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"Business with Character"
Interview with Entrepreneur, Andrea Dickerson
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# Music World Gospel Recording Artist and BET's Sunday Best's

Season 4 First Runner Up Andrea Helms,

New CD Project, Moving Forward, Debuts at #2 on Billboard's Top Gospel Albums Chart



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APR – MAY – JUN 2012 SPRING FORTH!

**Celebrating Mothers!** 

Sunday, May 13th



Donna Sneed, Editor-in-chief

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SUNDAY BEST'S
Season 4 Finalist

### **Andrea Helms**



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Character

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#### Hello friends!

Can you believe it? It is already spring and very soon, if not already, we will be basking in the sun at beaches all around the world.

Excitement is in the air and I want to be a part of it. As you can see from my pictures, I am taking advantage of every opportunity to enjoy all that LIFE has to offer.

I believe it is very important to stop and "smell the roses" at some point in time. Remember, life is but a vapor and it is soon gone so take advantage of the beauty all around you. That includes the people on your jobs, in your homes, your neighborhoods, the grocery store or the park.

You never know how much you impact the lives of others by taking time out of your busy schedule to stop, look, and listen. Time waits for no one so you may have to literally grab time for yourself and your family.

I have had the awesome privilege of watching my very first grandchild be born and I know it was during that time that I realized how important and precious life is...

SPRING FORTH into life this season! Find ways to love and laugh more. Live with expectancy and purpose (in your heart) to give GOD the praise by sharing that love and laughter with others.

Until next time, do what you do with grace & Character!



Create Moments of Memories ...





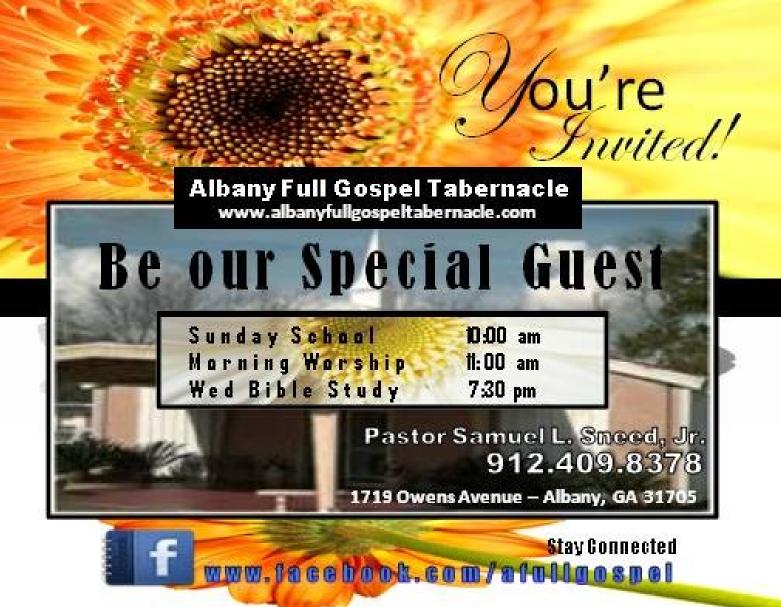










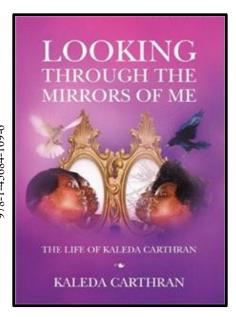


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### Deliverance from the Stronghold of Homosexuality: A Testimony

Kaleda Carthran, Author ISBN: 978-1-45684-109-6



Are you ready to look through the author's mirror? Don't be afraid to see a reflection of your very own face, ordeals, and challenges. Learn from the author **Kaleda Carthran's** own words and life. This unveiling of her life is to give solace, hope, and inspiration to those who have had personal and family problems; those lost ones who are dealing with their own addiction and mess; and those who have desperately sought a way through or out. Learn how the author's life and experiences led her to the place where she is now—delivered and free. May her personal sharing touch lives and bring forth change and redemption.

www.facebook.com/kcarthran

I just want to say that if you are dealing with the spirit of homosexuality and you do not think you can be FREE, I am a living witness that you can be! I lived this life 10 years while married!

This is how strong that stronghold is! I knew better but my mind was gone! I tried to kill myself several times because I was trying to escape it all. I did not see a way out! The last time I tried to kill myself I took so many pills they could not pump my stomach. I was in and out of consciousness and could not get it pumped! I had to detox for two weeks and that was pain!

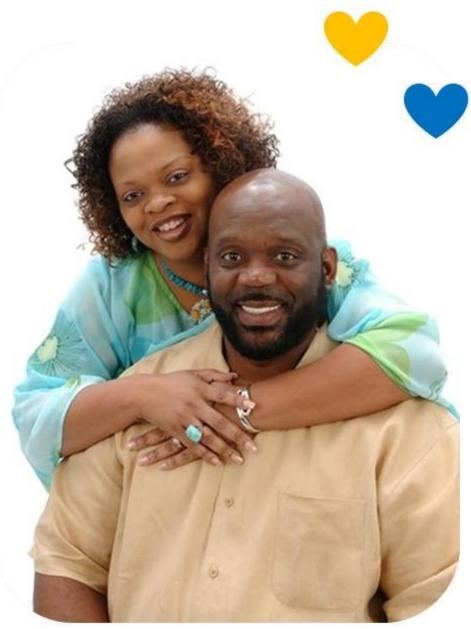
I still did not stop there! It went on for another year until it got so bad I had to CALL ON JESUS to help me before I either got killed by a woman or killed myself. The stronghold was so deep and the devil was telling me I could never be FREE!

We cannot treat them (homosexuals) as if they have a disease. It is a stronghold spirit! I know this! God loves us all but he hates all SIN! He hates SIN and no matter what people say, He hates ALL SIN but he loves us and wants us to come to him!

**Please** if you are suffering and struggling with coming out of the stronghold of homosexuality you have someone (me) who has been through it and for the last three years, I have been FREE, DELIVERED, BOLDLY RUNNING FOR JESUS and MY MARRIAGE IS SAVED!

I used to be so ashamed but I am not anymore! I AM FREE AND I WILL NOT LET THE ENEMY have people feel they cannot overcome this spirit. BUT <u>YOU</u> MUST HAVE A WILLNG MIND! I am not ashamed of my past because MY FUTURE LOOKS so BRIGHT(1st Lady Annette Stokes always says this). God is able!

### What Keeps Your Love HOT?



Ministers Elton & Luella Cook Columbia, SC

There are many **important aspects** of the relationship that is vital in **keeping** the **fire** burning, such as communication and effort.

The most important element of a relationship is to know the value or its worth. Being married for eleven years now, we have come to realize that the "fire" in the marriage is truly sparked within the heart. We have purposed in our hearts to always support and honor each other and to not look at or anticipate the negative. However, when negative shows up, the best way to handle negativity, doubt, or shame is with the Word of God. It is in the Word that we find ALL of the answers in solving life's dilemmas. Our "love" is grounded with 2 Corinthians 13.

