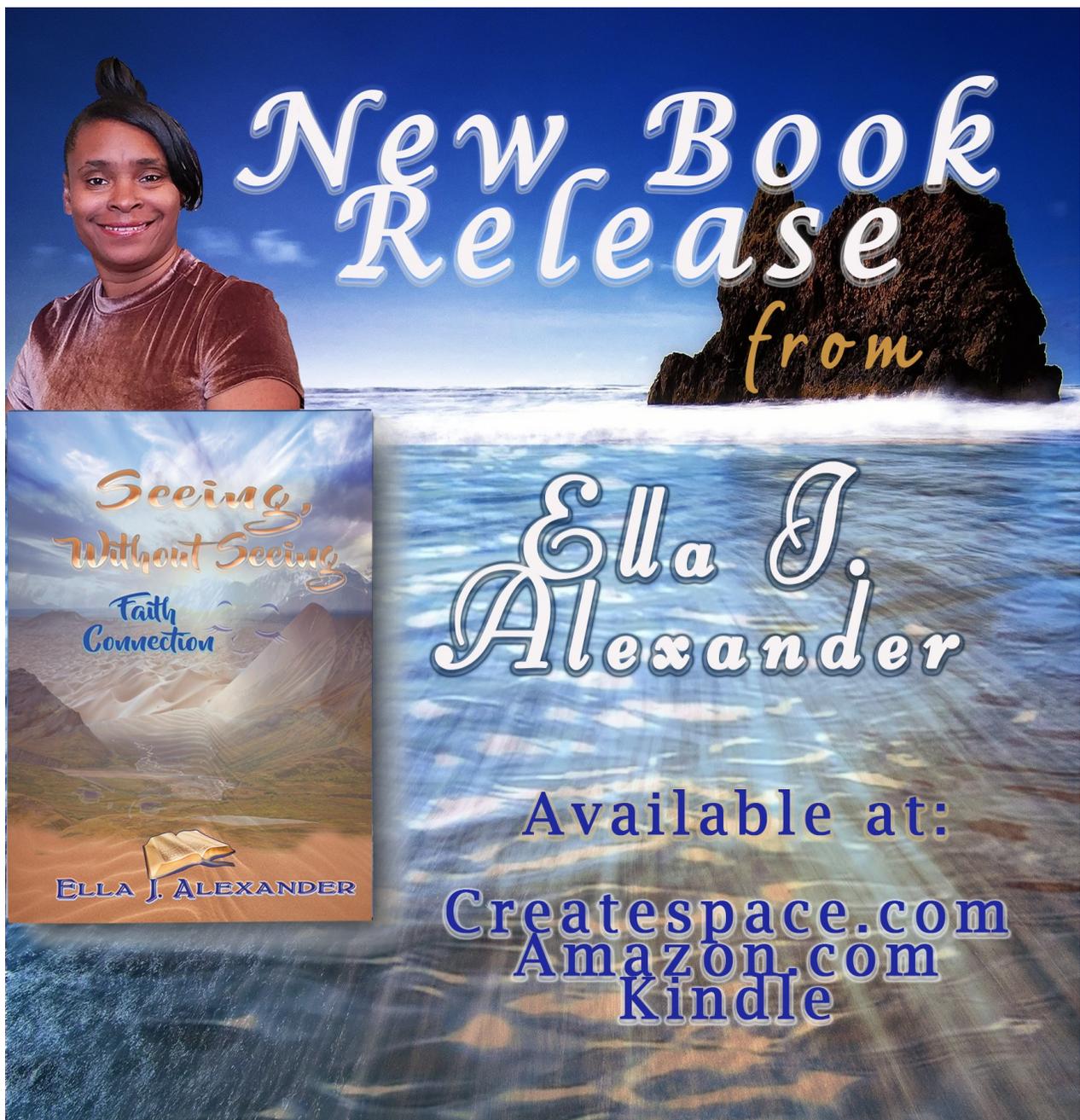
In June of 2007 I was taken to the hospital in Baltimore Northwest where I was diagnosed with a torn aorta (four and a half centimeters), and then from there I was in the hospital for 23 days. God's word speaks of a promise in Mark 11:24 telling us (you and I) that if you pray in faith - truly having faith in God you shall receive whatever you ask. The mountains - the overwhelming problems and trials will be removed by the power of God (Ep.3:20). I had to go through a process of healing and then in 2009 I had an aorta dissection repair of a 4 to 5 1/2 centimeter tear. The doctor said had I not gotten to the hospital within 3 days I would have drowned in my own blood. I was furious. I know that I was a man of Faith and was going through a process of growth. I had to go through this process every day. I was like, "God my life is in your hands." I went through 10 hours of surgery, received 16 pints of blood, shot 16 times with morphine - I'm telling you what God will do for you. The promises the overwhelming problems and trials that can confront you will be removed by the power of God or else God will use the mountain; problems and trials for a far greater purpose in your life according to Romans 8:28. God had me going through this process for me to utilize the faith that God has giving me to believe to put my trust totally in him that was so important. In Philippians 4:13 the Lord wants us to totally trust in him and no one else. After all I went through; I then had to have open heart surgery because there was a hole in the heart, shortness of breath; a pulmonary artery condition which resulted in my walking being limited. I was able to take but so many steps before becoming short of breath. I had the open heart surgery on July 29, 2016 and came home August 6th of 2016. I'm telling you about you putting your faith into action if you had to deal with carbon monoxide in your body. I am a living witness that God can do the miraculous when your blood pressure is 200 over 198. Who will believe the report of the Lord? This is the report of the Lord: we were healed and now we were walking the manifestation of what God has for us as his children. In Ezekiel 47:1-12 the word that God tells us that the leaves on the trees on the left side of the bank, they shall be meat for you that was in the 12th verse of use it of the 47th chapter, and the leaves on the right side of the bank they shall be medicine for you God had already planned for our lives to strategically aligned for a process of healing. Just being a witness to tell you as your brother in Christ and as a prophet in the earth that God is able and yes, I give God praise and honor. To God be all the glory and honor.

