

# FLOURISH

## FROM THE EDITOR

### WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN YOU?

These powerful words were the theme for this year's The Mind The Body and the Spirit Conference which was sponsored by the Women's Department of St Samuel Temple. It was held at the beautiful facilities of the Hyatt Regency Hotel. 1<sup>st</sup> Lady Missionary Kista Patterson, our Conference Coordinator, and staff greeted many who came for the refreshing and renewal from the LORD.

We dined sumptuously that weekend; naturally and spiritually. The Spirit of the Lord was ushered in each evening through prayer and through the anointed praise ministry of Psalmist Pastor Phyllis Arnold and her praise team. The Word of God went forth through the preaching of the Word by Pastors Mark Henton and DeAndre Patterson. During the Saturday seminar sessions, the people of God were strengthened through the spoken word by each presenter. Please read the comments on the following page of this newsletter of those who were blessed in the conference. We hope you be prepared for our next conference. **Make plans now for next year!!!**

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This month we celebrated the birthday of a great pioneer of our church – **Mother Bennie Patterson**, the wife of the founder of St Samuel Temple Church of God in Christ, Administrative Assistant St Samuel Patterson. We thank God for her life, a life that exemplified of holiness, faithfulness, and ministry. Let us keep Mother Patterson in our prayers.

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The Patterson/Whiteurst Memorial District celebrated their district workers in their annual District AIM(Auxiliaries In Ministry) on March 9 - March 12,14. The Word of God went forth each night and culminated on Sunday March 14<sup>th</sup> by the celebration of AIM President Pastor Brady Richards. We thank the Lord

## The Mind. The Body,

The fear of the LORD prolongs what?

It prolongs days Proverbs 10:27

## Words of Wisdom

Mother Hattie Watt

### 1. TRUST GOD!

*"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not to unto thine own understanding." Proverbs 3:6.*

*"They that trust in the LORD shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed but abideth forever." Psalms 125:1*

*"The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him." Nahum 1:7*

### 2. Don't murmur against God's people; murmuring can cause problems, even death.

Remember the children of Israel (*Numbers 14*), *Miriam and Aaron (Numbers 12.)* *"Do all things without murmuring and disputings." Philippians 2:14*

### 3. Be mindful of what we say and do and take heed of all your actions. Be careful even of what you write (Face book, MySpace, etc).

*"Be not deceived, evil communications corrupt good manners." 1 Corinthians 15:33. Remember 2 Timothy 2:16 "But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase into more ungodliness."*

### 4. Make wise choices, (for with every wrong choice, there is a consequence.) That includes choosing your friends wisely.

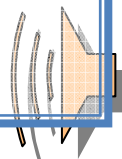
*Amos 3:3 "Can two walk together except they be agreed?"*

### 5. Looking for approval? Seek God first. Fear and love God.

*"The fear of the LORD prolongeth days; but the years of the wicked shall be shortened." Proverbs 10:27. "... A wise son maketh a glad father; but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother. Proverbs 10:1*

### 6. Commit your heart to God; God is so committed to loving us that he sent His Son Jesus Christ to

Here are some of the Testimonies of those who were blessed by the Conference !



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## Deacon Harold Greer

### Pastor Richard E. Patterson—Marriage Class Speaker

I enjoy Pastor Patterson every time I hear him speak. He always speaks a word of wisdom to me. Pastor Patterson was the instructor for the Married Session. I especially enjoyed this session, because he was very encouraging. He stated that every marriage is going to have some sort of disagreement, but the key is to work it out. You should never go to bed angry at your mate. Always honor and respect your spouse, no matter what. You can always agree to disagree, but do it in love. He reiterated that words have power, it's not what you say, but it's how you say it. It also reminded us that the bedroom, in a marriage, is sacred ground. That's where you come together and enjoy each other. Never take your problems to the sacred ground, and definitely don't take your problems out on each other in the sacred ground. He did not do all the talking; Pastor opened the floor for whatever questions or comments we had. This was a very enjoyable, as well as enlightening session for me, even after over 25 years of marriage.

### Evangelist Jearlean Smith – General Session Speaker

The impact Evangelist Smith had on me was when she gave the parable of the woman with bumper sticker. Her sticker read that I am a Christian, but when the police pulled her over for speeding, he explained to her that he was pulling her over because he thought the car was stolen. Her actions did not portray what the sticker said. We must be careful to make sure we live the life we say. Actions truly do speak louder than words. We should not have to advertise that I am a Christian, but my light should shine so that others will know I am a Christian.

### Pastor Mark Henton – Friday Evening Speaker

I enjoyed Pastor Henton. It was good to know that he is supporting and taking such good care of his father. It is always nice to know that Pastors are human and have feelings too. I especially enjoyed his illustration of the water and the sponge. No matter how much is poured in you, only good should come out of you. Those are the two things I took away from his message.

### Dr. Washington- Conference Speaker Health

Dr. Washington was good. He is a well of information. I was intrigued the way he took the natural things he talked about and tied them in with the spiritual things we have been taught. He encouraged me to take better care of myself and to know the signs that my body gives me. If something seems out of whack, get it checked out. Warning does come before destruction.