Every day we accentuate the positives. Communication is so important! Talk to each other...don't settle with the "roommate mentality" or an "investment", instead look at your mate as you see yourself, how God sees you.

We purpose ourselves in looking for ways to satisfy one another. "What can I do for you today?" and then keep your spouse on his or her toes. Communication with one another allows you to know each others love language. As you grow older together change will come, when it does share your likes and dislikes (even the sexual desires).

It is also essential for your spouse to feel wanted or desired. Let's not forget about all the wooing that was done during the "honeymoon" this is what can also be considered as EFFORT. Effort in the relationship is when you are feeling down and letting your spouse lift you up. Help one another (a big turn on for most)!

Men, have the dishes done or a nice hot meal at the end of the day and Ladies, what about doing some outdoor chores together. Show one another that you care. Remember that you are in LOVE with one another and not a competition. Yes, allow your actions to speak louder than words, nevertheless there is no need to keep a scorecard. Give love and expect to receive love and at the end of the day enjoy your love...

### 1 Corinthians 13

What keeps it HOT?

If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing.

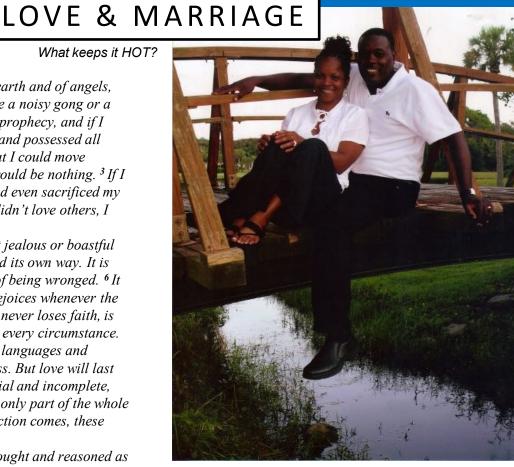
<sup>4</sup>Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. 6 It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. <sup>7</sup>Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance. <sup>8</sup> Prophecy and speaking in unknown languages and special knowledge will become useless. But love will last forever! <sup>9</sup> Now our knowledge is partial and incomplete, and even the gift of prophecy reveals only part of the whole picture! <sup>10</sup> But when the time of perfection comes, these partial things will become useless.

<sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things. <sup>12</sup> Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely.

<sup>13</sup> Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love and the greatest of these is love.

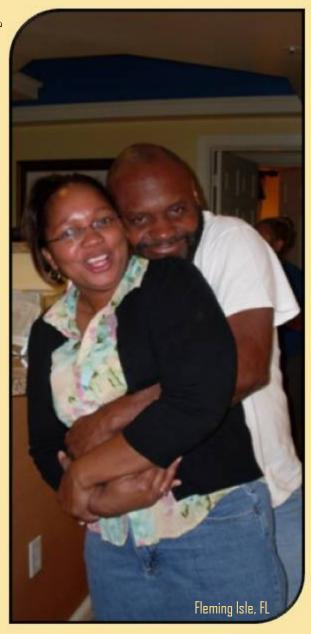
- 1) Trust 2) Communication
  - **3**) Laughter 4) Togetherness

...and more Laughter in this order. Believing in one another is a necessary asset. Believe that I'll keep you happy as you keep me as happy. We've been together for 27 years and we've shared tears and had many disagreements that were not always comfortable. But in the end, the love we have for one another keeps the steam simmering. Floyd says, "the thought that I'm on my way home after making provisions for her and will lay eyes on her adjusts the thermostat." Sonya states that the thought of yesterday (last night) keeps the steam at a boiling rate. And yes after four sons, the pleasure of just practicing now is yet: HOTT!!





No we dare not leave our Savior out of the equation. For without Him, there would be no us. BUT there is a time for some **HOTTER LOVE!** 



# 1 o v e

For starters, it is our individual and collective love for God.

It is our gratefulness to the Lord for answering our prayers and giving us a divine hook-up.

To be able to spend our lives with the person that God has personally picked out keeps us HOT!

For we know that no matter what we go through....our love for each other and the Lord will see us through.

"....we love each other for just being who we are, no clothes, make-up or fancy shot can show that perspective."

God bless!



#### Business With Character

#### Akeba Academy Daycare and Party Center



I want to welcome our very 1st BUSINESS with Character and the Entrepreneur herself, Andrea Dickerson! I am so thankful that you have cut out a space of your time to speak to us and share your heart concerning business and the great things you are doing over in your town.

Please tell us a little something about yourself:

**AD**: My Name is **Andrea Dickerson** and I am the wife of Minister Kamau Dickerson. We both share one child together whose name is Kamau Dickerson Jr. I am a native of Brunswick, Georgia.

### 8. Also tell us the name of your business, location and how long you've been in business.

**AD:** We are in the business of "all things childcare." We currently operate a childcare learning center, a nanny agency, and an online network, Daycare Success. I am also a published author and motivational speaker. Our childcare learning center is called Akeba Academy Daycare and Party Center. We are located at 2606 Altama Avenue in Brunswick, Georgia.

Akeba Academy is a dream come true for us. We started working in the childcare field in 2004. Our first center was named Humble Beginnings Learning Center and our second center was Kingdom Kids Christian Learning Center. I tried to leave the childcare field in 2006 but could not shake what came naturally - Teaching and Caring for Children.



©. You have shared with so many people – your "entrepreneurial spirit" along with some great tips and videos on how others may go into business for themselves. Were there any obstacles that you care to share with us?

**AD**: My story is about Overcoming By Faith! By Faith is the mindset that I have while doing business. I cannot do anything without God. He is my source and my help. I face challenges every day. But I take challenges and turn them into opportunities! While working in this field I have faced firey darts from everywhere. My number one obstacle that I had; was to overcome the poverty mentality. I learned to start with what you have. I learned to use what I had and to move forward every day and to always make progress. Not a day would go by that I did not make efforts towards my dreams manifesting! I didn't start out with a lot of money, or with the best case scenerio, But I had faith to believe! I started by using the skills that I had and begin babysitting and over time I discovered that anything is possible YOU JUST HAVE TO GET STARTED.

Tell us... must one have a completely different thought-pattern in order to move forward and actually live out their dream?

