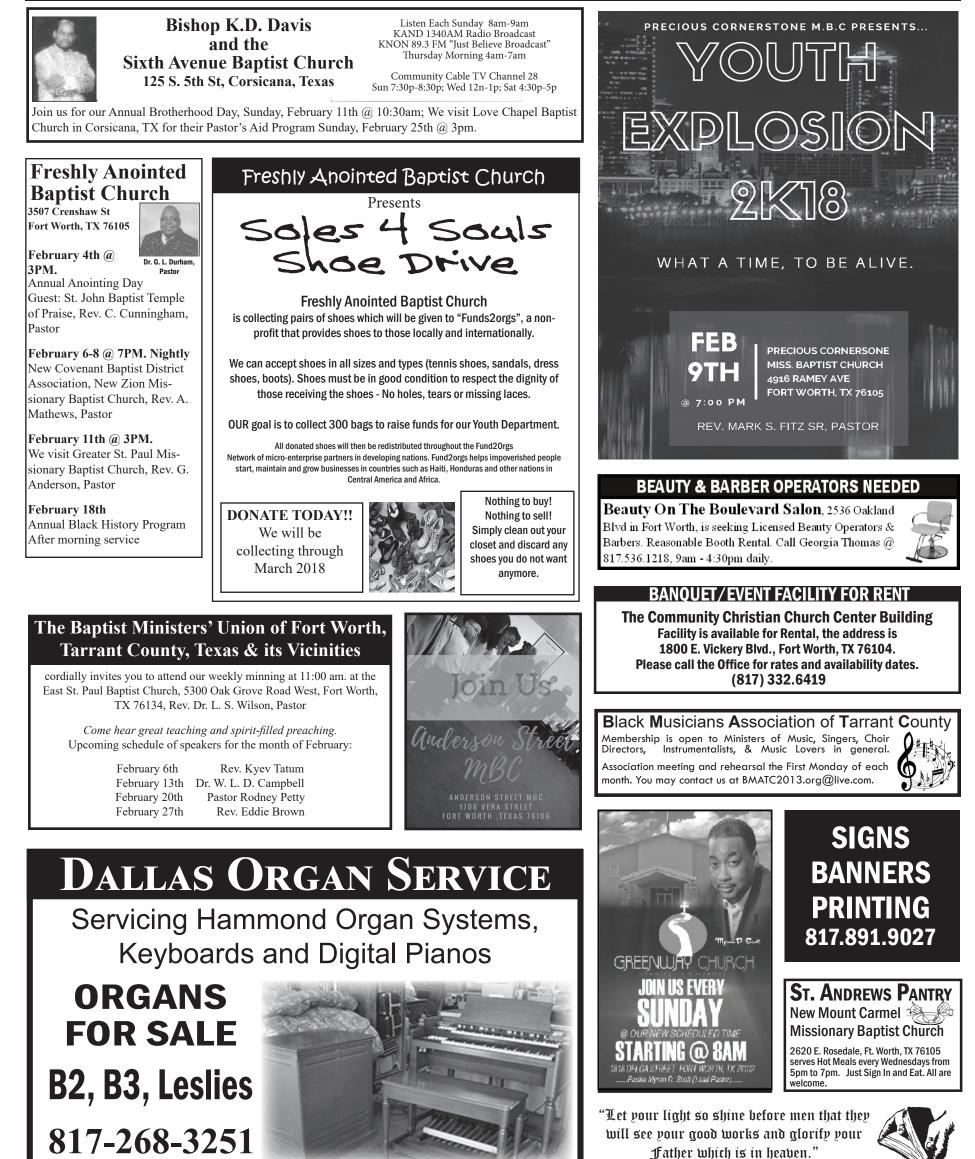


'Let your light so shine before men that they will see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matthew 5:16



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3

Matthew 5:16

## "The LEADER'S EDGE" by dr. michael bell

Conflict happens wherever people gather: in families, in churches, at work and in communities at large. If two people are around each other very long, conflict will result. We are all different. We have unique personalities, tastes, habits, preferences, experiences, passions, and ways of looking at and navigating life. These contrasts create differences. We are not always at our best all the time. As a result, conflicts emerges.

