



PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

BY BISHOP CARL PIERCE, SR.

Greetings in the name of the Lord,

Amidst the season of pandemic, I think it is safe to say that many individual's emotions have been raging high. Even in the body of Christ, as many believers have been situated between the uncontrollable and the uncertain, emotions have taken a toll on many in view of their faith, pushing even believers to unfathomable amounts of frustration.

While we proclaim that one should not be governed by emotions, they are however the animating force within us that tends to energize and motivate us. They are the desires that often propel us forward and the forces that hold us back. Therefore, it is important that we bring our emotions into alignment with our beliefs because to neglect to do so is to end up working against ourselves both spiritually and even physically.

Now because an individual cannot live in conflict with himself indefinitely, he will eventually then change his behavior or his beliefs. Unfortunately, the trend in our culture is to change beliefs over behavior—the idea of changing one's theology in order to accommodate one's situation, which is why so many people today claim that certain behaviors are lifestyle choices and not sin. Unwilling to change their behavior and unable to live in conflict, they change what they think (or desire to think) is true to match what they want to do. In the long run, this type of thinking does not work because emotions are unstable and fickle, and what we want generally changes with the wind.

Thus, we must take responsibility for our emotions and carefully ensure that the motivating factor behind them will ultimately bring pleasure to God. As believers, we must guard our emotions, harness our reactions, and never blame others for our inappropriate response in any situation. When we take responsibility for our own emotions, we stop short of blaming outside forces for our inappropriate responses, realizing that no situation requires us to act inappropriately or is a license to sin. Take responsibility for your actions, discipline your emotions, and be freed from the horrible cycle of victimization.



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BALANCING FAITH AND FEAR

BY MIN. DERRICK MOORE



As our country attempts to navigate through a pandemic that has claimed nearly 500,000 lives and altered nearly every aspect of our daily existence, believers are faced with the somewhat arduous yet necessary task of balancing faith and fear.

Faith is described as complete trust or confidence in someone or something. Fear is described as an unpleasant emotion caused by the belief that someone or something is dangerous, likely to cause pain or a threat. Is it possible for these two dynamics to co-exist (faith and fear) in the lives of a believer?

With the fear of rising unemployment, increasing death tolls, healthcare skepticisms and the utter eradication of societal norms, how does one hold on to his/her faith? I submit to you that if you believe in the God of the Bible, your testimony will undoubtedly be that faith never failed you. There is no need to give credence to fear when our God is more credible. Fear says that you are sick but faith says "by His stripes, I am healed." Fear says you are unemployed and can't provide the basic necessities for your family but faith says "And my God shall supply all my needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Fear says that you are lonely but faith says "And behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the world." There is no need to fear the unknown when our God is everything we need at all times.

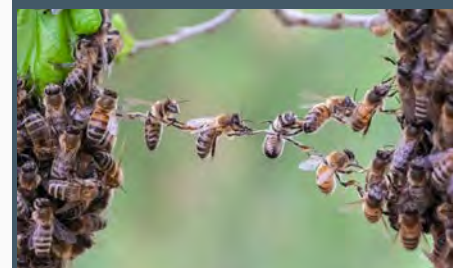
Be encouraged my friend. Despite the unrest in the land, fear not because He that has begun a good work in you shall perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. That sickness is not unto death. You are already healed. Your children will be saved. Your marriage will be successful. You are a "more than" conqueror. 2 Timothy 1:7 proclaims "For God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power, and of love and of a sound mind." HOLD ON TO YOUR FAITH!!!!!!

I have a deep passion for the betterment of our people. As a member of The National Urban League Leadership Academy, 100 Black Men of Baltimore, Baltimore City Citizens Advisory Board and Baltimore United For Change, it is my endeavor to implement and support initiatives that not only uplift our people but ignite a desire to better humanity.



"God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power.."