AD: Oh yes! Most definitely, I made sure I stayed focused. When you want something really bad you don't need someone to tell you to stay focused. YOU FIND WAYS TO KEEP YOURSELF MOTIVATED TO WIN! .... Read more on page 15

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### Across

1 cleanse, purify (Deut 22:24) **6** Bring my sons from and my daughters (Isa 43:6) 10 Cain talked with his brother (Gen 4:8) 14 Having believed, you were marked in him with \_\_\_\_ (1,4) (Eph 1:13) **15** rabbit (Deut 14:7) (KJV) 16 the poor \_\_\_\_ the gospel preached to them (Matt 11:5) 17 hatch cockatrice' eggs, and \_\_\_\_ the spider's web (Isaiah 59:5) **18** and stayed in \_\_\_\_ in the rock (1,4) (Judg 15:8) 20 and for the that is in the land of Assyria. (Isaiah 7:18) 21 complacent, who are like wine left on its \_\_\_ (Zeph 1:12) 23 the shall tread out no wine in their presses (Isa 16:10) KJV 26 thou shalt take an , and thrust it through his ear (Deut 15:17) KJV 28 Benjamites chased them and overran them (Judg 20:43) 29 and cried, : Blessed is the King of Israel (John 12:13) 33 make bare the \_\_\_\_\_, uncover the thigh (Isaiah 47:2) 35 there is one \_\_\_ to the righteous, and to the wicked (Eccles 9:2) **36** saw them with her eyes, she upon them (Ezek 23:16) (KJV)

**39** Tabitha, arise. And \_\_\_\_ opened her eyes (Acts 9:40)

**42** five, \_\_\_\_ twenty days (3,2) (Num 11:19)

me, O LORD, in thy righteousness (Ps 5:8)

- **43** Many are the of the wicked (Ps 32:10)
- 44 by his right hand, and by the of his strength (Isaiah 62:8)
- **45** a man of understanding and knowledge maintains (Prov 28:2)
- **46** no longer to call her \_\_\_\_; her name will be Sarah.(Gen 17:15)
- 47 But as the serpent beguiled through his subtilty (2 Cor 11:3)
- 40 and as the scripent beguned \_\_\_\_ through his subtity (2 col 11.5)
- 48 spoken in the ear in \_\_\_ shall be proclaimed upon (Luke 12:3) KJV
- 50 chose five smooth stones from the \_\_\_\_ (1 Sam 17:40)
- 53 Forsake \_\_\_\_ not, and she shall preserve thee (Prov 4:6)
- **54** Do not touch my \_\_\_ ones (Ps 105:15)
- **56** Gideon heard the \_\_\_ and its interpretation, (Judg 7:15)
- **60** Eat not of it \_\_\_\_\_, nor sodden at all with water (Exodus 12:9)
- **61** a scroll with writing on both and sealed (Rev 5:1)
- 63 This miraculous sign will \_\_\_\_ tomorrow (Ex 8:23)
- **65** Adam and Eve both ate from the of good and evil (Gen 3:12-13)
- 67 Ask, and it shall be given you; \_\_\_\_\_, and ye shall find (Matt 7:7)
- **68** gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the world (Matt 24:14)
- **69** Go, everything you have and give to the poor (Mark 10:21)
- 70 sent me from Kadesh-barnea to \_\_\_\_ out the land (Josh 14:7) KJV
- 71 They fields and planted vineyards (Ps 107:37)

FAMILY CHRISTIAN CROSSWORD PUZZLES

## Down

1	The LORD who delivered me from the of the lion (1 Sam 17:37)
2	with their tongues they have deceit (Romans 3:13)
	the God of Israel will be your guard (Isa 52:12)
4	The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God unto him (Rev 1:1)
	mocked him. Dressing him in an robe (Luke 23:11)
	Because thou saidst,, against my sanctuary (Ezek 25:3) KJV
7	who sins breaks the law; in, sin is lawlessness (I Jn 3:4)
	but lips that speak knowledge are jewel (1,4) (Prov 20:15)
	the Lord of kings and a of mysteries (Dan 2:47)
10	Then said I Lord GOD! behold (Ezek 4.14)
11	The tower of (Gen 11:9)
12	and the hold of fowl spirit (Rev 18:2) (KJV)
	a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the (Isaiah 25:6)
	I mean not that other men be , and ye burdened (2 Cor 8:13) (KJV)
	From the rising of the unto the going down (Ps 113:3)
	if a man shall a pit, and not cover it, (Exodus 21:33)
	Arphaxad was the father of (1 Chron 1:18)
	and every man his ass, and returned (Gen 44:13) KJV
<b>30</b>	I will make thee ruler many things (Matt 25:23) KJV
31	close to thejust above the waistband (Ex 39:20)
32	appearing of the great God our Saviour Jesus (Titus 2:13)
	the devil, and he will flee from you (James 4:7)
37	"No sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment (Matt 9:16)
38	He then fastened a to every pair of tails (Judg 15:4-5)
<b>39</b>	if the has faded and has not spread in the skin (Lev 13:6)
<b>40</b>	cold and, and summer and winter (Gen 8:22)
42	The former have I made, O Theophilus (Acts 1:1) KJV
	spoken by the Lord, and confirmed unto us (Heb 2:3)
	into your and kneading troughs. (Ex 8:3)
	a man of, and familiar with suffering (Isa 53:3)
	sons of Gad: Zephon, Haggi, Shuni, Ezbon, (Gen 46:16)
	I have thee in right paths (Prov 4:11) KJV
	or birds are taken in a (Eccl 9:12)
	wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the (John 13:5)
	divided and given to the and Persians (Dan 5:28)
	the magicians tried to produce gnats by their secret (Ex 8:18)
	all things, yea, the things of God (1 Cor 2:10)
	Their calls will through the windows (Zeph 2:14)
	or a sheep and its young (1,3) (Lev 22:28)
	beast of burden (Psm.32:9)
	foul weather today: for the is red and lowring. (Matt 16:3) KJV
	By faith they passed through the sea (Heb 11:29)
00	God, deity

### The Sweet Life of a

# Pastor's Wife

# COVER FEATURE: Andrea Helms

Personal PERSPECTIVE

(Houston, TX – March 19, 2012) –Music World Gospel recording artist and BET's Sunday Best's Season 4 first runner-up Andrea Helms' new CD project, *Moving Forward*, debuts at #2 on *Billboard*'s Top Gospel Albums chart and #3 on the Top Christian/Gospel Albums chart. *Moving Forward* also debuts at #11 on *Billboard*'s Independent chart, #66 on the Top Current Albums chart and #77 on the Top 200 chart.

Andrea's *Moving Forward*, which was released on March 6, is a collection of new recordings of songs from some of her highlight performances on *Sunday Best*. On her first single, "Yesterday," she offers a powerful, soulful and bluesy turn on Mary Mary's song. Her version of Richard Smallwood's classic "I Love the Lord" is uniquely her own. She also puts her own spin on the highly popular praise and worship song, "Because Of Who You Are," written by Martha and Daniel Munizzi, as well as on Donald Lawrence's songs "The Heaven Are Telling (A Mighty God We Serve)" and "Encourage Yourself."

One of the most talked about moments of the season was when Amber Bullock and Andrea Helms performed a duet, "Moving Forward," penned by Ricardo Sanchez, during the show's finale. Andrea and Amber offer a powerful rendition of that song for this CD. Andrea is especially drawn to the song, "Changed," on the CD because it relates to her testimony about how God saw her through a severe bout of postpartum depression that had resulted in her having suicidal tendencies.

