

PROGRESSIONS

WORK IN PROGRESS MINISTRIES

Spiritual Transformation



One of my favorite television shows is broadcast on TLC (The Learning Channel). The show is called “What Not To Wear”.

The basic premise of the show is to transform individuals with little or no fashion sense to ones with an improved fashion sense. The transformation begins by having tan individual bring all of their current clothing to the studio. The hosts request that the individual model a few key outfits in a 360° mirror (this is done so that the individual can get the full effect of the outfit — from all angles). As Christians, we must examine ourselves for flaws to identify areas that need improvement.

The hosts then critique the outfit: remarking on fit, style, and appearance and provide suggestions based on the person’s body shape, personality and lifestyle.

The next day, the individual is expected to pur-

chase new items according to the “rules” established by the hosts. As Christians, God has rules for us to follow. His rules are His commands, laws and principles established in the Bible.

At the end of the experience, the individual is completely transformed. They receive a new outlook on life and a renewed sense of confidence.

Christians must also undergo a transformation. Not a physical transformation like the individuals of the TV show, but a spiritual transformation.

We must allow God to change us from the INSIDE out through the power of the Holy Spirit. This change is necessary for growth, for God’s ability to use us to win souls for His kingdom, and to reign with Him in eternity.

But, how does one become spiritually transformed you may ask?

The first step is salvation. Salvation is yours if you accept and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

The next step would be to get into a Word-based

church and Bible study. Knowing and **applying** God’s word is the key that unlocks the door to your transformation.

You must also die to your own selfish desires. Some of the individuals on the TV show don’t want to throw away their old clothes; just as many Christians don’t want to shed their old life (ways of thinking, friends they used to hang with, habits, etc.). But in order for the transformation to be successful, the old “stuff” must be left behind to transition into the new.

Finally, allowing the Holy Spirit to reside in, minister to and guide you will eventually bring a transformation.

Just like the individuals that participate in “What Not To Wear”, who initially have problems with accepting the transformation, you may encounter some problems as well. But just as the hosts are their to guide them through their transformation; know that God, His Holy Spirit and his Word are there to guide you also through your spiritual transformation.

Special points of interest:

- **Calendar of Events**
- **Sunday School**
- **News & Events**
- **African Mission**
- **First Lady’s Corner**
- **Pastor’s Reflections**

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Schedule of Events

JULY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 RADIO
5	6	7	8 FAST	9	10	11 RADIO
12	13	14	15 FAST	16	17	18 RADIO
19	20	21	22 FAST	23	24	25 RADIO
26	27	28	29 FAST	30	31	

AUGUST 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 RADIO
2	3	4	5 FAST	6	7	8 RADIO
9	10	11	12 FAST	13	14	15 RADIO
16	17	18	19 FAST	20	21	22 RADIO
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- **July 5**—Youth Cookout, **after service**
 - **July 10**—Quad Squad 4H Club, Kent Co. Public Works Bldg., **7pm**
 - **July 12**—Hospitality donations due
 - **July 14**—Church meeting, **6pm**
 - **July 18**—3rd Annual Praise in the Park, **12noon to 7pm**
 - **July 19**—Education Department donations due
 - **July 26**—Pastor & congregation to Shamma Ministries (Pastor Brenda Brown) Wilmington, DE, **3:30pm**
 - **August 2**—2nd Annual Men's Day, Guest: Bishop Dane Coleman, Greater New Hope Ministries, Ridgely, MD, **3:30pm**
 - **August 9**—Hospitality donations due
 - **August 11**—Church meeting, **6pm**
 - **August 14**—Quad Squad 4H Club, Kent Co. Public Works Bldg., **7pm**
 - **August 16**—Education Dept. donations due
 - —Pastor & congregation to Nehemiah 6:3 (Elder Edward Parker), Lincoln, DE, **3:30pm**
 - **August 22**—Church picnic, **12noon**
 - **August 30**—Youth Day
-
- Bible Study every Tuesday—7pm
 - Fast every Wednesday—12 midnight to 12 noon
 - Radio broadcast every Saturday—10:30am on WKDI—AM 840

Sunday School

Dear Parents,

School is out and the summer season is upon us. It's a time of relaxation and enjoyment. We in the Sunday School Department realize that while it is a time of relaxation, we can not be lax. **Proverbs 6:10, A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest-** When we are asleep, we are defenseless. The enemy can come upon us and we won't even know it. We begin to think it is acceptable to be late, it's OK to miss Sunday School.

