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"The LEADER'S EDGE" by drmichaelbell

If you're going to be an effective Church leader you must come to grips with at least two unyielding truths. First, nobody stands alone. Alongside each pastor/ministry leader, whatever we accomplish in life, stands numerous others without whose gifts, talents, abilities and perspectives we would not make the difference we're making.

There's a word we need to familiarize ourselves with and that word themselves to that goal. They must the result of our combined effort is greater than the result of our individual efforts added together. The Bible has another word for this reality. Biblical writers talked about "koinonia." When they used the term they were talking a partnership, a cooperative effort between believers.

The second truth is nobody has to stand alone. As Christians, we are part of something bigger than ourselves - something that is making a difference in our world. As Church leaders, we can't accomplish all that God has given us to do without a team of qualified people serving with and around us. Any pastoral leader who has been in ministry for more than a few minutes recognizes the importance of building a good Ministry Team. Ministry Teams are the backbone of the Church. A team can be defined as "two or more people who interact with each other, are interdependent, and define themselves and are defined by others as a team." The key words in this definition are interact and interdependent. If there is no interaction and interdependence, it isn't a team, it's just a group of individuals.

Putting together the most successful Ministry Team starts with selecting the right people for the team. What's important when selecting as important to the overall vision these people? Here are three suggestions to get us moving in the right direction.

1. Shared vision. When building a team of people to work together, they absolutely must share the same vision for the work. They must want to work together, move in the same direction, under the same calling. Church leaders must cast a compelling vision and then find supporting team members who know the end and are willing to commit



is "synergy." Synergy means that be willing to make that vision their own vision for as long as they serve on the team. The best team members are willing to set aside their own agendas and their own personal projects for the benefit of the shared vision to which they have been called.

> 2. Variegated roles. When selecting the members of your ministry team, it is indispensable to recruit a wide variety of people with different gifts, abilities, and experiences who can play their own distinctive role in accomplishing the shared vision. As Church leaders, we have our own set of strengths and weaknesses, and we must be willing to humble ourselves as leaders and select team members who can do things we can't and who excel in ways we could only dream of.

> 3. Team is spelled Together Everyone Accomplishes More. You've heard it said that there is no 'I' in team. Nothing could be more true. Those who opt to work as individuals or who have a personal agenda only detract from the team's overall effectiveness and threaten to undermine the work of Jesus in his Church. Team players understand that their role is critical, no matter the size or significance of their role. Behind-the-scenes players are just as those who are called to be "up front". Without a team mindset, a group of individuals can't succeed together. They must sometimes sacrifice their own wants and desires for the greater good of the entire team.

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

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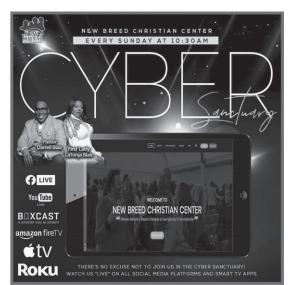
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You're invited to join us as we celebrate "Mothers' Day, Sunday May 9 @ 10:30am at the Sixth Avenue Baptist Church. Hope to see you here!





Speak Life Thought

with First Lady & Co-Pastor Yolanda G. Butler

A Compassionate Life

"But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was and when he saw him, he had compassion." Luke 10:33

The story of the Good Samaritan was presented to a lawyer (a law expert), who came to Jesus asking a highly debatable question amongst the Jews, "Who is my neighbor?" The priest and the Levite saw a fellow Jew wounded yet passed on by. The reason why is not given. Perhaps it was because of fear, busyness, helplessness, or a nuisance situation. Regardless, both missed out on opportunity to be better men and good stewards with what God entrusted to them. Yet a man looked beyond the generational hatred of the Jews and extended compassion in way that has been modeled by many ministries today.

Compassion is an inward stirring of mercy moved into action for the sufferings or misfortunes of others. Compassion was and is the ministry of Jesus and what the Father expects His children to emulate. The compassionate action of the Samaritan brother teaches us several practical lessons.