#### GOSPEL ARTIST.

**DS**: You were asked to be a part of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration. Please tell us what that experience was like:

AH: You know... you can hardly put those types of feelings into words. That was my greatest honor so far; as an artist. To be asked by Dr. King's family to come and sing at his celebration. I mean what an honor for me! And I tell you what, being there and being a part of all of that... I felt like I was a part of history still being made. So it's a blessing to be a part of that.

**DS**: Wow! I can only imagine. I am excited just to be speaking with you. [We both laugh] So I can only imagine how you must have felt being in the midst of the King family ---

and all the great things that have happened in your life since being on BET's show *Sunday Best*. I'm sure God has a way of preparing us and perfecting whomever He decides...

AH: Right.

**DS**: ...and I appreciate that. You have such a stance when you sing. Please tell us... what is that "confidence" that we see and hear from you?

AH: You know, I tell people all the time — wherever I go...I'm not a "show." I don't come and bring just a good show. When I sing, I sing from my heart. I know what God has brought me out of. I know what He has done for me and when I sing, it's like I forget who's around me and I just sing to Him.

**DS**: What advice do you have for others who want to pursue the music industry?

**AH**: If I could give any advice to anyone who wants to sing or break into the business or become a Gospel Artist. Just sing for Jesus because He is the One who promotes. We don't boast of ourselves but it's for God's Glory and so when I sing, that's what I want the world to see and to hear... just the goodness of God.

**DS**: I love it! [Shifts conversation...]

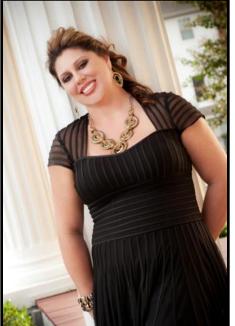
#### PASTOR'S WIFE.

**DS**: I am married to a Pastor. I'm a Pastor's Wife (a PW if you will) so I can relate to some of the joys as well as the challenges to being married to the man and the ministry.

[[Laughter]] So, talk to us about being the pastor's wife. How have you been able to do what you do in your church and then balance what you are doing as a recognized singer? Exactly how do you keep balanced?

AH: Oh my goodness. You know what?! It's through lots and lots of prayer because you've got to have balance in your life. No matter what you do or what your title is. I believe Jesus taught balance so we all have to come to an understanding (together) of expectations. My expectations have changed for my life. The people at church...their expectations (of me) have to change.

...continued on page 16



**AD**: I created dream boards, I wrote my vision, I posted affirmations all around my house. I cut out pictures of daycare centers, classrooms, and stuff that I wanted and posted them on my dream board and around my house. I made changes in friends, the places I spent my time and **how** I spent my time.

I studied the lives of the successful and became determined to be *the person I see in my DREAMS!* 

My husband and son are great inspirations to me as well. I found out that **family is most important.** I also learned: you can have it all. You can be a devoted Christian, have a good marriage, a good family, manage a profitable enterprise (or more than one) and have peace. This is the life!

I am able to share my gifts and talents with others and help them to gain success. WOW. I get excited just thinking about the unlimited possibilities when you stay focused and determined; by any means necessary. My Motto is - DREAM BIG!

# **C**. What were the deciding factors that helped you go into business for yourself?

**AD**: I wanted to be successful and I could never do what I do for someone else. I really thought about ME and what I really wanted to achieve in life. I examined myself and discovered that I like setting my own goals, creating my own wealth, writing my own check and answering to God and him only.

# **©**. Were there examples around you who provoked you to go into business? If so, who were they and how did they influence you?

**AD**: My daddy, Mr. Albert Miller. He inspires me. In all of the world, my daddy is the most successful person I know. He taught me tenacity and to *never give up*. It was my daddy who gave me a start in business. He was my first investor. Wow... what a dad, right? He still kisses me on the forehead and says things like.. 'You are going places girl.' He is among the few people who speak life into my dreams.

Purchase Andrea's new eBook, How I Did It, Daycare Success!
howididitdaycaresuccess.simplelander.com/
To receive her FREE E-newsletter sign up at: eepurl.com/g6YqA.
Follow Andrea Dickerson's blog: daycaresuccess.wordpress.com/
"Like" Andrea on Facebook: www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Daycare-Success
"Tweet": twitter.com/#!/DaycareSuccess
Learn more about Andrea and Akeba Academy Daycare: daycaresuccess.com/

Share with us some key principles that every person — who wants to open a business — should know

AD:

- 1: Keep God in it.
  - **2:** Write it.
- **3:** Complete a task everyday towards your dreams
- 4: Stay focused.
- 5: Talk as if you are doing what you want to do NOW
- **6:** Find a mentor or a coach and stay connected

# **©**. Are their plans to open more facilities?

**AD:** In the future... oh yes!

# **©**. Is there anything else you'd like to share?

**AD**: I am enjoying and developing my own consultation network and I am working towards perfecting that craft. I really enjoy motivating others to get their daycare center organized and growing financially. I am very passionate about my Daycare Success Network. This network is for childcare business owners and directors who are looking for ways to get organized to get more clients! I enjoy helping others through my informational products, ebooks. webinars, mentoring conferences.

# **6** How may others connect with you?

AD: Andrea Dickerson - "Committed to helping Childcare Professionals, Directors, Administrators and Preschool Business Owners who are seeking ways to Organize, Systemize, and Grow their childcare business and ultimately their LIFE. We offer FREE information like E-tips, E-newsletters, blogs, audio, video and E-Learning opportunities.

I think everybody has to be on the same page and they support me. If I win, they win! And my family is the same way. They are proud of me and they push me to do what God has called me to do. So when I'm away, I'm away and when I'm home, I'm "pastor's wife." You know... God is working things out. I just believe if you leave it in God's hands, He will make sure things are going to work out fine.

**DS**: Amen. Speaking of expectations.... Sometimes, without realizing, people put a lot of demands on the pastor's wife. As if we're some sort of "super woman" or other superhero [[Laughter]] who can do everything. What challenges have you faced (if there are any) that you care to share? AH: Well there are always challenges. When God takes you to another level, there are more responsibilities... so you have to see and know that God has given you more which means he trusts you with more. One of the biggest challenges that I have faced is there are times when I go places and my husband is not there. We have never traveled to minister; we have been in our spot in Denton, Texas ministering to people here in Denton so with this newfound fame [[I hate that word | but with the notoriety now I'm traveling away from my family and I don't have my husband there to depend on him to bring in the ministry part of it. You know the speaking part of it and the Altar calls. You know... what you depend on your husband to do - he's not always there. So that has been my biggest challenge.

I realize God is strong through me and even when my husband is not there, it is okay. I have learned that he doesn't necessarily have to be there for God to still work and to still move and to see people's lives changed. But it is really working out well and it's been good for me.

**DS**: Yes! I'm learning that when we focus on what God has anointed and appointed for us to do, we can't go wrong when we keep our eyes on him.

AH: You're right.

**DS**: He always seems to put people in place and in position when and where we need them. I can relate to that and know that God has a way of supporting and showing up. **AH**: Yes and I am so thankful that my ministry is not dependent upon whether my husband is there or not. God has a purpose

husband is there or not. God has a purpose and a plan for me so I see him work through me every time I travel and I'm able to go and minister.

