

## **Bishop Smith encourages the saints that they are chosen**



**In the Photo:** Bishop Charles D. Smith preaching at Promise church on August 25.

FORT WALTON BEACH FLA. – During the month of August, Bishop Charles D. Smith, Pastor of Promise and the Presiding Bishop of the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction, encouraged the saints at Promise to walk in a way to show that they are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation and a peculiar people.

Teaching from I Peter 2:9-10 on August 25, Bishop Smith explained those scriptures. “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.”

Bishop Smith said, “We are chosen by God because we have accepted Jesus and repented from our sins. God wants to save everyone, so convincing as many people as we can through the

Holy Ghost to follow Jesus is what God wants us to do. Chosen people of God have brotherly love, are holy and follow peace with all men.” (Hebrews 13:1 and Hebrews 12:14-15)

“Among us who are a chosen generation, we are supposed to have the love that is in I Corinthians 13:4-8, 13,” said Bishop Smith. “Charity suffereth long, and is kind: charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.”

“The first obstacle we need to overcome is ourselves. Jesus told the disciples to love one another because He knew that they could not work together if they did not love one another. It is a burden to me when Holy-Ghost filled people are mean and insensitive to one another,” said Bishop Smith.

Bishop Smith closed by saying there are two things we must have: peace and holiness. “Loving everyone means that we can forgive everyone,” he said.

# The Bishop's Corner

## *God is the Answer*

Praise the Lord Saints,

“Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them” (Hebrews 7:25).

Our answer to everything we need and are going through is in God. My desire is that everyone would let God do what He wants to do for him or her. Even if we are not aware of God's presence, He is still there to work out things for us. If we allow God to have control, He would do so much more for us.

“Trust in the Lord with all thine heard; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)

If we have the attitude that we do not need God, we will miss all that God can do for us. The material things that we have might make us think that we do not need God, but He can give us so much more. “The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it” (Proverbs 10:22).

Many times, we do things and afterwards we are sorry. In those instances, we were not letting God lead us, but we were moved by our emotions. We should always allow God to work out things for us because we all can use more blessings, grace, deliverances, healings, etc. in our lives. God is a good God and when the preaching of the word of God happens, we should listen and obey. For every year that I did not choose to serve God, I missed all of those blessings He would have given me.

When Joshua and the Children of Israel faced the Wall of Jericho in Joshua 5:12-15, Joshua was probably wondering how the wall was going to come down. God gave him instructions of what He wanted Joshua to do to cause the wall to fall. Joshua and Israel had to have faith in God and trust and obey His instructions.

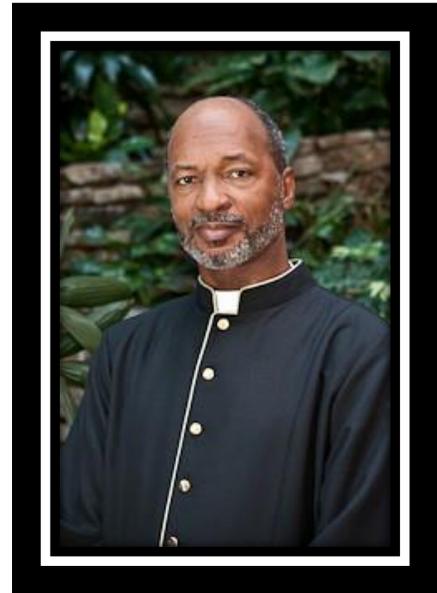
“Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in” (Joshua 6:1). Sometimes we can have a wall that we need to march around in prayer, praise, etc. until God causes that wall to come down. God can pull that wall down so that we have peace and people can come together. The biggest wall we needed to come down in our lives was sin.

“For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; and that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby; and came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father” (Ephesians 2:14-18).

God sent Jesus to tear down the wall of sin for us because we needed a savior; we could not do it ourselves. Rather than running ourselves into the wall, we ought to trust God and obey His Word because Jesus is the answer.

