



EASTER

EXPERIENCE THE HOPE

THE MOUNT ZION SPIRIT

SPRING/EASTER 2014

VOLUME XII



We are SAFE, SATISFIED, and SANCTIFIED in the Hands of Jesus!

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www.mountzionpbchurch.org

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He is Risen

Hope is Triumphant

The 2014 Mount Zion Spirit Staff

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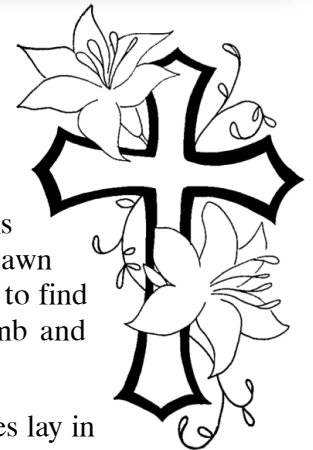
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“UNDERSTANDING EASTER BUILDS OUR H.O.P.E.”

Pastor's Page

Most people long for strong bodies, minds and spiritual strength, which they believe, points to healthy lives. However strong the body, and the mind, there is still a need and desire for an assurance of tomorrow, or an eternal hope. Hope is best described as an assurance of what we have not seen, something akin to faith. A better understanding of the significance of Easter will help build our **H.O.P.E.**

On Easter Sunday or Resurrection Day, we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, who is Jesus the Christ. It was over 2000 years ago, that Jesus rose from the dead. Early, before dawn some 2000 years ago some women with good intentions rose early to go to Jesus' tomb, only to find it empty. After hearing the report of the women, several of Jesus disciples ran to the tomb and found it empty, each of them there learned that Jesus Christ had risen from the grave.



Today Jesus tomb is empty, unlike the tomb of Buddha, his body was cremated and his ashes lay in monuments. Today most of the great or powerful world leaders of yesterday, all have tombs you can visit where their remains are entombed; But not Jesus. Our Lord Jesus' tomb is empty. There is no body there. There are no ashes there. There are no remains there, why, because Jesus rose alive from the dead!

The Devil did his best to keep Jesus down. The grave did all it could to hold its captive. But, after 3 days, the Father said, "Enough." An angel was dispatched to the earth. As his foot touched the ground, an earthquake hit and the stone rolled away from the tomb. Not to let Jesus out, but to let the women and disciples in, so they could see Jesus was gone.

Now, what is the result of this resurrection? What difference does it make to us? How does the resurrection of Jesus give you and me hope today? Because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 1 Peter 3:1 says, **"He has given us a new birth into a living hope."** What is this living hope? What is the hope we now have, that only the resurrection of Jesus Christ can give us?

1. We now have a hope, and the knowledge, that death is not the end. For much of recorded history, mankind has often been unsure of whether there is really life after death. Even today, many claim that this life is all there is. But, because Jesus rose, we now have a hope in the certainty that one-day we too will rise again, that we too will live again. The Bible calls Jesus "the Firstborn from the dead. Because of Jesus' resurrection we have a certain hope that even if we die, one day we will live again.

2. Our hope includes the knowledge that evil does not win. Sometimes today, it seems that the bad guy often wins. Sometimes it seems that the one who cheats, the one who lies, the one who steps on others at work to get ahead, is the one who prospers. It seems that there is

no hope for the little guy, the one who lives right, to ever get ahead. I imagine the disciples and the followers of Jesus felt that way, for 3 days. For 3 days, they wondered how the Roman Empire could get away with what it had done to Jesus. Pontius Pilate had brutally ordered Jesus death. The disciples thought how could this terrible thing happen, but then on the 3rd day, "Up from the grave Jesus rose, **with a mighty triumph over His foes.** He arose the victor from the dark domain and He lives forever on His throne to reign. He arose. He arose. Hallelujah Christ arose. So our hope is in Jesus, because he arose, we too can arise and triumph over death, and trials.

3. Our hope includes the knowledge that God forgives – Mark 16:7. Why in the world would the angel in Mark 16:7 specifically mention Peter? Why would he call him by name? Peter had walked with Jesus for 3 years. He knew Jesus intimately. He had watched as Jesus performed miracles....On the night of the Lord's Supper, Peter told Jesus, "Even if the rest of them leave you, I never will."...Later, Peter denied Jesus 3 times.