**DS**: I read somewhere that you serve as the Minister of Music at your church. Do you still serve in that position?

AH: Well, not anymore. It's a lot because I'm gone so much. You know, here's a funny story: when I went to the (Sunday Best) auditions last year, there was a guy who was in my audition room and he said, 'hey guys look me up on Facebook' and I was the only who did. It turned out that he has been my successor at the church. He has been there about a month and that is the cool thing about Jesus! You never know who you are going to meet. That's just the favor of God and I'm not responsible for all of it anymore. But I'm still a part of it when I come home

**DS**: Right. And like you said earlier, "new levels – new responsibilities" and God has a way of connecting and as we say over here in Southeast Georgia, God has a way of hooking it up. [[Laughter]] But I have a question concerning your new CD which is entitled, Moving Forward. How did that title come about and what does it represent for you?

AH: Well, the CD that is currently out is a compilation of the songs that I performed on BET'S *Sunday Best*. Now, *Moving Forward* is a song that Amber Bullock and I did as a duet in the finale and we decided to put that on the album. I am so excited that I get to share this with her on the album.

But "moving forward" means to me that God is moving us and it's time to get up from our comfort zone, get up from what has been the norm and step out in faith. There is so much that God has for us and if we are not moving forward, we're sliding back. We should all hook arm in arm with one another because there are a lot of souls that need to be saved. We are the army of the Lord so let's move forward. That is kind of what sums up my life.

**DS**: You are such a great blessing to the Body of Christ. [[AH: **Thank you**.]] I am sure you feel the "pull" and everybody wants to meet Andrea Helms. When this (*Sunday Best*) began and things started to happen for you and you heard your voice on the radio... How did that make you feel? Is it overwhelming?

AH: Yeah. You know what? It has been a little overwhelming from time to time because (humbly speaking) I'm just Andrea Helms from Denton, Texas. I am no better than anyone else. I am the same as everyone else. So for someone to look at me with the starry eyes and want my autograph... that is a little much for me [[Laughter]]. I know who I am, I know me and I don't see anything "special" about me. I don't know if I will ever get used to that but who knows. It has been very sweet and I am honored that people love me. **DS**: If you had the opportunity to speak to thousands of pastor's wives, what would you want to share with them in regards to the positions they hold in support of their husbands in ministry?

**AH**: Oh wow! Well, I think that sometimes people may perceive pastor's wives as the lesser of the two and that they don't have a purpose except to support their husbands which **is** what we are called to do as a Help (meet: fit for them). We are to walk alongside of our husbands and yes, support them but realize that God has a purpose for us to. It is not just that our whole purpose is wrapped up in who our husbands are. We have an identity and God has a plan for us. I believe even though we wear many hats in the church, we need to walk into our destiny.

You know, your destiny will never override your husband's calling; it should work hand in hand with him. That is what I'm seeing in my life right now. Doors are opening for my husband as well; so don't be afraid to walk in to walk you feel God is leading you into. It's big, it's good and what He (God) has for you...it is for you.

**DS:** I am sure your hometown (Denton, TX) is excited about what is happening in your life. Have the people changed toward you? Do they accept and support you?

AH: The people who know me and love have been supportive. That is the main thing. I have not encountered anything negative and I am so grateful for that. They are 100% behind me and like I said before, it's kind of like – when I win, they win. ....continued on page 21>>>





# 62ND WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL

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# Celebrating Mothers

National "Observance" of Mother's Day was established by a woman named Anna Jarvis. From childhood, Anna Jarvis often heard her mother say that she hoped that someone would one day establish a memorial for all mothers, living and dead.

One incident in particular was a driving force in keeping this wish alive. The incident occurred during a class prayer given by Mrs. Jarvis in the presence of her daughter, Anna, then age twelve, at the conclusion of Mrs. Jarvis' lesson on "Mothers of the Bible." She closed the lesson with the prayer "I hope that someone, sometime will found a memorial mothers day commemorating her for the matchless service she renders to humanity in every field of life. She is entitled to it." Anna never forgot that prayer, and at her mother's graveside service, Anna's brother Claude heard her recall that prayer and say "...by the grace of God, you shall have that Mothers Day." In 1914, her dream was realized and Mothers' Day became a reality.

Mother's Day as we know it is a very special day we have observed and set aside to spend even more quality time with those we consider to be "mothers" as well as those who actually birthed us.

This is the time of year that may be especially hard for someone you know. Many families no longer have their birth mothers or may have never seen or known her as long as some. Make a special effort to include someone in your plans this year. Help make this year one of the best years ever!

If you have forgotten the importance of the observance, here's an excerpt of Anna Marie Jarvis' telegram launching the observance of a general memorial day for all mothers.... which defined the purpose of the day:

...To revive the dormant filial love and gratitude we owe to those who gave us birth. To be a home tie for the absent. To obliterate family estrangement. To create a bond of brotherhood through the wearing of a floral badge. To make us better children by getting us closer to the hearts of our good mothers. To brighten the lives of good mothers. To have them know we appreciate them, though we do not show it as often as we ought...

Mothers Day is to remind us of our duty before it is too late.

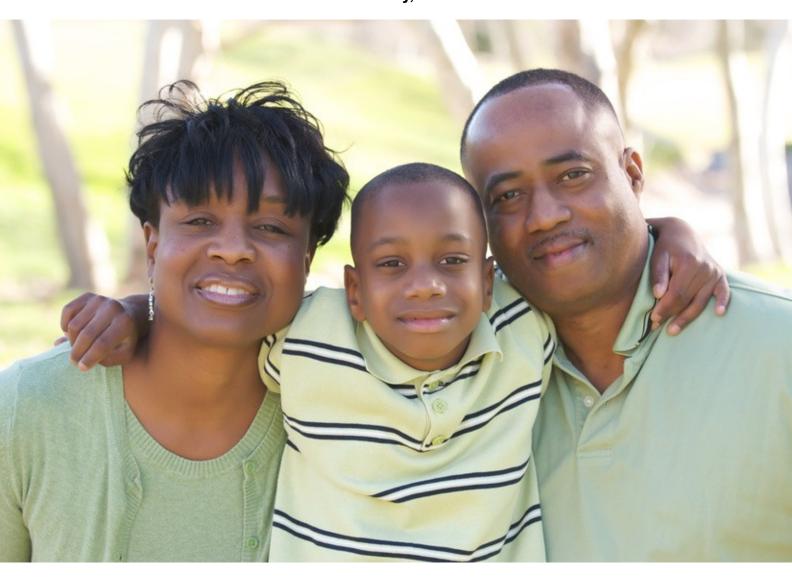
This day is intended that we may make new resolutions for a more active thought to our dear mothers. By words, gifts, acts of affection, and in every way possible, give her pleasure, and make her heart glad every day, and constantly keep in memory Mothers Day; when you made this resolution, lest you forget and neglect your dear mother, if absent from home write her often, tell her of a few of her noble good qualities and how you love her.