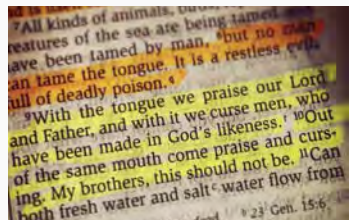
2 TIMOTHY 1:7





HEAD TO TOE PRAYER SERIES - CHRISTLIKE SPEECH

BY EVANG. KAY N. HARDING



Jesus said, "... men ought always to pray, and not to faint...(Luke 18:1)." In this series, we will focus our attention on examining our tongues – the words that come out of our mouth to determine if we have a righteous tongue. As we take this journey, let's consider the following scriptures to help us focus our reflections and prayers:

Kind Words:

- **Colossians 4:6** - "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."
- **Proverbs 16:24** - "Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones."
- **James 1:19** - "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger."
- **Proverbs 15:1-2** - "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouths of fools pour out folly."

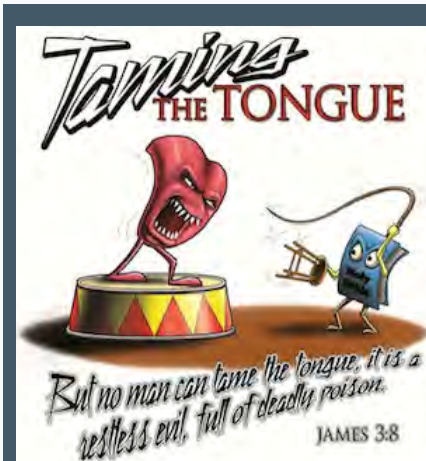
Wrong Words:

- **James 3:9-12** - "With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be ... Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water."
- **Ephesians 4:29** - "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." **Colossians 3:8** - "But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: ... malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips."

Dear Father,

Lord help us to *THINK* before we speak. Lord help us to use the *THINK* acronym to decide if what we have to say is True, Helpful, Inspiring, Necessary, or Kind. And Lord, also help us to consider if what we have to say is righteous. In Jesus Name, Amen.

This month, you are encouraged to continue to find additional scriptures on the tongue, memorize and pray those scriptures over yourself. Next month, we will focus on another part of the body in our journey through the Head to Toe Prayer Series.



"Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul.."

PROV. 16:24





A MOMENT IN CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST HISTORY: BISHOP C. H. MASON

BY MIN. RODNEY MARTIN

Bishop C.H. Mason was born Charles Harrison Mason on the Prior farm near Bartlett, Tennessee. Most historical accounts record Bishop Mason's date of birth as September 8, 1866. However, there are some historians that debate that fact, pushing his original date of birth to back to September 8, 1862. Mason's parents, Jerry and Eliza Mason, were devout members of the Missionary Baptist Church. It was as a child that Mason's mother would pray over him, asking God to watch over him and to help him live a life that was dedicated to him. Those prayers took root in Mason, who often prayed with his mother for the same religious experience he had heard about from former slaves and seen demonstrated in his own life.

In 1878, a yellow fever epidemic broke out, forcing them to leave their home in Tennessee for Plummersville, Arkansas. There, the elder Masons became tenant farmers on the Watson Plantation. A year later, the yellow fever epidemic claimed the life of Jerry Mason, forcing young Charles to discontinue his schooling to help provide for the family. A year later in 1880, Bishop Mason himself was stricken with yellow fever to the point of death but was miraculously healed by the power of God in September 1880, thus chartering his course for life changing ministry. After being baptized by his half-brother, Rev. I.S. Nelson, Bishop Mason shared the story of his divine healing throughout southern Arkansas, eventually being ordained into ministry in 1891.

Mason then enrolled in Arkansas Baptist College in 1893 where he became acquainted with Charles Price Jones, a fellow Baptist minister enrolled in the program there. After embracing the doctrine of sanctification, Jones and Mason found themselves being pushed out of the Arkansas Baptist circles that vehemently opposed this "radical" doctrine. However, Jones and Mason, convinced that the spirit of God was with them, left the Baptist church to form a religious movement centered around the doctrine of sanctification and holiness. This movement, known as the Church of God in Christ, began its formative work with both Mason and Jones working together in concert from 1895 to 1907. In 1907, after receiving word of a revival that had broken out on Azusa Street in Los Angeles, California, Mason travelled to Los Angeles, CA in the spring of 1907 where he was subsequently baptized in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues according to Acts 2:4.