Imagine this scene if you will. The women come from the tomb, to the upper room. **They pound on the door of the upper room where the disciples were hiding until finally the disciples open the door. The women burst into the room and breathlessly tell all those assembled there what the angel had said.** As they tell their story, they glance around. Over in the corner they see Peter. He's no longer acting so bold. He's no longer acting like a leader. He's sitting alone in the corner, head hung low. Seeing him there the women say, **"Oh and Peter.** The angel specifically mentioned you. He mentioned you by name. He said, **"Tell the disciples and Peter."** Go tell the disciples and Peter. Jesus wanted him to know that he was still a child of His. **He wanted Peter to know that all is forgiven. Oh my friend, God forgives. I don't know what you have done.... God forgives.** Here is real hope "Jesus rose, and He forgives." This Hope is opportunity for peace and eternal life.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

My friend, this Easter or Resurrection Sunday many of us rose early for worship before sunrise, We overlooked the yawning and stretching, because we reminiscing the great hope that we have because of our Risen Savior. This Easter as we do each Sunday, we gather to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Because He rose, we know Death is not the end. Because He rose, we know evil does not win. Because He rose, we know God forgives. Because He rose we know a new life is our option though Christ. Because He rose, we know a better tomorrow is coming. Because He rose, we can live a life of Peace & have the assurance of eternal life.

The **H.O.P.E.** of Jesus is the only true place to find healthy living. Today on Easter Sunday we find living Hope in Jesus, because He has given us new life. A Life full of **Hope** or assurance, we cannot always see it, yet by faith we believe it. A life of Hope is a life of **Opportunity** where Christ opens doors and sets us on fresh new paths. A life of hope is a life of **Peace** where Christ gives us peace in the midst of my personal storms. Finally a life of Hope is **Eternal** only through Jesus Christ. Saints in order to have real hope it must surpass this life and offer assurance over death. Hope in Jesus gives me eternal hope that will transcend pass the grave. Therefore, when we understand Easter truly we see in Easter, Jesus offers us real **H.O.P.E.**

*Happy Easter - Happy Resurrection Sunday,
be encouraged, let's walk to together to day in **H.O.P.E.**
Mylon L. Burwell, Pastor*

4. Our hope includes the knowledge that new life is an option. Many who have been trapped in sin, who have battled the same sin time and time again, and have been beaten over and over and over again, sometimes reach the point where they believe they can never escape. They believe they are trapped in that sin, in that addiction, forever. Reader, will you accept the Hope of Easter? **Romans 6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in a new way of life.**

Friend, Jesus' resurrection proves that you can have a new life filled with Hope. You can have the life Peter spoke of "lively," filled with Hope, opportunity, peace and eternal blessings.

In confronting, a problem in the church of Corinth Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, to the Christians in Corinth, **"You used to be like that, but you've been saved. You're washed, you're sanctified, you're justified. You're not like that anymore. 2 Corinthians 5:17 If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things have passed away. Behold, all things are become new.**

5. Our Hope Finally includes the promise of a better tomorrow. At death, we will gain a better inheritance. One imperishable, uncorrupted, and unfading, kept in heaven for us. It is kept in heaven for those who know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Jesus said, "I am going away to prepare a place for you." What a place that promises to be! The Bible says there are no more tears there. There is no more pain in the promise tomorrow. Friend, Will you accept this new life now?

Greetings in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ,

Just a few words about Mt. Zion's Young Adult Ministry and why this Ministry is much needed.

As I prayed and prayed about God leading us to start this Ministry; often times after reading, praying, meditating, or simply resting, these moments of divine inspiration would come upon me. So I said "Lord, what am I supposed to do with this?" I asked.

I have received and been entrusted with a twofold mandate; first to alert a generation of people that, even though they may not even recognize it yet, they have been prepared for the kingdom of God; second to awaken a generation perhaps within the church and regardless of their chronological ages, to the fact that they are part of a generation that God is preparing and positioning to use in this last hour and final day of harvest.

The size of this group may seem to be small but love and acceptance is a vital aspect of this Ministry.

Matthew 18:20 says: For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

We also recognize that using the power of prayer to guide us is the next step toward the destination God has in mind for us. With that said, some young Christians understand their faith and can defend it well; unfortunately, most cannot. As a result, when these young Christian leave home and their belief in God comes under fire- many leave the faith as well. That is why I'm passionate about being apart of this Ministry for the sake of the next generation. Many of us have had the heart-wrenching experience of watching someone we love abandon their walk with God.