We know how much you love the Lord, because you show it by your faithfulness. We feel certain that you want that same faithfulness to be instilled in your child. Learning the Word of God and applying it to your life is important to you and it is also important to your child.

We commend you, parents, for bringing your child to Sunday School. We consider it an honor and a privilege that you have entrusted us with the precious gift that God has given you. We seek to be partners with you for your child's Christian Education.

Make no mistake, we can not do this alone. We need your support and cooperation to make Sunday School a success.

It has come to our attention there has been an increase in tardiness and a decrease in attendance. The Sunday School Staff at Work In Progress Ministries take their ministry seriously. They spend valuable time preparing lessons to insure their students will receive the principles of Christian living. We want your child to be well armed against the enemy. We want them to establish an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. We don't want them to be defenseless against Satan.

You as parent, play a crucial role in helping them to apply the Word to their lives. The teacher can give them examples, but only you are there on a daily basis to guide them. When they are given assignments and Bible verses to study and memorize, they should be able to come to you for guidance. **Deuteronomy 6:6,7 states: These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.** Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Question them about what they are learning each week: about people, places, and events. Discuss what they understood and what they didn't understand. That way you can see if they are being attentive. Feel free to talk to or call your child's teacher. We are here to help you.

On the following pages, you will find a schedule of lessons for each class. This will give you an idea of what is being taught. There is an assignment every week and we have Game Day every fourth Sunday. Please be sure to have your child bring a Bible each week.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation.

To God Be The Glory,
The Sunday School Staff

Sunday School (continued)

Sunday School Lessons for Grades 3 - 7
Elder Anderson

- 7/5 Objective: Students will seek God's forgiveness and refreshment in their lives
Students will identify ways they have turned from God and ask Him for forgiveness
- 7/12 Ezekiel courageously tells about God's Spirit to a rebellious people (Ezek. 2:1-4; 36:24-28)
Objective: Students will depend on God's indwelling Spirit to change them.
Discuss how the Holy Spirit works in our lives
- 7/19 Objective: They will examine themselves to see if they are depending on the Holy Spirit.
Students will see how the Holy Spirit is at work in their lives
- 7/26 Game Day
- 8/2 Daniel deals courageously and creatively with authorities over him (Dan. 1:8-17)
Objective: Students will discover scriptural principles for relating to authorities.
Analyze Daniel's method of dealing with authority.
Apply scriptural principles to dealing with authorities.
Help students study Daniel's way of dealing with authority.
- 8/9 Objective: Students will ask God for wisdom when they need to question what is asked by one in authority.
Act out situations.
Apply scriptural principles on dealing with parents.
- 8/16 Daniel has the courage to pray in spite of a wicked law (Dan. 6)
Objective: That students be willing to trust God with the consequences when they take a stand for what is right.
Students explain how they would take a stand for what is right.
Discuss the stands that students took.
Study how Daniel obeyed God.
- 8/23 Objective: Students review a journal entry. Students will want to make prayer a daily habit.
Read and discuss fictional entries in journals.
Discuss the fictional prayer journals in relation to the Bible study.
Have students begin a prayer journal.
- 8/30 Game Day

Sunday School (continued)

Sunday School Pre-School to Early Elementary – Sis. Terwana Brown

Below you will find the lessons upcoming for Pre-School to Second Grade youth. Each week youth are engaged in Life Need

Steps to get kids thinking about Bible truths

Bible Application

Allows children to

explore Bible Stories

readies them for applying Bible truths in their own lives

memory verses

hands on learning through take home pages

Life Response

Final step in each lesson

Designed to give each child the opportunity to respond to the lesson

Prayer

This may be the youngest class but their prayers are mature and reflect what they're getting at home

Lesson's Upcoming

Aquila and Priscilla Teach Apollos (Acts 18:1-4, 24-28)