God bless all of you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith  
Gulf Coast Jurisdiction



## Category: Events

*One church had a food drive; two others had wedding ceremonies, and revivals; celebrated the pastor's birthday; fellowshiped at lunch; gave a faithful award and encouraged the saints.*



- **From Prince of Peace:** On August 10, 2019, the saints at Prince of Peace had a food drive from their Saving Grace Food Pantry. The purpose of the drive was to give back to the community. The church gave food to about 85 families. "I thank Missionary Euda Thomas, Exhorter Heaven Rogers and Brother Devonte Harrison for helping to make the food drive possible and successful."

*Pastor Paulette Harrison:* "We had a lot of fun doing this community service project."



**In the Photos:** Pastor Paulette Harrison and Missionary Euda Thomas participating in the food drive at Prince of Peace Church in Jacksonville, Fla.



- **From Lily of the Valley:** August 20-21, 2019, Elder Ruth Latham, the Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Evangelistic Team Coordinator ran a revival at Lily of the Valley. The response from the saints was that the Spirit was with her. We all were encouraged and were given many scriptures to remind us of the benefits we have because the Lord chose us (Psalms 103).

*Sister Sereese Davis:* “We had a great time in the Lord and were very blessed.”

- **From New Covenant:** The New Covenant saints enjoyed the fellowship of Exhorter Nina Murphy while she was attending Chief Leadership School here at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala. We presented Exhorter Murphy with a Faithful Fellowship Award for her fellowship, inspirational spirit, and dedication to the Lord while performing her military duties. We also had a wonderful time canvassing the neighborhood and nearby shopping center.

*Elder Bonita Russell:* “We look forward to the next canvassing event.”



- **From Christ the Redeemer:** Minister Shaneika and Exhorter Tyrone Brinkley renewed their wedding vows in celebration of their 10th wedding anniversary. Pastor Carlos Thompson performed the ceremony at Christ the Redeemer Church in Gulfport, Miss. on August 10. The saints from around the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction attended to help the couple celebrate their happy union.

*Minister Kourtney Littlejohn:* “We are very happy for Shaneika and Tyrone Brinkley.”

**In the Photo:** Mr. and Mrs. Tyrone Brinkley.

*Congratulations!*

**More wedding photos of Mr. and Mrs. Brinkley:**



**In the Photos:** Mr. and Mrs. Tyrone Brinkley and those who attended their wedding vow renewal.

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**More August Stories:**

- **From Christ the Redeemer:** Pastor Carlos Thompson and Elder Treani Thompson treated the saints at Christ the Redeemer to lunch at Sicily's Italian Buffet following a Sunday service in August. We had lots of laughs and sweet fellowship.

*Minister Kourtney Littlejohn:* "We thank the Thompson's for their love and generosity."



**In the Photos:** Sicily's Italian Buffet and the Christ the Redeemer saints enjoying food and fellowship.



- **From Christ the Redeemer:** Elder Treani Thompson and the saints from Christ the Redeemer surprised Pastor Carlos Thompson with a 50th Birthday Celebration. Saints from around the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction came to fellowship and give words of encouragement to him. The Mayor of Biloxi honored Pastor Thompson with a certificate of declaration for his commitment to the community, and his birthday will be in future Gulfport city calendars.

*Minister Kourtney Littlejohn:* "We had a great time of food, fun and fellowship."



**Pastor Thompson's birthday celebration photos continue:**



**In the Photos:** Pastor Carlos Thompson and the saints celebrating his 50th birthday in Gulfport, Miss. on August 31.

**Pastor Thompson's birthday celebration photos continue:**



**In the Photos:** Pastor Carlos Thompson and the saints celebrating his 50th birthday in Gulfport, Miss. on August 31.



• **From Spirit of Christ:** Everyone was excited this month at Spirit of Christ as we anticipated the marriage union of our Minister of Music, Minister Stephen Calix to Sister Tonya Bloxson on August 24, 2019. Pastor Tom Calix had the pleasure and honor of performing his son's ceremony, which was a beautiful moment for all in attendance.

*Elder Debbie Calix:* "We congratulate the new Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Calix, and we pray God's blessings as they grow together in their union and in the church with the Lord as their binding cord."