In fact, Young people are leaving the Christian faith at an alarming and unprecedented rate. I dare you. I dare you to try it this Sunday or few Sundays to come. Look



to the right, and look to the left, while Pastor delivers his message, while the member gives the welcome and announcements, look to the right and look to the left. Look at the youth and look at the teens and young adults around you.

Many of them will be familiar faces. They are the faces of sons, daughters and grandchildren of our family and church members. They are our children, the ones whom have been faithfully following us to church for years.

Now imagine that two-third of them have just disappeared. That's right, two-thirds of them, the boys and the girls, the kids who are leaders or members of different ministries that sit in the back will no longer be apart of this fellowship.

Deuteronomy 4:9 says: Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

That's why having this Young Adult Ministry at Mt. Zion is the next step from the Youth.

Proverbs 22:6 says: Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

With the help and guides of the Holy Spirit we are looking forward to great things to come to grow this ministry. So, with that been said, Most of all we need your support and prayers. Remember your child will be next to be apart of this Ministry as God blesses them to reach this age!

With Special Thanks,
Mt. Zion Young Adult Ministry Members

Sister Berdell White, Chairperson
Sister Pamela Shelton
Elder Thomas White
Elder William Tyes



JESUS ON LEADERSHIP

TIMELESS
WISDOM ON
SERVANT
LEADERSHIP



C. GENE WILKES

C. Gene Wilkes, Ph.D. , has served as Pastor of Legacy Baptist Church in Plano, Texas, since 1987. He has also written: *Paul on Leadership*, *My Identity in Christ*, and *With All My Soul*. Gene is a national conference speaker on the topic of spiritual gifts, lay mobilization, making disciples, and servant leadership. He has also taught in Albania, Canada, China, Cuba, and Russia.

Author's Acknowledgement: "THIS book is my confession that God is truly a gracious God. Only divine goodness, not my abilities or desires, has ultimately put this book in your hands."

Wilkes puts forth both scripture, experience and his heart and love for God in this work. Providing the basic guidelines that any church member and/or leader can use in the formation of a Godly leadership process. As you progress through the chapters you are reminded that Our savior and Lord was indeed a servant leader both by word and deed. Such topics that are covered: Jesus' model of servant leadership. Jesus provides us at least three times in the scripture His Mission Statement "The Mission –And The Vision" We are reminded that Jesus was never

self-serving, He led first as a servant to his Father in heaven, who gave Him his mission; "For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of Him who sent me ". John 6:38.

- "When Jesus stood in his hometown synagogue, he read his mission statement from Isaiah: 'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor' Isaiah 61:1, Luke 4:18-19."
- When Jesus stood among his disciples and defined greatness and being a leader in the kingdom of God, he couched his mission statement this way: 'For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.' Mark 10:45."
- "When Jesus stood in tax collector Zacchaeus' home, he stated it another way: 'For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.' Luke 19:10."

With Jesus as a leader as a servant for his mission, he led also with a vision of what were things to come. Jesus often described that vision of things to come as "The Kingdom of God/Heaven" Wilkes indicates the discovery of seven principles to Lead as Jesus led as a servant:

1. Jesus humbled himself and allowed God to exalt Him.
2. Jesus followed his Father's will rather than sought a position.
3. Jesus defined greatness as being a servant and being first as becoming a slave.
4. Jesus risked serving others because he trusted that he was God's Son.
5. Jesus left his place at the head table to serve the needs of others.
6. Jesus shared responsibility and authority with those he called to lead.
7. Jesus built a team to carry out a worldwide vision.

Wilkes uses these seven principles as the corner stone of the following chapters throughout the book. Going deeper into the seven factors and the supporting scriptures to give use a spiritual guide through the teachings of Christ in the Gospels so that we may lead as servant throughout our daily lives. Each of the principles stands alone as well as being a part of the entire servant-leadership model:

PRINCIPLE #1: Humble your Heart

“Servant leaders humble themselves and wait for God to exalt them” (based on Luke 14:7-11). This principle comes from Jesus’ story about choosing places of honor at a banquet. Servant leaders humble themselves to the mission entrusted to them. They also wait expectantly for God to exalt them - in God’s timing. Servant leaders trust that the Host will choose those he wants at the head table of leadership.” p.25.