Will learn

How Paul worked with Aquila and Priscilla, who helped Apollos learn more about Jesus

That Jesus' friends should help others learn more about Jesus

Jesus Forgives Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)

Will learn

About the time Jesus showed love for Zacchaeus when no one else did

That Jesus lives and forgives us, too

Jesus Helps Two Blind Men (Matthew 20:29-34)

Will learn

That Jesus healed two blind men when they asked for help

That we can ask Jesus for help too

Jesus' Friends Share (Acts 2:36-47)

Will learn

How Peter and other members of the early church shared with one another

That Jesus' friends show His love by sharing

Jesus is Alive (Matthew 27:33-38, 57:60; 28:1-8)

Will learn

That Jesus died and then rose again because He loves us

That we can tell others about Jesus

These precious little ones are very dear to me but they're even more, dear to God! Keep praying with them, encourage them by talking to them about their take home pages this will help them retain what they're learning. Please remember to send them with their Bibles. In class we take the time having them read, for those that aren't able to read or aren't strong readers, they help one another.

Thank you for sending your children to Sunday School!

In His Service,

Sis. TJ

Sunday School (continued)

Lesson plans for Sunday School
Deacon Harold Somerville and Deacon Mario Clark

7/5 Objective: (Greed Expose) The students understand that unchecked greed will lead to many forms dishonesty.

- Respond to a quote about greed
- List about God's warnings
- Examine own priorities concerning their possessions.

7/12 Objective: (Peace Maker) The students understand the reality of a changed heart because of God's working in their lives.

- List places where battle take place
- Search Scriptures for causes
- Identify record attitudes
- Discuss peace that God offers

7/19 Objective: (Striving For Integrity) The students will view honesty and integrity as it means of expressing their love for God.

- Compare spiritual hypocrisy
- Discuss article about integrity towards God
- Talk about hypocrisy in own lives

7/26 Game Day

8/2 Objective: (Daniel Dilemma) The student will learn how to establish the highest of moral standards for themselves.

- List some of the heroes
- List principles of holiness
- Describe contemporary terms
- Commitment to high standard

8/9 Objective: (Jeremiah's Stand) The student will learn how to take a consistent stand for truth regardless of others attitudes toward them.

- React to honest statement
- Write journal entries
- Make game "Truth or Consequences"

8/16 Objective: (Esther's Courage) The students will be able to have courage to identify themselves as Christians, even in situations where that may not be popular.

- Discuss fears
- Identifying Christians

8/23 Objective: (Nehemiah Finishes The Job) The students will learn how to exhibit perseverance in their service for the Lord.

- Define and discuss perseverance
- Identifying principles for perseverance
- List of Goals

8/30 Game Day



African Mission Trip

Friends,

I am sending this lengthy note as a wrap up of sorts to the trip to Malawi. Forgive the length, but I wanted to let you know the extent of ministry that occurred from June 11-June 24th. I shall write more vignettes, stories for the God's Economy blog site. Those will develop over the next couple of months. For now, please see below.

I found myself on a walk on Saturday morning. A beautiful summer morning, I was in a worship mode listening to songs on the iPod while crossing the Board of Education property. Suddenly, out of nowhere, I was slain. It was as if a switch had been flipped and a movie ran in my head. I reviewed scene after scene from Malawi, the names, the faces, the places all rapid fire rolling through my mind. I stopped in my tracks and wept. The Holy Spirit had unzipped the heart guard and allowed the play back mechanism to bring me to a place of emotional acuity. (I always find that while I am in the midst of these journeys I have the ability to experience the scene, stuff it into some heart compartment, and move on to the next scene without much feeling, really feeling the full extent of the misery, pain, joy, deprivation, hope, poverty, injustice, mercy, etc. I must have developed this as a coping mechanism so that I can continue to go back to Africa again and again). At any rate, with the Board of Ed. moment I ended up sobbing and sobbing as I recalled the Malawi trip June 2009. I was able to break through the pain to a place of liberation from the baggage of the human condition and rise to a spot of great beauty and grace. Over and over I spoke the words, "Thank you, Jesus. Thank you, Jesus. Thank you, Jesus."