"A mother's love is new every day."

God bless our faithful good mothers

# Father's Day

Sunday, June 17



Father's Day has an interesting history which springs forth from the same general area as Mother's Day. It was also conceived as a day to honor the hard work of fathers and men in general.

Whether a large party or a small gesture, doing something to honor dad is an important element in our lives.

### **RECESSION-PROOF YOUR MINISTRY**

Financial integrity is a must.

1 Timothy 3:5 (NIV)

"If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?"

As much as we preach on sin, we must understand that it is also a sin not to have your finances in order.

• Every quarter, an internal

**financial audit** should be conducted. To keep you aware of trends and to know how well you are established financially.

- Every Pastor should take the time each year to teach those he serves the Principles of Kingdom and Secular Finances. If necessary, be prepared to bring in persons trained to teach financial literacy.
- Hosea 4:6 AMP
- Change your language in discussing (the topic of) giving in the Church. The words you use help shape a certain perception and psychology that will oftentimes bring struggle. Mal. 3:10

### VISION.

• Provision always follows or precedes vision. The question you must ask yourself is..."what would you do if you had the money?"

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

"We must understand that a mind which has been influenced by God, recognizes that any prevailing negative condition, is a divine strategy to position ministry into a place of greater revelation of God's provision.

Whenever God declares HIS Word for ministry and directs leadership to move, it is imperative that the people respond with a unified and overwhelming, "YES LORD!"

Leaders must present a clear understanding of what the Church's Vision and Mission is. People will support more when they know what the objectives are. The most difficult person to follow is someone who does not know where they are going. It is like the blind leading the blind and there is no such thing as "Blind Faith."

"The church body works best when it and it's money move as ONE; carrying out the vision that God has given its leadership." ... continued from page 16: Andrea Helms

**DS**: Have you always been as confident and as bold as you look? [[Laughter]]

AH: Well, that's a good question... (hahaha) because I have been leading worship at the church since I was 18 years old so I have been doing it a while. But I think that through this whole experience of Sunday Best, I have learned a lot of things. One of the biggest things is that God can sing through me anywhere. Not just in my church. I can be used elsewhere and He (God) just shows Himself really strong through me. I learned that I am tougher than what I thought and this has caused me to be more outgoing and more adequate... a better person. My husband said, 'when you came back from that show, you were a different person. We saw a stronger and a more confident person.' And I am thankful for that. It is the biggest thing I could walk away with.

**DS**: Paul (in the Bible) says 'I'm forgetting those things which are behind me and I'm pressing toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God which is in Christ Jesus and I am reminded of the song, **Yesterday** – that you just tear up and make your own [[Laughter]].

**AH**: Good. I'm glad. [[Laughter]]

**DS**: What does that song say to you? The lyrics, I've cried my last tear... say so much.

**AH**: Yes! I'm sure at this point, you have heard a little bit of my testimony and I know at one point in my life it was dark and I did not see a way out of the situation that I was in. I was bound, oppressed and depressed and to see me now, you would not know me because I am not the same person. That song **Yesterday** means I literally, did cry my last tear yesterday. You know I learned through all of that to trust God. He is the only thing I need to survive. When I sing that song I remember where I have been and I am seeing where God has brought me.

**DS:** You and your husband, Michael, have been married for some years now. Please share the importance of the support and those people around you.

**AH**: Number one... my husband and I have such a great marriage but you know... it takes work to have a good marriage. Every day we get up and we choose to make the right decisions. Every day we choose to get along. Now we may not always agree; sometimes we have to agree to disagree but marriage is "give and take." How can I please my husband? This should be one of the things we are concerned about. When you get up and you take the selfishness out of the equation, it makes things a lot easier.

**DS:** Thank you so much Mrs. Andrea Helms! Thank you for spending time with us. How can people reach you?

AH: I have a Facebook Music Page. It's Andrea Helms. You can follow me on Twitter @helmsandrea and www.musicworldgospel.com

AH: Thank you and God Bless to everybody!

### **EDUCATION**

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To begin your

**College Planning Timeline** 



First and foremost, we want to get to the "heart" of this interview. Please tell us a little about yourself.

TC: I was born and raised in a small town in Southeast Georgia...Jesup, GA. My Father, Bishop Fritz Cobbs, started pastoring when I was 10yrs old. I am a "Church Girl"!!

Tasha, the world has been introduced to your music and when we listen to your album, we not only hear so much POWER, but there is a tugging within that makes us want to get with you and oftentimes praise like you...

%. Is that the intent of what you do? Why?

TC: I am a Worship Leader. My assignment in the earth is to usher God's people into his presence. YES, it is my intent is to be completely transparent with the relationship that God and I share. I want people to see that, Yes, the ordinary, imperfect person has access to the presence of the Holy, flawless God. Transformation happens in his presence!

7. I have had the privilege of listening to your music and even watching (and experiencing) your ministry through some of videos. I'm told and can imagine for myself that nothing compares to the experience one receives when in the actual place where you lead worship. With that said, a lot of us have heard your song, "Heart of Worship" but please tell us (exactly) what it means to have a "Heart of Worship."



TC: Simply put, it's a heart that desires, longs, and hungers to be where God is. The Chase! No, he's not running from us...he's shifting; Changing positions! The heart of worship says "Lord, wherever you are and whatever methods you're using in this season...I want to be THERE."

| Donna Sneed

TC: Waking up every morning! Breathing! Mobility!

©. It is apparent that God has given you (His) Anointing that reaches many - young and older. There is something special about you that draws the attention of so many. How do you keep from "stealing God's Glory?"

TC: Every Day is a reminder that I am flawed and God is Holy!

My Daily prayer (since the age of 14) is that God would "keep me humble and never take HIS anointing away from me."

6. Have you always been as vibrant, lively and confident being the Lead Worshiper that you are? When did you KNOW (without doubt) that what you are doing is who you are and what you were purposed to do? Was there an "AHA!" moment? Please share.

**TC:** I started the worship ministry at my Father's church when I was 20yrs old. I had no "idea" (technically) what I was doing, but there was always a Grace on me to do it. It was a gift!



I had no "knowledge" of what I was doing, but there was an anointing on it. Lives were being changed and effected! I felt "whole" while I was up leading. Back then I knew, "There's more to this"...

Any time you make up your mind to live for Christ, there are many challenges and temptations that seem to come from out of the wood work. How do you handle those (Challenges, Temptations)? Do you have a close circle of friends or family that you can turn to for guidance or prayer during those times?

I believe that Prayer is a key, a secret weapon from God that gives us access prophetically into the unseen. There are people all over the GLOBE (lol) praying for and with me! I BELIEVE in prayer! Just as Paul said to the Corinthian church, "we are not ignorant of Satan and his devices"...Our insight to his plans come through prayer. I can recall NUMEROUS times God has sent prophetic warning to me through intercessors who stand in the gap for me! Praise God for the intercessor!!!!