PRINCIPLE #2: First be a Follower

“Servant leaders follow Jesus rather than seek a position” (based on Mark 10:32-40). This tenet comes from James and John’s request of Jesus that they sit on his right and left when He came into His glory. p.25

PRINCIPLE #3: Find greatness in Service

“Servant leaders give up personal rights to find greatness in service to others” (based on Mark 10:45). The other ten disciples did not appreciate James and John’s boldness with Jesus. When the Master saw that they had become indignant with their peers, He defined greatness begins with those who become servants to the mission of the group and those teamed with them to carry out that mission.

PRINCIPLE #4: Take risks

“Servant leaders can risk serving others because they trust that God is in control of their lives” (based on John 13:3). Only when you trust God with absolute control of your life can you risk losing yourself in service to others.

Trusting God includes believing that God is working with at least five “raw materials” to form you into a unique servant leader. Those raw materials are your spiritual gifts, experiences, relational style, vocational skills and enthusiasm. These elements make up your “S.E.R.V.E.” profile. p 26.

PRINCIPLE #5: Take up the Towel

“Servant leaders take up Jesus’ towel of servant hood to meet the needs of others” (based on John 13:4-11). Jesus stepped down from His place at the Passover meal to set an example for his disciples. He took up the towel and washbasin of a slave to model his mission and show his love for those he recruited to carry out that mission after his ascension. p. 26.

PRINCIPLE #6: Share Responsibilities and Authority

“Servant leaders share their responsibility and authority with others to meet a greater need” (based on Acts 6:1-6). Jesus equipped his disciples to carry out a worldwide vision. He shared both responsibility and authority with them to make disciples of all people. p.26

PRINCIPLE #7: Build a Team

“Servant leaders multiply their leadership by empowering others to lead” (based on Mark 6:7). Leadership of a team is the highest expression of servant leadership. This is true because team leadership embodies each of the principles of servant leadership. p. 27.

Wilkes states,” If you will apply these seven principles of servant leadership as taught and modeled by Jesus, I am convinced you will become more effective as a leader, and those who have been entrusted to you will be more likely to place on you the mantle of leadership”.

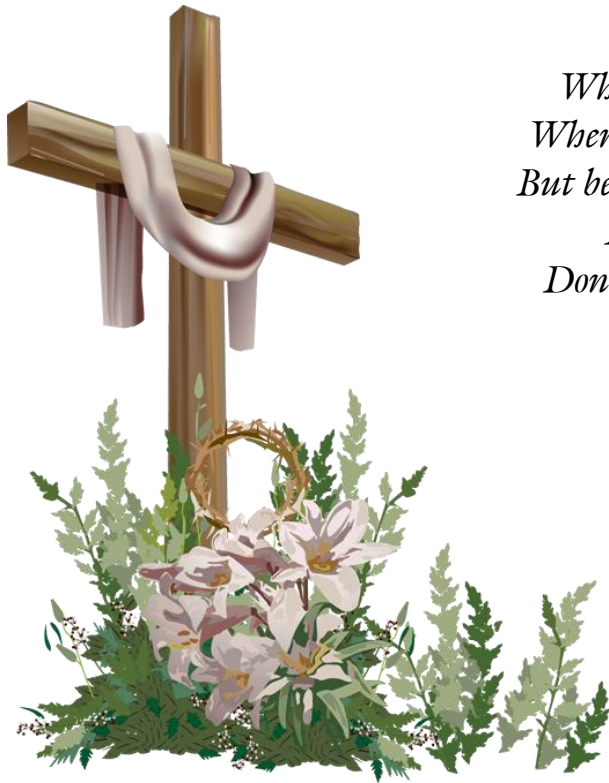
An excellent read in that it reminds the reader of the prime importance of leadership as an individual, spouse, parent, church member and child of God in the Body of Christ. I recommend this for all those that have chosen to become leaders in their lives! We take turns re-reading our copy making multiple notes throughout the edition. It has been a profitable guide and places true meaning into the value of scripture and belief of Jesus’ teaching. On the Religious Rating Scale 7 Stars out 7 for this one. A must have for anyone pondering the idea of any type of leadership activities.

As it is written in the scripture: “You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them; and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.” 2 Timothy 3:14-17. NASB, 2008.