1. "He had compassion" - Ministry must be compassion-driv-

- 2. "He went to him" God will send you where to go.
- 3. "Bound up his wounds" God gives a mission statement.
- The central focus is heal wounds. 4. "Poured oil and wine" - You must be ministry ready. Oil soothes and wine cleanses to prevent infection. You should be ready to present the oil and wine of the Word that will draw others to Christ.
- 5. "Set him on his beast" God will equip you to carry/share the load that ministry mandates.
- 6. "Brought him to an inn and took care of him" - finish what God commissions your hands to
- 7. Paid two months of wages and was willing to pay more - no matter how severe the situation, compassion must be plentiful in sowing.

Most interestingly, this Samaritan brother loved even though he was hated. He spent his own money, risked his own life, and was never publicly thanked, rewarded, or honored as far as we know. He was presented before the lawyer as an underdog of unrestrained compassion. Jesus Christ crosses all boundaries of race, culture, and class to demonstrate to us that compassion has no boundaries and no limits.

A person who lacks in compassion suffers from lack within themselves. This timeless story



reminds us as believers what it means to be a good neighbor and not focus so much on who is a neighbor. A neighbor is one who in need and within your power to

A Priest, Levite, and Samaritan each saw a severely beaten man and had the choice to let him live or die. God saw each and every last one of us. We deserved to die but God in His mercy did not pass us by but chose that we live. Pride and stubbornness blinded the lawyer from seeing the deficiency in his heart towards God and others. So dear hearts, be determined to embrace the Father's commission to love Him and others, make a commitment to be faithful to His Word, and be compassion-driven in all that you do.

Dr. Yolanda G. Butler is Co-Pastor and Church Administrator of Praise Center Communitv Church, where her husband Bishop Donald H. Butler is the Senior Pastor. She is an intercessor, evangelist, mentor, and published author. Follow her on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and at www.firstladybutlerminisCHURCHIN' www.churchinnews.com

Nationwide: Personal financial coach, educator, speaker, and author, Ray Williams releases his new book, U's Rules For Financial Success: How To Unlink The Poverty Chain, an inspiring book written for the purpose of educating underserved consumers on how to connect and engage their personal finances.

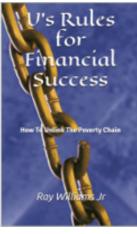
Personal Financial Strategist Ray Williams is on his continuous mission of helping underserved individuals overcome the financial challenges of life by publishing his new hard copy book which is a best seller on Amazona via Kindle. This inspiring book was written for the purpose of educating consumers on how to connect and engage their personal finances, delivers a comprehensive blueprint for creating and building personal wealth. Complete with simple strategies and advice, this book will help understand how to improve and enhance their personal finances.

"Now more than ever African-Americans' cannot continue to ignore their personal finances, income, credit, debts, insurance, and assets. The fact that the average African Americans' family typical net worth is only \$17,150 compared to the net worth of a typical white family of \$171,000, ten times greater. I wrote the book for people who have a desire to get out of poverty and create current and future wealth, regardless of their education, credit, or income " says Ray.

In U's Rules To Financial Success, Ray Williams sets the stage for underserved consumers to challenge themselves and stop accepting that they are destined to struggle financially all their life, and understand that financial knowledge is the "key" to a better life for them and their families.

This book is for U's, the:

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Since 2005, Ray's consulting company Greenway Capital Management has provided personal financial counseling to many underserved consumers. With his new book and a plethora of financial education and counseling services, he is determined to help people break the poverty chain and get on the road to building personal wealth.

Released in August 2020, the book is rapidly gaining popularity and is being considered a "must read" book for underserved individuals. As a bonus, purchasers can sign-up for a free financial consultation and evaluation that will help them understand their current financial status.

About the author

Ray Williams has practiced personal finance for over 25 years. He has written articles for various publications, hosted a radio show, conducted financial workshops, and is the Founder of U's Can Too Wealth Builder Network, a membership-based organization that provide underserved individuals wealth building and income opportunities.