It is HUMAN to make mistakes...but choosing to get back up, and move FORWARD from the mistake is where faith kicks in!

©. I'm sure people call you all the time to be the special guest at many church services and programs alike. Do you find yourself going to every service you are called for? How do you make the decision to go to one place (church, function) or another?

TC: (laughing)...It is the Joy of my life to lead God's people into his presence! Sometimes I wish there was 2 or 3 of me! LOL!

Every decision we make concerning the ministry is through prayer! It is my duty to be sure that I am where God is calling me to be for "THAT" moment! Just as the traveling evangelist has to be sure that they have the word necessary for "THAT" revival, and that they are the ones to deliver it... I too have to be sure that I'm the one God will use for "THAT" assignment. I never want to go anywhere in my own strength. Without the GRACE for that assignment, I'm in the danger zone!



©. You are exposed to many opportunities to reach generations coming behind you who are provoked to sing for the Lord. If you knew you had the stage and the one opportunity to share with those who are coming along, what would you say to them?

TC: My answer is simple and I share it everywhere I go. GOD REWARDS THE FAITHFUL! Remain consistent and faithful to what God is calling you to do Right Now and you will be rewarded!

\*\*Es there anything else that you would like us to know about "Tasha Cobbs"?



TC: No! I think we just about covered it all! I'm a Country Girl from a small town who chooses to be faithful to my assignment and My leaders...and because of that, daily....

# God blows my mind!

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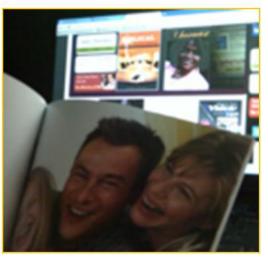
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Habakkuk 2:2





### **Spring Forth**

As we prepare to embrace a new season – **spring** – we have a lot to look forward to; flowers blooming, birds singing, sunshine, great weather, all of the activities and family gatherings, and barbeques just to name a few.

In the spirit it's the same way; though our season may not change at the same time as others.

Some seasons are long, some are short, but no matter where you find yourself, remember you have something great to look forward to.

Things will change, and God's promises will come to pass. Make plans and preparations to spring forth!

Another thing about the season (Spring) is that it is a good time for harvesting. Spring is a time for harvest because the ground can yield up what was planted and you can't do that in every season!

The anticipation of these things is what keeps us motivated during the cold/winter that something better awaits us.



I say to you who are reading; it's Harvest Time! There have been many seeds that have been planted in you, through trials and tests. God has your ground ready to receive the harvest. Be ready to handle the responsibilities that come with it.

IAM DRENCHED IN THE FUEL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. JESUS is THE MATCH... AND GOD is the flame.

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# HOPE FORWARD

By Shawn Boreta

It is not how we feel because it all rests on Jesus - I am wholly grateful for this truth. "I am learning", is my everyday word of wisdom. All my **hope and trust** is in what the Lord has done and as I, again sit before my LORD, I am in awe of how much He loves me. As I, again sit before my LORD, I ask to have His words delivered faithfully through my fingers today.

Every article is a miracle, as my fingers move and glide over the letters of the keyboard. It is at His will and promptings that words form and messages arise. As I set out to write, my heart will respond and request, my every moment's desires is to hear God's urgings and relay all He has. Today is no different; I find myself pleading so often to my Father, "I need Your guidance now".

To **hope forward**, for me, always goes back to what He did for me. Knowing that light is from God and darkness no longer exists in my heart.

Hopeful thoughts came infrequently, and dissolved before I could recognize them, for I would depend on what I felt to be true. Frequently, my old habits and behavior led me astray, allowing me to wander in the darkness and ponder wishfully, rather than thankfully.

Leaning on my own thoughts, rather than His Word can lead us to believe falsely and bring us to the harmful ways of the enemy. Hardship does not mean hopelessness - it reveals the need for God's strength and promises, which He stands on and delivers faithfully. The promises of our Creator lead us out of hardship into hope... every time this is true - **hope forward** is our only choice (Jeremiah 29:10-11).

I don't know about you, but I need reminders daily that it's not about what I do, it's about what He did for me. As I dwell in the moments of H.is love that delivers me from hopelessness to hopefulness and O.bstacles become P.arallized through His promises and the love I know to be true from the work that was so **E.xtravagantly**. I am learning to hear His voice, obey His commands that He greatly gives out of love. I am learning to come to Him F.requently and fervently. In the moments that my circumstances get my attention, I remember His O.bsession for His children and R.elentless W.illingness to call me and draw me near. I don't know about you, but I am grateful for His love, which is daily A.ffirmed, R.ewarded and D.efines my daily devotion

"God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." ~1 Corinthians 1:9

Hope forward comes from not knowing who I am, but whose I am. Hope forward comes from the work of the Holy Spirit in my life through prayer, thankfulness and recognizing Jesus always. Hope forward comes from recognizing a love beyond love as I can comprehend and love beyond love I will ever fully know. "I am drenched in the fuel of the Holy Spirit. Jesus is the match... and God is the flame." ~Day 432 of Giving Thanks

### Hopeful thoughts are constant in my life.

Constant prayer, thankfulness and recognition of Jesus' love for me, keeps me in His presence, aware of my future and hope is never-ending. It is my daily prayer and purpose to see others know this truth as well. It is my daily praise to see many transformed through His promise and they too can live in His light and truly **hope forward.** 

Quote from *Giving Thanks Daily* blog ©2012 Shawn Boreta

#### **Shawn's Personal Mission Statement:**

Exemplify God as I fulfill the obligations of my family and helping others reach their dreams for their families.

"Shan Koo Poo Yingyai" (Powerful Beyond Measure), and that's what I am with God.

I love my life. I love the transformation that has occurred so far, and am so excited about where I am going..



### May 12th Celebrations: NATIONAL TRAIN DAY



Plan Your Summer Travels

On May 12<sup>th</sup>, America has one mission – celebrate the joy of trains and train travel! The 5<sup>th</sup> annual National Train Day is taking over four of the country's most iconic train stations - in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Los Angeles - to host free, fun activities, interactive exhibits and train displays that will bring the 'rail way' to life for attendees both young and old.

Attend one of the four major events or explore hundreds of other celebrations across the country. If you don't see a National Train Day event in your area, you can always host your own event and bring the celebration to life in your community!