# Come OUT and Walk by FAITH

Pastor Robert E. Ablaza, Bch.M

When do we come out and walk by faith? When is it alright to stay still and wait on God? These are questions that every believer must address at one time or another, let's praise God right now for Him knowing All things...When do we leave a need totally to God, and when do we take prudent initiative to solve the need or avoid a problem? We have been left O so great a testimony from the Patriarchs concerning being passive and being active. The Apostle James (2:14-26) stated faith without works is dead. And Jesus himself stated that some would call him " Lord, Lord" but would not enter the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 7:21-23). Some of these people like the people of today won't be able to demonstrate the fruit of good works. And then again the Prophet Isaiah (64:6) said all our works are as filthy rags to God apart from Christ. We don't want to leave you guessing here Colossians goes on to explain that they are tainted by our sins(works) and they are not able to take us from being dead in our trespasses(2:13) to being alive. Just to give you encouragement my brothers and sisters many of the challenges we face today so they did face also. I know you ask well when do (Psalms 46:10). And when do (Matthew 14:28). Hopefully you are in a personal relationship with the Father. In other words you talk with Him daily not just when you need Him to give you something. But because you are grateful for what He has already done for you. Have you not learned that indecision about communicating with God maybe why you don't know when to move and when to be still? You know some people learn by trial and error methods, some by seeing others fall short of their goals. Where you my brothers and sisters have a group of fellow believers that have testimonies of how God is faithful in His promises. But there is always something you must do. Case and point. A young lady has read all these books about how to be a good wife. So she stays occupied with her reading of these worldly books. And therefore she finds a worldly man because she stayed inside she was not able to be found by the husband that God had for her. Why because there was a choice she had to make, become not caught up in worldly affairs. And decide to follow after Godliness and He shall supply all your needs. Abraham while waiting for an heir moved when He should have been still (Genesis 16:1-6). By Abram being a man of faith when he stepped outside of his faith God still covered him. But as you study your word not just read it ask (Asking Seeking Knock-

ing). God for revelation in all that you do. As the young people say don't get it twisted. God cares for you. When you have faith in God and all that He can and will do in your behalf even in the wrong choices that you make, you can come out and walk by faith. I pray that this helps someone that is sitting in the crossroads of staying still or stepping out in faith. And you keep in mind that God will never send you out without providing for your needs, surround yourself with counselors/elders for guidance. Praying to God and waiting on the answer thou it may tarry.



The image is a promotional graphic for a book release. It features a background of a blue sky over a rocky coastline with waves crashing against the shore. In the top left corner, there is a portrait of Ella J. Alexander, a woman with dark hair in a bun, wearing a brown velvet top. The text 'New Book Release' is written in large, white, stylized letters across the top. Below it, the word 'from' is written in a smaller, gold, cursive font. The author's name, 'Ella J. Alexander', is written in large, white, stylized letters in the center. In the bottom left corner, there is a small inset image of the book cover for 'Seeing Without Seeing: Faith Connection' by Ella J. Alexander. The book cover features a landscape with mountains and a glowing path, with the title in gold and blue text and the author's name at the bottom. In the bottom right corner, the text 'Available at:' is written in blue, followed by the websites 'Createspace.com', 'Amazon.com', and 'Kindle' in a blue, stylized font.