Jeffrey D. Lehman, Ph.D.
Chaplain Mt Zion Spirit Newsletter 2014.

Don't Be Discouraged

By: Queena Merrimon



*When life tries to knock you down don't get discouraged.
When bad things happen don't get discouraged and give up.
But be steadfast and push forward because God has your back.
He will never put more on you than you can bare.
Don't be discouraged because that is what the devil wants.
The devil tries to get into your home and heart,
But don't let him fight him thru Jesus.
Let the devil know he has no place around you,
Let him know that you serve God and only God.
Tell the devil you have only one master
and that God is your master.
God will never forsake you he is always
there all you have to do is say Lord here I am.
I surrender my life to you oh God
because you are worthy to be praised.*



A Journey into the Ministry

Brothers and Sisters,
I'm overjoyed to be afforded the opportunity to write about this most sacred leg of my Christian journey. Our almighty God, in His infinite wisdom has called me preach His Holy Word. I am tremendously humbled by this calling because I know that there is nothing that I could have ever done to merit such favor. My prayer is that God will continue to use me and work through me to accomplish His will. The next step for me is called "Liberation." Dear Master, please order my steps in your Word.

Brother Montrice Bethea



ATTENTION STUDENTS

Grades 1-12, if you have made A-B Honor Roll please bring in a copy of your report card, and give it to Sister Marsha Love or Sister Berdell White to receive a reward for your academic achievements



**Join Us for Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Each Sunday**

Safe, Satisfied, and Sanctified in Health and in Jesus

(By Priscilla Horton)

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

For you were bought at a price, therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are Gods.

—1 Corinthians 6:19-20



Being in a sound mind and body can provide you with the best foundation for praise. The word tells us that our bodies are as temples and should be treated as so. Recently we discussed in Sunday school about keeping

Gods house clean, so are you doing that? Not only the physical building, but your body as well. We should not defile the temple, and we should not defile our bodies. Safe health practices are a key to maintaining good health and living longer. If you know that you should not eat certain things, we should do our best not to eat them. Don't help yourself to be sluggish and sick by not changing some of your eating habits.

One way is by clean eating. This is a new concept that may people are starting to take hold to. The basic principle is eating real, whole, minimally processed foods. Take a trip to the farmers market and by more fresh fruits and vegetables. Clean eating doesn't have to be another diet; but it can become a way of life. It's not about starving or depriving yourself; it's about feeding and nourishing your body so that you thrive. When you fill your body with clean foods, you will notice that it performs better. You will think more clearly, sleep better, have more energy. ***Psalms 4:8—In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.*** You can be safe in knowing that your health is what it should be. You can be safe in your health and in knowing that Jesus is a provider to those who know Him.

Paul tells us to glorify God in our body, as well as our spirit, our body, His temple. We should treat our bodies as the temple of God Through proper nutrition and a proper lifestyle. Are you satisfied with your lifestyle? To feel your best and perform your best you have to create a lifestyle that brings out the best in you. A lifestyle with healthy, self-healing behavior. By this I mean exercise,

getting enough sleep, not missing meals, and trying to cut down on the stress. Being healthy starts from the inside out: mind, body and spirit. You may look healthy on the outside and be very sick in mind. God desires a clean mind, not one of confusion. Many people don't realize the toll stress can have on their lives or that mental health is the key to overall health. Caring for both the mind and body not only boost your spirits but can help lead to a healthier, happier and more productive life. Be prayerful of God's satisfaction in you because your energy will show in your work for God and in your praise. ***John 1:4 says "In Him was life, and the life was the light of man."*** Don't let your light be dim because of a tired mind. Let your light shine bright and allow your spirits to be lifted in God's light.

To sanctify is to set apart for sacred use, to make holy, purify. Again, your body is a holy place where the spirit of the Lord dwells. Sanctify your spirit with thoughts of goodness. Take time for meditation and study God's word, and what He desire from you. Remove yourself from the temptations and negativity of the world and get closer to God. This will help you to better fight the devil and his workers. Take a few minutes each morning to pray, meditate and reflect on your life. Being grateful for everything, both the good and the bad, can change your perspective and the way you handle your life's situations. Live for you and everything else will be given unto you. Romans 6:22 tells us when we are justified, we are "freed from sin." Verse 19 says we are delivered from the impurities and iniquity that had just been reigning in our lives. The result of justification is that we are sanctified or made holy in Jesus name. Our bodies are clean and healthy, our mind is clear and ready to meditate and know more of His word and this will allow our spiritual life to soar.