Relationships are generally built upon three factors. First, the things we have in common. Second, the things about us that are different, yet complementary. Third, the things that are different, but *not* complementary. The third factor causes friction.

So, conflict is a given; it is inevitable. Conflict in and of itself is neutral - neither bad nor good. The badness or goodness of conflict is contingent on how we respond to it. If we fail to adequately and effectively resolve conflict, our relationships will suffer.

Whether the conflict is between two small group members, staff members, or ministry associates, unresolved conflict will eventually erode the joy, rob the peace, and shred the commitments from our relationships.

Conflict makes it difficult to promote the ministry of the church in the community. Who wants to invite their family and friends to get involved in a church that is fighting internally? Conflict undermines the effectiveness of ministry by crippling the teamwork. Acts 15 chronicles how Paul and Barnabas had a bitter dispute over the role of John Mark. Ultimately, they divided and undertook two different missions because they disagreed about a team member.

Conflict can either be very destructive or very beneficial, depending on how it is handled. Every conflict we experience

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has great potential. When handled well, conflict can make us better people, give us stronger relationships, and glorify God.

Carey Nieuwhof writes, "I think Christians often struggle with conflict because:

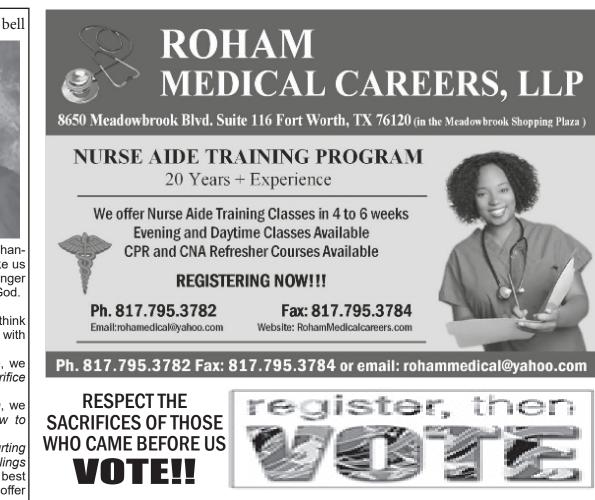
- In the name of grace, we feel we need to sacrifice truth;
- When we speak truth, we often don't know how to speak it with grace;
- We worry about hurting other people's feelings when one of the best things we can do is offer honest feedback;
- We're not sure how to support someone we genuinely disagree with."

What do you do as a pastor or ministry leader when conflict surfaces? You can choose to (1) ignore it with the hope it will resolve itself; (2) confront it head on with full abandonment; (3) simply pray about it and leave it in the Lord's hands. Or, you can choose to follow biblical ways of managing conflict which include the following:

- **Be** proactive. Don't wait for the offended person to come to you. Get in front of the disagreement before its escalates.
- Be a peace-maker. Take every possible measure to bring about a peaceful resolution.

\*dr. michael bell is Senior Pastor of Greater St. Stephen First Church FtW, a seminary adjunct professor, and a certified Life Coach with clients. He conducts leadership seminars and conferences across the country.





# "Speak Life Thought" with First Lady & Co-Pastor Yolanda G. Butler

A Tasteful Life

By Co-Pastor Yolanda G. Butler

"Blessed are they which do hun-

At the beginning of the year, we

often posture ourselves for fast-

ing and praying be it 14 days, 21

days, 40 days or however led by

the Holy Spirit. I am often led to

a very strict Daniel fast. My hus-

band often opts for a one meal

a day but recently approached

about joining me in a Daniel fast

as he wanted it to be more chal-

lenging for him. I always told

him if he hung with me on this

regimen he would see a remark-

able difference not just spiritu-

ally but physically. One notice-

able aspect was the change in his

palate. His desire and cravings

for the deep fried, gravy-covered

and sugar drenched foods began

to decline while his desire and

cravings for the veggies, fruits

and grains began to increase. As

a result, he began to experience

increased energy, mental alert-

ness and spiritual acuity. There

was a shifting in his palate pri-

orities. He began to appreciate

and actually enjoy the taste of

healthier foods as opposed to not

ger and thirst after righteous-

ness: for they shall be filled."