Thank you, Jesus for all of the answered prayers that covered the trip to Malawi. Seven individuals (Amy, Rachel, Ed and Erin, Matt, and John and Cricket) journeyed over ten thousand miles one way in order to serve through God's Economy. Our time in Malawi was spent working alongside the staff of Somebody Cares Ministries (SC). Founded by Chief Theresa Malila, a Malawian national, SC is engaged in community transformation by caring, empowering, advocating for, resourcing, and serving the Malawian poor. The staff of eighteen men and women daily serve, make a contribution to, aid, counsel and offer trainings in the fourteen village communities where SC is invested. Our little team was able to visit and assist in four places: Mvunguti Village, the Mgone slums, Deya, and Kalimbira Village.

While we had goals and objectives for the trip, as is customary for the Holy Spirit, so much more was accomplished than we could have dared dream or pray for. Aside from the development of relationships amongst the team members and between team members and the SC staff, we were in Malawi to: install mosquito nets from funds raised through the What's the Buzz? project; to distribute blankets to needy children; to provide pastoral training to groups of Malawian pastors; to serve children in feeding centers through a Vacation Bible School-like program; to review past God's Economy work; and to cast vision for future God's Economy endeavors in Malawi. Again, I have to utter, "Thank you, Jesus" as all of the objectives of the trip were accomplished.

Some people are far more acclimated towards detailed lists, so below please find a list of some of the trip's achievements. Please know: this is only a partial list of all that we did!

1. 500+ blankets were distributed to orphans and vulnerable children in three different SC feeding center locations.
2. 135 blankets were distributed to the staff of SC and their dependents.
3. 400 bed-nets were distributed and many installed in Mgone, Mvunguti, and Kalimbira. What's the Buzz? funds and donations given to trip team members funded this malaria prevention outreach. John oversaw net distribution and installation.

African Mission Trip

4. Plans were made and funds donated to SC for several key youth leaders from Kalimbira to be trained to become the Malawian What's the Buzz? leaders and program directors. They will oversee all of the future net installations and malaria prevention training within the SC villages.
5. Funds were donated to build capacity and continue projects within the overall SC organization: increase staff salaries, provide funding for food for the Mvunguti feeding center; bless the volunteer workers with a small monetary gift; build more latrines in Mvunguti and Kalimbira; provide seed and fertilizer for several community gardens; purchase bicycles for staff and volunteers, etc.
6. St. Gabriel's Hospital, Namitete, Malawi was given \$10,000 which fully outfitted the male, female, and pediatric wards with the beams, hooks, poles, and bed nets to keep the hospital patients safe from the threat of becoming infected with malaria during their hospital stay.
7. St. Gabriel's received funds to purchase two new oxygen concentrators.
8. St. Gabriel's received \$2,000 for the purchase of power tools for its construction/maintenance department.
9. Partners in Hope (PIH), an HIV/AIDS clinic in Lilongwe, the capitol city, received 700 bed nets from the What's the Buzz? funds. These nets are to be installed next week in the rural village of Tamaniwendo where PIH is engaged in a village rehabilitation project in partnership with UCLA.
10. Three pre-school programs occurred at SC feeding centers. The children were led in songs, Bible study, and a craft time. For many of the children in attendance, this was the first time that they held a crayon or marker. Amy, Erin, and Rachel were the champions of this outreach.
11. Team member, Ed Bradley spoke to two separate groups of pastors and their wives on the topic of biblical stewardship. More than 150 people attended the sessions. Some men reported riding their bikes with their wives sitting side-saddle on the back of the bike for distances of 30 km one way simply to come and hear the teaching and to have the fellowship time with other pastors.
12. SC leadership invited Matt to attend meetings with future business/ministry partners. He served as advocate and advisor for SC in these strategic planning sessions.

As I review the specifics of all that was completed on this trip I slip right back into gratitude mode. On behalf of each team member, allow me to thank you for your support of this work. We could not have gone and advanced these projects without the financial and prayer support that was offered by our friends, families, the What's the Buzz? schools, and the friends of God's Economy. The resources to distribute nets or blankets, to build latrines and give gifts all came for the collective community, from you. We did not take our safety or health for granted. Daily we sensed the protection that was ours whether we were traveling over an ocean, or simply walking in the slums. We functioned as your ambassadors in Malawi. We were humbled and honored by your financial and spiritual contributions to our trip.

