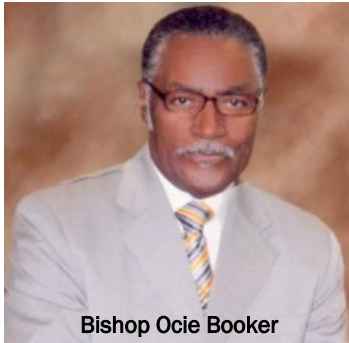


2012 State Workers Meeting: "Faith: The Right Plan"



Bishop Ocie Booker

The First Jurisdiction Illinois Annual Ministers and Workers Meeting convened Monday, March 12 through Friday, March 16th. The theme of the meeting, taken from Matthew 4:1-4, was "Faith - The Right Plan". Each night the saints came from far and near with great expectations for what God was going to do in our presence.



Mother Charlotte Eades

On Monday Night, the meeting opened in Evanston, IL at the Faith Temple Church of God in Christ, where the honorable Bishop Carlis Moody is pastor. The highlight of the evening as always was the word of God. This year the Lord placed District Missionary Caberia Showers on the heart of our prelate, Bishop Ocie Booker to open our Ministers and Workers Meeting. Missionary Caberia Showers who is the District Missionary of the Bishop Shepard Little District delivered an awe inspiring word entitled "I've Made My Choice and I am Staying on Course". Her text was taken from Philippians 3:13-14 where Paul declares "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Missionary Showers opened her message by referencing the recent story of the Costa Concordia Cruise Ship that overturned due to the captain getting off course. Using this tragic accident as a teaching point, she shared with us many examples of how getting off course can cost you significantly. Like the captain of the ship, Missionary Showers informed us that we all have an assignment and we cannot afford to lose focus and get off course. Missionary Showers was at her best. God used this chosen vessel to set the course of our Ministers and Workings meeting with a timely, insightful, inspiring message that we all needed to hear.



On Tuesday Night the saints converged on the west side of Chicago to



the Peoples Church of the Harvest Church of God in Christ where the illustrious and visionary pastor is third Administrative Assistant Superintendent Michael Eaddy. The highlight of the evening was the preached word of God. Second Administrator Assistant, Superintendent Walter Blalark, the celebrated pastor of both Living Gospel and Cole Temple Church was the messenger. After an anointed sermonic Solo from Missionary Carmen McGee entitled "I will bless the Lord", Superintendent Blalark gave insightful remarks and then directed our attention to a very familiar passage of Scripture found in Hebrews 11:1 "

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"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Superintendent Blalark delivered a powerful, thought provoking message to expand our understanding, expectations and appreciation on the topic of faith. His subject was "The Proof of Faith".

Superintendent Blalark stated that the dictionary alludes that there is no proof of faith. It defines Faith as our belief that is not based on proof. However the bible tells us that faith is the evidence of things not seen. He explained that one of the proofs of our faith is the evidence. It is this evidence of what we are unable to see, but yet believe, that motivates us to pursue until what is not seen is seen. He went further to tell us that the proof of our faith is not only in our belief but it impacts the words that we speak over our lives and how we exemplify godliness in our communication and relationship with others. He went further to say that Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross is the ultimate proof of our faith and if we have surrendered our lives to him as our Lord and Saviour, then our Salvation is also the proof of faith.

Superintendent Blalark shared so many wonderful things about faith including a powerful testimony of how he exercised his faith to be delivered from the dependency of high blood pressure medication. In his closing remarks he stressed that we must endeavor to download what we receive in church into our everyday lives. He emphasized that faith is not only spiritual, but practical.

On Wednesday night the First Jurisdiction Illinois Annual Ministers and Workers Meeting convened in Griffith Indiana at the Reed's Temple Church of God in Christ, where the celebrated pastor is Superintendent David A. Reed.

On Wednesday night we come together for a twofold purpose. First, to be a blessing to our sainted Jurisdictional Supervisor, Mother Charlotte Eades, who is indeed worthy of our honor, and to be blessed by her as God uses her to speak to our hearts. This year Mother Eades bestowed the honor and privilege to deliver the official Women's Night message to three powerful and anointed women of the Lord who were armed and ready with the word of God.



After Mother Eades blessed us with brief but inspiring expressions, Sister Yolanda Bateman rendered a sermonic solo that consisted of a medley of inspiring songs that primed our hearts and minds for the anointed word that was to follow. After the sermonic solo, Mother Shirley Hughes presented the three speakers for the evening, Msny. Gloria Parker, Msny. Myrna Herndon and Msny. Felicia Sanders.

For the remainder of this article please visit our website at www.emmanuelcogic.com

Submitted by: Pastor Michael Richardson