(Matthew 5:6)

so healthier choices.

Jesus declares that if you crave and desire those things that have a Kingdom benefit, you will find yourself in a blessed state. The heart is the wellspring of the desires and decisions you make. Proverbs 4:23 says "Keep thy heart with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life." Consequently, if you find that your hunger and thirst for God, His Kingdom, and His righteousness are declining, you would do well to re-evaluate your spiritual palate priorities. Honestly acknowledge any lukewarmness and earnestly pray for a renewed desire for God and His favor. You must ask yourself, "What is the source of my nourishment?" When you have a need to vent, how do you satisfy this craving? What are you drawn to? Social media or the Word of God? Putting your wellspring in check results in all your ways being established in God's favor and grace.

Just as you are accountable to your eating choices, so it is as a child of God that you are accountable to distinguish what is good and what is detrimental to your salvation by the choices you make. The psalmist said, "Oh taste and see that the Lord is



good." (Ps. 34:8) You will never know if something is enjoyable to your palate until you test it. Our Heavenly Father challenges us to put His character to the test and see for ourselves if He is not a gracious and good God. You would do well to satisfy your spiritual palate by partaking in the righteousness that the Kingdom of God has to offer. By doing this, you will indeed live a tasteful life that is well pleasing for the Master's use. Until then dear hearts, live a tasteful live that will give glory to God.

Co-Pastor Yolanda G. Butler is Co-Pastor and Church Administrator of Praise Center Community Church, where her husband Bishop Donald H. Butler is the Senior Pastor. She is an evangelist, minister of exhortation, mentor, and published author. Follow her on Twitter, Periscope, and Facebook and at www.firstladybutlerministries.com.

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### The Universality of Praise and Worship by: Donna R. Patrick

It really isn't about you. It isn't about getting your needs met. It isn't even about what church you

go to. It's all about Jesus. Every believer in Jesus Christ is called to worship Him. The real "call to worship" is when we recognize that this is the responsibility of every believer, no matter where we live, what language we speak, or what type of church building we may visit on Sunday mornings. When Jesus said God requires in spirit and in truth worship, He made no provision for the language barrier or the differences in culture. He very simply said those who worship God must do so in spirit and in truth. That's it - no more no less. This is what God requires.

Who is the worshiper? What characteristics are present in the serious worshiper? I offer these four: First, worshipers are Word people. Hebrews 11:6 says that those who come to God must believe that He exists, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. When we diligently work at something we give our whole selves to it. The serious worshiper knows who God is because he or she stavs in the Word. They dwell in that secret place of God's Word (Psalm 91:1). Second, worshipers are people of prayer (Matthew 6:9-13). The Lord's Prayer begins and ends with worship. It opens with recognizing God highness; His majesty. And it ends with another acknowledgment of His power and authority. Third, worshipers are Holy Ghost-filled people. First Corinthians 6:19 says we are the temples of the Holy Ghost, which means wherever we go, He goes. When we walk close to the Holy Ghost we walk with power, clarity of thought, and discernment (Acts 1:8, John 14:26). Fourth, worshipers are surrendered people; they have a deep, abiding relationship with the Lord; they are completely sold out to Him. In John Chapter 15 Jesus uses the word "abide" 7 times in 10 verses. I think He was trying to make a point don't you? If Jesus had to use that same word that many times in a series of verses it would prove beneficial for us to take note. He is calling us to a deep relationship with Him. I believe He is letting us know that when we abide in Him, blessings will follow. In verse 4 He says we cannot bear fruit apart from Him. In verse 5 he wants us to know that without Him we can do nothing. In verse 7 He assures us that if we abide in Him and allow His words to abide in us, we can ask whatever we will and He will do it.