After returning home, Mason encountered resistance to this new "Pentecostal" experience and this resistance eventually caused a split between Mason and Jones regarding the doctrine of glossolalia or "speaking in tongues". After a lengthy court battle, Mason retained use of the name Church of God in Christ, thus marking the official birth of our great denomination. The accomplishments of Bishop Mason are too numerous to mention but include such feats as: establishment of the International Holy Convocation, the building of the first national tabernacle in 1925, the building and establishing of Mason Temple as world headquarters in 1945, the establishment of the Women's Department, and the birthing out of many other auxiliary functions. On November 17, 1961, after 54 years as Founder and Presiding Bishop, Charles Harrison Mason transitioned from labor to reward.



"Cast the devil out of your mind.."

BISHOP C. H. MASON





THE IMPORTANCE OF STRESS MANAGEMENT

BY NICOLE LAW



During these times, juggling multiple aspects of life along with the pandemic can increase stress. Stress can negatively influence your physical and mental health. Whether you are currently dealing with a high-stress situation or are looking for ways to manage the general stress in your life, here are some tips to use.

Identifying Stress

First, it is crucial to identify the stress in your life to determine its origin. Stress can develop from life-altering events or everyday feelings, thoughts, and behaviors. Knowing what is causing your stress is the key to properly managing and potentially eradicating it. Take a moment to reflect on your actions, behaviors, responsibilities, and commitments. The cause of your stress could be determined within any of these reflections. Once you figure out the cause, you will be better equipped to develop a way to effectively manage the specific cause that leads to your stress.

Prioritizing and Changing

When charged with multiple tasks and responsibilities, it is important to prioritize these commitments. Determine which commitment is the most important and categorize the remaining tasks/responsibilities in a way that makes them easier to manage. This could mean focusing on only one task instead of multiple tasks or saying “no” to a potential additional responsibility to avoid unnecessary stress.

If you find that the cause of stress stems from a particular behavior, then changing that behavior, as hard as it sounds, may be the proper course of action. Stop an action that continues to trigger unnecessary stress or determine a different way to address the stress that comes from the action. Reframing a problem is a great way to positively readjust your perspective and the stress from that problem.

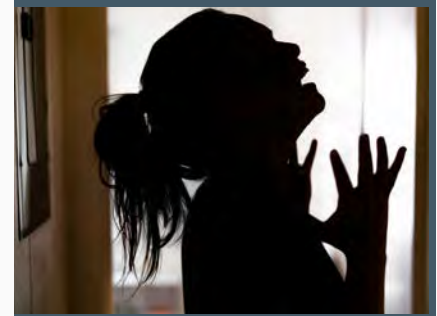
Finding New Perspective

Stress management is important to encourage healthy lifestyles and to increase productivity. Managing personal and work-related tasks, not over-committing, and learning to reflect upon and change actions directly causing stress are just a few tips to try the next time you feel overwhelmed and stressed out.



"And the peace
of God...shall
keep your hearts
and minds..."

PHILLIPIANS 4:7





COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT - CREATING UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

BY SHARON LAW

Holly Shook and Brian Gray's passion for a great cup of coffee coupled with their desire to help young people realize their full potential gave birth to CUPs (Creating Unlimited Possibilities) Coffeehouse. Originally located in the Hollins Market community, CUPs is committed to creating opportunities for Baltimore area youth, providing exceptional coffee, food, service and building strong communities.

CUPs Coffeehouse co-founders Holly & Brian recognized the need for at-risk youth to have opportunities to learn, thrive and be successful. "Without additional opportunities to gain necessary job, communication and life skills, a legacy of unemployment, insufficient income levels, above-average arrest rates, and parental absenteeism will continue. Job opportunities must be made accessible to people who want to break these cycles, in an environment focused on training and developing practical job and life skills that are transferable to any career or life circumstance."