Actor, <u>Hill Harper</u>, will be celebrating <u>National Train Day</u> with us on May 12! Who's joining us at Chicago's Union Station for an autograph and the festivities? <u>http://amtrk.us/5kjz</u>

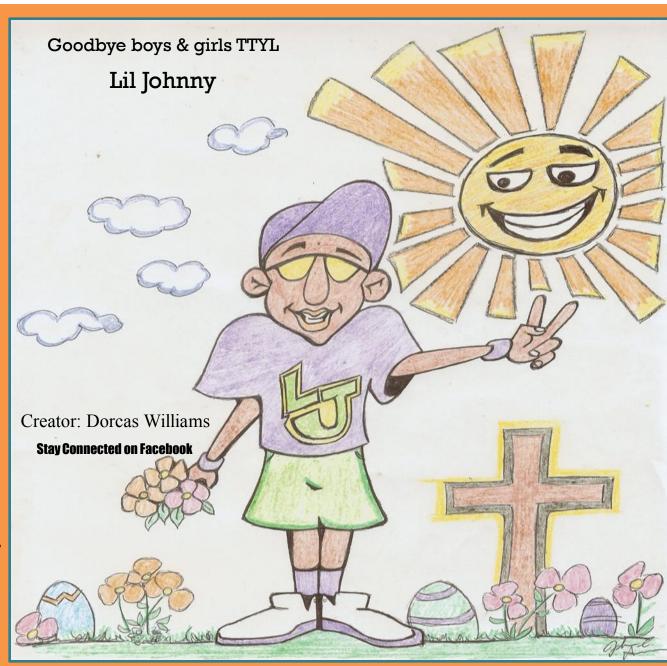
# Hey boys and girls this is your friend Lil Johnny. I want to take this time to tell you what's cool & what's not cool!!!

**Not Cool:** Talk back to parents, disrespect your elders, show out at school getting suspended, getting expelled, wearing pants off your butt, drinking, smoking, AND selling drugs. These things are <u>not cool</u> boys & girls. Your peers may try to make you think you don't fit in if you're not doing these things, but you don't have to do wrong to fit in.

**Cool:** Saying "Yes ma'am and Yes sir"; getting good grades, getting an education, living for God, going to church, reading your bible, basketball, football, and music. These are some positive things you can do or become in order to keep out of trouble and get on the right path to success.

As I close I want to let you know boys & girls... **fitting in is not always good**, it will lead down a road to nowhere. **Resisting temptation** is not an easy thing but it is well worth it in the end. That is what makes you cool boys & girls. When you can say NO when you want to say yes, When you can walk away from bad situations, when you walk away from those who step to you and want to fight you... that makes you cool.

You're not a punk, you're not weak, but **YOU ARE COOL!** Say it with me ... "I'M COOL, BECAUSE I'M DOING THAT WHICH IS RIGHT!!!



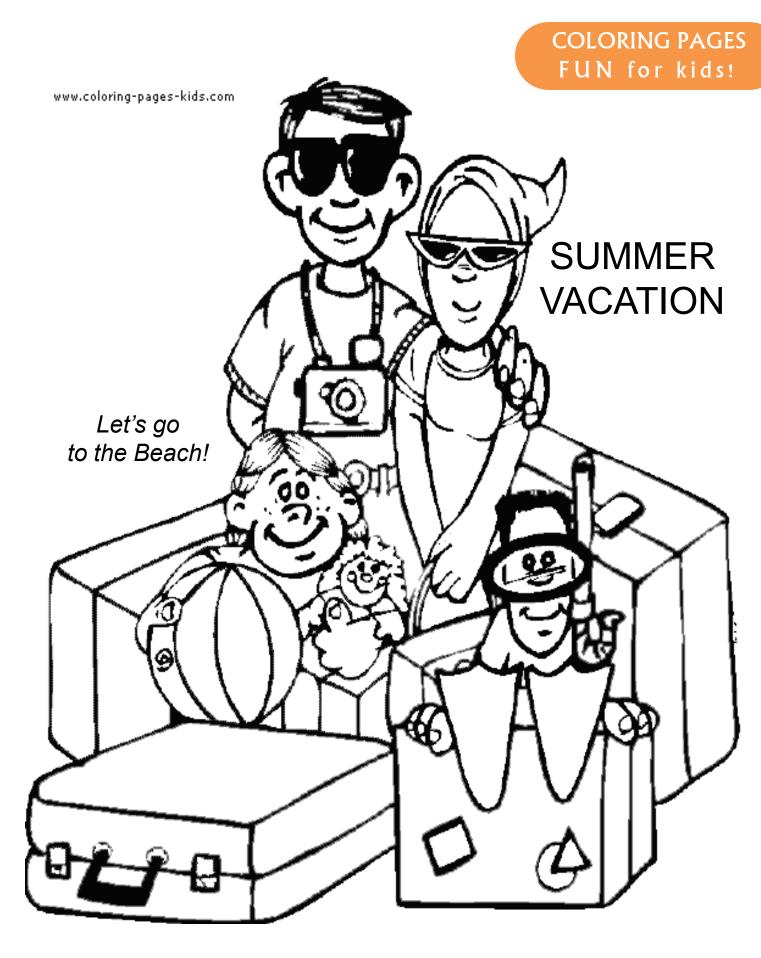
**Lil Johnny** is an eight year old normal, well mannered kid who loves to encourage the kids. He feels if he can reach one child or keep one child on the straight and narrow path he has accomplished a lot.



Women are really having problems with relationships. The reason is because a woman has got to have a real man! He's got to have a relationship with God. The woman's purpose is to assist the man in fulfilling Gods plan for his life. The implications of this are profound. First, it means the male has to have a plan; otherwise, the female is in trouble. Secondly, it means that the female must understand that her fulfillment is related to the males vision. In other words, She can never really be complete if she does not help him to fulfill his vision. A woman has to think before she does anything, "Is this a help to the man?" If it is not a help, she is abusing her purpose.

Having a baby is way down the line! It does not mean that the man has a vision from God. Having sex is a celebration for accomplishing your vision. Quit giving it away to males who don't have a vision from God..... No vision, No relationship! I wish somebody would say amen. You can't help someone who is going <u>nowhere</u>!

Marriage has the potential of expressing God's love to its fullest possible degree on earth. The will of the couple is the critical factor. A marriage relationship will express God's love only as far as both partners are willing to allow the Lord to really work in and through them. This is totally unselfish love where the husband and wife "submit to one another out of reverence for Christ" (Eph. 5:21); where the wife respects her husband (v.33) and submits to him "as to the Lord" (v.22) and where the husband loves his wife as himself (v.33)," just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her" (v.25). When two totally different people come together and live and work as one, giving unselfishly of themselves and loving, forgiving, understanding, and bearing with each other, outside observers will see at least a little bit of what the love of God is all about.







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# Oolala

'Custom Dresses, Alterations, and Event Coordinating'

Behind Oolala is a designer-seamstress, Jacqueline Tessler, with 27 years combined experience in apparel & soft furnishings. She began Trade School at an early age. In the past two decades she completed refresher courses at the renowned Central Saint Martin College of Art (UK) and London College of Fashion (UK). While working at Albert E. Chapman, LTD (UK), manufacturers of soft furnishings and upholstery, she was privileged to be part of a team that fabricated drapery for singer-songwriter, Eric Clapton. She has worked in various areas of production management within her field.

From this background rich in

creativity, color

coordinating, textile, and

production management, the transferable skills have molded her into a

project manager. Hence

Oolala has emerged.

# We Specialize in:

**Event planning/Decorating** 



**Custom dresses** 





**Alterations** 



www.oolala.biz