The worship of God is real, as God Himself is real. And He demands real worship. My prayer is that we will all examine honestly are lives as true worshipers. God has called us to it.

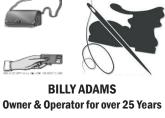
Donna Renay Patrick is a worship leader, author, and transformational speaker. Her ministry is mainly focused on the importance of keeping true worship priority in our churches and in our individual lives. Visit her website at https:// donnarenaypatrick.com







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# **Meet Campus Drive United Methodist Church New** Pastor: A New Passion for God's Purpose! **Rev. Brenda Brooks**

Pastor, Rev. Brenda Brooks. Excellent Way." Pastor Brooks is a graduate of SMU - Perkins School of Theology, (MTS); Prairie View A & M University, (M. Ed.) and Paul Quinn College (BA in English). Leave her education on the table, Pastor Brooks is called of God from the southern sector of Dallas, Texas, "The Sunny South" with a heart for God's people and a gift to explain the Word of God. Her is evident in her service to God through the local church, the community and the world the church Campus Drive invites you to Campus!

Campus Drive UMC is headed as she lives out its motto: "The in a new direction under its Lead Body of Christ at Work: A More

> January was a month of vision casting for Campus Drive and its new pastor. Pastor Brooks started with her leadership team and a 'Visionary Leadership Luncheon' and on the 17th of January the entire church celebrated with "Vision Prominent Presence and a Hopeful Future."

Food Sunday Dinner".



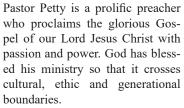
worship at 4301 Campus Drive at Night: A Historic History. A 10AM for 74-minutes as we exalt Jesus, explain God's Word and empower disciples to reach their passion for God and God's people Join us Feb. 25th for our "Soul God-given potential. We offer a blended worship style designed to reach all ages. We'll see you at



visionary leader of Jericho Road and Teach the Scripture." Under Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas. Pastor Petty's leadership Jericho merable amount.

Pastor Rodney A. Petty, Sr. is the is to "Worship God, Love People,

Jericho Road is a dynamic congregation with a clear vision, which Road is impacting lives of an enu-



Besides being a prolific prophetic voice within the kingdom, Pastor Petty is also a mentor, life coach, highly gifted musician, song writer, and arranger.

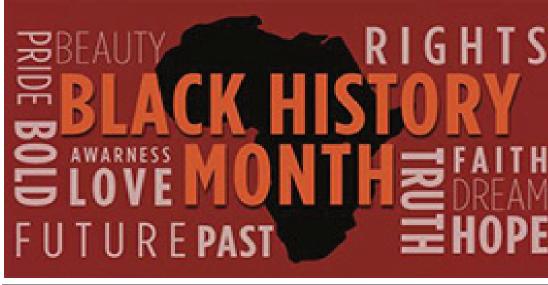
Pastor Petty is very aware of the need for authentic leadership amongst this generation. Accordingly, he regularly hosts a variety of workshops, conferences and retreats, which are designed to empower, enlighten and edify people holistically, covering the spectrum of life.

Pastor Petty holds a B. A. in Biblical Studies from W. A. Criswell College, Dallas, TX and a Master of Theological Studies degree from SMU, Perkins School of Theology, Dallas, TX. Pastor Petty is a devoted husband to his lovely wife, Mrs. Avis Lavonne Petty.









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Aunt Tina, the Queen of Gospel Music, Albertina Walker departed quietly and sweetly with "Remember Me" ringing in our ears. The 90's took choir directors, composers and dynamic musicians that left us on our feet in disbelief with what we may have just witnessed them do or present. I'm in reference to energetic Olanda Draper (1998, 34yo), the extraordinary Dr. Mattie Moss Clark (1994, 69yo) and 'the maestro' Thomas Whitfield (1992, 38yo).