The book can be purchased on Amazon or directly at www.wehelpubuildwealth.com

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Kirk Franklin, Brent Jones, Yolanda Adams inducted into Hall of Fame

Stevie Wonder's powerhouse station KJLH inducts its first gospel stars into the

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(Hollywood, CA) Recently awarded Gold & Platinum certification by the Recording Industry Association of America® (RIAA) - to certify over a million albums sold of "Awaken My Love", his critically acclaimed collaboration with superstar Childish Gambino (who made history as the first rapper ever to win Record of the Year & Song





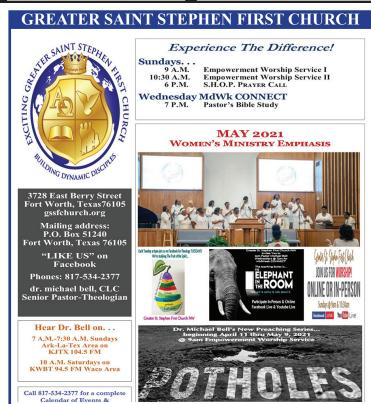


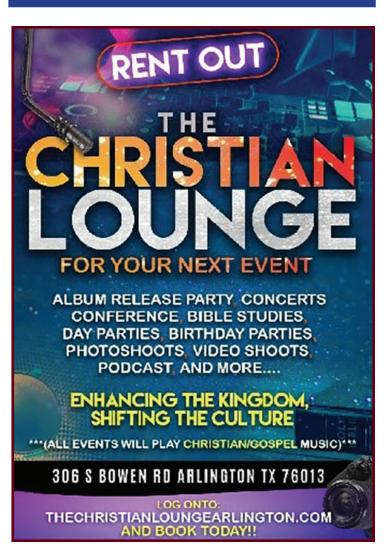
of the Year - 62nd Annual Grammy Awards), Brent Jones has now been inducted into the Hall of Fame by Stevie Wonder's powerhouse station KJLH 102.3 FM.

"What an honor to be inducted with Kirk Franklin, Yolanda Adams, Marvin Sapp, Mary Mary, Hezekiah Walker, and Donnie McClurkin into the Hall of Fame!" says Brent Jones

Featured in the blockbuster DreamWorks movie "Trolls World Tour" (starring Justin Timberlake, Anna Kendrick & Mary J. Blige), coveted admission into the Screen Actors Guild, a hit song collaboration "Time" with pop star Ariana Grande, and a recent Billboard #1 plaque for his contributions to the Trolls World Tour movie soundtrack, 2020 has been quite the year for gospel star Brent Jones!

Singer/songwriter extraordinaire, who's pioneering work with his urban group Brent Jones & T.P. Mobb set the stage for Kirk Franklin and urban contemporary gospel, JDI artist Brent Jones' upcoming new CD "Nothing Else Matters" is the highly anticipated follow-up to "Open Your Mouth and Say Something", which topped the Billboard charts for over 54+ weeks, earning widespread critical acclaim and multiple award nominations including the 2019 Dove Award and 2019 Stellar Award.





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The Gospel Corner with Proclaimer of the Word...

Rev. J.R. Brumfield

LORD HELP ME TO **HOLD OUT**

Psalms 40:1-10

1. Introduction

One of the greatest gospel artist of the modern era is James Cleveland. In 1973, James Cleveland released the song entitled, "Lord Help Me to Hold Out." It became a gospel classic and many choirs have performed this lyrical expression of this great song. The song's words include the following:

Lord, help me to hold out Until my change come My way may not easy You did not say that it would be But when it gets dark I can't see my way You told me to put my trust in Thee That's why I'm asking you Lord help me to hold out I believe I can hold out Hold out Until my change come

These words are timeless encouragement for the body of Christ when events and circumstances seem to challenge the core of our society. It was a couple of weeks ago when a guilty verdict was rendered on all three accounts in the George Floyd case. This was a breath of fresh air for a city such as Minnesota. It has been a difficult and challenging year for all Americans. Yet, on the same day that Derek Chauvin was found guilty, Daunte Wright lost his life to police brutality. The struggle continues in our country for fair and equitable treatment by the law.

The coronavirus has continued to take the lives of many Americans, but we have a vaccination that is helping with the situation. Lord, help me to hold out are encouraging words for today's challenges. If believers can continue to hold onto their faith in Jesus Christ, I believe that a change will come

As we delve closer to the text, we should take note that all things are possible when we believe that our Lord is capable of working things out for His chosen people.