Isaiah 43:18-19—"Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; Now it shall spring forth. Forget the past and be safe in knowing that we serve a God that will keep you, forget the things of old and be satisfied in the new spirit, the new body the healthier body. God is

doing a new thing; He will sanctify your spirit, your body and your soul because you have made His temple a holy place. "If you nurture your mind, body and spirit, your time will expand. You will gain a new perspective that will allow you to accomplish much more." (*Brain Koslow*). Watch it all spring forth in His name because we are safe, satisfied, and sanctified in Jesus.

*Be blessed
The Nurses Guild*



Worship Opportunities

We will fellowship with **St. Luke Primitive Baptist Church** on April 27, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. Please Join us.

Pastor will be Preaching the Last Night of Revival at **New Zion Community Church** (Blue Spring Road – Across from First Baptist) on Friday, **April 25, 2014**. at 6:30 p.m.

Brother Montrice Bethea Will Preach his Liberation Sermon on **Thursday, May 1, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.** During our Quarterly Conference – We encourage you to come and share with Brother Bethea as he begins his Ministerial Journey.

Our **Annual Council Meeting** will be held on **Friday and Saturday, May 2 and 3rd** at the Tabernacle. **Brother William Malone** will be Preaching for License during the evening worship service. Please Join Brother Malone as he continues to grow in the Word of God.

Pastor Burwell will be Preaching for **Taylor's Chapel** on **Sunday, May 18, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.** for their Mothers & Deacons' March.

Elder William Tyes will be Preaching for **St. Luke Primitive Baptist Church Youth and Young Adult Day** on **May 18 at 11:00 a.m.**

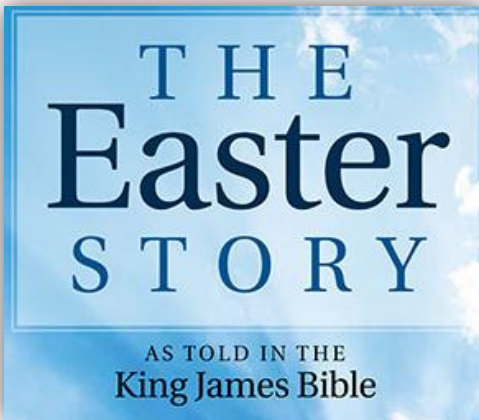


Thank You

Sister Brenda Johnson
Sister Gwendolyn Garth
Sister Winnie Ross



**June
2nd
–
6th
2014**



The Last Supper

And his disciples went forth, and came into the city, and found as he said unto them: and they made ready for the Passover. And in the evening he cometh with the twelve. (*Mark 14:16-17*) And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and they all drank of it. And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many. Verily I say unto you. I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God. (*Mark 14:22-25*)

Jesus is Crucified

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers. And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe. And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand; and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying Hail King of the Jews! And they spit on him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him and led him away to crucify him. (*Matthew 27:27-31*) And as they led him away, they laid hold upon one Simon, a Cyrenian, coming out of the country, and on him they laid the cross, that he might bear it after Jesus. And there followed him a great company of people and women, which also bewailed and lamented him. (*Luke 23:26-27*). And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. Then said Jesus, Father forgive them; for they know not what they do. (*Luke 23:33-34*) Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took his garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part; and also his coat: now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout. They said therefore among themselves, Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be: that the Scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots. These things therefore the soldiers did. (*John 19:23-24*)

Jesus Dies and Is Buried

And it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And the sun was darkened, and the vail of the temple was rent in the midst. And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, he said, Father into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost. Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, Certainly this was a righteous man. (*Luke 23:44-47*) When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple: He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed. (*Matthew 27:57-60*) And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Josès beheld where he was laid. (*Mark 15:47*)

Jesus is Risen!

And very early in the morning, the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre? And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not

here: behold the place where they laid him. But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you. (Mark 16:2-7) So then, after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into

heaven and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen. (Mark 16:19-20)

ACT prep CLASSES

NACEE (North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence) is an official ACT testing site. The center offers an ACT Preparation Workshop before each test.