In His service,

Cricket

News and Events



2008/2009 Middle School 8th graders pictured honored at Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Kappa Theta Omega Chapter and Chesapeake College Middle School Salute.

The purpose of the "Salute" is to recognize minority students who, during their middle school years, have exhibited positive characteristics and values as they pursued their various interests.

Tyler Brown, Jr. and Marlon Hynson of Chestertown Middle School, and Te'Asia Garnett and Deontez Lee of Galena Middle School each received an Outstanding Achievements in Middle School certificate from Alpha

Kappa Sorority, Inc. Kappa Theta Omega Chapter and Chesapeake College, and a Certificate of Recognition from the City of Baltimore for outstanding achievements in their respective schools.

Brown, Garnett, and Lee's recognition was in the category of School/Community Involvement, and Hynson's was General School Spirit.

All four youth received are also members of Work in Progress Ministries and Quad Squad 4-H Club. They were happy to have not only the support of their families but their Pastor, Guy E. Jones, Sr. was able to attend.

17 motorcyclists, members of Work in Progress Ministries and the community gathered on the church grounds (Millington, MD) for prayer led by Pastor Guy E. Jones, Sr. on May 9, 2009 to bless the bikes and their drivers for the 2009 riding season. Each motorcycle and driver was blessed individually as well. Everyone enjoyed food and fellowship afterward.



Installation Service of the Chesapeake Regional College of Bishops held Saturday, May 30, 2009 at Robinson A.M.E.(Grasonville, MD)



Our Bishop, Dane A. Coleman (top left) was installed as Coadjutor of the College of Bishops



Arch Bishop, Robert Farrow brought forth the Gospel Message "The Steps to Being Exalted"



A portion of Work in Progress Ministries Staff prior to traveling Installation Service

First Lady's Corner: Spotlight Somerville Family



Recently, I interviewed First Lady Sherrilyn (Somerville) Jones and Deacon Harold Somerville, Jr. regarding strongholds (curses) present in their family. The interview talks poignantly about the strongholds and how they have taken steps to break the strongholds for future generations in their respective families.

Were your parents together in the same household when you were growing up?

Yes, and it was a blessing to have both parents raising us.

Did you attend church as a child?

First Lady: Yes, I went to church with my grandmother, who is an awesome woman of God. She taught me about Christ, how to pray and how to be a godly woman.

Deacon Somerville: No, I didn't attend.

What was your childhood like?

We grew up in a house knowing about alcohol and drugs. Dad was a great provider for his family (a wife and 6 children). He had a high paying job but was also a drug dealer.

First Lady: I was a well mannered child and I knew how to carry myself, but I also knew how to get anything that I wanted. When I was smaller, I loved playing with dolls, reading and doing things with my 3 sisters.

Deacon Somerville: My parents weren't active in my life. I mean, I used to watch my friends' dads come to their football games but I was always there by myself. My brother and I also learned how to be drug dealers and adulterers by watching my dad.

How have your childhood experiences affected you?

First Lady: When I was a child, I acted like a child; but when I became a teenager and an adult my life began to change. I started liking boys, drinking alcohol, smoking cigarettes and marijuana, and taking speed pills. I was hanging with my two older sisters and I just wanted to be grown. My mom was very protective so I couldn't hang in the streets.

Deacon Somerville: My childhood affected me in becoming like my dad and what I saw him do. When I became an adult I was a drug dealer and an adulterer, plus I didn't really know how to be a dad when I had my daughter.

Were there any issues that you experienced that you would say shaped you into the person you are?

First Lady: I didn't want my children to become involved with drugs and I always wanted my two children raised with both parents. I wanted them to love one another and be close siblings. I know that's why God came in my life while my children were very young. God didn't want my children to see all the mess and sin I was doing. He also put the right man in my life to have children with. Guy has been an inspiration in my life with our children.

Deacon Somerville: My dad was a hard worker and took care of home financially, so I learned this from him. My mom taught me how to be strong and aggressive...everything that she went through she had to be strong.