2. Rescued by God, v.1-3

We begin this text by taking observation that David is in deep distress. David experiences a state of depression. It is believed by biblical scholars that David was dealing with some inner perplexity of spirit. things are indeed a horrible pit for anyone. Yet, the text shows us that David has a believing expectation from God. David states in verse 1, "I waited patiently for the Lord." He did not expect relief from another person. David understood that despite what he was going through, he believed that God was still able. Do you believe that God is able to bring us out of a horrible pit? Do you believe that God has the last word on whether a person lives or dies? The doctor may say that a person has two months to live but God may say something different.

I am quite sure that many believers have felt like singing the song of James Cleveland, "Lord help me to



hold out." "My way may not be easy, you did not say that it would be. , "But when it gets dark, I can't see my way, you told me to put my trust The relief that David expected did not come quickly. What do you do when relief does not come quickly?

There is enough power in God to help the weakest person, and there is enough grace in God to help the most unworthy person. However, this power is reserved for those believers that place their trust in the Lord. Can you trust the Lord when you cannot trace Him? David continues believing, hoping, and praying to the Lord during his trials and tribulations. In verse 1, David gives us some insight when we are patiently waiting on God. David informs the believer that He heard my cry and He brought me up out of the horrible pit. He brought me out of the miry clay and He set my feet upon a rock. Our God sees our situations and He alone can bring about our deliverance. Our God can set our feet upon a rock and He can establish our steps.

As we continue to place our belief, hope, and pray to our God, then a change will surely come. Change will come in our success in dealing with the coronavirus. Change will come in our justice system. Change will come when our children are not acting right. Change will come when sometimes politicians seem unresponsive and insensitive to the current political environment. change will come when sometimes e are worn and torn with the fabric of injustice that is woven in our land. Have you wondered how your bills were going to get paid but God made a way? Have you dealt with the loss of a dear love one, but God gave you strength and joy for the journey? David was sinking deep and he was far from the peaceful shore, but God showed up on time. David gives the Lord credit for bringing him out of the horrible pit. Believers should be encouraged by the life of David be-cause what God has done for another person, He can do the same for you today! In verse 3, we ascertain that the Lord has put a new song in David's mouth. The Lord gave David reasons to rejoice and He gave David a heart to rejoice. Do you have a heart to rejoice because the Lord gave you one more day? The good success that David experienced is an encouragement to all believers in Christ. If God did it for David, then the Lord can do it for me! Lord, do

3. Resources in God, v. 4-5

The Psalmist invites others to make God their hope. Blessed is the man that makes the Lord his trust and

Him only. There will always be someone that tries to set themselves up in competition with the Lord. However. I need to inform believers that no one is in competition with our God. The proud Pharisees thought they were the decision makers in religious matters, but we know that our God has the final decision in all matters. Our faith must be set on none other than Jesus Christ and His righteousness.

that God has good thoughts of believers and not evil.

Lord everybody!

4. Responses to God, v. 6-10

As we move toward a close of these verses, we should note that there are proper responses to God. He has done great things for us and He is still doing great things. In verse 6, it states, "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire; My ears have You opened. Burnt offering and sin offerings are not required. God is not negating the commandment to offer sacrifices in the Old Testament, but He is emphasizing that these offerings should be done with the right attitude toward God. Since we are under the dispensation of grace, then these things are no longer required. The most important thing is life is to maintain our faith in Jesus Christ. If you are in right standing with the Lord Jesus, then one can eniov the gospel privileges because Jesus paid it all on Calvary's cross! We should endeavor to make sure that our hearts are right with the Lord. It is not about head knowledge, but it is about heart knowledge. David stated that I have hid God's law in my heart. In verse 8, we ascertain that "I delight to do Your will, O my God, and your law is written upon my heart." Have you hidden God's Word in your heart to help you be a better Christian? The right responses to God involves a believer to keep on believing, hoping, and praying until their change comes.

Rev, J.R., Brumfield is a member of Berean Bible Fellowship Church in Plano, Tx., Pastor Rev. Kenneth West.

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.