Before applying for the ACT Prep classes you must be a part of one of NACEE's tutoring/college preparatory programs. (Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math/Science, and Educational Talent Search.) After you have applied and are accepted into one of those amazing programs which have been very successful in getting young adults into college, you may apply for the ACT prep. The ACT Prep registration and instruction is free of charge but, here is a \$20.00 book fee requirement for the class.

Past participants said that they have improved their composite scores by 2-6 points after attending the workshop.

During the workshops, participants will receive:

- ✓ Proven Test-Taking Strategies
- ✓ A full ACT Practice Test
- ✓ Small Group Instruction/Tutoring



High School is a critical time for everyone. College is near, tests are being taken, and financial issues are being thrown at you from every direction. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to improve your ACT score and find a suitable college. This is your future!



**Mt. Zion Welcomes
Sister Latoya Hardy
Sister LaNeisha Hardy**
To our Fellowship.
God Bless Both
of You

Leadership Conference 2014





*"We are Safe, Satisfied, and
Sanctified in the Hands of Jesus"*

God loves you. Have you ever glanced at a person that was grumpy and in that instance you wished you knew how to make them smile? Maybe it was a stranger or even a close friend. What was it that made you want to see them smile? Has someone ever seen you and asked if you were okay or why you did not appear to be happy? That someone is probably a lot like you in Christ Jesus.

Have you ever been really depressed or gloomy and wished someone could uplift you? Have you ever been sadden because you were not able to comfort someone in need? This someone could be any one of us at a given time during our lives. This someone is probably a lot like us in Christ Jesus.

How can we be content, safe, and free from sin when there are intolerable things constantly going on in the world? We are full of imperfections, but also just as equally filled with goodness, grace, and love according to the will of God. It is these virtues and gifts that God has given us to be kind to one another so that we are overall good to one another in life. "We have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in God, and God in him." 1John 4:16 NKJV

God is Protection. God is well pleased when we do our best to love and obey his commandments. In doing our best, we are satisfied in the love and life we live by faith and trust in Jesus. God is full of mercy and slow to anger. God's scriptures, likewise leads us to love each other with a pure heart "Because it is written, Be ye holy, for I am holy." (1 Peter 1:16). In Romans 8:38-39, it says "I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor principalities nor powers, nor heights nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

-Angela Saxton



Ranita Burwell
HERBALIFE

Independent Distributor

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Sharing the Spirit of Zion!!!



Sister Andrea Green

Congratulations to **Sister Andrea Green**, daughter of Caster and Ardean Green. Andrea has relocated to the Kroger Corporate offices in Atlanta, Georgia as a Human Resources CTP. We will miss her, but we are very proud.

Sister Alexis Garth a Senior at Tanner High School made the A/B honor roll **Sister Miracle Scott** a Fifth Grader at Tanner made the A/B honor roll. **Sister Kelsie Boley** made the A honor roll.



Congratulations to **Brother Patrick** and **Sister Gloria Turner** on the Arrival of their **First Grandson, Kingston Davis** – Born March 24, 2014



Congratulations to **Brian and Felicia Johnson**. They were Married on March 8. (Brian is the Son of Brother Milton and Sister Brenda Johnson)



Congratulations to Deacon Willie & Mary Fletcher will celebrate their 43rd wedding anniversary on April 23rd.

Congratulations to **the Sparks "12 and Under Girls Champions."** **Sister Breana Jefferson** scored 25 points in the last Game. Her Dad **Brother Tyrone Jefferson** Coached. Congratulations as well to **Sister Malea Love**, her team 10 and under are also Champions and **Ja'Kobe North** - Monrovia Middle School County Champions, who also made the A/B honor roll this Reporting Period.

Shout Out to **Sister Regina Reedus Smith** for her Dedication to the Students of Tanner. Sister Smith has been named the Schools' Official

Photographer. The Coach said that "She's a blessing," "Every team needs dedicated supporters like her." "She's like part of the team," he said.