"A zip code should not be destiny. CUPs Coffeehouse is your local social enterprise coffee shop where your purchase makes a difference. While you enjoy a great cup of coffee and sandwich, you can know every dollar of profit is reinvested in disconnected Baltimore youth. At CUPs, youth find first jobs and second chances." Holly Shook

CUPs Coffeehouse is structured around Project I CAN a 12-month youth development and work readiness program which re-engages disconnected youth ages 16 to 24 years in real-world work experience, enrichment classes, community service and comprehensive case management. Youth interns receive direct training and mentoring. They gain experience, technical and social skills necessary in the restaurant and hospitality industry. Additionally, interns gain valuable leadership skills through planning, organizing and implementing community engagement projects. Project I CAN provide work, life and leadership skills in a supportive environment so that youth can become successful in life and career.

"This work becomes an endurance test sometimes. But we take strength and joy from every alum's success story, every time an intern starts to show confidence, every connection between neighbor and youth. We feel the returns of investing in Baltimore's youth every day, and that is why we are here, every day, and that is what you believe in when you believe in CUPs." Holly Shook

For more information, visit CUPs website at cupscoffeehouse.org



"A zip code
should not be
destiny..."

HOLLY SHOOK





CARTER MEMORIAL CHILDREN'S CHURCH

BY SIS. LANETTE HENDERSON



THE COURAGE TO LEAD SERIES




Children's Church is a Sunday worship experience that meets the needs and interests of Kingdom youth. The worship experience is vibrant, inclusive, engaging and relevant to youth. Children's Church meets every 1st & 3rd Sunday at 1:00 pm. For more information, text CCZOOM to (855) 508-7521.

The Children's Church Department began its new series, "The Courage to Lead," in January with an introduction to Leadership (**Exodus 3; Joshua 1; Matthew 16:24**).

THE COURAGE TO LEAD: DEBORAH THE JUDGE

How can we be courageous?

Write down **3 ways** that you can be a courageous leader this week!



* **MARCH** - "The Courage to Lead: Women in the Bible (**Judges 4-5; Matthew 26:7-13; John 11:2**)



LEADERSHIP
Mother Barbara McCoo Lewis
General Supervisor
Department of Women, COGIC, Inc.



LEADERSHIP
Deborah the Judge



COURAGEOUS
Mary of Bethany



YOUTH CHURCH SPOTLIGHT

BY ELD. DEVIN ROBERTS, YOUTH PASTOR

Ethan LaShaun Jackson (affectionately known as 'E') is the youngest of three teenage sons of Elder Dario and Evangelist Vanya Jackson. Ethan gave his life to Jesus Christ on March 14, 2018 during a morning worship service at Carter Memorial Church.

Ethan is a freshman at Wilde Lake High School and has done phenomenally well during the challenges of virtual learning. He has thrived in the virtual environment and increased his GPA from 3.0 to 3.25 in one semester, as well as being nominated for the Student of the Quarter award. Ethan is a gifted basketball and football player, which has allowed him to be one of the top players chosen by coaches to travel with several athletic teams. He aspires to attend a 4-year university or college on a full dual scholarship for academics and athletics.

Ethan is quiet, intuitive, loving, strong-willed, a protector, athletic, intelligent, very respectful, and has a great smile. He is very focused, driven and unknown to many, has a love and anointing to sing!!!



ETHAN "E" JACKSON



YOUTH PASTOR Elder Devin Roberts



CHILDREN'S CHURCH Sis. Lanette Henderson



YWE COORDINATOR Sis. Cherise Roberts





CELEBRATION OF WOMEN'S MONTH DR. PATRICIA C. WELLS

By Sis. Veronica Dorsey



Carter Memorial Church Of God In Christ (COGIC) is blessed to have in our midst Dr. Patricia C Wells, District Missionary, Historian, Professor, World Traveler, and Professor. Dr. Wells brings a wealth of history, knowledge and insight to the members of Carter Memorial Church.