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In verse 5, we ascertain that God works for the believers. He works for us and He is in us. All His wonderful works are the products of His thoughts toward us. Aren't you glad that He had you on His mind? In Ephesians 1:11, we are instructed that He does all according to the council of His good will. These are the thoughts of God toward us. In Jeremiah 29:11, we are reminded

As we look at these verses, we understand that the blessings of the Lord are too numerous for us to count. David stated, "If I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered." do not have the capacity or the ability to number all the blessings that the Lord God has given us. Our God has multiple resources to bless His children. When one door closes, our God can open another door that you did not even knock on! Praise the

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Dr.Clyde Downs, Sr. Pastor

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Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study: 7:00 p.m



Precious orners one Missionary Baptist Church 4916 Ramey Avenue Ft. Worth, TX 76105

817.413.8771 Email: combapt02@aol.co



-- Service Times --SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 AM SUNDAY MORNING

WORSHIP 10:30 AM WEDNESDAY PRAYER MEETING & BIBLE STUDY @ 7:00 PM

Coming of Christ Full Gospel Church

2412 Langston St. Fort Worth, TX 76105

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4505 Foard St. Fort Worth, TX 76119 817.536.2936 Email: genesisunitybc01@att.net

WORSHIP & STUDY SERVICES day School......9:00 AM

Morning Worship....10:30 AM Bible Study (Sun).....5:00 PM outh Classes.....Saturday



DR. RICHARD L. MONTGOMERY, Pastor

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1257 E. Harvey Ave, Fort Worth, TX 76104 PASTOR JACK TEELER

Sunday School

nday Morning Worship Service 10:30am



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Weekly Services	
SUNDAYS MORNING GLORY	7:00 am
EMPOWERMENT	9:00 am
MORNING WORSHIP	10:30 am
WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE	7:00 pm

THE RISING STAR Church of God in Christ

3909 Reed Street Fort Worth, TX 76119
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Morning Worship....11:00am YPWW6:30 pm Night Service7:30 pm

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4000 E. Berry St.

Fort Worth, TX 76105

Phone: 817-536-6421

nday School..... nday Morning Worship. dnesday Prayer.....dnesday Bible Study....

Morning Prayer....11:00 am Bible Band7:00 pm

...9:30 am .10:30 am ...6:00 pm ...7:00 pm

Community Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

-SERVICE TIMES-Church School.....8:30 AM lorning Worship......9:45 AM

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Nednesday Prayer & Bible Study.. ..6:30 PM Rev. Anthony Chatman, Sr. Pastor



Fort Worth TX 76104

(817)332-6419 Office

Greater Eleazer **Baptist** Church

5025 Sunshine Drive Fort Worth TX,76105 817 536-9237

Rev Lawrence Barrett & Lady. Rebecca Barrett

Sunday School9:30am Morning Worship......10:45am Wednesday Night Bible Study....7:00pm

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Sunday School	9:30 am
Morning Worship	10:30 am
Wednesday Bible Study an	d Prayer7:00 pm
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.....9:00 A.M. ver/Sunday School..... ınday Worship Service..... ınday Night Services......10:45 A.M.2nd & 4th Tuesday Noon Day Prayer

Wednesday Prayer Adult & Children Bible Study 7:00 P.M. World Intercessor Prayer 1st Thursday Monthly @ 6:30 P.M.





Rev. J. L. Hunt Jr., Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 A.M. Morning Worship Service 11:00 A.M. Wednesday Prayer Service & Bible Study 7:00 P M

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Bible Study 7:00pm

Pastor Kyev & **Lady Tonya Tatum**

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Strangers Rest **Baptist Church**

5705 Donnelly Ave. Ft. Worth, TX 76107 817-738-3833 PASTOR EDDIE BROWN, SR.

WORSHIP DAYS & TIME Sunday School Sundays ~ 8:45 AM

Morning Worship Sundays ~ 10:15 AM

Bible Study Inesdays ~ 7:00 PM

Tastebud





Zion Missionary **Baptist Church**

Dr. W.L.D. Campbell, Pastor

VISION STATEMENT

To share the Light of Christ to a world in Darkness,

beginning at home.

