



YOUR DESTINY IS HERE IN

Linda J. Ivey Ministries
Greater Is Coming

DESTINY



This month, most of us will review our 2020 footsteps to see how they prepared us for our 2021 destiny.

We all agree how our destiny started when we accepted Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior and how He showed us His plan for our lives, our destiny. That destiny is fulfilling God's plan: engaging in activities that share His love, grace, and mercy with those around us, and being a blessing to others. Our destiny has very little to do with whether we are good people or bad people, or whether we always do the right thing or the wrong thing. God accepts us as we are, and will turn everything around for our good and His glory.

So, where do we begin? First assess where we are now and then compare it to where we are destined to go. What is our assignment in 2021? What are we meant to do? What are our dreams and our callings telling us? Does what we want or plan to do line up with what God has planned for us?

If you are still not clear about your destiny; pray about it. Ask God to clarify His plan and purpose for your life. If you are sincere, no matter what you have done with your life so far, God *will* turn it all around for your good.

Declare to God in 2021 that you will keep the faith, that you're prepared to run your race, and you're ready to finish the course He has set before you. This will let Christ know to equip you for your new 2021 assignment(s), connecting you to your destiny.

SCRIPTURE TO HELP YOU MOVE INTO YOUR DESTINY



... let us run with endurance the race that is set before us ...
Hebrews 12:1B, NKJV

"Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it?" ...
Isaiah 43:18-19 (Founding Scripture)

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope". *Jeremiah 29:11*

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose for them. *Romans 8:28 NLT*

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. *Psalms 119:105 NIV*

DESTINY
SPOTLIGHT
ON:



Rev. Carolyn Williams

This month's Destiny Spotlight is on Reverend Carolyn T. Williams, Your Destiny is Here, Inc.'s advisory board member, who was born and raised in Texas, a retired Officer, Manager for the Salvation Army Developmental Disabilities Program, who has called Philadelphia home for over thirty years. As a graduate of Manna Bible Institute, Rev. Williams continues her pursuit of an advanced degree through Slidell Baptist Seminary. Rev. Williams is committed to ministry both in her personal and public life with seven years of service as a Police Chaplain with the 22nd District in Philadelphia. Her focus scripture is Proverbs 3:5-6, *"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy path."*

Despite many obstacles, she has learned to walk by faith and to move forward. Rev. Williams serves God through teaching and word ministries, with over 14 years ministering to abused and displaced women. After surviving an emotionally abusive marriage, the experience fueled her passion of working with pregnant teens and young women. As a first-time contributing author, Rev. Williams, shared her story in the book, The Marys: Amazing Women Who Answered God's Call; Will You?, which is available through Amazon.com. She encourages every woman who struggles with challenges to read her story for strength and encouragement. Her story inspires others to listen for God's voice in order to match His message and what He says about you to over-ride what others say about you.

Remaining open to God's direction for her final destiny; Rev. Williams, who was not sure why, realized at an early age, she had many gifts especially the gift of helps. Growing up, she liked being around people. There were always neighborhood children at her house and people were constantly telling their stories, seeking her advice, and support. Her husband, the late Pastor Williams, said it was because she could handle any emergency and give an encouraging word.

Rev. Williams has a way with young people. A teen from her church asked her to be her Godmother. Many young people don't want their parents' advice, but they will seek her advice. Young people need someone to lead them and show them. Her advice to young people is, "There are consequences to everything you do. We all make mistakes. Follow your first impressions, second guesses cause doubts and suspicions. Weigh out the pros and cons. And don't be sidetracked". (Which is good advice for everyone at any age). Rev. Williams also advises not to make a quick decision. Sometimes you need to seek God first by praying about things. Her uncle once said, "No experience is all bad if you learn something from it".

One of Rev. Williams' biggest influences was her grandmother, who *sternly* raised 8 daughters. Her mother influenced her too. As a young girl, Rev. Williams often wondered why her mother helped people who didn't like her and when asked why, her mother responded, "I'm not going to let anyone block my blessings or stop me from doing what God told me to do". There were also maternal aunts and teachers who were very encouraging, took interest in her and helped along the way.