Dr. Wells is originally from Michigan Southwest, where her parents were instrumental in laying the foundation in the early years with the founder of the COGIC, Bishop Charles H. Mason. Dr. Wells' father, Bishop Nathaniel Wells, Sr. was the Bishop of Foreign Fields Missions and a pioneer of the work in Southwest Michigan. Her mother, Lady Mildred C. Wells, was the National Editor for the Sunshine Band and wrote topics for the Children's Bible Study for over 20 years. Mother Mildred Wells worked for many years under the administration of Mother Lillian Coffee, the 2nd National Mother of the COGIC.

Dr. Wells' Uncle, the late Bishop Wyoming Wells, served on the COGIC General Board of Bishops, and was the Bishop of North Carolina. Bishop Wyoming Wells was known as a Moses-like leader, and was able to increase the membership from a small congregation to one that grew by the hundreds with assistance from a weekly radio broadcast that began in the summer of 1946. Additionally, Dr. Wells' brother, the late Bishop Nathaniel Wyoming Wells Jr., served on the COGIC Board of Bishops and was the Prelate of the Michigan Western Jurisdiction. Bishop Nathaniel W. Wells, Jr. was the former pastor of Holy Trinity Institutional COGIC located in Muskegon, Michigan. Dr. Wells was a former organist for over thirty years at the Michigan COGIC music ministry until she was called to preach/teach the gospel. During the 1970s, she was licensed as a Missionary in the COGIC. After receiving her license, Dr. Wells then began her ministry in the Foreign Missions field.

Dr. Wells earned her Doctoral Degree in Biblical Theology, primarily focusing on the History of the Church of God in Christ. She holds several degrees in various studies, one being a Master degree in Linguistics in South African Studies. Dr. Wells retired from the Michigan State Government as a District Executive with the Department of Civil Rights. She then became a professor at Morgan State University in Baltimore, MD teaching courses in Human Rights. Dr. Wells received a Fulbright Fellowship to study abroad researching the Asian Culture as it relates to African Americans in the Bible. Dr. Wells traveled to Hong Kong, Vietnam, China and Japan conducting research while studying abroad.

Dr. Wells initially became a watch care member of Carter Memorial in 1997 under the leadership of Bishop Ellis. She is no longer under watch care, and is a significant and well-loved member of Carter Memorial Church. When asked what historical lesson she would like to share with the members of Carter, she stated "Whatever you do, do it for God's Glory, so His Glory can be manifested throughout the earth. We may not understand what is happening, but Trust God. No matter what, things will work out."



CELEBRATION OF WOMEN'S MONTH Carter Connection Staff Writers



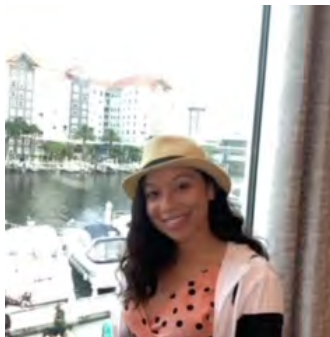
Veronica Dorsey is a native of Washington, DC. She is currently employed with the Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration as a Contracting Officer.

Veronica's hobbies are writing poetry, reading mystery books, and trying baking recipes. She is passionate about her nephews: Kevin, Antione, Delonte, and Bryan; her niece, Niveka, whom she was blessed to raise after the passing of her sister, Javada; and her great-niece, JaVae, who is the new addition to the family. **A fun fact:** Veronica recently discovered she has interior decorating skills.



Kendra Brown currently serves as Director of Public Policy for Mastercard. She is a former Chief of Staff in the U.S. Congress and is a graduate of Hampton University, Vermont Law School, Howard University School of Divinity and George Washington University Law School.

She is committed to community engagement and empowerment and sets forth this commitment in various ways, including as the President of her Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., through board service, and as the Chair of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission Maryland State Advisory Committee. She is a proud member of Carter Memorial Church and serves as an Evangelist, in the Women's Ministry and as a Staff Writer/Copy Editor for the Carter Memorial Church Newsletter. Her daughter, Brooklynn, is an active participant of the Carter Youth Ministry, the Girl Scouts and loves spending time with her family. **Fun Fact:** Kendra has been an avid skier since middle school.



