

First Things First with Msny. Richardson



Our Annual Women's Day service took place on Sunday, August 19th at 4:00 pm. The service was opened with praise and worship. Yours truly gave a special tribute to Emanuel's matriarch "Mother Elvie Owens, who recently turned 90 years young. The tribute consisted of a collection of her "Words of Wisdom" that she had spoken into the lives of the women of Emanuel over the years. Our men's department, overflowing with enthusiasm from the morning service blessed us with a soul stirring selection entitled "God is My Everything".

Our guest speaker this year was District Missionary Caberia Showers from King of Glory Tabernacle Church of God in Christ. We were blessed to hear a powerful word from John 15:3-5 letting us know that, "Your Connection is Key!"

Here are just a few excerpts of the message:

Whatever you are dreaming or planning on doing in life, your connection is the key.

God had a close relationship with Adam every day until he disobeyed Him and he caused not only himself but all of humanity to become disconnected from God. Adam no longer had that close walk with God as he once did, because he lost his connection. He desired to be closer to Him, but God's voice was not as clear as it once was.

It can be frustrating when your cell phone doesn't have a good connection. You can't hear the person clearly or sometimes your call will be dropped. It's important to have a good connection.

Having the right connection gives you some identity about yourself. If you really want to know the kind of person you are, all you have to do is look around and see what kind of people you associate with. Who is in your inner circle? There is an old saying "birds of a feather flock together." We must be mindful of who we connect ourselves with.

It's vital to be connected to the right source. Jesus is the right source to be connected to. We are seeing so much in our society today and everything seems to be acceptable, but the Word tells us that holiness is right. It might not be a popular lifestyle to the world, but it is still right.

If you want to be successful and fulfill God's purpose and plan for your life you need to get connected to that saving grace which is Jesus Christ.



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Elder Payton directed us to 2 Chronicles 20:1 - 12 and emphasized the 12th verse "O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee." His subject was in the form of a question "What Are you looking At?" Elder Payton gave us a brief summary of life of Judah's King Jehoshaphat and how he almost lost his life by being manipulated by Israel's King Ahab to participate in a battle that was not his to participate in. God spared his life, in which he expressed his gratitude by initiating reforms to get Judah back on the track with God. However, it was in the midst of this revival that God allowed his enemies to come up against him all at the same time. It was then that Jehoshaphat sought God for the help that only He could provide. Elder Payton encouraged believers, who made mistakes, repented and came back to God to be revived and restored only to find that your problems have escalated and gotten worse, to seek God for His help like Jehoshaphat did. He assured us that God is waiting to help us so that He can get the Glory out of our adverse situations.

After the message men came to the altar to seek God for more of His help, strength and direction. It was an awesome experience of healing and restoration among men.

We wish to extend a special thanks to Pastor Michael Hill and members from the Word of Truth Church of God and Christ as well as Deacon Larry Madget and a number of men from the Zion Temple Church of God in Christ, who came out to support this service. You can enjoy the message on our website (www.emanuelcogic.com) under our pictures and sermons page.

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Space will not allow me to share of all the thought provoking nuggets that she left with us, but you can listen and enjoy the entire message on our website (www.emanuelcogic.com) under our pictures and sermons page, I know you will be blessed!

Thanks to all the First Ladies (and Pastors) that were able to take time out of their busy schedules and join us this year. I would like to give special thanks to our Emanuel family for all of your help and support in making this day a success. Even in the midst of sickness and bereavement you championed the cause. We never could have done it without you. The saying rings true; we need each other to survive!