Sunday School - Sunday

g Worship - Sunday

Prayer Meeting - Wednesday

West Mt. Moriah

Baptist Church

5325 Bonnell Street

Fort Worth, TX 76107

817-731-3502

9:00am

10:05am

7:00pm

4100 Horne Street Fort Worth, TX 76107 817-737-6264 .thezionbaptistchurch.org



Ministries Church SERVANTS/PASTOR "Where the Word of God Gea & Kim

is Food for the Soul" SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15 am

SUNDAY SERVICE	10:30 am
SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE	4:00 pm
(Every 2nd & 3rd Sunday)	
BIBLE STUDY (Wednesday)	7:00 pm
PRAYER MEETING (Wednesday)	6:30 pm

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PASTOR RUFUS HUCKABY

11:00am ednesday :00pm

Morning Worship

':30pm Bible Study, Mis



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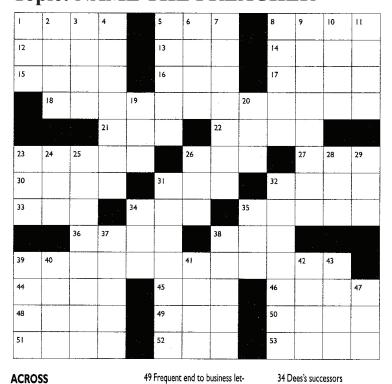
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BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Topic: NAME THE PREACHER



ACROSS

I Robert Chorale 5 Largest U.S. denom. 8 Wise (Isa, 5:10)

12 Mother of our Lord (Luke 1:42)

13 Largest on-line computer database: abbr. 14 Produced offspring (Eccles. 2:7)

15 Drug addict 16 Tablecloth size

17 Joshua's role to Moses (Exod. 24:13, NIV) 18 700 Club head 21 Between Hab. and Hag.

22 Relief! 23 Gospel singer Mrs. Waters

26 Between Jon. and Nah. 27 Ecology guardian

30 What God promised Abraham (Gen. 18:10)

31 Between Deut, and Judg. 32 Blueprint (Gen. 18:17)

33 Ump 34 ___ and flow

35 Mississippi outlet 36 Pet's itch-maker (1 Sam. 24:14) 38 Germany's loc.

39 Coral Ridge TV Minister

45 Campground

48 Between k and p

46 Saline liquid (Gen. 21:16)

44 Rubaiyat author ___ Khayyam

51 Urban Alternative head, Mr. Evans

52 Joins q and u

50 Soapstone

ter

53 An ___ whose time has come (Num. 14:4)

DOWN

I Dallas football team 2 Hinge part 3 Phone code (Gen. 12:6)

4 Christian musician Don 5 Reporter's goal

6 Lettuce type 7 Mere Christianity author

8 Relieve taxes 9 Dallas's First Baptist Church

former pastor 10 Make over 11 First garden (Gen. 2:8)

19 Kin or faith, shortened

20 II's position, in brief 23 Cup part (1 Cor. 12:16)

24 Mao ___-tung 25 Lutheran Hour speaker 26 Many heads but no brains 28 Pres. Nixon's wife

29 Follows Santa 31 PTL former head 32 This Present Darkness author

Frank

34 Dees's successors

35 Harass

37 In Croce's song, he was "big, bad"

38 Make bill law (2 Chron. 24:6) 39 Sudden shock

40 Comes in kegs or rounds

41 Ages 42 Out of play (Rev. 1:17)

43 George Bush's alma mater

47 David Sarnoff's corp.

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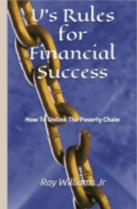
Local Finance Advisor's "U's Rules for Financial Success" is Amazon Best Seller

Facts:

Among racial and ethnic groups, African Americans have the highest poverty rate, 27.4 percent.

The median wealth of black households is \$36,000, while white households estimated median wealth at \$150,000.

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Evang. Sharon Ford-Turner, Pastor
e-mail: sharonImasonfordturner@gmail.com

Sunday Services: Conference Call Services. 9:00 am Sunday School



10:00 am....Worship Service 11:30 am 2nd & 4th Sunday Village Creek Nursing Homes Minister

Tuesday10:30 am
Prayer and Bible Study
Conference Call Service

Mon-Sat 6:00 am Intercessory Prayer