### Pastor DeAndre Patterson – Saturday Evening Speaker

Pastor Patterson was awesome. He is a mighty man of valor. God has blessed him in such a mighty way and he portrays it in his mannerism. He brought out the fact that it is the sheep's job to begat sheep. Once we bring them, it is the Pastor's job to clean them (teach them), and we should all work together to help keep them. We overcome by the words of our testimony. But by the grace of God, I am who I am today. If God can bless and change me, He can bless and change anybody.

## Sister Cynthia Patterson

### Pastor Chaun Johnson/ Missionary Natalie Johnson - Singles Class Session

Missionary Johnson shared her experience as a single person. She told the class that as single Christians, we need to learn to be happy with ourselves, love ourselves, love God and develop a close relationship with God. In so doing, you will be the person God wants you to be for the mate He has in store for you

### Pastor Richard Patterson – Conference Speaker – Topic: Obligation vs. Desire

Pastor enlightened the class of the difference between obligation to do and the desire to do. He referenced the story of Ruth and Boaz and the duty of a kinsman. In relation to God and serving in the church, we all should feel obligated to something, but even more important, desire to be or do what is needed to help fulfill the work of the Lord, that is needed in the church and abroad.

### Evangelist Jearlean Smith –General Session Speaker

Evangelist Smith covered all aspects of life in regards to emotional, physical and spiritual health and well being. We must take time to address these elements in ourselves daily to bring balance in our lives. We must take time for ourselves; prayer, exercise, managing time is some of the things that are conducive to bringing the balance that we need.

## Sis Darlene Richardson

I really enjoyed speaker Pastor Richard Patterson's class on marriage. Pastor Patterson discussed how the husband is the head of the body, and that the other parts of the body are in connection with the head. And sometimes the head is not always right.

He also included pastor's and pastor's wives dress code. Their dress should look presentable because there is a church image and a standard to look good.

Pastor Patterson mentioned about shacking. A man can get a license for his dog or his car; why not get a license for the woman he's living with?

How you handle the challenge will make or break a marriage. Concerning argument, couples should be more mature in handling them in their marriage. If you fallout in 7 years, why fallout in 15 years; you have to know it's not an issue anymore.

In closing, your first ministry is to support your husband that he can do the job, not do the job for him. Also his responsibility should not be your wife's responsibility. Husbands want their wives to look good.

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*Conference Continued*  
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**Sis Sherri Turner:**

**Pastor Mark Henton** our speaker for Friday night was very profound in his preaching. He explained the importance of leadership. In order to be effective, we must learn to follow instructions given by our leader. If we feel that there is a better way in doing whatever task before us, we can offer our suggestions or opinions, but what works for us may not work for our Pastor. We must follow the Pastor's guidelines to be effective in ministry. Also we can't be effective in the ministry if we are going to murmur and complain or even try to think that we can do a better job. Our job is to help make the ministry grow and assist in whatever way possible and do our very best. We must stay with what we've been taught and we must do it in love and humility so that God can get the glory out of our lives and we will reap the benefits.

**Pastor Henton** also prophesied to me and that word has been manifested. I was truly blessed and thank him for allowing God to work through him

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## What's on Your Mind?

Minister Christopher Patterson

*Psalms 91:1 "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."*

What is this secret place? Oftentimes, I thought about this question. Jesus would tell his followers to pray in secret; don't be ostentatious, but exhibit humility. When doing these things in secret, the Lord is pleased. A true one-on-one relationship with God encompasses this secret place. The heart, above many things, will show one where they are in Christ by way of the Father (Jeremiah 17:9-10). Our desires will dictate whether or not we are in the "secret place of the Most High"

When our desires line up more with the way of the world, it may be difficult to gauge how close or far we are from that secret place (Matthew 6:19-21). In Colossians 3:1-4, Paul outlines setting our affections on things above and how we are dead to the things of the world when our lives are hidden with Christ. If the world has a handle on our lives more than the Spirit of God, we must honestly reevaluate whether or not we are in the shadow of the Almighty.



## FEATURED FAMILY OF THE MONTH

### **Elder Clinton and Mother Johnson**

is our featured family of the Month. Though they only been members of St Samuel Temple for a short time, they have been working faithfully. Elder Johnson has a dynamic street ministry. Mother Johnson has been faithful to the Tuesday morning prayer and bible class and assisting in the communion service.

They have been married for forty six years. They have seven children, four girls and three boys and thirty grandchildren

Elder and Mother Johnson are both retired. They said "We are enjoying it. "

### ***What makes your family work?***

When you put the LORD first in your life. Also fasting and praying.

### ***What word of encouragement can you give to other married?***

When you trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not to your understanding. In all your ways acknowledge God and he will direct your path.

You must trust in God and trust each other. Communicating with each other is important

A golden scroll with a purple outline, unrolled at the top and bottom. The text is written in a purple, serif font. The scroll is set against a white background.

# **Isaiah 53:1**

*Who Hath Believed  
Our Report?  
And to whom is the  
Arm of the LORD  
revealed?*