These last 3 actually influenced one another, made the biggest contributions and are credited with coining the phrase "Gospel Music". The King of Gospel Music, Rev James Cleveland died in 1991 with a plethora of accolades and accomplishments. Mahalia Jackson, touted as the most famous gospel singer in the world, never compromised her gift to sing anything but praises to God and did it from Carnegie Hall to Russia. She left us with that amazingly powerful voice in 1972 at 60 but acknowledged widely that it was the Father of Gospel Music, Dr. Thomas Dorsey who discovered and pushed her. Rev. Cleveland credited Dr. Dorsey with inspiring him to found the Gospel Music Workshop of America in 1967 which was modeled after Dr. Dorsey's National Convention of Choirs and Gospel Choruses in 1933. Dr. Dorsey died in 1993 at the ripe age of 93 still teaching, preaching, composing and singing. Take a moment and read some of the wonderful books about this musical icon and former Blues musician who never turned back from God after he surrendered his life to him. "This Far By Faith" and "Anointed to Sing the Gospel" will reveal the tragedy, trials and triumphs of our undeniable Father of Gospel Music. I can hear him now singing "Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on and......'

May Peace Be Your Journey

(Ps...the 85th NCCGC/Dorsey Convention is in Dallas Aug 4-10. Check the website or holla at me for more info. judyneal@comcast.net)



and unheard stylings before her. And

I get teary just thinking about Pastor

Coley on "Preparing Me" and "He'll

Andrae Crouch! Also labeled the Fa-

ther of Contemporary Gospel, was

the anointed creator of songs that

are published in hymnals for multiple

denominations and in many languag-

es. With hundreds of awards, Halls of

Fame inductions, a star on the Walk

of Fame and 50 years as a production

genius, January 2015 made us think.

When I heard the smooth singer of

"folk gospel music", Jessy Dixon, had

died in 2011, I transformed into that

little 7 year old who grew up in San

Antonio. Mr. Dixon came there often

and everyone sang along with him. I

need only say Walter and Albertina.

Both departing in 2010 put the gospel

music industry in a whirl spin. At 61,

Walter we felt, had so much more to

give even after 15 albums and over 25

guest album appearances. The high

notes full of power and passion that

made you put both hands straight up

in praise. The Love is still Alive. Then

Never Let You Down"

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### The Gospel Corner with Proclaimer of the Word... Rev. J.R. Brumfield

#### Take One Step at a Time 2 Kings 7:1-20

#### I. INTRODUCTION

With the advent of the contagious flu virus, there is an epidemic concern for people everywhere. If you visit the hospital, you will find that the beds are filled. There is insufficient room to house additional flu infected patients. It is quite possible that someone in your home or neighborhood may have contracted the flu virus. Although sickness is on the rampage, the Lord is ready and available to help his children. We must seek the Lord for the healing of our land. According to 2 Chronicles 7:14, if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

As we reminisce on the past couple of weeks in the Sunday school lesson, we see that when Daniel observed the condition of his people he began to fast and pray. Daniel prayed for God's mercy upon the kings, princes, and the people of the land for their sins. The bible teaches that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. In our country, we need to seek the Lord's help for the sickness in our land. Although the flu is a sickness, there is also a sickness of the human spirit that plagues our land. The sickness in our country has manifested itself in police brutality, racial injustice, economic inequalities, insensitivity to When innocent the DACA issue, etc. men and women are killed in the streets of our inner cities without just cause, we have a sickness in the land. When immigrants are told by our government that they must return to their native lands against their will, then this type of attitude is a sickness. This nation is a nation of immigrants where America should be the home of opportunity for all people. When racial tensions are on the incline, we have a sickness in the land. Yet, I am reminded of the old Negro song, "We shall overcome." Do you believe that we will be free one day?

As we approach our text, we will find that the Lord can use the outcast and downtrodden of society to bring about a wonderful change. Let's see how the Lord worked it out for the Israelites.