New Book Release

from

Ella J. Alexander

Available at:

Createspace.com  
Amazon.com  
Kindle

# Faith and What It Means To Me

By Shirl Jones

First let me start by saying, I asked myself at one point in my life, "What is faith?" I did some research on what faith is. Thankfully, I was able to find the answer in the Bible. The Bible contains a clear definition of what faith is in the book of Hebrews, chapter 11 and the very first verse. It is the confident assurance that something we truly want is going to take place. We as Christians find out security and hope in God as we believe in Jesus Christ. We are able to say amen because of that unique relationship with God through the Holy Spirit. His love and our obedience is expressed in our life as disciples performing our everyday service. Here is another example: I have faith that I will get a promotion on my job. To me, this is what faith means to me.

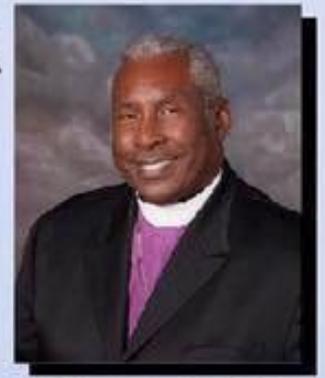
I hope you don't mind, but I would like to give my testimony on what happened to me a few years ago. I had to have surgery and I was a bit afraid because I never had to have this particular type of surgery before, not even as an adult. My Pastor at that time spoke to me and prayed for me. As we both began to pray, we asked God to guide the hands of the surgeons and the hands of the anesthesiologists. Once the prayer was over, my Pastor looked and said to me, "Have faith and everything will be fine." I did what the pastor and the Lord told me to do. Today, I can say that my faith is very strong now. So we just have to have faith and just know that whatever we want, as long as we have faith and trust in the Lord, we will have the very desires of our heart as God sees fit.



FIRST JURISDICTION SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
P R E S E N T S

# GATHERING OF THE EAGLES

Isaiah 40:30-31



Bishop Joe L. Ealy  
Prelate



**Saturday, September 9, 2017 - 10:00AM-1:00PM**



## Annual Jurisdictional Men's Gathering 300 MEN IN BLACK

- Encouragement for the Man behind the Title
- Bring your Teenage / Young Adult Sons
- All Men are encouraged to wear your "I Am SoCalJI" T-Shirt (\$20)

GUEST SPEAKER

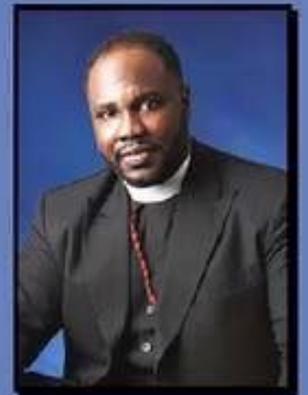
**Superintendent**

**Michael B. Golden, Jr.**

Hampton, VA

President, International COGIC

Men's Department



Sponsored by Jurisdiction One  
Council of Pastors and Elders  
Admin. Assist. Michael Henderson  
*Chairman*

Held at  
**GOSPEL MEMORIAL COGIC**  
1480 Atlantic Avenue  
Long Beach, CA 90813

## What is Faith?

Sis. Cairo Davis

Hebrews 11

Faith is a given attribute from the spirit of God. It is an assurance of our confirmation with the title deed of everything we hope for, and our conviction in reality. We cannot see faith, it is a deed, but not in paper form, it is a spiritual deed that we make with our God. In Galatians 5:22; "Faith is one of the fruits of the Spirit," this means that it grows naturally in us, for the one whom belong to God.

God test our patience every day; he tested Abraham's faith when he asked him to sacrifice his only son, and Abraham did just that, but before he could sacrifice his son God provided the lamb. I see every day in my own life that God is testing me, and sometimes it can be easy and other times it can be hard. In James 1:3, it talks about the testing of our patience and how we can develop a stronger faith by working on it.

In 1 Corinthians 12:7-9, it's close to my heart. It talks about the manifestation of the faith of God. I've seen how God, given me the manifestation, especially on the rough days in my life, and he knows when his people needs a little more faith in their lives.

Lastly, in Romans 10:9, "that if you confess with you mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." This is being saved, is synonymous with having faith. Faith is hard and does not come easily. Faith must be exercised to grow. Also, Matthew 17:20, "if your faith is as small as a mustard seed..." you can accomplish amazing things for God.