Through this glimpse into Rev. Williams' life, we see it is wise to spend time recognizing the gifts God placed within us. And to be able to accept the people placed in our lives to encourage and walk with us through our journey. Finally, refuse to let anyone or anything keep you from following the destiny God has set before you. Follow this, and you too can be *Stronger, Wiser, Better*.*

**Stronger, Wiser, Better – Rev. Carolyn's chapter in the book, The Mary's, Amazing Women Who Answered The Call – Will You?
By Linda J. Ivey, MSW*

OUTREACH

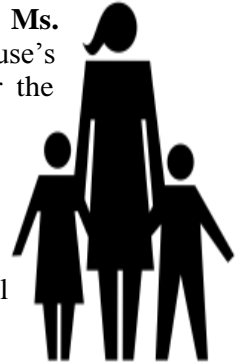


Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek. - Barack Obama

As part of our mission, Your Destiny Is Here, Inc. is dedicated to sharing the love of God through service to others. We are proud to announce that two of our Advocacy Groups were able to share Christmas joy during this past holiday season.

Ms. Denise Payne, who leads our Advocacy for Recovery Programs/Ministry, was helped by **Ms. Dominique Jones and Ms. Rosalyn Jackson** in providing gifts to residents at Women Against Abuse's shelter. Eight adults received personal toiletries, as well as additional Mary Kay cosmetics for the women and shavers for the men and eleven children received toys, books, winter hats and gloves.

Ms. Dominique Jones and Ms. Rosalyn Jackson – who lead our Advocacy for Helping Women and Children in Crisis Program, also sponsored a single mother and her children, referred by Diversified Community Services. They were able to provide children's bunk beds with mattress, a gift certificate for a mommy make-over at a Main Street hair salon, a gift basket full of personal mommy products and a monetary donation toward a laptop computer.



YDH has been touching lives for over a year now, and we look forward to continuing these efforts in 2021.

POLITICAL CALL TO ACTION



Despite the arrival of our new President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris, our woes won't just go away. Now we must do our part to see that our pre-election dialogue, actions, activities, and voices continue post-election.

Review the Biden/Harris election promises listed below to identify which ones impact your community. Then, do your part to hold them, your city, state and federal leaders accountable to move forward with resolving issues and problems. Determine what local officials or grassroots organizations are doing/planning in your area. Get involved with others in your community who are currently addressing similar issues by identifying ways you can help: making suggestions, signing petitions, volunteering to make phone calls, or texting city officials to ask for status reports. These strategies will hold your local officials accountable.

Let's make sure democracy moves closer to the truth of *all men being created equal*, by voicing our opinions about our needs, and finding ways to get and stay involved with our neighborhood and larger communities.

We must demonstrate our desire to pursue justice, decency, and equity for *all of us*. We would be remiss to not be vigilant and stay woke.

The website: <https://joebiden.com/joes-vision> lists 14 areas of concern in the Biden/Harris plan.

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| 1. Climate & Energy Issues | 7. Foreign Policy | 13. Reuniting Mexican Children with their parents |
| 2. Coalitions Development | 8. Healthcare | 14. Young Americans |
| 3. COVID-19 Cues | 9. Jobs and Economy | |
| 4. Domestic Policy | 10. Older Americans | |
| 5. Education Improvement | 11. Veterans & Military Families | |
| 6. Faith-Based Agendas | 12. Women Equity Initiatives | |



COMMUNITY RESOURCES

(In Philadelphia and the surrounding areas)

At time of distribution, the following resources were operational. We advise you to call before visiting to ensure the resources you are interested in are still in service.

Covid-19 and coronavirus are two words that have become a part of our daily vocabulary for almost a year now. Two vaccines have become available, but the roll-out may not be as quick as we want it to be. So, continue to wear a mask, wash your hands, and don't gather in large groups. The time will come when gathering will be possible, but for now, let's continue to stay safe and think of others as well as ourselves.

If You Need Covid-19 Testing:

- The Black Doctors Consortium provides free covid-19 testing and flu shots. Contact them for a weekly schedule of locations and dates: by phone, 484-270-6200 or email: info@blackdoctorsconsortium.com.
- Test For All Tuesdays - Free covid-19 testing for all residents is now available at Dobbins. No appointments required, walk-ups welcome. 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM: Murrell Dobbins High School, 2150 Lehigh Ave., Phila., PA 19132, 267-436-3126.
- If you need to be tested, CVS and Rite Aid have free testing sites. Check these websites for more information: cvshealth.com/covid-19/testing-locations and riteaid.com/pharmacy/services/covid-19-testing.