Would you say there is a family curse/stronghold present? If so, what would you say it was?

Yes, there is a family curse and that is drug using and drug dealing. Also, the women try to be the head of the household and the men have lots of women. So far, every one of the men have been cursed with being drug dealers.

First Lady: Since I have been with Jesus my curse (trying to be the head of the household) has been broken because the husband that God gave me won't allow that because he is the head and I'm beside him.

What steps/actions are you taking now for your future? For the future of your families to break the stronghold?

The steps to break the stronghold are to stay with Jesus, to be rooted in Christ, and to allow my family to see Jesus Christ in me. As for me (**Deacon Somerville**), I am praying that my son will not be cursed. I (**First Lady**) try to be that strong Godly woman. If I am around my family, I talk positive and stay with talking the word of God, not compromising, and having the whole armor of God on me.

What is the importance of breaking this curse/stronghold?

The importance of breaking this curse is for all of our nephews and brother. It's to save our family. Live our lives as examples, for them to follow the Christ in us. So that we may live and run for Christ together. We were soldiers in the world and it would be lovely for all to be soldiers for the Lord together.

Pastor's Reflections

Let's Do Better

'Often times we stand on the corner, and we have a problem speaking English. I can't even talk the way lot of my brothers and sisters are talking:

*"Why you ain't", "Where you is", "What he drive", "Where he stay",
"Where he work", "Who you be"...*



You would blamed the kid until you heard the mother talk. And then you hear the father talk.

Everybody knows it's important to speak English. You can't be a doctor with that kind of vocabulary coming out of your mouth. In fact it will be difficult to get any kind of job making a decent living.

People have marched and were hit in the face with rocks to get an Education, and now we've got a lot of our children walking around doing nothing about their education. As a high school teacher it saddens me when I get 10th 11th, and 12th grade students that read and write on a 7th grade level. We can't keep allowing this to happen to us. We should not want our kids to move on without learning the material on the level that they are on. Because if they don't, they will shut down when they get to the more challenging curriculums.

Some of us are not holding up their end in this deal. Some of our brothers and sisters are not parenting. They are buying things for kids. \$500 sneakers for what? And we won't spend \$200 for Hooked on Phonics.

I am talking about my brothers and sisters who cry when their son is standing there in an orange suit. We have to be there for them when they are 2. Where were you when he was 12? Where were you when he was 18 and how come you didn't know that he had a pistol, or was doing drugs?

And where is the father? Or who is his or her father? We have to do better.

Something is wrong when we allow our children to put their clothes on backward. Isn't that a sign of something gone wrong? Don't you as a parent have some say?

*Our men and boys, with their hats on backward, pants down around the crack, isn't that a sign of something? Isn't it a sign of something when she has her dress all the way up and got all type of needles (**piercings**) going through her body.*

What are you talking about Pastor Jones? I'm not putting my people down with name calling like the author of this article did before I edited it. But what I am saying is that we have to do better.

Brown (or black) versus the Board of Education is no longer the white person's problem. We have got to take the neighborhood back. Our pride back. People used to be ashamed. Today a woman has eight children with eight different men' or whatever you call them now.

We have millionaire football players who cannot read. We have million-dollar basketball players who can't write two paragraphs. We, as black folks have to do a better job.

We as parents have to do better raising our kids. We have some of the greatest athletes standing on the corners talking about how good someone else was, while they never gave themselves a chance. Our young men are quitting school before they give themselves a chance. We have to do better.

We have to start holding each other to a higher standard. We can do better. We cannot blame white people any longer.'

Pastor Guy E. Jones, Sr.

God is not through with us yet!

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News

3rd Annual

Praise in the Park

Saturday, July 18, 2009

Wilmer Park, Chestertown

2nd Annual

Men's Day

Sunday, August 2, 2009

3:30 p.m.

at First United Methodist Church
105 S. Mill Street, Chestertown, MD

Youth Explosion

Friday, September 11, 2009

Please pray for the sick and bereaved in our community.

Great News!!!

Visit us on the World Wide Web at:

<http://www.wipministries.com/>

Be sure to check often for new and inspiring information.