#### II. Proclamation; v. 1-2

As we delve into this biblical passage, we find that Israel was in a problematic situation. We find that the King of Israel blamed the LORD for the calamity that came upon Israel and Samaria. The king of Israel should have praised the Lord for all the blessings that he had already experienced. We should be careful not to discredit the wisdom and goodness of the Lord in any situation. As a body of baptized believers, we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose (Romans 8:28). Nevertheless, despite somewhat ungrateful spirits, the Lord still has grace and mercy upon His children. As a good father pities his children, then the Lord has pity on us. The Lord knows our weakness and our frailties. God still had a word for the king and the nation through the prophet Elisha. It was an encouraging word for dire straits. It was a good word. The Word of God tells us that our God shall supply all our needs according



#### to His riches in heaven.

God's promise word through Elisha was that in 24 hours the economic situation in Samaria would be completely reversed. Instead of scarcity, there would be such abundance that food prices would radically drop in the city. This was great news for those in the city that felt the effects of the famine. How do you react when you have come to your wits end? Do you still trust that God has everything under control? Do you trust the Lord when you cannot trace Him?

Although, Elisha spoke an encouraging word to the king, there was an officer of the court that the king listened to his advice. This officer of the court doubted the power of God. Basically, the officer of the king stated that this was impossible for the Lord to perform such a change in 24 hours. As children of God, we know that nothing is too hard for God. We must learn to trust the Lord and take Him at His Word. Elisha had a good word, but the king's officer doubted the good news. Unbelief can get one in trouble with the Lord. When men and women doubt the good news and reject the Lord, there is no way of escape. This officer exhibited a spirit of unbelief and the prophet Elisha pronounced his doom. In v. 2, Elisha stated that thou shall see the fulfillment of the promise, but the wicked officer would not be able to enjoy the blessing. According to the Word of God, not one jot of God's Word will return void.

# III. Isolation, Humiliation, and Desperation, v.3-5

In these verses, we have four lepers outside of the city because they had the infectiousness leprosy disease. Leprosy was a terrible condition which disfigured the human body. In Leviticus 13:45, it states that one had to wear a cloth over their mouth and crv. "unclean. unclean." Can you imagine the horror of the leprosy sickness that you had to announce that you had leprosy? It led to isolation and humiliation. Even in the best of times, a leper lived with a stigma of being an outcast. In the bible days, lepers were separated from people. In this case, the situation was even worse for their city because it was besieged by a belligerent army. There was a terrible famine inside and outside the city. If leprosy didn't get these poor men, then starvation surely yould be their demise

Despite these lepers' condition, they felt the need to act in a positive way. They decided that if we stay here then we will die from starvation. If the lepers chose to leave their camp, then they may face death from the Syrian army. If any food became available, they would certainly be the last to receive it. They decided to leave and venture toward the Syrian army. There is an adage that states, "Nothing ventured is nothing gained." We know that man's extremities are God's opportunities. They decided to ask mercy from their enemies. These four lepers decided to travel toward the Syrian camp, but they found good news as they approached the camp.

The Lord had worked things out for the four lepers in verses 6-7. We find that the Syrians thought that they heard horses and chariots coming to defeat them. They thought that the Egyptians and the Hittites were coming to help the poor Israelites. However, if they would have reasoned with themselves then they would have concluded that this occurrence was an unlikelihood. Our God can cause the wicked to flee when no one is pursuing.

When these lepers came to the outskirts of the camp, they went into one tent and feasted on the spoils of the Syrians army. Afterwards, they carried from it silver, gold, and clothing. Next, they went and hid them; then they came back and entered another tent, and carried some from there also, and went and hid it. Then they said to one another. "We are not doing right. This day is a day of good news, and we remain silent. If we wait until morning light, some punishment will come upon us. Now therefore, come, let us go and tell the king's household." As ironic as it seems-their desperation turned out to be their salvation! These four men's condition of leprosy led to usefulness. They decided that we should go back and inform the king of Israel of the good news. The famine was now over. When you have good news of Jesus Christ, do you choose to share the good news with someone else? We cannot remain selfish and indifferent to the sickness in our land. We must strive to help someone else see a brighter day.