Nicole Law has been a member of Carter Memorial Church for her entire life. With a passion for writing and editing, she makes it her mission to create intriguing documents that will educate and inspire.

Fun fact: She loves rollercoasters and traveling!



CELEBRATION OF WOMEN'S MONTH Carter Connection Staff Writers



Kay Harding, an immigrant from Jamaica defied expectations to earn her law degree from the University of Maryland. She spent 11 years as a staff attorney at the Maryland Legal Aid Bureau in the housing and consumer law unit, where she helped numerous low-income families keep their homes instead of losing them.

Currently she works for the Baltimore City Law Department and is part of the effort to reform the city police department. She is the chair of the diversity committee for the Bar Association of Baltimore City, a member of the inquiry board for the Maryland Judiciary, Commission on Judicial

Disabilities. She is also the former president of the Alliance of Black Women Attorneys in Maryland.

She loves the Lord, enjoys reading and teaching the Word of God, and received her evangelist license May 2017. Harding's favorite scripture is Joshua 1:8, "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."



Sharon Law serves the Lord and the ministry of Carter Memorial Church with heartfelt joy and gladness. As an administrator, she works tirelessly on behalf of the ministry and membership to execute the day-to-day operations of the church office.

Sharon also regularly coordinates various services and activities with the pastor, chief operating officer, staff, church members and the general public. She maintains communication with parishioners and the local community, both in-person and through official correspondences, the church's website and social media pages.

She serves as the Carter Memorial Community Outreach Center Coordinator, responsible for building strategic relationships within the community, planning and executing various outreach activities, and working with community partners to develop & maintain programming for children, youth and their families in the Poppleton Community and the City of Baltimore. **Fun Fact:** Since the age of 7, Sharon has been a bookworm after her mom, Mother Daisy Alleyne, signed her up for the Weekly Reader Book Club.



MARCH ANNOUNCEMENTS



BISHOP'S PRAYER CALL

Join Bishop Carl Pierce, Sr., for a refreshing start to your day with prayer.

WHEN: Every Monday

TIME: 6:00 am EST

DIAL: (717) 401-9985 Access Code: 5905#

WEEKDAY SERVICES



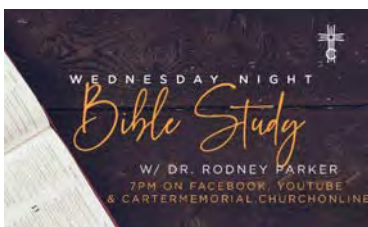
Join the Carter Memorial Church family in the Virtual Living Room for Worship and the Word every Sunday at 10:00 am EST.

www.Facebook.com/CMCbaltimore
or www.cartermemorial.com



The time to unite in prayer is now. Join us in bombarding Heaven every Monday at 7:00 pm and Wednesday at 12:00 pm EST.

DIAL: (712) 432-0075
PIN: #737082



Join us for mid-week Bible study every Wednesday at 7:00 pm EST.

www.Facebook.com/CMCbaltimore
or www.Cartermemorial.com

FAMILY MINISTRY EVENTS

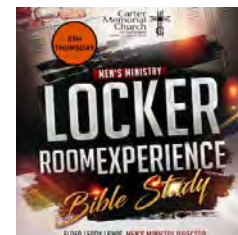


For an engaging discussion in the Word of God, join our Sunday school on "Saturday" at 6:00 pm EST.

SS Registration



"Women's Fireside Chat," a time for the Women's Ministry to connect every 4th Thursday @ 7:00 pm.



"Men's Locker Room" conversations inspire and challenge men for Kingdom assignments every 4th Thursday @ 7:00 pm.



YWE - Sisterhood, Journaling, Discussions and more. Text CCZOOM to 855-508-7521



Children's Church meets every 1st & 3rd Sunday @ 1:00 pm.

Teen Church meets every 2nd & 4th Sunday @ 1:00 pm. Every 5th Sunday is Fun Fellowship Sunday for all Youth! To register, Text "CCZOOM" to 855-508-7521.