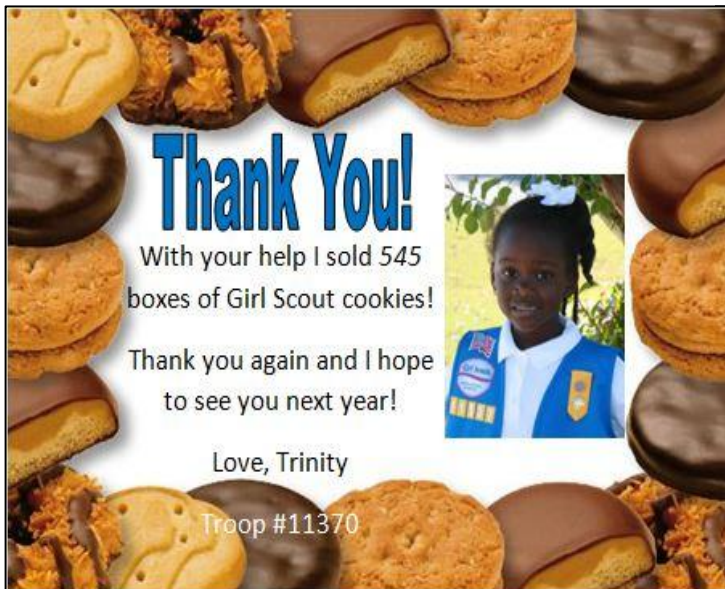
County 4-H members Compete in Farm City Poster Contest

"The theme was to inspire students to create interesting and visually compelling posters," 4-H Agent Assistant Lisa Towe said. "The posters were judged on relevance to the theme, creativity, originality, attractiveness and neatness, and overall appearance."

Sister Miracle Scott, a fifth-grade student in Lynn Hodge's class at Tanner High School, won third place. Miracle received \$10. The same amount was given to her class. Miracle Also won Second Prize for her report on Peanuts.



Sister Miracle Scott



ATTENTION SENIORS!!! ATTENTION SENIORS!!!ATTENTION SENIORS!!!

The Charlotte Miller Scholarship

Please see someone on the Scholarship Committee for information and application.

Topic: As a Christian If You could teach the Everyone in the World three things what would they be. (Please reference Scripture)

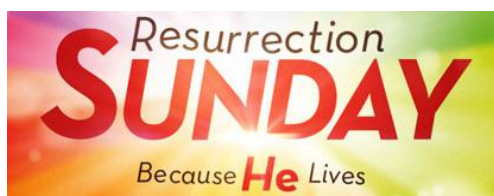


Greeting Saints:

It is my pleasure to spend time with everyone this Resurrection Season. No other time during the year; I believe, should we have the greatest hope and admiration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It takes a special kind of mind set to understand the Resurrection. The unbeliever has no conceptualization how Christians believe, through faith and trust that God sent his only Begotten son (John 3:16) to address the wages of death (Romans 6:23). Because of His resurrection, Jesus is alive! Giving all those who believe the hope and glory of eternal life; whereas, the nonbeliever reaping the judgment for their lack of faith and disbelief. To live in and with the power of Christ's resurrection is to become more and more dead to the ways of the world, to the lusts of the flesh, and to be more Christ like. Paul provides us in his letters this message that supports and surrounds the message of the word and the way in the power of Christ in us, and in the body of Christ.

I am profoundly moved and encouraged by the story of Jesus' conversation with Martha, Lazarus' sister in John 11:24-27. ²⁴Martha said unto him, I know that he (Lazarus) shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. ²⁵, Jesus said unto her, 'I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: ²⁶, And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?' ²⁷, She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world. Are you a Martha? Do you believe Jesus is the Son of God. Do you believe that on the third day He rose from the chains of death, having ALL Power and Glory?

Do you believe all that the Bible says or just portions and certain sections? You must believe in the entire Bible completely or take the risk of making the unfortunate assumption it is a lie. If you struggling, meditate and pray. Whom do you say he is? The Bible describes him this way-



He is the bread of life- John 6: 35

He is the light of the world- John 8:12

He is the gate- John 10:9

He is the Good Shepherd- John 10: 11

He is the true vine- John 11:25

He is the way, the truth, and the life- John 15:1

Follow His commandments and teachings, believe in His Word! For when He spoke to them by the lake saying: "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and rise again from the dead the third day; and that repentance for forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem. And Behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high." Luke 24:46b-49. NASB 2008. That promise of Love, amidst all the sin, trials and troubles of this world, through the salvation of the world, through Him as the gift of the Father in the Son to all those in the Body of Christ. Remember His Words: "Are you the Son of God, then? And He said to them. 'Yes I am' Luke 22:70b. NASB 2008.

Sister Nikita Lehman - Editor