#### IV. Salvation, v.6-20

Since the lepers were not welcome in the city, they could only communicate with the gatekeepers. The gatekeepers reported the findings of the four lepers to the king. As a result, the king sent spies to check out the four-leper's account of the good news. Later, it was reported to the king that the account is true and that the famine is indeed over. However, as the people travelled toward the Syrian camp, the word that Elisha spoke to the king's officer became a reality. The king's officer saw the blessings of fruitfulness, but he could not partake because of his unbelief. We cannot allow unbelief to be our detriment and prevent us from reaching the promise land. In closing, we must believe the Word of God and know that our God is able to deliver on time. According to Romans 10:9, If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Do you believe our report?

Yours in Christ,

Rev. J.R. Brumfield

214-533-1819 Johnnie.brumfield@outlook.com

Rev, J.R., Brumfield is a member of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, 105 S, Wood Street, Denton, Texas where Rev. Dr. M.R. Chew is the pastor.

Look forward to his monthly articles covering Sunday School and Bible Lessons each month. Please direct all comments to Rev. Brumfield at his contact information listed above.

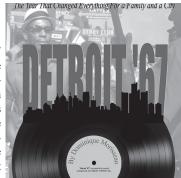




### JUBILEE THEATRE PRESENTS DOMINIQUE MORISSEAU'S "DETROIT '67" IN HONOR OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Written by Dominique Morisseau Directed by Jiles R. King, II

Fort Worth, TX – Celebrating 37 years of theatrical excellence, the award-winning Jubilee Theatre revisits a pivotal time in American history with Dominique Morisseau's gripping Detroit '67. Set against the backdrop of the Detroit riots, Morisseau's Edward M. Kennedy Prize winning story remains eerily relevant today.



The world is shifting for two siblings, who are running an after-hours joint in their basement to make ends meet. But when a mysterious woman finds her way into their lives, tensions mount when dreams diverge, their tightknit community is threatened and the streets erupt into violence in this riveting play set to a driving 60's Motown beat.

"Detroit '67" is directed Jiles R. King, II, who last directed Jubilee's sold out Musical Spotlight Series production "Gospel...Hallelujah!". This biting production stars an ensemble of five actors, many who are familiar to the Jubilee Theatre stage, JuNene K (Chelle), Bryan Pitts (Lank), Cherish Robinson (Bunny), Orlando Valentino (Sly) and Katreeva Phillips (Caroline).

The remaining creative team includes set and costume design by Amy Poe, lighting design by Jordan Smith, sound design by David Lanza, technical direction by Charlie Porter and stage management by Michael Spencer.

"Detroit '67" runs January 26-February 25, 2018 at the Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102. Evening performances are at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Matinee performances are at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Press night is Friday, February 2, 2018 at 8:00 pm.

Tickets may be purchased online at jubileetheatre.org, in person at the theater Box Office, located at 506 Main Street or by calling 817-338-4411. Box Office hours of operation are Tuesday – Friday 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and one hour before each performance.

Jubilee Theatre, the Fort Worth/Dallas area's only African-American theater producing a full season of shows, exists to create and present theatrical works that reflect the African-American experience. Located at 506 Main Street in Sundance Square, downtown Fort Worth, Jubilee Theatre is easily accessible from anywhere in the DFW metroplex.

Stay connected with Jubilee Theatre socially on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

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### Saint Andrews United Methodist Church 522 Missouri Ave., Ft Worth, TX 76104

#### FRFF CLASSES:

ESL(English As A Second Language) and GED(General Equivalency Diploma). Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00PM-9:00PM. Classes are free, and openings are still available to all on a first come, first serve basis. For questions or concerns please contact the church office at (817)336-2117 or stop by to register for the classes on Tuesday or Thursday.

#### FOOD PANTRY

The Food pantry is open on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 8:00AM-10:00AM. For questions or concerns please contact the Church Office at (817)336-2117.