**Stephen's and Tonya's wedding photos continue:**



**In the Photos above:** Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Calix and those who participated in their wedding ceremony.

**In the Photo:** The proud parents: Pastor Alonzo and Sister Gyra Bloxson from Covenant Community Church, and Pastor Tom and Elder Debbie Calix from Spirit of Christ CLGI with the happy couple Minister Stephen and Sister Tonya Calix.

*Congratulations!*



## More August Stories:

- **From Spirit of Christ:** It was "Summer Revival" time at Spirit of Christ on August 25. A



host of Church of the Living God International musicians and singers from across the United States (California, Ohio, Georgia, Alabama and Florida) participated in the service of the Lord to bless the people. Local Christian Radio station WPSM 91.1 provided daily advertisement to the

surrounding communities to let them know that God would be pouring out His Spirit at 206 Jonquil Avenue NW in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. Pastor Tom Calix brought forth a message to let the people know that "the Lord was standing at the door of their heart knocking" and "that He was waiting for them to open their hearts and invite Him in" because "He wants to be that friend that sticks closer than a brother." The response to the alter call and remarks from those who received prayer was confirmation that it was just what they needed from the Lord. At the conclusion of the service, Pastor Calix opened the doors of the church to Brother Gregory and Sister Christine Slagle who expressed a sincere desire to join the church. Pastor Calix and all the saints gave them the right hand of fellowship for being new members.

*Elder Debbie Calix:* "We would like to welcome the Slagle Family to Spirit of Christ, the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction and the Church of the Living God International family."



**In the Photos:** Saints participating in the summer revival at Spirit of Christ church in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. on August 25.

## Spirit of Christ revival photos continue:



**In the Photos:** Saints welcoming the Slagle family as new members to Spirit of Christ church.

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- **From the GCJ Evangelistic Team:** Elder Ruth Latham the Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Evangelistic Team Coordinator had the opportunity to fellowship with the saints at the Colorado Springs Worship Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado on August 18, 2019. She encouraged the saints that many are called, but few are chosen (Matthew 22:14). “Those that accepted the call of God in believing in His Son Jesus Christ are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation and a peculiar people,” she said.

**In the Photo:** Elder Ruth Latham, Minister Rachel Latham and members of Colorado Springs Worship Center.

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## Category: Prayer Request

*The saints need healings.*

- **From the Editorial Staff:** The saints below need prayer. If you have a prayer request, please submit it to the monthly newsletter. We will run the testimonies of saints’ answered prayers in the newsletter. “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (James 5:16).

Minister Xiomara Rivera (Healing)  
Elder T’Angela Rogers (Healing)  
Elder Kim Montgomery (Healing)  
Minister George McFadden (Healing)  
Minister Norma Taylor’s Mother (Healing)  
Minister Joseph Johnson (Healing)  
Brother Joshua Henderson (Healing)

Elder Paulette Harrison (Healing)  
Sister Carolyn Russell (Healing)  
Minister Ricketa Hurdle (Healing)  
Brother Anthony Burrell (Complete Healing)  
Elder LaToya Smith's Father (Complete Healing)  
Minister Chemiese Hall's Niece (Healing)  
Minister Chemiese Hall's Sister (Comfort)  
Sister Francesca Di Chiaro (Healing)  
Sister Alyssa (Minister Desiree Sewell Walker's daughter) (Healing)  
Minister Danni Garcia's Mother (Healing)  
Bishop Royschel Richardson's Mother (Healing)  
Minister Tina Martin's Father (Healing)  
Sister T'Shaura Gay's Mother (Healing)  
Minister Sirita Loiseau (Healing)  
Mother Dorothy Harrison (Healing)

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### **Category: Testimonies**

*Saints received healings and blessings from the Lord.*

- **From Exhorter Franz Loiseau:** Praise the Lord Saints!