# FAITH THAT MAKES US CHRIST LIKE!

BY MINISTER DARRYL KENDRICK SR.

Many today in Christendom (Christianity) have declared their loyalty to our Messiah (Jesus Christ), but what does it look like if our faith is not seen from the outside and if it's not able to be read among the lost?

## **2 Cor 3:1-3 Ministers of a New Covenant**

*1 Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, like some people, letters of recommendation to you or from you? 2 You yourselves are our letter, inscribed on our hearts, known and read by everyone. 3 It is clear that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.)*

## **James 2:26 ESV**

*For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.)*

So many today (Western World) seek the blessing without true faith (that follows our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ). Our faith, life and love to God is supposed to be genuine, authentic and covenant like a marriage. A holy marriage is genuine and our relationship must have that kind of genuine faith and faithfulness! So why do we lack the fruitfulness of the marriage?

## **Galatians 5:22-23 ESV**

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.)*

In our life, the fruit is not seen because some are not consistent in walking in the Spirit; their faith wavered.

## **Galatians 5:1-26 ESV**

*For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be*

*of no advantage to you. I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law. You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. ...)*

Many are living this Christian life like a worldly religion and trying to make it work through their own works alone, and trying to make it appear as righteousness. In other words, if I do enough good works for God, I will be allowed into Heaven, but we are not justified by our works according to Ephesians the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter. It is faith in Jesus Christ who paid it all with the shedding of His blood on the cross. That's GRACE (UNMERITED FAVOR. We don't deserve it, nor did we earn it according to Ephesians 2:8-9). Our Christian life is a life of METAMORPHOSIS-A marked change in appearance, character, or condition that was done by the very work of God, the Holy Spirit which was poured down upon us according to Gal. 5: 1-11 and by the product of this work which is consistent with us being crucified with Christ! Gal. 2:20-21! Our old life is dead to sin (Romans 6) and alive to God which when you and I clothe ourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ (Col. 3:12, Rom. 13:14), we are spiritually prepared to live out this Christian life as a Christian walking in the Spirit, and loving others as Christ has loved us.

**(John 13:34 ESV A new commandment**

*I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.)*

It's not hard when we pick up our cross daily and learning to dye to self (Matt. 16:24; Lk. 9:23; Lk. 14:27). What it really comes down to is commitment to being married to Christ. The Commitment to God's marriage covenant. It's not about the benefits here on earth, but for the Heavenly benefits that will take us into eternity (Col. 3:1-4, Esv)

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.)

THESE THINGS (THE WORD)

**Jeremiah 23:29 ESV**

Is not my word like fire, declares the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?

**Hebrews 4:12 ESV**

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

ARE NOT ANYTHING NEW THE BIBLE HAS HAD THE SAME PRESCRIPTION FOR FAITH FOR OVER 6000 YRS (

**Romans 10:17 ESV**

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.)

**JESUS IS MY ROCK AND REFUGE**



# Founder's CELEBRATION

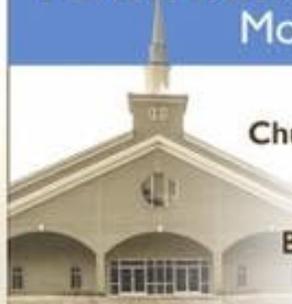
SEPTEMBER 11-12, 2017

*"Celebrating Our Unchanging Faith"*  
Commemorating The Life And Impact of Bishop Charles Harrison Mason

## A NOTICE TO THE TRI-STATE AREA

### FOUNDER'S CELEBRATION PLANNING MEETING

Monday- August 21, 2017 • 7:00 pm CST



**Holy City**  
Church Of God In Christ  
3208 James Rd.  
Memphis, TN 38128  
Bishop Jerry W. Taylor,  
Host Pastor

\*Open to all committee leaders, members and volunteers. Representatives needed from Adjutancy, Prayer, Evangelism, Missions, Security, Music, Ushers, Greeters, Job Fair, Health Fair, Tour Guides, Registration and PR/Marketing.

### LEXINGTON, MISSISSIPPI SITE VISIT

Tuesday- August 22, 2017



\*Open to all who would like to attend. Persons attending will be responsible for their own transportation.

#### Departure Time- 7:30 am

Mason Temple/World Headquarters  
920 Mason Street,  
Memphis, TN 38126

#### Arrival Time - Approx. 10:00 am

We plan to return to Memphis by 3:00 pm