# You Can Fly

### By Janine Folks Palmore

The other day, I was driving up a road called Windhaven Parkway. As I was driving, at about 30 mph, I noticed something small running across the street in front of me. It was tiny and low to the ground, but just big enough for me to see it running.

From a distance, I thought it was a gecko. It was running pretty fast, trying to avoid getting hit by oncoming traffic, including me

As I got closer, I noticed that it was not a gecko at all. It was a bird! Then all I could wonder is, "Why is this bird running, when it can fly?"

I wondered if the bird had an injured wing or something that prevented it from flying. But the way it was running, it did not appear to be injured. That question kept running through my mind all day. I thought about how the bird could have avoided unnecessary stress and danger by simply flying over traffic instead of running through it, putting itself at greater risk.

This bird had greater abilities, but did not employ them. It made me wonder: "How often I have failed to use certain abilities that could have made things easier? How many times have I run when I could have flown?"

Sometimes we don't fly because we forgot we have wings. Maybe sometimes we are afraid to use our wings, thinking they won't work properly. Or maybe sometimes it's just convenient to do something simple. I don't know. I can't imagine why a bird, who was born to fly, would choose to run across a busy road. Why do we as people sometimes not use our gifts or function on our highest possible frequency?

Let's be introspective. Ponder that. Think about your highest abilities. Make sure you are using them, ALL of them. Do not operate beneath your privilege and abilities. I want you to FLY!

You have privileges and abilities. Be aware of them and use them to the fullest. You have an anointing from the Holy One (I John 2:20). You have been rescued from darkness (Col. 1:13). You have access to the Father, AKA Creator of the Universe (Eph. 2:18). You are not considered a slave, but a friend of God (John 15:15). God knows you personally (Jer. 1:5). God is always with you (John 14:17).

Make sure you are aware of these things and that you use them to your advantage in life. Don't put yourself in harm's way, by not using your privileges. Don't run when YOU CAN FLY!

\*Janine Folks Palmore is a freelance writer and Bio writer. Email: mystarbio@gmail com. Web: www.mvstarbio.com

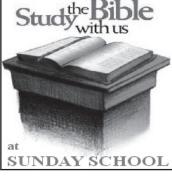
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When we look at qualities that will help us to Become Your Best You, we have to understand that one of the Not waste time or effort with unproductive things. Success doesn't elude us, sometimes it just passes us. Not because we are not prepared, but because we were simply not ready to accept it when it arrived. Too often we find ourselves tired and worn out from things

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Being Your Best You – part 3

major characteristics that we need to focus on is to:

that have nothing to do with where we are going. We tend to get caught up in tasks,

responsibilities, and performances that have nothing relevant towards our goals and plans. The key to true success is to remain focused on the necessary and the import-

One suggestion would be to create a vision board of where you want to be. My

approach is to write down my 1, 3, and 5 year plans. By creating and documenting your goals and plans, it will allow you to be able to measure tasks and those issues that pop up unexpectedly by how they measure against the goals you have set for

For when you know where you want to be in 5 years, then you can set a schedule to determine that needs to be accomplished in the next 3 years for make sure you reach

that. And if you need to be at a place in 3 years, what do you need to do this year to

The goal is to put thought into it. So many times we create New Year's Resolutions

and they are broken before the month of January is over. But when those resolutions

become tied to my goals and results for the year, I am more apt to keep them. Align

your thoughts and plans, give yourself some goals that are obtainable but stretch you.

And let's move from where we are, to where we want to be. By staying focused on

Dr Lane is the Senior Pastor and Founder of the New Creation Church. He is also a published au hor, mentor, licensed counselor, and life coach. Contact, Dr. Tyron E. Lane at Words of Wisdom,

Dr. Tyron E. Lane

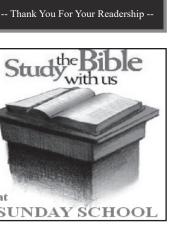
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make that happen?

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