My wife, Minister Sirita Loiseau, recently had surgery to replace her right knee on July 24, 2019. She started having complications the next day. There were no problems with the surgery, but because she suffers from a blood clotting disorder, things were complicated by the bleeding and the forming blood clots. The surgeon had never seen this before. They could not give her blood thinner otherwise she would bleed where they just performed the surgery, and if they did not give blood thinner, blood clots would form. My wife's leg became hard as a rock, and it started turning blue and black. Thank God, I stayed with her in the hospital because it was when she began to complain about the pain that I noticed her leg started turning color and becoming hard.

I let the nurse know, but she did not seem too worried. As I would look at it daily, however, it was getting worse. I called the nurse and strongly insisted that she call the doctor to let him know the condition of my wife's leg or I would be taking my wife to another hospital. They started getting worried; my wife's leg was solid as a rock. I prayed to the Lord for mercy and guidance and He did that. I called my wife's primary care manager, and they referred me to Tricare.

When I called Tricare, I was the fourth in line. The Spirit said to call Bishop White so I hung up from Tricare and called him. But I was so overwhelmed that I could not even talk to Bishop White. Bishop said to put my wife on the phone, so I held the phone to her ear, and Bishop prayed for her. Immediately after Bishop prayed the Lord began moving. The doctors spoke to me and explained the severity of the situation. The hospital called in several specialists and then they began to see the severity of her situation. Apparently, my wife developed two blood clots: one in the back of her calf and the second in her upper thigh. The blood clots were squeezing her blood vessels and veins closed. The doctors said that because the clots were pressing on the veins and blood vessels, they must relieve the pressure; otherwise, there was a good chance of her losing her leg. I called my mother-in-law, and she caught the next flight to Florida.

My wife's hematologist said to give her heparin, which would resolve the clots, but they still would have to go into her veins and remove the clots. They took her into surgery a day later and performed a four-and-a-half hour surgical thrombectomy to remove the clots. During the procedure, the doctor had to call in another specialist to assist him because the clots were so bad. After the procedure, the doctor explained the situation. He said my wife's leg would begin to improve, and it did.

My wife spent two and a half weeks in the hospital steadily improving, and she is continuing to improve daily. She is currently going through physical therapy at home, and a nurse comes to the house to change her bandage three times a week.

The Lord showed the doctors what to do because they had never experienced a patient with such a severe case. The two options the doctors had worked against each other. Therefore, the doctors did not know what to do. The Lord stepped in and provided just what they needed and what my wife needed. Please continue to pray for Minister Loiseau. You may send words of encouragement to [frantz.loiseau.1@gmail.com](mailto:frantz.loiseau.1@gmail.com).

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### **Category: Upcoming Events**

- **From the Evangelistic Team:** Below are the Evangelistic team members for the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction. Please pray that the Lord will use them mightily to speak words that are Spirit and life and confirm His Word by miracles, wonders and signs. If you need a revival at your church, please contact one of the evangelists listed below to check his or her availability.

1. Elder Ruth Latham
2. Elder Tom Calix
3. Minister Crystal Derico
4. Minister Shaundra Smith
5. Minister Sirita Loiseau
6. Minister Desiree Walker

### **2019 Revival Schedule**

24-25 Oct (*Thur-Fri*) **Spirit of Christ**, Fort Walton Beach, Fla. (*Confirmed*)

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- **From the Administrative Staff:** Saints please be mindful of these upcoming events.

### **The 2019 Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Calendar**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Event</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>
Sep 20-22	International Missions Conference	Columbus, Ohio
<b>Oct 11-13</b>	<b>Holy of Holies Tabernacle Anniv.</b>	<b>Holiday, Fla.</b>
<b>Nov 22-24</b>	<b>Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Meeting</b>	<b>FWB, Fla.</b>
<b>Dec 7-8</b>	<b>Elder Thompson Pastoral Anniv.</b>	<b>Gulfport, Miss.</b>

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*If you read this Gulf Coast Jurisdictional monthly newsletter and enjoy the articles, then please help us keep it going by submitting articles and photos to [eldrlatham@yahoo.com](mailto:eldrlatham@yahoo.com) so we can enjoy reading and seeing the activities at your church.*

*Thanks to all of you who faithfully support the newsletter with your monthly inputs.*

*Very Respectively,  
The Editorial Staff*

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