If You Need Food:

- Fresh For All Wednesdays - 12:30 PM until supplies run out. This weekly produce stand is free to all, and runs weather dependent. Location is outside of the Greater Enon Missionary Baptist Church, 1854 N. 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121. Operated by Philabundance. 215-765-3135
- Einstein Healthcare Network and Philabundance provide a weekly produce market where fresh fruits and vegetables are distributed at no cost on Tuesday mornings starting at 10 a.m. at: 5500 block North 11th Street, between Tabor Road and Clarkson Avenue, Philadelphia, PA, 19141, on the Einstein Medical Center Philadelphia campus.
- On Saturdays (except for January 2nd) at 2 pm until supplies last, free groceries are distributed at New Covenant Church of Philadelphia, 7500 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19119.
- Philabundance – go to: www.Philabundance.org, click on “find food” and put in your zip code, or call WhyHungry at 800-5-HUNGRY (1 800 548 6479).

If You Need Help with Your Energy Bill:

Low-income Philadelphia Gas Works (PGW) customers facing financial difficulties can apply for a free LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) grant of between \$200 and \$1,000. LIHEAP is a federal grant that helps income-eligible families afford their natural gas bills and maintain heating for their homes as cold weather approaches.

Grants are based on household size and income, available to both renters and homeowners, and do not have to be repaid. Customers can print a LIHEAP application at pgworks.com/liheap, or call PGW's Customer Care Team at 215-235-1000, Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. - 6 p.m., to receive an application by mail. The LIHEAP application period ends on April 9, 2021 or as long as funds remain available.



Internship Opportunity:

In the upcoming months, the City of Philadelphia will host a three-part virtual open house series. The open houses introduce different service opportunities within the City, which include the [Serve VISTA Program](#) and the [Mayor's Internship Program](#) (MIP). Attendees will also be given an in-depth look into the application process and how to make their application stand out. These service programs are an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in working within city government and be part of real policy changes.

- **Thursday, January 21 from 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. for Pathways to Entry**
Learn about ways to engage with the City of Philadelphia through Serve VISTA, the Mayor's Internship Program, and other programs.
- **Thursday, February 18 from 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. for Branding Yourself**
This will be a resume review and networking workshop. This will help prepare your application and empower you to build connections with the City.
- **Thursday, March 18 from 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. for Getting Your Foot In the Door**
This will be a panel-style session, where Serve VISTA and MIP alumni answer questions and talk about their experience working in the City as a VISTA member or intern.

All open houses will be held virtually. You are not required to attend all three, but are invited to join one or all sessions. To register go to <https://www.phila.gov/programs/serve-philadelphia-vista-corps/>, for event information . Once you register, the Zoom link will be sent to you.

Other:

For community services to support your family, such as food, utilities, transportation and more, go to communityresourceconnects.org. Enter your zip code for resources in your neighborhood.

Your Destiny is Here, Inc. is providing resource information as a public service for persons in need. While we try to keep the information timely and accurate, we make no guarantees. Services provided by listed organizations and businesses are the sole responsibility of the organization or business.

Mental Health Check-in

Mental Health America suggests these tips for dealing with COVID-related stress:

- **Acknowledge what you've lost.** Whether you've lost a loved one, a job, and/or your overall sense of normalcy, it's important that you take time to grieve and reflect on that loss.
- **Make the most of it.** Things will be different this year, but you don't need to cancel everything you love. Plan to connect virtually with family and enjoy safe and festive activities that will make you happy.
- **Don't romanticize what you used to do.** Remember that all of the things we used to doing came with stressors too — such as traffic and other travel issues, hectic situations, and more.
- **Practice gratitude.** There is still plenty to be thankful for, and acknowledging our gratitude can help us refocus on the good.

For additional DESTINY information, visit:
Your Destiny is Here Broadcast
www.blogtalkradio.com/yourdestinyishere
(a daily broadcast)

Comments or questions?
Email:
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Notify sender if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter.