

Bishop Smith encourages the GCJ saints to change

FORT WALTON BEACH, FLA. – “We should allow the Holy Spirit to transform us into the image of Christ from glory to glory,” said Bishop Charles D. Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Bishop, and Pastor of Promise Church, while teaching on Tuesday night, September 12, 2023. Those who could not make it to the church were able to participate via Zoom.

Bishop Smith taught from 2 Corinthians 3:18, which reads: “But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”

“God is looking for people who will mirror Jesus Christ and obey the Holy Spirit,” said Bishop Smith. “We must have the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:5-8) and not try to hold on to our old self. We must allow the Holy Spirit to have free reign in our lives and transform us to be what God wants us to be in Him.”

Bishop Smith said that the saints should obey God as Gideon did in Judges 6:14-16, which reads: “Then the Lord turned to him and said, ‘Go in the might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?’ So he said to Him, ‘O my Lord, how can I save Israel? Indeed my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father’s house.’ And the Lord said to him, ‘Surely I will be with you, and you shall defeat the Midianites as one man.’”

Bishop Smith said, “Gideon is a perfect example of someone who thought he couldn’t do what God told him to do, but he trusted and obeyed God and allowed God to change his mind so he could gain the victory over Israel’s enemy.”

Bishop Smith concluded by saying, “We too must change as Gideon did and not try to hold onto our old selves, but do as Jesus said in Matthew 10:38-39, which is to take up our cross and follow Him and lose our life as we know it for Jesus’ sake so that we can find it.”



The Bishop's Corner

Consider your ways

Praise the Lord Saints,

“Then the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, saying, ‘Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple to lie in ruins?’ Now therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: “Consider your ways! ‘You have sown much, and bring in little; You eat, but do not have enough; You drink, but you are not filled with drink; You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; And he who earns wages, earns wages to put into a bag with holes.’ Thus says the Lord of hosts: ‘Consider your ways! Go up to the mountains and bring wood and build the temple, that I may take pleasure in it and be glorified,’ says the Lord” (Haggi 1:3-8, NKJV).

God was no longer first in Israel’s life so God sent the prophet Haggai to tell them to consider their way. We too must ensure that we keep Jesus first in our lives because the Apostle Paul tells us in Colossians 1:18 that Christ has gained preeminence, which means that He is first. “And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.”

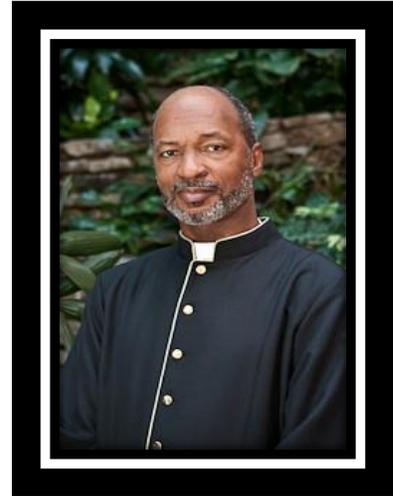
Jesus gained this preeminence because of His obedience to God and the finished work of the cross. “And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 2:8-11, NKJV). We must have the same mind as Jesus and obey God because everything that we get from God comes through Jesus. We must consider our ways in everything we do and ensure that we seek to please God every day.

The world should see God through us because Jesus said that we are the light of the world. “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven” (Matthew 5:14-16, NKJV). We should never be in any environment where the darkness around us overwhelms us. Because unless we walk in the light all the time, we will never be able to draw anyone else to the Light (Jesus).

Jesus is our high priest and He is above all things in the heavens. “For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens” (Hebrews 7:26). Consider your ways because you have help to make it through this life. “Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:16, NKJV).

God bless you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith
Gulf Coast Jurisdiction



For more of Bishop Smith's teachings, go to the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Website at <http://www.gulfcoastelgi.org> and click on "Encouragement" then "Teachings."

More September stories

Category: Events

2023 International Missions Conference



The Church of the Living God International (CLGI) 2023 Missions Conference was held September 15-17, at The Pool of Bethesda Church, which is the CLGI headquarters, in Columbus, Ohio. Saints from around CLGI



came to participate and receive blessings at this event. This year's theme was "Meet for the Master's Use," and preachers encouraged the saints from 2 Timothy 2:19-21. Saints from the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction, including Bishop Charles D. Smith, GCJ Bishop, and Minister Crystal Derico, GCJ Missions Director, attended the event. Elder Sharon Alston, International missions Director, preached the closeout sermon for the event on Sunday morning, September 17.



Birthday Celebration

Ladies from the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Women's Department came together for lunch to celebrate Elder Paula Smith's birthday at the Boardroom in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. She is the Assistant Pastor of Promise Church and First Lady of the GCJ. The ladies showered Elder Smith with gifts, encouraging words and sweet fellowship.

Category: Departmental Announcements

- **From the GCJ Women's Department:** Women of Faith and Power will meet every first Wednesday at 7 p.m. CST for bible study on Zoom (**Meeting ID: 858 6960 1852, Passcode: 058828**). The women of the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction are encouraged to join these sessions. If you would like the notes or audio recording of any of the Women of

Faith and Power Bible Study lessons, please notify the GCJ Women's Department Director, Minister Shaundra D. Smith: Shaundanae@gmail.com

Women of Faith and Power Bible Study Schedule

November 1, 2023 (7 p.m. CST)

December 6, 2023 (7 p.m. CST)

- **From the GCJ Evangelistic Department:** Below are the members of the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Evangelistic Department. 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 her availability.

1. Elder Ruth Latham
 2. Minister Crystal Derico
 3. Minister Shaundra D. Smith
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Category: Prayer Request

The saints need healing and comfort.

- **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 avails much" (James 5:16b NKJV).

Elder T'Angela Rogers (Healing)
Elder Paulette Harrison (Complete Healing)
Minister Sirita Loiseau (Healing)
Minister India Rogers (Healing)
Elder Deborah Sewell (Healing)
Minister Eartha Howard (Healing)
Elder Bonita Russell (Healing)
Sister Barbara Cooper (Healing)
Minister Kourtney Littlejohn (Healing)
Elder Jacqueline Terrell (Healing)
Elder Angela Jenkins (Healing)
Sister Nancy Torres (Healing)
Sister Eleanor Rogers' Mother (Ms. Rosa Welcome) (Healing)
Elder T'Angela Rogers' Mother and Stepfather (Healing)
Minister Kourtney Littlejohn's Sister (Veronika) (Healing)
Elder Treani Thompson (Healing)
Elder Lakesha Sewell (Healing)
Brother David Hawkins (Healing)

Category: Upcoming Events

- **From the Administrative Department:**

The 2023 Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Calendar

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Locations</u>
Oct 20-22	European Jurisdictional Conference	Rodenbach, Germany
Nov 17-19	Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Conference	FWB, FL
Dec 2-3	Elder Thompson Pastoral Anniversary	Gulfport, MS
Dec 31	New Year's Eve Service	TBD

***Please note that events and dates are subject to change.**



NEW COVENANT
PRESENTS
FALL REVIVAL

GUEST SPEAKER
BISHOP CHARLES D. SMITH

LOCATION
1506 MADISON AVE
MONTGOMERY, AL 36107

SERVICE @ 7PM

THURSDAY & FRIDAY
OCT 19-20 | 2023

HOST
PASTOR AUGUSTUS RUSSELL

ZOOM LIVE
MEETING ID: 853 4248 4995
PASSCODE: 368378

GULF COAST JURISDICTIONAL
BISHOP & PASTOR OF PROMISE CHURCH,
FORT WALTON BEACH, FL

LIKE & FOLLOW **NCC_MONTGOMERY**



GIVEAWAYS, FOOD, & MORE

CHRIST THE REDEEMER
WOMEN'S HEALTH FAIR

CROSSING OUT BREAST CANCER

Saturday, October 21, 2023
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

- FREE FOR ALL WOMEN!

- EDUCATIONAL BOOTHS & RESOURCES

- MEDICAL PROVIDERS

- VENDORS

Blood Pressure Screenings & Educational Sessions
Breast Cancer
Cervical Health
Heart Health
Healthy Eating
Testimonials and More

For More Info Contact 228-604-1222 (Elder Treani Thompson) or 228-831-4225

Christ the Redeemer, CLGI 318 Commerce Street Gulfport, MS 39507

LIGHT

Matthew 5:14, John 8:12, & 1 John 1:5-7

Gulf Coast Jurisdictional Conference

November 17-19, 2023

Promise Church
Jurisdictional Headquarters
716 Edge Street
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

Bishop Charles D. Smith
Gulf Coast Jurisdiction

For Hotel Reservations Visit:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/thechurchofthelivinggod2023/>

Friday, November 17

7:30 pm Opening Worship Service
Registration following service

Saturday, November 18

Seminars

8:00 am - 9:00 am Christian Academic Dept. Minister Crystal Aryitey

9:15 am - 10:15 am Women's Dept. Minister Shaundra Smith

10:30 am - 11:30 am Men's Dept. Minister Travis Sewell

11:45 am - 12:15 pm Usher Dept. Deacon Tony Berrian

12:15 pm - 2:00 pm Lunch

Seminars

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm Missions Dept. Minister Crystal Derico

3:15 pm - 4:15 pm Youth Dept. Minister Shaneika Brinkley

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm Music Dept. Minister Tyrone Brinkley

7:30 pm Evening Worship, Praises and Blessings

Registration following service

Sunday, November 19

9:30 am Baptismal Service

10:00 am Jurisdictional Worship Service/Communion/Benediction



PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!!!

DECEMBER 2nd & 3rd, 2023 A GOOD SHEPHERD....John 10:11-14



DECEMBER 2, 2023
11:00 AM Worship Service
1:00 PM Banquet

DECEMBER 3, 2023
10:00 AM Worship Service
@

CHRIST THE REDEEMER
318 COMMERCE STREET
GULFPORT, MS 39507



POINT OF CONTACT:
BROTHER TONY BERRIAN
(228) 224-5583

Guest Speakers

Bishop Charles D. Smith, Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Bishop

Elder Adrian and Minister Tabitha Hines, Carrollwood Bible Study Leaders

If you read this Gulf Coast Jurisdictional monthly newsletter and enjoy the articles, please help us keep it going by submitting articles and photos to eldruthlath@gmail.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*
